



April 6, 2006

Former Cerro Coso Student Enters Harvard Law School



A former Cerro Coso Community College online student, Christina Greenberg, enters Harvard Law School in fall of 2006.

Ms. Greenberg took 100% of her classes online, then graduated from the University of California Berkley in May 2005 and has already been accepted to Harvard Law School.

In an interesting twist, at the time this young woman was taking those online courses, she was living in Perm, Russia working with

homeless children. This was her only option at the time and it worked out perfectly. She was able to continue to work full-time with a charity for homeless children, co-founded with her brother, and attended Cerro Coso Community College simultaneously, studying at night and working during the day.

College Department of Communications Chair and English, Professor Clifford Davis became acquainted with Ms. Greenberg through her enrollment in two of his classes between 2002 and 2004 – English 101 and 102.

Over a period of years, Ms. Greenberg, worked tirelessly for an organization called “Love’s Bridge” in Perm Russia, where she was heavily involved in housing, educating and advocating for young Siberians who were the victims of “police brutality, drug addiction, and homelessness,” according to Mr. Davis.

In fact, CNN’s Steve Harrigan, reported Ms. Greenberg’s efforts on behalf of “Love’s Bridge” in an internationally televised interview. Some of the specific accomplishments attributed to her personal efforts include creating a day-care center; managing financial accounting for the group; grant writing and fund solicitation; and hosting and organizing events as well as press briefings.

Originally, Ms. Greenberg planned to help orphans, but saw the needs of the homeless children. She plans to pursue a career specializing in child advocacy.

In a letter of recommendation to Harvard's Law School Administration Council, Mr. Davis wrote that his former academic ward was "as superlative a student as any I have had in 15 years of teaching lower and upper division courses at UCLA, University of Texas at Austin, San Diego State University and Cerro Coso Community College.

Anyone wishing to know more about this charitable effort can visit Zashita's Love Bridge website, <http://familycare.org/network/e01.htm>.

Cerro Coso and Phi Theta Kappa



Dr. Christine Swiridoff Professor of English

Cerro Coso just became part of Phi Theta Kappa, an international honors society for community colleges, due to the efforts of

Dr. Christine Swiridoff, Professor of English. Students who participate in this program, receive great opportunities as part of this organization, most importantly transfer scholarships. This opportunity is available to all students, at all of our sites, with at least a 3.5 GPA.

What is Phi Theta Kappa?

Phi Theta Kappa is the International Honor Society of the Two Year College, founded in 1918. Its mission is to encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students and provide development opportunities through participation in leadership and service.

How is this different from our current Honors Program?

Phi Theta Kappa in no way replaces our current Honors Program. Phi Theta Kappa is an honors society available to all students for work already accomplished, with different benefits for our students. Here are some key differences:

- Students in our Honors Program must complete 16 units of honors classes; Phi Theta Kappa requires none.
- Since our Honors courses are only offered at the IWW campus, our Honors Program has been limited to the IWW campus. Phi Theta Kappa is available to our students at all of our sites, including online.
- Our Honors Program offers small scholarships to only those students accepted into the program, but Phi Theta Kappa offers over \$36 million in scholarships to all of its eligible members.

What can Phi Theta Kappa do for our students?

- Scholarships exclusively for Phi Theta Kappa members:
 - o More than \$36 million in transfer scholarships by more than 600 universities

