

CAC Community Newsletter

Providing Access to Quality Higher Education in Pinal County Since 1969



Fall 2010

www.centralaz.edu

District Hours: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m., Mon-Fri

CAC receives nearly \$2.2 million CBJT federal grant

Funding marked for certificate, degree programs in biofuels production, solar installation

HOSA students earn silver

Katherine Juarez of Coolidge and Lindsey Aragonz of Queen Creek took home silver medals in the category of health medicine at the conclusion of the national Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) leadership conference.

More than 7,000 HOSA members, advisors and healthcare professionals from around the nation converged on Orlando for the 33rd National HOSA Leadership Conference June 23-26.

The Coronado Springs Resort was the site of 57 competitive events, 50 educational symposiums and networking opportunities for the 264 delegates from Arizona. There were more than 5,000 competitors from around the nation.

Three more CAC students - Erik Gutierrez (extemporaneous speaking), Yanira Lizarraga (job seeking skills) and Patsi Avile (job seeking skills) - all finished the conference as finalists. Lizarraga is from Florence, while Avile calls Coolidge home.

HOSA is a national student organization endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education and the Health Science Education Division of ACTE.

HOSA's two-fold mission is to promote career opportunities in the healthcare industry and to enhance the delivery of quality healthcare to all people. Its goal is to encourage all health occupations instructors and students to join and be actively involved in the HSE-HOSA Partnership.



The U.S. Department of Labor granted Central Arizona College nearly \$2.2 million in grant funding to establish associate degree and certificate programs in biofuels production and solar installation.

Central Arizona College has secured a three-year, \$2,182,003 federal grant to provide training in certificate and degree programs in biofuels production and solar installation.

With today's emphasis on green collar jobs, these two rapidly growing industries are providing many new employment opportunities in Pinal County and the greater Central Arizona region.

Since late 2006, the college has successfully applied for and received roughly \$6 million in Community-based Job Training Grant funding from the U.S. Department of Labor.

Central Arizona College was one of only 41 organizations nationwide to receive the grant. More than 300 applications were submitted for the nearly \$125 million in available funding.

CAC applied for the grant to help Pinal County and the region address the burgeoning need for photovoltaic solar installation technicians and biofuels production technicians.

The renewable energy technician associate degree to be funded by the grant will feature one program focusing on biofuels and another providing instruction on photovoltaic solar energy.

All students will complete a skills assessment course and a work readiness course during the program.

The funding for the program also may be used for GED preparedness and workforce readiness.

With 10 campuses and centers, Central Arizona College will ensure that training for these programs is available at multiple locations throughout Pinal County.

Access to Higher Education in Your County

First Things First offering ECE scholarships at CAC

Central Arizona College and the First Things First Pinal Regional Council have unveiled a terrific program designed to help students enter the early childhood education field.

The First Things First Pinal Regional Council is providing scholarship opportunities to students interested in becoming an early childhood education professional.

The grant provides full tuition each semester (up to 24 credit hours yearly) and a book stipend toward an associate of applied science degree in early childhood education at CAC.

First Things First (FTF), approved by Arizona voters, works to ensure that the youngest children have access to quality early childhood experiences so they begin school healthy and ready to succeed.

To qualify for a scholarship, students must be interested in obtaining a degree in the early childhood field but may not be presently working in the early childhood environment.

In addition, students must be willing to work in Pinal County upon completion of the degree program.

"Teaching and caring for children is an exciting, rewarding profession," Michelle



Central Arizona College and the First Things First Pinal Regional Council are teaming up to offer early childhood education scholarships in Pinal County.

Williams, CAC's preceptor of the program, explained.

Students who complete the A.A.S in early childhood education may earn positions such as:

- Family childcare provider
- In-home childcare specialist
- Preschool teacher
- Head Start teacher or teacher's aide
- Elementary school teacher's aide
- Childcare center provider

In CAC's early childhood education department, instructors work individually with students to meet their needs. Instruction is available in a variety of delivery methods, including:

- On-site classes
- Online classes
- Distance learning using Interactive Television (ITV)
- Self-paced study
- Traditional classroom
- Short-term classes and seminars
- Evening and weekend classes

For more information about the First Things First scholarships at Central Arizona College, please contact **Michelle Williams** by phone at **520-494-5022**, or by e-mail at michelle.williams7@centralaz.edu.

Tuition funding through the Professional Career Pathway Project is available to those currently working in childcare centers or family childcare homes.

This program is funded by the ADES/Child Care Administration and First Things First Regional Partnership Councils. For more information, contact **Shirley Harter**: 520-494-5077/shirley.harter@centralaz.edu.

New gallery displays best of CAC's student artwork

Central Arizona College kicked off its 2010-11 student art exhibit schedule on July 22 under the aroma of grilled hot dogs and homemade root beer as visitors basked in the glow of the latest student creations.

Among the 50 works of art on display were oil paintings, charcoal drawings, jewelry, digital photos, and drawings. Most surprising about the exhibit were the students who created the art.

