



## Media Contacts

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## **San Manuel Donates \$200,000 to Crafton Hills College Foundation to Establish Santos Manuel Student Success Partnership**

*New campus program aimed at strengthening student support services to help more than 700 disadvantaged students*

**YUCAIPA, CA**—In yet another indication of its commitment to education in the Inland Empire, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians has donated \$200,000 to Crafton Hills College to supplement and expand direct student support services for at-risk students via the creation of the *Santos Manuel Student Success Partnership* – named in honor the first leader and namesake of the San Manuel Indian Reservation.

“Those students whose dreams of earning a college degree are at the greatest risk of being stripped away by state budget cuts will now have the additional support they need at Crafton Hills College,” said San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Chairman James Ramos.. “From tutoring and counseling support to textbook grants and transfer workshops, this program will augment the critical student services that are helping to prepare our future firefighters, teachers, and lab technicians of tomorrow.”

This donation will make it possible for Crafton Hills College students to receive additional academic and financial support to successfully continue and/or achieve their educational goals. The project is designed

to improve student retention, persistence and graduation rates by providing vital student services to qualified students—including at-risk emancipated foster youth, first-generation college students, single parents, re-entry students, recently unemployed and returning veterans.

Specifically, the program will support the development of the following:

- Additional one-on-one tutoring
- Textbook grants
- Educational supply packets
- Personal, career and transfer assistance (including help with applications, requirements and other follow-up materials)

“The new *Santos Manuel Student Success Partnership* will go a long way towards providing direct student support services to help nurture students who need assistance the most in pursuing their educational goals,” said Crafton Hills College Foundation President Donald Nydam. “In effect, San Manuel is standing in the gap for a large group of college students who, at any given time, are one layoff or family emergency away from losing out on their higher education dreams.”

Representatives from the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians will be recognized for this donation and their continued support at the Annual Crafton Hills College Foundation Gala Dinner & Auction to be held at the Hilton San Bernardino on Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. For tickets or more information on this event, call (909) 389-3245.

### **About the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians**

The San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians is a federally recognized American Indian tribe located near the city of Highland, Calif. The Serrano Indians are the indigenous people of the San Bernardino highlands, passes, valleys and mountains who share a common language and culture. The San Manuel reservation was established in 1891 and recognized as sovereign nation with the right of self-government. Since time immemorial, the San Manuel tribal community has endured change and hardship. Amidst these challenges the tribe continued to maintain its unique form of governance. Like other governments it seeks to provide a better quality of life for its citizens by building infrastructure, maintaining civil services and promoting social, economic and cultural development. Today San Manuel tribal government oversees many governmental units including the departments of fire, public safety, education and environment.

### **About Crafton Hills College**

With an enrollment of 5,300, Crafton Hills College is located on 500 rolling acres above the cities of Yucaipa and Redlands. Crafton Hills offers degree programs and occupational certificate plans and is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. Crafton Hills operates on the semester system and offers both day and evening classes for the convenience of students. For more information, visit [www.craftonhills.edu](http://www.craftonhills.edu)

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