- o Jack Kent Cooke Foundation (up to \$30,000 each)
- o Coca-Cola Two-Year Colleges Scholarship (\$1,000 each)
- o All-USA Academic Team (\$2,500 each)
- o New Century Scholars Award (\$2,000 each)
- o National Dean's List Scholarships (\$250 each)
- o Phi Theta Kappa Online Scholarships (\$500 each)
- o Guistwhite Scholarships (\$5,000 each)
- o Leaders of Promise Scholarships (\$1,000 each)
- o Honors Institute Scholarships
- Numerous free services and resources:
 - o Kaplan test prep
 - o Transfer database
 - o Job search networks
 - o Financial assistance with insurance and health care
- Letters of recommendations to college admissions counselors, scholarship officials, and potential employers
- Service and leadership opportunities at our college, in our community, and through international service programs
- Opportunity to be published in *Nota Bene*, Phi Theta Kappa's literary journal
- Interdisciplinary academic study in the Honors Study topic and Honors Satellite Seminars each fall
- Recognition:
 - o An special induction ceremony for all new members
 - o Automatic inclusion in the National Dean's List publication of college honors students
 - o A golden key membership pin
 - o A certificate of membership
 - o A gold diploma seal denoting Phi Theta Kappa membership for their college diploma
 - o Membership verification on their college transcript (if we wish)

- o Graduation regalia: golden monogrammed honor stole, honor cords, key medallion, and tassel

Who is eligible?

All students, college-wide, full time and part time, with at least a 3.5 GPA in 12 or more units of degree or transfer coursework are eligible and will be invited to participate. Over 100 students are currently eligible.

What do the students have to do to participate?

- Have a 3.5 GPA in at least 12 units of degree or transfer coursework and maintain at least a GPA of 3.25 until graduation
- Complete an application
- Pay one-time membership fees:
 - o International fee \$45
 - o Regional fee \$5
 - o Our local fee (what we keep to sustain the program) \$5

What can Phi Theta Kappa do for our college?

Increase our recognition in the community, help us attract more graduating seniors, and help our students financially.

How much does this cost the college?

Nothing! Many years ago, Cerro Coso paid upfront all of the fees needed to establish a chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. The money to recruit and induct students will come from the fund raising done for the Honors Program and student membership fees.

How do I get my students involved?

All eligible students will be receiving an invitation letter this month for an orientation, including an overview of what Phi Theta Kappa is, its benefits and opportunities, and how a student can become a member. This information is also available online in a PowerPoint presentation and video at <http://www.ptk.org/goodasgold/>. Our chartering induction ceremony will be held near the end of the semester.

For more information, see www.ptk.org.

Cerro Coso Community College “President’s List”

Cerro Coso Community College is proud to announce that 95 students have made the President’s List for the Fall 2005 semester. The list is comprised of all students who have achieved a grade point average of at least 3.75 while earning a minimum of 40 grade points in a given semester.

“It is a goal of Cerro Coso Community College to recognize students who have significantly excelled in their academic studies. The presence of students with high academic standards serves as an inspiration to both faculty and students alike,” stated Dr. Sharon K. Dyer, President of Cerro Coso Community College.

Cerro Coso Holds Twenty Third Annual Visual Arts Invitational High School Workshop



On Friday and Saturday, March 3 and 4, 2006, Cerro Coso Community College will host the Twenty Third Annual Visual Arts Invitational High School Workshop at the College’s Ridgecrest Campus. The workshop was created as a recruiting tool and the College invites students from local area high schools as well as schools

as far north as Mammoth, Bishop, Lone Pine, Big Pine, and schools from Boron, Edwards, Lake Isabella, and the Kern River Valley areas. It is an invitation for high school juniors and senior students who are considering pursuing a career in the art field. Students will be treated to an intensive two days of the community college experience based on art courses. Once again the College has received excellent responses from the area high schools and expects approximately 80 students to participate in this event. The College provides two days of intensive instruction, continental breakfast and lunch for both days, as well as lodging for those students who are traveling from outside the immediate area.



This year, Cerro Coso is offering the traditional Visual Arts Workshop and a Drama Workshop. Students attending the Art Workshop will have the opportunity to participate in their choice of two out of four art classes being offered (Life Drawing, instructed by Dick Benson; Photography, instructed by Loren Sandvik; Sculpture, instructed by Sandy Decker; and Ceramics, instructed by Paul Meyers).