"A lot of these students are not art majors," Don Manack, digital photography instructor at CAC, explained. "This gives everyone a chance to see what they might want to do. It's an opportunity for our students to show their work. It is a source of pride."

The art display is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. in N107 of the Sizer Building on CAC's Signal Peak Campus.

There is no charge for admission. The first fall show will begin on Sept. 8 with a second show scheduled to start Oct. 21.

The shows will vary with student artwork

being displayed three times each semester and once during the summer.

Interested in having your artwork displayed to the public? Want to study to be the next great artist?

Then consider taking one of CAC's numerous creative arts courses in the fall.

Central Arizona College offers a varied selection of day, evening and online courses.

These courses range from art appreciation and beginning jewelry to portrait drawing and digital photography and Photoshop.

"In these economic times, institutions are cutting back on the arts, but art is important to a well-rounded education," Manack explained. "It's nice to be able to offer this to our community."

Students interested in registering for a creative arts course should contact their academic advisor.

For more information regarding the art exhibition, please contact Manack by phone at **480-751-9947**, or by e-mail at donald.manack@centralaz.edu.



Central Arizona College students display their talent in the Student Art Gallery at Signal Peak

Student Art Gallery Schedule

Sept. 8 - Oct. 14
Oct. 21 - Nov. 24
Dec. 2 - Jan. 20
Jan. 27 - March 3
March 10 - Apr. 21
Apr. 28 - June 2
June 9 - July 14

A College Where Students Succeed

9 CAC students claim scholarships for teaching courtesy of SRP

Nine Central Arizona College students who are looking to keep their teaching talents in Pinal County have been granted \$1,000 scholarships by Salt River Project.

This marks the second straight semester that CAC students have garnered the scholarships.

The scholarships are intended to assist students who are studying to become secondary science or math teachers.

"These students have promised to consider school districts in Pinal County after achieving teacher certification," Marjorie Schiller, the lead faculty in CAC's teacher education program, said.

The following students received the \$1,000 scholarships from SRP: Veronica Babb, Nicole Brown, Shannon Campbell Vickie Conley, Andrew Frost, John (JD) Shull, Bobbie Stafford, Vicky Vargas and Alexis Wagner.

"It is important for the public to know that scholarships are available for students wanting to pursue a career in either science or math education," Schiller explained.

"SRP has been such an integral part of this program. We can't thank them enough for supporting CAC students and education in Pinal County."

Whether it is fostering excellence by funding innovative educational programs, the dream of bringing a theatrical production to life, or the hope of providing food for hungry families, giving back to the community is important to SRP.



Left to right: CAC President Dennis Jenkins; students JD Shull, Shannon Campbell and Vicky Vargas; SRP Representative Allison Waterkotte; and CAC's Marjorie Schiller.

Foundation Spotlight...

CAC gets \$10K scholarship donation

Central Arizona College and the Pinal County Federal Credit Union are teaming up to provide scholarships to students who graduate from high schools in Pinal County.

This marks the second year of the program that features a total of \$10,000 in scholarship money awarded.

"This tremendous partnership between the Pinal County Federal Credit Union and Central Arizona College is specifically designed to support the outstanding students in Pinal County," Gary Broussard, the executive director of the CAC Foundation, explained. "These scholarships create opportunities for young people to attend college in or near their hometowns."

The scholarships are awarded in \$1,000 increments to 10 students - one from each of the following high schools: Apache Junction, Casa Grande Union, Coolidge, Florence, Maricopa Unified, Ray, Mammoth-San



CEO Vince McKee (left) presents CAC's Gary Broussard with a \$10,000 scholarship check

Manuel, San Tan Foothills, Santa Cruz Valley Union and Superior.

To be eligible for the honor, students must graduate from one of the 10 Pinal County high schools; post a 3.00 grade point average; and enroll in a minimum of 12 credit hours with a declared major at CAC.

Local high school committees will choose the recipients.

CAC SBDC receives 2010 Client Satisfaction Award

For its outstanding work helping Pinal County entrepreneurs jumpstart their dreams of running their own business, Central Arizona College's Small Business Development Center has been anointed with the **2010 Client Satisfaction Award**.

The SBDC received the honor from the Arizona Small Business Development Center Network during the organization's annual summer training retreat on July 27.

The conference, hosted by Yavapai College at its Arts and Technology Center in Sedona, featured officials from the U.S. Small Business Administration, AZSBDC Network executives and directors, and staff members from the 11 Small Business Development Centers in the state.

The honor was based upon a client survey conducted across the state of Arizona that ranked customer satisfaction with the SBDC's throughout the state.

The presentation was made by Robert Blaney, the Small Business Administration Director for Arizona, and Janice Washington, director of the Arizona Small Business Development Center Network.

The CAC SBDC was represented at the conference by Lorrie Peña, Dan Shaffer, Jack Malpass, Bill Borders and Larry Gamell, along with Director Jim Rhodes.

