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Los Rios, Local Cable Consortium Launch New *FastForward* Education Program

SACRAMENTO – The Los Rios Community College District and the Sacramento Educational Cable Consortium (SECC) today announced the launch of *FastForward*, a new cable TV and online educational affairs video program that highlights the success of students, faculty and learning at the Los Rios Colleges.

The program, which airs on Sacramento cable channels 15 and 16 (Comcast) and online, is a co-production of the District and the SECC. *FastForward* will focus on the vast array of academic and career and technical programs offered at the four Los Rios Colleges – American River, Cosumnes River, Folsom Lake and Sacramento City colleges. The subject matter of the episodes will range from STEM, writing and political science to culinary arts, automotive technology and programs for student veterans. The launch of *FastForward* coincides with the District celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

“Partnering with the SECC and its cable and online resources is an efficient and effective way for the Los Rios Colleges to tell our story,” said Chancellor Brian King. “Whether students are seeking a certificate, two-year degree or transfer to a four-year school; whether they are interesting in finance or fire technology, women’s studies or welding; we’re confident that *FastForward* will help us make the case to students that they can find their own path to success at the Los Rios Colleges.”

Added Elizabeth Rhodes, executive director of the Sacramento Educational Cable Consortium, “We are always looking for high-quality, local programming for our cable channels that helps spread the word about our community’s rich educational opportunities. Combine our educational cable channels with our YouTube channel – and our ability to share the same content on both – and we’re now serving our viewers *and* the Los Rios Colleges – it’s a win-win.”

The first five episodes of *FastForward* are already posted to the SECC YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/user/SECCEducationalTV>) and have begun airing this week on local cable channel 16. These five programs highlight eight Los Rios faculty who are published authors, along with their work and their writing techniques, as presented last October at the 2014 California Capital Book Festival in Sacramento.

The Los Rios District has posted to its YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/user/LosRiosColleges>) a short, one-minute-long “teaser” for those first five episodes of *FastForward*.

The Los Rios authors featured in the first five episodes include:

- Sacramento City College Psychology Professor Gayle Pitman, whose children's book, "This Day in June," has just been awarded the Stonewall Book Award, which is given annually to English-language children's and young adult books of exceptional merit relating to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender experience. It is the first children's picture book to earn the award in its 44-year history.
- Sacramento City College English Professor Jodi Angel, whose widely heralded collection of short stories, "You Only Get Letters from Jail," was named a "criminally underrated book" by Entertainment Weekly.
- American River College Early Childhood Education Professor JaNay Brown-Wood, whose children's book, "Imani's Moon," won the 2013 Children's Book Contest sponsored by the National Association of Elementary School Principals.

Future subjects planned for episodes of *FastForward* include: American River College's annual fashion show, a student-run production that combines classes in fashion design, fashion promotion and fashion photography; Cosumnes River College's veterinary technology program; Folsom Lake College's computer information science program; and Sacramento City College's aeronautics program.

The SECC employs a small professional production team to shoot, edit and produce *FastForward*, but in the months ahead SECC will be reaching out to students at the four Los Rios colleges to invite them to work on the program as paid student interns.

The following is the cable channel 16 schedule for the first five episodes of *FastForward*. (If multiple programs are listed, that means they will be aired in succession with the first listed program starting at the stated time).

Short Story, *Imani's Moon*, *This Day in June*
Feb. 5, 26 | 9 a.m.; Feb. 16, 23 | 11 a.m.

Fiction Discussion, *Imani's Moon*
Feb. 9 | 11 a.m.

Writing Your Book, Fiction Discussion
Feb. 10, 17 | 9 a.m.

Imani's Moon, *This Day in June*, Short Story, Fiction Discussion, Writing Your Book
Feb. 18 | 3 p.m.; Feb. 21 | 9 a.m.

***FastForward* on the SECC YouTube Channel**

Short Story (37:24)

Features Jodi Angel from Sacramento City College, and Lois Ann Abraham and Jason Sinclair Long

from American River College
<http://youtu.be/brb6JNzRAk8>

Imani's Moon (13:10)
American River College Professor JaNay Brown-Wood shares her children's book, *Imani's Moon*
<http://youtu.be/BwW5tbuJ6Fo>

This Day in June (7:41)
Sacramento City College professor Gayle Pitman shares her first children's book, *This Day in June*
http://youtu.be/vLGc_SiVSy0

Fiction Discussion (41:08)
Features Christian Kiefer and Michael Spurgeon of American River College
<http://youtu.be/Bk1N3ljDPwk>

Writing Your Book (41:53)
Discussion with Erika Mailman of American River College and writing coaches Kate Asche & Gini Grossenbacher.
<http://youtu.be/a5hu5dtMR7M>

About SECC

SECC's mission is to provide quality educational resources to learners of all ages in the greater Sacramento community, primarily through video and other information and communication technologies via cable systems and networks. SECC is a collaborative effort of the K-20 education community all working together toward this mission.

SECC's creation began in the 1970s when a group of progressive educators formed a consortium comprising the area's educational institutions to negotiate with cable franchising authorities. When cable arrived in Sacramento in 1985, the educational community worked with the cable company to establish an exemplary educational channel. For more information, go to www.secctv.org.

About Los Rios

The Los Rios Community College District is one of the nation's most respected learning institutions and the second-largest community college district in California, serving the greater Sacramento region. Los

Rios includes: American River, Cosumnes River, Folsom Lake and Sacramento City colleges; five major education and outreach centers; and specialized workforce and economic development programs for regional businesses, governments and organizations. Los Rios colleges offer AA/AS degrees, certificates and transfer-education opportunities in more than 70 career fields. More than 80,000 students are enrolled in the four colleges. For more information, go to www.losrios.edu.