



## NEWS RELEASE

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## Palo Alto College presents TEDxPaloAltoCollege

“Revolutionary ideas that disrupt paradigms.  
Transformation to overcome obstacles.  
Finding strength and changing the game.  
*Breakthrough.*”

Alamo Colleges District-Palo Alto College is proud to announce the inaugural TEDxPaloAltoCollege to be held on Saturday, Sept. 15, 2018, at the College’s Performing Arts Center. The independently produced event, operated under a license from the TED organization, will be organized by faculty, staff, and student volunteers and is aimed at creating dialogue and giving people a forum to share their passions, ideas, and experiences through the event theme – “*Break Through \_\_\_\_\_*”.

“At Palo Alto College, our primary goal is to ensure our students and our community have access to opportunities that will enhance their minds and personal growth,” said Tony Longoria, speech communication instructor at Palo Alto College and lead organizer of TEDxPaloAltoCollege. “Through TEDx, we’ll be able to provide a mix of educational and cultural presentations that will contribute to our students’ overall global experience.”

The full-day event will feature innovative ideas from a variety of talks and performances. The call for TEDx Talk proposals for TEDxPaloAltoCollege is now open and will close on June 15, 2018. Proposals for both talks and performances are encouraged; all submissions will be reviewed by a committee to create a cohesive, cross-disciplinary experience. The selection process includes timing, themes, and length; preference is given to new ideas that are evidence-supported.

For over 30 years, Palo Alto College has provided access to education in south San Antonio and Bexar County. The theme – “*Break Through \_\_\_\_\_*” – was chosen because Palo Alto College was a ‘breakthrough’ as the first option for higher education south of Highway 90. Today, many of our students achieve breakthroughs of their own as first generation college students. TEDxPaloAltoCollege will further the College’s mission “to inspire, empower, and educate our community for leadership and success” by bringing powerful ideas to the local conversation.

Ticket sales will be announced in July 2018, and event sponsorships are available. To learn more about TEDxPaloAltoCollege, visit [tedxpaloaltocollege.org](http://tedxpaloaltocollege.org) or email [pac-tedx@alamo.edu](mailto:pac-tedx@alamo.edu).

Palo Alto College, part of the Alamo Colleges District, is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and a recipient of the 2015 Texas Award for Performance Excellence and a finalist for the 2016 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. With over 10,000 students, Palo Alto College is accredited to offer associate degrees and short-term certificates. The College is located on the south side of San Antonio at 1400 W. Villaret Blvd. at I-410 and Texas Hwy 16 and online at [alamo.edu/pac](http://alamo.edu/pac).

**About TEDx, x = independently organized event**

In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. At a TEDx event, TED Talks video and live speakers combine to spark deep discussion and connection. These local, self-organized events are branded TEDx, where x = independently organized TED event. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program, but individual TEDx events are self-organized. (Subject to certain rules and regulations.)

### **About TED**

TED is a nonprofit organization devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or fewer) delivered by today's leading thinkers and doers. Many of these talks are given at TED's annual conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, and made available, free, on [TED.com](http://TED.com). TED speakers have included Bill Gates, Jane Goodall, Elizabeth Gilbert, Sir Richard Branson, Monica Lewinsky, Philippe Starck, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Sal Khan and Daniel Kahneman.

TED's open and free initiatives for spreading ideas include [TED.com](http://TED.com), where new TED Talk videos are posted daily; [the Open Translation Project](#), which provides subtitles and interactive transcripts as well as translations from thousands of volunteers worldwide; the educational initiative [TED-Ed](#); the annual million-dollar [TED Prize](#), which funds exceptional individuals with a "wish," or idea, to create change in the world; [TEDx](#), which provides licenses to thousands of individuals and groups who host local, self-organized TED-style events around the world; and the [TED Fellows](#) program, which selects innovators from around the globe to amplify the impact of their remarkable projects and activities.

*Please note that TEDx event organizers are not able to speak for the TED Conference. Any inquiry regarding TED should be sent to Melody Serafino, TEDx Media Liaison, at [TEDxPR@ted.com](mailto:TEDxPR@ted.com).*

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