

February 2026 Board Highlights

Division One, Viticulture, Enology, and the Southwest Wine Center

Hands in the Vines: Students & Community Working Side by Side

On January 24, 2026, more than 30 community volunteers joined students, staff, and members of the Grand Crew Club to launch the 2026 *Volunteer Vineyard Series: Hands in the Vines*.

 During the winter pruning session at the Upper Estate Vineyard, students:

- Practiced seasonal vineyard preparation
- Applied viticulture best practices in real time
- Strengthened leadership skills while guiding volunteers

Monthly sessions will continue through spring and early summer, focusing on pruning, shoot thinning, pest management, and canopy care, giving students consistent, structured field experience.





YC Hosts the 1st Arizona Wine Summit

On January 12, 2026, YC's Verde Valley campus hosted the inaugural Arizona Wine Summit in partnership with the Arizona Wine Growers Association.

Students benefited from:

-  Seven expert speakers
-  A tradeshow featuring 14+ national vendors
-  80 industry participants representing all three Arizona wine regions

Academic experts from Washington State, New Mexico, and California traveled to the Verde Valley, bringing national insight directly to YC students and Arizona's wine community. The summit positioned students at the center of professional dialogue and industry innovation.



National Recognition in the “College Wine Bowl”

The Southwest Wine Center competed in the first-ever Collegiate “Wine Bowl” at the 2026 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition, and YC students earned national recognition.

Silver Medals

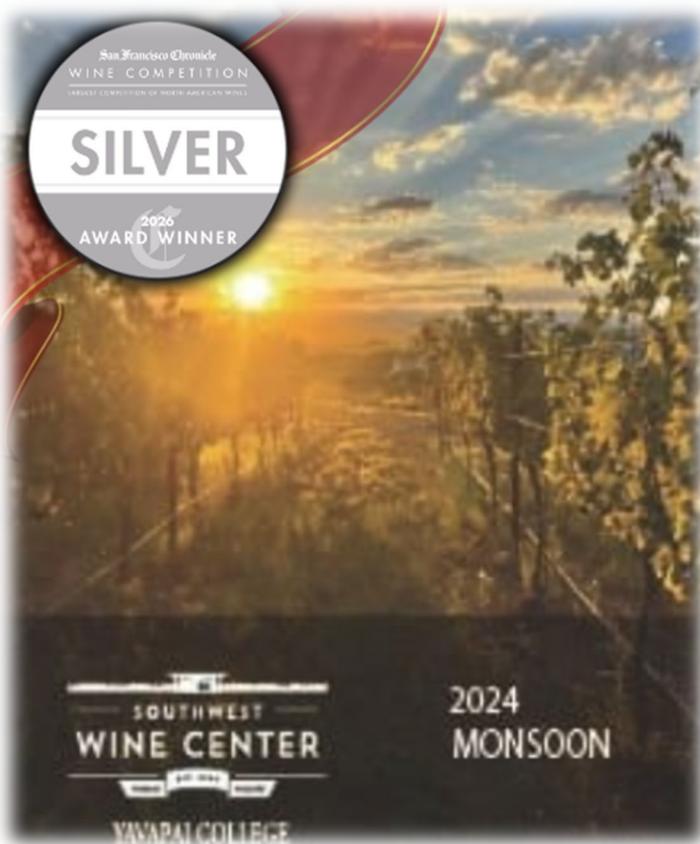
- 2021 Ambience (Red Blend)
- 2024 Monsoon (White Blend)

Bronze Medals

- 2023 Summit (Tannat Blend)
- 2023 Big Red (Red Blend)
- 2023 Perspective (Red Blend)

Five student-crafted wines receiving medals highlights the craftsmanship, technical precision, and dedication students bring from vineyard to bottle.

Link to Competition & Winners: [2026 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition North America Collegiate Wine Bowl](#)



Through hands-on vineyard work, industry collaboration, and national competition success, YC Viticulture & Enology students continue proving that learning by doing produces award-winning results.

