

## Featured Alum: Brad Newman, attended 1970-71, '73

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**Years Attended:** 1970-71

**Area of Study:** Education

**Email:** brad@yeiworks.com



Bradley J. Newman has been selected as the President's Outstanding Alumni for 2008 for outstanding contributions to his profession and a commitment to community service.

Brad Newman got his first taste of college as a full time student at Yavapai College from 1970 to 1971, and returned in 1973 to complete undergraduate requirements before entering the University of Arizona in 1974 to pursue his dream of serving people with disabilities. He graduated in 1976 with a degree in Education, majoring in Rehabilitation.

Brad returned to Prescott in 1976 to engage in his dream and became Director of Yavapai Rehabilitation Center, which later became Yavapai Exceptional Industries. Under his direction, several

Governors, plus regional and statewide organizations have cited YEI. Brad has created a distinguished list of partnerships with local businesses, such as Strum Ruger, and Better Built Aluminum Products, plus with the community, to instill his "kids" with a sense of responsibility, and that they make an important contribution to the community. YEI has also established their own line of propriety products, like wooden patio furniture, which is all about creating employment for people with disabilities. It has been a win, win situation.

Brad volunteers his time to many organizations in the community. He is a Big Brother, plus supports Big Brothers/Big Sisters with his personal services. He speaks to a wide

array of service clubs, and charitable functions. Recently, he spoke to the VA Medical Center on "Humor in the Workplace."

He has also made numerous appearances as host of KYCA PM Show. One of Brad's secret passions is to be an entertainer. He has participated in the Acker Music Night, plus many appearances in Prescott Fine Arts productions. If you have a need for support of a worthy cause, many people say "Call Brad Newman." Brad helped in the formation of Prescott Charities. It has been the benefactor behind so many local charitable organizations such as YEI, Prescott Child Development Center, and the Church on the Street Men's Shelter. The value of their property is well over \$6,000,000 with no debt or overhead.

Brad's career has emphasized the important part that an institution, like Yavapai College, can play in your life and business career. YC was the incubator for Brad's dream of serving people with disabilities. YC is a continual source for learning, and in fact, he is currently enrolled in a Business Management class.

Yavapai College has provided additional opportunities for YEI through their leadership in the formation of SLIM. "THE SPECIALTY/LIGHT MANUFACTURES ASSOCIATION" of the Yavapai Region works with YC in aligning training requirements specific to local manufactures needs. YEI, as an institutional member of SLIM, has been able to learn the techniques of "Lean Manufacturing," which emphasizes using less of everything; less human effort, less manufacturing space, less waste, and less investment in tools.