Cerro Coso Also Offers Associated Two-Day Drama Workshop



Cerro Coso is also offering an associated two-day Drama Workshop, instructed by Melinda Fogle Oliver. Students that sign up for drama will attend only the Drama Workshop for both days. All students participating in these workshops must be accompanied by an official representative from their high school and be officially enrolled in the workshop. The completion of the two days of instruction is equivalent to a typical week of college art classes.



Come on out on Friday evening and be entertained by the students of Cerro Coso College and the students from the Drama Workshop.

Cerro Coso presented their Second Annual Variety Show including singers, dancers, actors, comedians, puppeteers, musicians, and Improv performers. Also included in the show was a surprise performance, resulting from the efforts of the students attending the Drama Workshop. The College was pleased to invite the public to the Friday night entertainment on March 3, 2006.

Cerro Coso Counseling Hosts Parent Orientation Night

Cerro Coso Counselors hosted a Parent Orientation Night on Thursday, March 9 at 7:00pm. Parents of students from Burroughs, Mesquite, Trona, and Immanuel were invited, sharing with them the opportunities for learning juniors and seniors to come to Cerro Coso. An overview was presented of the enrollment process, student service programs, financial aid and the opportunities and advantages available for their student through Cerro Coso. Honors students and Student Ambassadors participated in the presentation.

Susan Good Named Cerro Coso's Fall 2005 "Student of the Semester"



The Alumni Association Board of Directors proudly announced their selection of Susan Good as the recipient of the Fall 2005 "Student of the Semester" award and honored her at a

presentation luncheon on December 6, 2005. The Cerro Coso Community College Alumni Association has been recognizing the outstanding achievements of Cerro Coso students each semester since 1988. Susan Good attends the Cerro Coso Indian Wells Valley Campus and in addition to completing 46.5 units and holding down a 4.0 GPA, she is currently enrolled in 17 units and works 30 hours per week. Ms. Good is majoring in Social Science.

Ms. Good was nominated by instructor, Maria Perrone. Ms. Perrone stated, "Susan is a very diligent, attentive, punctual and precise student. She has an unpretentious intelligence that makes her observe, analyze and learn in silence. Susan Good is an excellent student and also an involved and motivated person at Cerro Coso College and in the community. She is currently participating in the Student Ambassador Program in order to be a good representative of Cerro Coso College. She is a superb student and a model of a sound, involved, compassionate youth here at Cerro Coso."

Ms. Good was also endorsed by instructor, Janis Jamison who stated, "Susan is an extremely talented lady and an excellent student. She is very friendly and makes all who meet her feel as if they are very special."

"The Alumni Association is very proud to bestow this award on Ms. Good acknowledging her dedication and many achievements by selecting her as the Alumni Association's Fall 2005 "Students of the Semester," stated Director of Information, Development and Alumni Relations, Joann Handeland. Ms. Good was presented with a framed certificate of appreciation, an alumni pin, a \$200 cash award, a special Cerro Coso logo remembrance gift, and her name and picture will be displayed at the College on the "Student of the Semester" bulletin board. Her name was also added to a

perpetual plaque honoring all recipients of this distinguished award.

Overall GPA, class participation, extracurricular activities, and community involvement were all considered in the selection process for this award. "The Alumni Association would like to congratulate Susan Good on her many accomplishments and for being an inspiration to all Cerro Coso students and staff," stated Handeland.

Cerro Coso Community College to Offer Driver's Education Class

Cerro Coso Community College Indian Wells Valley Campus is offering Driver's Education as a Community Education Class. This class, taught by Steve Tomlinson, began on March 13, 2006 and go through April 27, 2006. The class meets on Monday and Thursday evenings from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Mesquite High School.

This Driver's Education course will present to the beginning driver a practical and realistic guide to the fundamentals of driving and the rules of the road. This Driver's Education course will take the student step by step from the basics of vehicle control to the specific dangers of different driving environments to the responsibilities of vehicle ownership. This class meets the requirements of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), but does not offer behind the wheel instruction.