We're proud of the students whose passion and persistence are helping Arizona wines, and YC, shine on a national stage! 🍷 ✨

👥 **Grand Crew Club Builds Community Through Industry Connections**

Members of the Grand Crew Club kicked off the 2026 season with a social gathering at Smelter Town Brewery on January 29.

Students enjoyed:

- 🍺 A small-group brewery tour
- 🎤 Behind-the-scenes insights from Brewmaster Tim Godin
- 🤝 Meaningful connection with peers around shared interests

Experiences like this expand students' understanding of fermentation sciences while strengthening community and professional networking.





Division One, Skilled Trades Center

Skilled Trades Students Compete, Lead & Learn

Electrical Students Shine at SkillsUSA

For the first time, Electrical students from YC's Skilled Trades Center – Verde Valley campus competed in the Region 4 SkillsUSA competition at YC's CTEC location on January 28, 2026.

Supported by the hands-on training and technical skill development gained in their Electrical courses with instructor Tim Peterson, students achieved outstanding results in the Electrical Wiring competition:

Electrical Wiring Competition

- 1st Place: Barrett Williamson
- 2nd Place: Wyatt Elliott
- 3rd Place: Coby Cook

Throughout the event, students demonstrated exceptional skill, professionalism, and preparedness, reflecting the strength of instruction and the program's commitment to real-world workforce readiness.

Competition materials and official results were shared through the Region 4 Arizona SkillsUSA Contest Updates, with a direct link also added to the SkillsUSA Arizona website for students and families to view.

We're proud of these students for representing YC with excellence in their first regional appearance, and we look forward to watching their continued growth in the skilled trades.





Real-World Code Training Strengthens Industry & Student Learning

In January, the Skilled Trades Center hosted two professional development sessions for Prescott Valley building inspectors and industry professionals:

- January 14 – HVAC: Duct Design & Airflow
- January 28 – Plumbing: Pipe Materials & Advanced Installation Techniques

These hands-on trainings reinforce current code applications and industry best practices, ensuring that instruction remains aligned with evolving standards and directly benefits students preparing for careers in the trades.





 **NISOD Award: Faculty Excellence That Elevates Students**

James Morales, HVAC Faculty at the Verde Valley Skilled Trades Center, was selected as a 2026 NISOD Award recipient by his peers. Recognition through the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development highlights his dedication to teaching excellence, directly enriching the classroom experience and student outcomes.



Division Two, Public Services

⚖️ YC Law & Justice Club Students Build Momentum During Club Rush

Students from the Law & Justice Club stepped forward this week during Club Rush, held Tuesday and Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Circle, to connect with peers and grow their presence on campus.

☀️ Strong Student Interest

- 8 new students signed up to join the club
- 15 additional students visited the booth to learn more

This early engagement reflects growing student interest in careers related to law enforcement, criminal justice, and public service.



Hands-On Learning Opportunities Ahead

Club members are already looking forward to an exciting semester of experiential learning, including visits to:

- Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) Crime Lab – Phoenix
- FBI Headquarters – Phoenix
- A live training experience using the VirTra Simulator at NARTA (Northern Arizona Regional Training Academy)

These experiences will give students firsthand exposure to investigative science, federal law enforcement operations, and advanced simulation training technology used in real-world scenarios.

Opportunities like these help students move beyond the classroom—building confidence, career clarity, and professional connections. We're excited to see this group grow and engage in meaningful, career-focused experiences this semester!



YC Students Feel Community Support at Unity Walk

 Showing Up for Our Athletes: This past Saturday, January 31, Administration of Justice Studies, Faculty Program Director Jerald Monahan proudly joined his grandkids in participating in the Unity Walk, an event dedicated to supporting YC student-athletes.

