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For Immediate Release

Cabrillo College Names Solari Green Technology Center *Center To Open for Classes in Fall 2012*

APTOS, CA—With construction recently completed, Cabrillo College today announces that its Green Technology Center on the Watsonville Campus will open for classes in fall semester 2012 and will be named the Solari Green Technology Center, in honor of local philanthropists Mary Solari and the late Dick Solari.

When plans for the project began in 2008, local philanthropists Dick and Mary Solari came forward with a generous gift of \$500,000 to establish the Solari Green Technology Center Endowment. Resources from the Solari's endowment will help accelerate the development and enhance the operations of the center. The Solari Green Technology Center will serve as a regional resource to prepare local students for jobs related to energy conservation, and sustainable design, practices, and technologies in the construction and energy management fields.

"This generous donation underscores the Solari's long-standing commitment to Cabrillo and the community," said Cabrillo College President Brian King. "The late Dick Solari began his career as a young man doing manual labor and craft work at Granite Construction, where he eventually became President, CEO and Chairman of the Board. He wanted to provide opportunities for the next generation to follow in his career path. We are all so grateful for the Solari's support and are pleased to name the Solari Green Technology Center in their honor."

Acquisition of the Green Technology Center site and construction of the 14,000 square foot facility was funded by several sources, including bond funds approved by Santa Cruz County voters, and a \$3.35M grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), which made it possible to construct the Solari Green Technology Center to the LEED Platinum Certification standard, the highest environmental standard for construction. Cabrillo also received generous support from the Les and Jeane Ley Family Fund.

The Cabrillo Green Technology Center will house Cabrillo's Construction and Energy Management program, which focuses on sustainable construction and building performance practices. The buildings have been designed to be adaptable to a variety of industrial technology oriented programs, enabling the college to offer training that is responsive to the needs of local and regional employers. The facility incorporates state-of-the-art, energy saving design features and technologies, making the building itself a teaching device

The Solari Green Technology Center will be the first building in Santa Cruz County to seek LEED Platinum Certification. A grand opening event is scheduled to take place on September 7, 2012.

In 1994, the Solari's donated \$500,000 for the creation of the Cabrillo College Computer Technology Center (CTC) for students on the Aptos campus. The CTC was named the Solari Technology Center in honor of the Solari's outstanding munificence. A local inspiration and success story himself, after graduating from Watsonville High School, in 1945 Dick Solari started at Granite Construction (one of the largest civil engineering companies in the U.S.) shoveling dirt and wheeling concrete, eventually



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becoming Granite's President and later, CEO and Chairman of the Board. Mary Solari is a psychology college graduate who grew up in Klamath Falls, Oregon. Dick and Mary Solari met in 1953. All three of the Solari's children attended Cabrillo College.

About Cabrillo College

Cabrillo College is a leading California community college serving Santa Cruz County with locations in Aptos, Scotts Valley and Watsonville. It is ranked #1 in transfers to UC Santa Cruz. Founded in 1959, the college offers over 100 academic and career technical education programs that serve multiple educational goals such as A.A. and A.S. degrees, certificates of achievement, skills certificates, transfer to 4-year institutions or for lifelong learning and personal enrichment. Cabrillo College is a dynamic, diverse and responsive educational community that is dedicated to helping all students achieve their academic, career, and personal development goals.

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