



LYTTON CENTER
FOR HISTORY AND THE PUBLIC GOOD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Announcing the Lytton Center for History and the Public Good

*New center supports Fremont's Ohlone College students
through grants and educational enrichment; gives first major annual award to Karen
Korematsu of the Fred T. Korematsu Institute*

Fremont, Calif., January 27, 2020 — The [Lytton Center for History and the Public Good](#) begins operation today at Ohlone College, a two-year higher education institution in the city of Fremont. Established with a \$900,000 gift, the Lytton Center will provide support for Ohlone College's student body through grants and educational enrichment programs. The Center explores challenges facing our world—past, present, and future—and fosters big ideas that will transform Ohlone College and its students for the better. The Lytton Center aims to inspire Ohlone College and the larger community through programming focused on access, equity, inclusion, justice, and service.

The Lytton Center for History and the Public Good operates with leadership from Ohlone College's History and Political Science Departments. The co-directors of the center are **Dr. Kyle Livie** (History), **Dr. Heather McCarty** (History), and **Dr. Katherine Michel** (Political Science). Reflecting on the opening of the Lytton Center, the co-directors state:

We believe in the power of engaging with the past as a way to face the challenges of the present and prepare for the future. The Lytton Center will bring inspiring, thought-provoking, and transformational programming to the Ohlone community that will equip our exceptional students with unprecedented educational opportunities.

The Lytton Center's programming will kick off with its inaugural annual **Lytton Center Award for Equity and Social Change**, an award that acknowledges the work of groups or individuals working toward social justice and equity by linking together past, present, and future. This year, the Lytton Center is pleased to present **Karen Korematsu** with the award. At an awards ceremony and speaking engagement, Karen Korematsu will offer Ohlone students and community members the opportunity to hear the storied history of her father, Fred T. Korematsu, who resisted Japanese American incarceration during World War II. Karen Korematsu has used this story and legacy to carry on the work of her activist father to pursue advances in racial equity, social justice, and human rights. The event will be held on March 5, 2020 at 11:00 am at Ohlone College's Smith Center for Fine and Performing Arts. The event is free and open to the public.

The Lytton Center plans on providing Ohlone college students with enhanced access to educationally enriching opportunities and programs throughout the school year, including but not limited to:

- **Speaker Series:** hosting inspirational figures to share stories of public service, activism, and civic leadership
- **Workshops and Activities:** providing opportunities to learn more about the past, present, and future
- **Lytton Center Award for Equity and Social Change:** acknowledging the work of remarkable groups and individuals who are making history through advocacy and activism
- **Annual Service Award:** recognizing faculty and Ohlone community members who are doing exceptional work related to the Lytton Center's Mission
- **Public Good Grants Program:** funding programming created by Ohlone faculty, staff, and students that works toward the Lytton Center's Mission

For more information about the Lytton Center for History and the Public Good:

Visit: www.ohlone.edu/lyttoncenter Email: lyttoncenter@ohlone.edu

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About the Lytton Center for History and the Public Good

The Lytton Center considers ways that the study of the past can help shape the present and future; our mission is to inspire the Ohlone community to work for the public good through programming focused on access, equity, inclusion, justice, and service. The Lytton Center explores challenges facing our community and the world—past, present, and future—and fosters big ideas that will inspire and transform Ohlone and the larger community for the better. Through training, programming, and capacity-building, the Lytton Center empowers students to advocate for a just and equitable world.

About the Karen Korematsu and the Fred T. Korematsu Institute

Karen Korematsu is the Founder and Executive Director of the Fred T. Korematsu Institute. Since her father's passing in 2005, Karen has carried on Fred Korematsu's legacy as a public speaker, educator, and civil rights advocate. To promote their mutual passion for social justice and education, in 2009 she established the Fred T. Korematsu Institute to advance racial equity, social justice, and human rights for all. While the Korematsu Institute focuses primarily on K–12 education, Karen speaks to public and private schools, colleges and universities, law schools, teachers' conferences, and business, media, and advocacy organizations across the country. Karen's work, like her father's legacy, extends beyond the experiences of Japanese Americans to advocating for civil liberties for all communities, and she addresses current political and social issues that draw upon the lessons of history.

About Ohlone College

Ohlone College offers high quality educational and career pathways and personal enrichment courses to serve the diverse needs of all students and the community. Ohlone provides excellent instruction and support services, awards associate degrees and certificates, and promotes university transfer in an inclusive, equitable, and multicultural environment where student learning and achievement are paramount. Ohlone fosters innovation, encourages student expression, and promotes ethical behavior and global citizenship. <https://www.ohlone.edu/aboutohlone/goals>