 **Harley, the Unofficial AJS Mascot, Returns** – Jerald’s dog, Harley, once again joined the Unity Walk. Having participated in multiple YC walk events, Harley has become the unofficial AJS mascot and a familiar face at campus gatherings supporting our students.

The Unity Walk reflects the power of campus and community connection.



Building Stronger Faculty Engagement

At a recent Faculty Senate meeting, the faculty representative to the athlete program encouraged increased faculty attendance and support at games. Efforts like the Unity Walk are a meaningful step toward strengthening that connection and showing student-athletes that their campus community stands behind them.

When faculty and staff show up, students feel it. We're proud of those who are helping build a culture of encouragement, unity, and school spirit across YC!



February 2026 Board Highlights

Division Three, Film and Media Arts

- Mark your calendar for July 13–18, 2026 as we roll out our “Sweet 16” edition of the Prescott Film Festival: six days of standout independent cinema, international features, documentaries, shorts, and hands-on educational workshops—capped off with a crowd-pleasing, interactive Sing-Along screening of *Mary Poppins*.

The Film and Media Arts (FMA) are also preparing our next **Silent Symphony**, with more details coming soon. Join us for six days of creative storytelling and cinematic adventure—where new perspectives, bold voices, and unforgettable moments bring our community together to experience films the way they’re meant to be seen: **on the big screen**.

Festival films and workshops will be presented across three signature venues:

- Yavapai College – Prescott Campus
- Elks Theatre & Performing Arts Center
- The newly remodeled Center for Learning and Innovation (CLI) at the YC Prescott Campus

The six-day lineup also features parties, great food, the **Platinum Pass VIP Experience** for those who want the full festival treatment, and the opportunity for all audience members to vote for their favorite films – who will win the coveted Audience Choice Award?

The Prescott Film Festival is a proud creative component of the Film & Media Arts Program at Yavapai College. Film lovers—this is your invitation to dive into the magic of independent cinema in Prescott, Arizona, a summer destination known for its historic downtown, iconic Whiskey Row, vibrant arts culture, and cool, pine-covered high-desert escape.

Spread the word, bring your friends, and come celebrate sixteen years of film with us. See you at the festival.



- Film and Media Arts (FMA) received a shout out in January's 5senses Magazine:

<https://www.5sensesmag.com/article/an-award-winning-program>

Division Three, Visual and Performing Arts

- YC metal sculpture student-artist **Maree Bradshaw** received three art prizes and her first big sale during the YC Prescott Art Gallery's Fall 2025 Juried Student Exhibition. Her unique and playful sculpture *The Lamplighters Jazz Band* garnered Best of Show 3D, First Place Sculpture, and People's Choice awards. It was such a hit that by the end of the exhibition the YC Art Department's Acquisitions Committee had agreed to purchase the sculpture. The department is working with Facilities to install *The Lamplighters* between the YC Prescott Art Gallery and the Jim & Linda Lee Performing Arts Center.



- The Patty McMullen-Mikles Art Gallery is currently hosting the Verde Valley Young Artists' Showcase, featuring artwork by students from Mingus Union High School. The exhibition highlights a variety of media and celebrates the creativity of local youth. An opening reception welcomed more than 60 attendees, including students, teachers, and family members. Three visual arts scholarships were awarded to emerging artists.





Division Four, Family Enrichment Center

- The preschoolers at the FEC presented **Dr. Berry** with a framed piece of children's artwork as a thank you for his support and leadership over Division 4. The artwork is titled "Painting Dots" by a 4-year-old using Tempera Paint and construction paper.



