

## **Robert De Bono, attended 1982, Associate of Arts**

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**Years Attended:** 1982

**Area of Study:** Associate of Arts

**Email:** Robert.C.DeBono@aexp.com



I graduated from Prescott High School in May of 1982. During my senior year I applied for a scholarship at YC and was very excited when I received a call from Dr. James Pence who at that time was Chair of the Honors Program. During that call he offered me a full scholarship on the condition that I graduated with an A.A. degree. I agreed and I began the daily commute from my parent's home in Chino Valley to YC.

It was at YC that I had my most memorable professors. For example, in my Honor English classes, Dr. Pence and Dr. McBroom were awesome, they took a subject that for me wasn't particularly interesting and made it exciting and challenging. It was also at YC that I took my first Principles of Accounting course from Tom Snavelly who was also a local practitioner. The smaller classroom size and individual attention I received were very beneficial to my understanding of the subject. The Honors program was excellent and fond memories of the Honors "road trip" [that year it was focused on Native American art] have stayed with me my whole life. I would certainly recommend YC to anyone living in the area as it provides a great foundation of learning one can use to build upon.

Upon graduation, I attended NAU and received my Bachelor of Science in Accountancy degree. I was fortunate and had several job opportunities, and I went to work for Arthur Andersen. This was a great experience as I was able to work on Wall Street and in Chicago. I also obtained my CPA license in the process.

I stayed in Public Accounting for a number of years, but then went to work in the private sector with American Express {where I have been for 15 years}. I now work in an area that has also interested me [Global Reporting] and I work and collaborate with a

great team located throughout the world. However, every time I need to address the basic “debit and credits” I always think back to my first accounting course at YC