Parents may register students at Cerro Coso Community College in the Office of Student Learning, Room 214 (Main Building, 2nd Floor). There is a class fee of \$40. A registration form can also be found at www.cerrocoso.edu/communityed. The registration form must be signed by parent or guardian.

For further information, call the College's Office of Student Learning at 384-6258.

Cerro Coso Faculty Members Represents Basic Academy Modular at Academy Consortium



Cerro Coso Community College faculty member, Mr. Steve Busby, was asked to represent Basic Academy Modular Presenters at the Basic Academy Consortium. This committee oversees the overall curriculum and methods of delivery for all Basic Peace Officer Training in the State of California. The Consortium makes recommendations to the Commission which makes the final decisions. The Consortium is facilitated by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training and meets four times a year. In addition to this committee Mr. Busby, is also a member of the Standing Alignment Committee that makes recommendations to the consortium on curriculum changes, hourly changes, and delivery method changes. He has also accepted a request to join the Peace Officer Academy Test Review Panel which oversees the review of every test question used in all state academy programs. All of these committees are vital to the State of California Peace Officer Training Programs.

Mask & Puppet Master Matthew Graham Smith at Cerro Coso



The Cerro Coso Community College Theatre Department hosted a free workshop in mask making and performance on Saturday, February 25th from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm. The workshop featured the renowned physical theatre artist Matthew Graham Smith. Participants were taught about the art of mask making and practiced techniques for performing with masks.

Mr. Smith is a graduate of Wesleyan University, the Dell'arte school, Dublin's Trinity University Leqoc program, and he continues to study yearly in Bali, training in Balinese dance, mask performance, and shadow puppetry. He is a member of the Dell'arte Company, a group focusing on classical and emerging physical theater forms including mask, dance-theater, circus, puppetry, ensemble creation, and pageantry. He is deeply interested in the physical dimension of today's theater, and in the physical skill development of today's actors. Working in European, Asian, and American forms, his interest is finding aesthetic fusions in different cultural forms, and connections between classical and modern approaches.

His work is based on a belief in the actor/creator, and so he pursues work as a performer, director, writer, and producer in the tradition of many populist theater forms. He has performed with the Dell'arte Company both nationally and internationally including the classical mask commedia, *BOTEGGA DE CAFÉ*. He won a 2002 Barrymore award for his performance in *EQUUS* in Philadelphia's MUM Puppet Theater. His recent directing credits include productions at the Walnut Theater in Philadelphia, the *HERE* American Living Room series in New York City, and the Jon Sims Center in San Francisco, where he is currently director in residence. His critical writing about theater has appeared in *LAMBDA Book Report*. *AMERICAN THEATER* Magazine featured an article about his play *SHADOW OF GIANTS* in their February 2005 issue.



As an educator, he designs workshops for many groups, most recently creating and teaching a program for San Francisco's New Conservatory Theater Center. His work focuses on building group dynamics, developing an actor's physical awareness and expressiveness, teaching the art of the mask, creation through improvisation, and using theater to address social and political topics. He teaches through exercises

incorporating mask, movement, clown, and principals of aesthetic dynamics.

Introducing students to mask and physical theater forms is a part of his work that he deeply enjoys.

The workshop was held in the Cerro Coso Lecture Center and was free and open to the public. This workshop was funded by the Associated Students of Cerro Coso.

CCCC Special Events Calendar March/April 2006

March 3&4, 2006	23 rd Annual Visual Arts Invitational High School Workshop
March 3&4, 2006	Drama Workshop In conjunction with the High School Visual Arts Workshop
March 9, 2006 7:00 PM	Parent Orientation Night Hosted by CCCC Counselors
March 11, 2006	"Battle of the Bands"
April 7, 2006	Preview Day For High School Juniors and Seniors