Division Four, Education, English, Humanities, and Social and Behavioral Sciences

- **Laura Cline**, English Professor, was selected a 2026 NISOD Award winner from Yavapai College. She was selected by her peers for this award to recognize her efforts, collaborative style and positive attitude and contributions to the College. NISOD is a national membership organization committed to promoting and celebrating teaching, learning, and leadership excellence at community and technical colleges.
- Psychology Professor **Nichole Guzzo** prepared a comprehensive Cavas resource for students presenting original research at the April 2026 YC Research Symposium in Prescott. The resources help all students develop professional posters for displaying their work at the event.
- **Tara O'Neill**, Early Childhood Education Professor, **Heather Leavitt** (Education), and **Eric Bucher**, Director of the Family Enrichment Center (FEC), are chaperoning student and staff attendance at NAU's Early Childhood Innovations Conference in April 2026. The conference provides preservice and in-service early childhood educators with meaningful opportunities to learn, play, and collaborate. They will meet with field experts and fellow educators to learn about innovative practices for young children through inquiry, exploration, and play.
- English Professor **Karen Palmer** is presenting original research at the AZTransfer Summit in Fort McDowell, AZ, March 26-27, 2026. "Drawn Together: Bridging Faculty and Staff to Paint a Complete Picture of Student Success" showcases how YC's inclusive structure, transparent communication tools, and data-informed decision-making have bridged academic and student affairs to promote student success in Gen Ed courses.
- **Suzanne Waldenberger**, Humanities and Anthropology Professor, had her work selected for a juried display at the YC Prescott Art Gallery. Running January 23-February 20, it is part of the exhibit, "Alter or Abolish: The Art of Protest, Propaganda, and Communication in the Public Sphere" that celebrates the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

Division of Lifelong Learning

Osher Lifelong Living (OLLI) at Yavapai College in Prescott, Prescott Valley, Sedona, and the Verde Valley

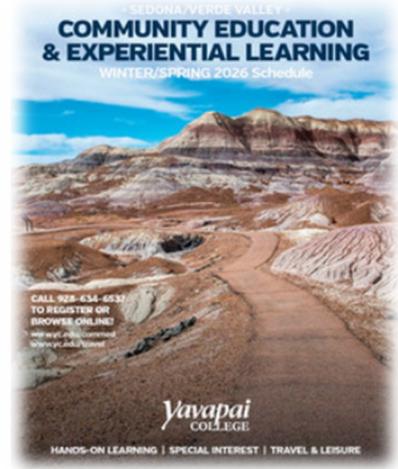
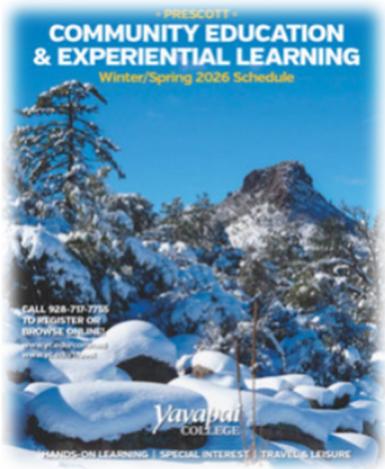
- OLLI visited La Posada after a standing room only class offered by former YC President **Penny Wills** and former YC employee **Ellen Harp** on Fred Harvey, and a packed workshop featuring La Posada owner Allan Affeldt offered on the Prescott Campus this past Fall. More than 30 OLLI members drove to La Posada for a social gathering, fabulous dinner and stay on January 26, and the following morning a behind-the-scenes tour led by Allan. Attendees haven't stopped raving about the experience.



- OLLI focused on Volunteer Facilitators in January. OLLI has 225+ volunteer facilitators who produce over 700 classes for 1600+ OLLI members per year. OLLI has volunteer curriculum committees who vet and support these volunteers. In January 54 facilitators gathered on the Prescott Campus to connect and expand their skills in engaging and managing their students. In Cottonwood 29 facilitators gathered to celebrate our most long-term, committed facilitators, awarding 14 the status of "Master Facilitator."



Community Education, Experiential Learning & College for Kids (C4K)



- Winter/Spring 2026 Community Education & Experiential Learning classes started on January 31. Registration is healthy, community students are having fun and learning lots!