"While my name may be on the trophy, the satisfied customers were clients of the entire staff," Rhodes stated, deferring credit to the counselors and staff members who helped land Central Arizona College the prestigious honor.

"The CAC SBDC promotes entrepreneurship among its clients," he added. "It is the same entrepreneurship principles promoted by the CAC administration across all operations at the institution."

Members of the community interested in attending an SBDC seminar or who would like more information about the organization's programs, please contact Central Arizona College's Small Business Development Center by phone at **520-494-6610**, or by e-mail at sbdc@centralaz.edu.





8470 N. Overfield Road
Coolidge, AZ 85128

POSTAL CUSTOMER

Mark your Calendar

Astronomy Night @ The Peak

Fri., Sept. 24 (6-9 p.m.)

Volcanoes on Venus? & STARLAB

U.S. Air Force Academy Band

Fri., Oct. 15 (7 p.m.) - The Pence Center

Musical Matinee - *Guys & Dolls*

(Performance for middle & high schools)

Thu., Oct. 28 (10 a.m.) - The Pence Center

(Schools should call 520-494-5223)

Musical - *Guys & Dolls*

Fri., Oct. 29 & Sat. Oct. 30 (7 p.m.)

Sun., Oct. 31 (2 p.m.) - The Pence Center

Astronomy Night @ The Peak

Fri., Nov. 12 (6-9 p.m.)

Is there Life on Titan? & STARLAB

Play - *How to Eat Like a Child*

Fri., Nov. 12 (7 p.m.) &

Sun., Nov. 14 (3 p.m.) - The Pence Center

CAC Jazz Band Concert

Thu., Nov. 18 (7 p.m.) - The Pence Center

CAC Community Wind Ensemble & CAC Honor Band

Tue., Nov. 23 (7 p.m.) - The Pence Center

CAC Student Guitar Recital

Tue., Nov. 30 (7 p.m.) - T116 (SPC)

The Nutcracker

Thu. & Fri., Dec. 2-3 (7 p.m.) - The Pence

CAC Choir Concert

Sun., Dec. 5 (3 p.m.) - The Pence Center

2010 Wall of Success

Nominate now for

2010 Wall of Success

Deadline: **Sept. 24**

Wall of Success Banquet: **Nov. 6**

Eligibility: Must have completed a certificate, degree or the Arizona General Education Curriculum (AGEC) at CAC at least 10 years ago.

For more information or to receive a nomination form, please contact:

Victor Gomez

520-494-5221

E-mail: victor.gomez@centralaz.edu

www.centralaz.edu/alumni

CAC students learn music business

College launches entertainment industry technology program



Martin Calleros in Pro Tools recording studio

Ever wanted to be an engineer at a production house? Want to be the light or sound engineer for the next big concert? Central Arizona College's Entertainment Industry Technology (EIT) program can put you on the path to a career in entertainment for a fraction of what it would cost at a private institution.

CAC's EIT program, which unveiled its

first offerings in the fall of 2010, provides its students a self-contained associate degree in one of four possible tracks: live audio/lighting production, recording engineering, artist/venue management, or performance.

The courses - taught by faculty who either are currently in or who have previously worked in the industry - are designed to provide students with a broad scope of today's modern music industry, specific technical skills, and business and legal knowledge.

Students will have access to a plethora of facilities, equipped with the tools of today's industry.

These facilities include a 20-station Mac Pro Tools lab, 8-track recording studio/mixing lab, 24- and 48-track recording studios, and the 700-seat Pence Center.

For more information about the program, please contact **Rick Moore** at rick.moore@centralaz.edu or 520-494-5399.

Central Arizona College is here to serve you!

We have campuses and centers throughout Pinal County.

Aravaipa Campus

80440 E. Aravaipa Road
Winkelman, AZ 85192
520-357-2800 or 866-869-6507

Signal Peak Campus

8470 N. Overfield Road
Coolidge, AZ 85128
520-494-5444 or 800-237-9814

Superstition Mountain Campus

273 E. Old West Highway
Apache Junction, AZ 85119
480-677-7700

Casa Grande Center

1015 E. Florence Boulevard
Casa Grande, AZ 85122
520-494-5980

Coolidge Center

168 S. Main Street
Coolidge, AZ 85128
520-494-6700

Corporate Center

540 N. Camino Mercado
Casa Grande, AZ 85122
520-494-6600

Florence Center

800 E. Butte Avenue (P.O. Box 707)
Florence, AZ 85132
520-494-6801

Maricopa Center

20800 N. John Wayne Parkway, Suite 104
Maricopa, AZ 85139
520-494-6400

SaddleBrooke Center

63701 E. Saddlebrooke Blvd, Suite T
SaddleBrooke, AZ 85739
520-825-4493

San Tan Center

2474 E. Hunt Highway, Suite 100
Queen Creek, AZ 85143
480-677-7825 or 520-494-6725