Experiential Learning - Prescott & Verde/Sedona



- Trips are filling up for Winter Spring, with the first trip to the Grand Canyon happening February 14
- Enrollments and revenue are up from Winter/Spring '25

Community Education - Verde/Sedona

- Enrollments are up from Winter/Spring '25, with full classes and waitlists for dance classes.
- The first collaborative Yoga at the Southwest Wine Center class will be held next month, March 14.
- The Community Education manager is attending the next Verde Valley Chamber of Commerce mixer to promote programs, Thursday, February 19



Community Education – Prescott



- Multiple classes are close to full, sold out, or on a waiting list. Topics include Tai Chi | Recycled Collage | Baking Breads | Pastel Painting | Guitar 1 | Qigong | Crystal Sound Bowl | Creative Clay | Watercolors | Painting & Drawing Arizona| Cooking Tamales | And many more!

College for Kids (C4K) – Prescott



Kids – Prescott at haley.green@yc.edu.

- **Summer 2026** registration will open April 10.
- **Scholarships** - We are looking to increase the total scholarships available to low-income families.
- If you know any service organization or person interested in helping support College for Kids, please have them contact **Haley Green**, Manager Community Ed & College for

Division Five, Business, Science Computer Science and Math

NACCE

THE IMPACT OF **ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- **School of Business Faculty Awarded National Entrepreneurship Grant**

Dr. Brett Watts, Associate Professor in the School of Business and lead faculty for the Entrepreneurship Principles and Practice Certificate, was awarded a \$5,000 Level One grant through the **Everyday Entrepreneur Program**, a nationally recognized initiative led by National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship.

The Everyday Entrepreneur Program supports community colleges in helping students turn business ideas into viable enterprises by providing seed funding, curriculum, mentoring resources, and technical assistance. The Level One award provides one-time funding and implementation support to launch a student pitch competition and expand hands-on entrepreneurial learning.

This award positions Yavapai College to further strengthen its entrepreneurship pathway, provide real-world funding opportunities for student entrepreneurs, and deepen community and industry engagement—advancing workforce readiness and innovation across the region.

- **Dr Brett Watts** was asked to represent post-secondary education as a member of the Yavapai County Workforce Development Board. He was sworn into the position on January 30th. The purpose of the board is to connect employers with skilled workers,

provide training and education opportunities, and support economic development initiatives. As a representative of post-secondary education, Brett will be representing the colleges and universities in the county to ensure educational opportunities meet the needs of the learners and the residents of Yavapai County.

- On January 8th, Northpoint Academy's senior class welcomed **Bill Swenson** for an insightful guest lecture focused on bridging the gap between high school and the 'real world.' With a focus on strategic goal setting and robust personal finance skills, Swenson's interactive session challenged students to think long-term and prepare for potential setbacks. From the power of early investing and disciplined budgeting to the vital role of emergency funds and insurance, students walked away with a practical roadmap for building and protecting their future wealth.



School of Business Faculty Highlight Achievement, Purpose, and Resilience

- On December 2, 2025, **Dr. Aderemi Adedokun**, Accounting Associate Professor, hosted his second annual Achievement Day in the School of Business—an intentional space dedicated to reflection, recognition, and shared purpose.

Achievement Day brings faculty and staff together to move beyond traditional measures of success and explore the intrinsic motivations that sustain personal growth, professional fulfillment, and service to students. Through open dialogue and storytelling, participants reflected on perseverance, resilience, leadership, and the courage required to learn from setbacks and continue striving forward.

Dr. Adedokun recognized colleagues for their meaningful contributions to the School of Business and the broader college community, highlighting leadership, service to students, professional excellence, and personal resilience. Together, these reflections reinforced Yavapai College's core values of Excellence, Innovation, Continuous Learning, and Belonging.

The session concluded with a reflective "five fingers analysis," offering a practical framework for aligning values, daily actions, support systems, challenges, and future goals—serving as a reminder that each element plays a role in sustained achievement.

Achievement Day continues to exemplify the School of Business's commitment to fostering a culture where accomplishments are celebrated, stories are shared, and collective purpose is strengthened.

- **Dana Kirkwood-Watts** is preparing to submit an NSF IUSE grant on Tuesday, January 20. The National Science Foundation's Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (IUSE) program supports projects that enhance undergraduate learning in science, technology, engineering, and math. If funded, the project will investigate how students use artificial intelligence and its impact on microbiology literacy.



- **Yavapai College's Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) School of Business Faculty Networking Event Recap**
FBLA Collegiate recently hosted a "Meet the School of Business Faculty" networking event that brought together students and faculty, both in person at Yavapai College and virtually through Zoom. The event highlighted the diverse professional backgrounds of School of Business faculty members, giving students the opportunity to hear firsthand how faculty members' real-world experiences shaped their careers, teaching approaches, and professional perspectives.

Faculty speakers shared stories of perseverance, career pivots, and the importance of building strong professional relationships. A consistent theme throughout the

presentations was the value of networking, maintaining professional character, and developing transferable skills rather than focusing solely on job titles. Students were also encouraged by faculty discussions about overcoming academic gaps, the role of community colleges in career advancement, and the importance of persistence in achieving long-term professional goals.

Post-event feedback indicated that attendees found the experience meaningful and motivating. One student shared:

“I was inspired by the first four guest speakers that I was able to hear speak... There seemed to be a theme highlighted among the guest speakers of networking and hard work. I appreciate how it was emphasized that character matters... I was encouraged by the big academic gaps that were common among the professors... I learned that skills are better than titles... I gleaned both practical advice and inspiration for professional and personal resilience from the professors’ career pathways.”

The success of this event demonstrates the value of connecting students directly with faculty beyond the classroom.



- **Dr. Megan Hanna** will be presenting at the Community College Baccalaureate Association (CCBA) Conference on February 10-13, 2026. The School of Business Faculty Hub was selected by the CCBA as a 2026 Promising Practice. The Hub serves as a central communication and support resource for School of Business faculty, bringing together guidance on course preparation and shared teaching expectations. Its goal is to improve clarity, consistency, and communication across the School of Business while supporting faculty and enhancing the student experience

Library and Tutoring



Embedded Tutoring Program Update



94.7%

of students who responded to the fall survey
reported increased confidence in their coursework
due to embedded tutor support



"She has been a lifeline for me"

"...always ends with 'you've got this'
and, thanks to this team, I really
think I do!"



- On January 15, the Center for Learning and Innovation–Prescott (CLI-P) officially soft launched, welcoming faculty, staff, and campus partners into the space for the first time. The soft launch provided an opportunity to experience the building as an active learning environment while systems, workflows, and services came online.

Guests explored study rooms, tutoring and library spaces, emerging technology areas, and flexible collaboration zones, seeing firsthand how CLI brings together academic support, faculty development, and innovative learning environments under one roof. The event emphasized *use*, not just *touring*, with spaces actively supporting conversations, questions, and early experimentation.

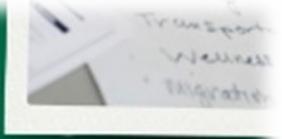
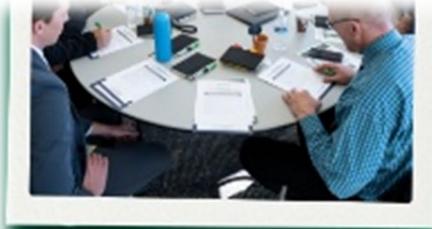
The soft launch marked a key milestone in transitioning CLI-P from construction to operation.



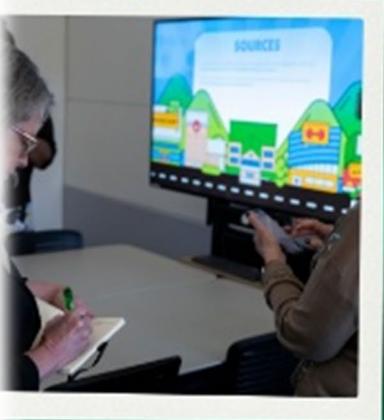
- On February 3, the Workforce Development Summit served as one of the first large-scale activations of the new CLI space, demonstrating how the environment supports collaboration, discussion, and shared analysis. The facilitation of activities was organized by **Dr. Megan Hanna** with technical and logistical support from ITS and the CLI team. The event brought together leaders, officials, and regional stakeholders in a working session format.

Participants used flexible seating, shared displays, and open collaboration areas to review data, work through regional trends, and engage in small- and large-group conversations. The space supported fluid movement between presentations, table discussions, and informal networking, allowing participants to remain engaged throughout the day.

By hosting this summit, CLI showcased the space as an active convening environment, designed not just for meetings, but for focused, participatory work that brings people together around complex topics.



**Workforce
Summit
Feb 3, 2026
CLI-P**



PRESCOTT WEEK 1

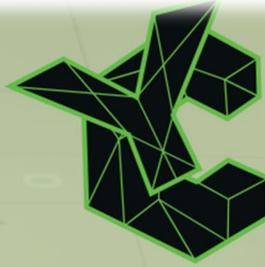


337
STUDENT VISITS



134
STUDY ROOM USERS

Our renovated Building 19 facilities are meeting student needs. With over **436 hours** of space usage and high study room demand, the Prescott Center for Learning and Innovation's new environments are supporting student learning and collaboration.



CENTER FOR
LEARNING &
INNOVATION





LEARNING

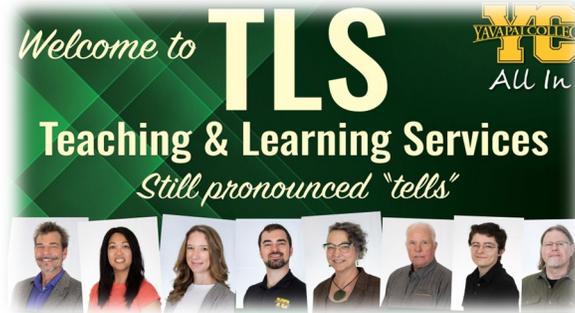
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**CENTER FOR
LEARNING &
INNOVATION**

Teaching and Learning Services (TLS)



- The TLS Prescott Campus staff is happy to be moved into their new offices in the Center for Learning and Innovation (CLI)! The CLI soft launch on January 15th was a success and excitement about the new spaces being built. TLS staff are working with faculty members on many creative ideas for XR and immersive learning. Right: Instructional designer **Nicholas DiPaolo** demonstrates colleagues VR equipment in the immersive learning lab.



Instructional designer **Corey Carlson** produced and edited a composite immersive 360° classroom video demonstrating the instructional potential of the YMAX and is learning about and supporting the YMAX backend and providing tours for faculty and stakeholders.



Culinary instructor **Deb Snyder** worked with Instructional Designers **Nicholas DiPaolo** and **Corey Carlson** to create an interactive 3D [ThingLink kitchen tour](#) that will be part of the instruction in her classes. ThingLink is software that is available for faculty and staff to create immersive and spatial learning experiences, and kitchen tours that Deb, Corey, and Nicholas created.

- **TLS Leads Instructional Content Accessibility Progress**

TLS Instructional Designer **Cheryl Colan** is leading Yavapai College’s instructional content accessibility effort to support alignment with WCAG 2.1 Level AA ahead of the April 24, 2026, federal deadline. Accessibility support includes scaling training, guiding course review, prioritizing remediation of materials students must access now, and building sustainable “fix-forward” practices for new and updated content.



- 80 Faculty / Staff earned the Accessibility 101 Micro-Credential
- 7 Group training sessions offered
- 15 1:1 30-minute consultations

From the end of Fall 2025 to Spring 2026 (all terms), TLS tracked the following **increases** in accessibility work in Canvas courses:

- 316% more content issues fixed
- 656% more content issues resolved
- 803% more files remediated
- 209% more files reviewed

- **TLS Supports Launch of Bachelor of Science Computer Science**

Our team efficiently managed collaboration with 6 Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) from the Computer Science department to build course maps, write course content in Course Development Guides, and develop them in Canvas to deploy 3 courses in the fall of 2025 and 3 courses in the current spring term to debut the BS Computer Science program in 6-month timeframes. The industry average for a comprehensive course build involving SMEs and Instructional Designers typically spans 9 to 12 months. Every course underwent full instructional design and quality assurance to meet the YC Essential Design Standards, ensuring they were student-ready on day one.

- **TLS at the Center of New Program Development, OER Initiative**

Our team, led by senior Instructional Designer **An Pfister**, is at core of course design and development for the 2 Baccalaureate and 7 new programs currently slated for launch in fall 2026 and spring 2027. We are supporting administrators and subject matter experts to develop over 60 new courses as part of this effort.

Our Instructional Designers shepherded 7 OER (Open Educational Resources) based courses to completion for spring and are



working with faculty on 16 more for the fall 2026 cycle, all supporting the college strategic initiative to lower costs for students.

In addition to instructional design, the Teaching and Learning Services department provides direct support for our students and faculty as well as ongoing professional development.

Verde Valley Campus

- **Arizona Wine Growers Summit and AWGA Annual Meeting**

Yavapai College Verde Valley Campus hosted the Arizona Wine Growers Association - Arizona Wine Summit for the first time. The AZ Wine Summit brought together vineyard professionals, researchers, vendors, and educators for a full day of learning, collaboration, and industry connection. The day began with registration and coffee, followed by a welcome from Yavapai College leadership.

Morning sessions focused on vineyard fundamentals in arid environments, including nutrient dynamics in desert soils, irrigation management in dry climates, and the use of AZMet resources to support viticulture decision-making. Attendees had opportunities to engage with industry vendors during scheduled breaks and over a catered lunch.

The afternoon highlighted Arizona's AVA diversity through an educational tasting panel, continued vendor viewing, and advanced research presentations covering grapevine disease analysis and vineyard nutrition strategies. The day concluded with a speaker panel and audience Q&A, wrapping up with closing remarks and adjournment.

Overall, the Summit offered a comprehensive blend of practical insights, scientific research, and networking opportunities tailored to the unique challenges and opportunities of viticulture in Arizona.





- The 2026 Spring Welcome Back event *A Hug in a Mug* on the Verde Valley campus in the lobby of building M invites students to kick off the semester with a warm and cheerful welcome on campus. Our *Hug in a Mug* hot cocoa bar, complete with tasty snacks, creates a cozy and inviting space for students to connect, relax, and feel at home as they begin the spring semester—because nothing says “welcome back” like comfort, community, and a little cocoa.



- Once again, the Yavapai College Verde Valley Campus, in partnership with VACTE, proudly hosted the Annual HOSA–Future Health Professionals regional competition. CNA and Phlebotomy students stepped up to compete, and our students absolutely shined. With their sights now set on the State Leadership Conference in April, the excitement is high—and so is our pride. Way to go, champions!

HOSA–Future Health Professionals is a global, student-led organization that empowers students to become leaders in the health care field through education, collaboration, and hands-on experience. Recognized by national health and education agencies, HOSA promotes career pathways in health sciences while supporting excellence in health care and strong partnerships between students, educators, and the industry.

- The Patty McMullen-Mikles Art Gallery proudly presents artwork by local high school students from Mingus Union High School at the Verde Valley Young Artists Showcase, January 20-February 12th. This exhibition featured photography, sculpture, drawings, paintings, and more. Attendees celebrated the creativity and talent of these young artists. The event was free & open to the public.

