

May 2026 Board Highlights

Title 1-B, American Job Center at Yavapai College

WIOA Support Helps YC Student Launch Career in Healthcare

Yavapai College student Caleb Espino recently shared a heartfelt message of gratitude after successfully completing his Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training through support from the Arizona Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program. His story highlights the life-changing impact workforce development opportunities can have on YC students pursuing careers in healthcare.

Through WIOA funding, Caleb was able to complete his CNA program and pass his State Registry Exams—an achievement that opened the door to a future in nursing and patient care. In his message to YC staff, Caleb reflected on how this opportunity provided more than financial assistance:

“This achievement means so much more to me than simply earning a certification. It represents the beginning of a career where I can serve others, support patients during vulnerable moments in their lives, and continue growing within the healthcare field.”

☀️ Caleb also shared that the encouragement and investment from the WIOA program motivated him to stay focused and work hard throughout his training, helping him build a strong foundation for a meaningful and stable future.

Stories like Caleb’s demonstrate how YC partnerships and workforce programs help students overcome barriers, gain valuable credentials, and step confidently into high-demand careers that strengthen our communities.



Caleb on the far left. CNA Class Photo at The Haven with Instructor Virginia from The Meadows

Title 1-B, American Job Center at Yavapai College

YC Celebrates Grand Opening of American Job Center

Yavapai College celebrated the grand opening of the American Job Center on the Prescott Campus on April 28, expanding workforce and career support services for students, job seekers, employers, and the community.

- 📍 Located in Building 1, the center provides:
 - Career guidance
 - Job search support
 - Workforce training referrals
 - Employer connections

College leaders, workforce partners, and community dignitaries attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony, recognizing the center's role in strengthening workforce readiness and creating career opportunities throughout Yavapai County.

Vice President Dr. Marylou Mercado highlighted the student- and community-centered impact of the new center, noting that workforce support is ultimately about helping individuals achieve their goals and build stronger futures.

☀️ The American Job Center reflects YC's continued commitment to connecting education, workforce development, and community opportunity.



Division One, CTEC

CTEC Students and Faculty Inspire Creativity Through Hands-On Learning at the FEC

On April 15, the Del E. Webb Family Enrichment Center (FEC) celebrated **#WorkTogetherWednesday** during the Week of the Young Child by partnering with Yavapai College CTEC faculty and student leaders for a fun-filled day of creativity, teamwork, and hands-on building activities.

FEC children worked together to design and build forts and imaginative structures using cardboard boxes, tape, and decorative materials—turning simple supplies into exciting learning experiences. Alongside supportive FEC parents, YC faculty, staff, and student workers volunteered their time and expertise to encourage the young builders throughout the event.



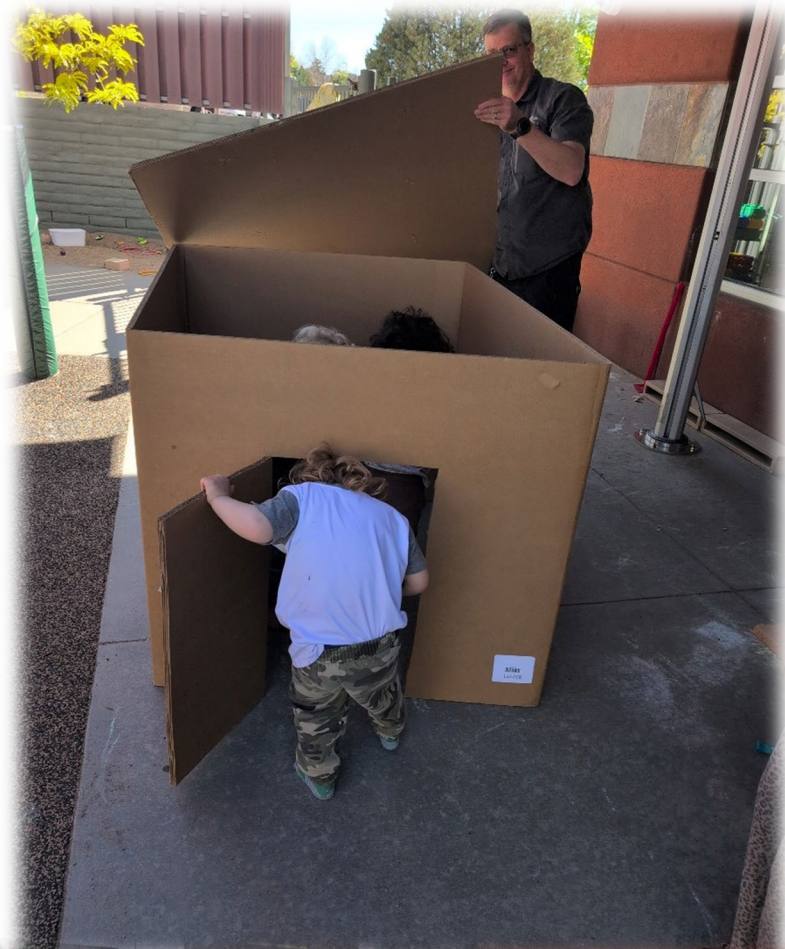
Volunteers included:

- Director of Automation and Manufacturing Technology Liz Peters
- CNC Machinist Faculty Michael Schaible
- Construction Program Faculty Brian Magarrell
- Construction Program Student Worker Chris Hill

Through collaborative building activities like these, children develop valuable lifelong skills including:

- Problem-solving and critical thinking
- Early math concepts like balance and patterning
- Scientific reasoning and cause-and-effect understanding
- Communication, teamwork, and sharing ideas with others

Events like this showcase how YC students, faculty, and staff are making a positive impact beyond the classroom—helping inspire creativity, confidence, and curiosity in the next generation of learners while strengthening community connections.





Division One, Culinary

Culinary Students Share Creativity and Hands-On Learning Across the Community

Before breaking for the summer, Yavapai College Prescott Culinary students wrapped up the semester by creating meaningful hands-on experiences for local youth, campus visitors, and fellow students through a variety of engaging culinary activities.

Throughout the semester, Prescott Culinary hosted cooking classes for students from the Launch Pad Teen Center and the Del E. Webb Family Enrichment Center (FEC), giving younger students an opportunity to explore cooking skills, creativity, and teamwork in a fun learning environment.

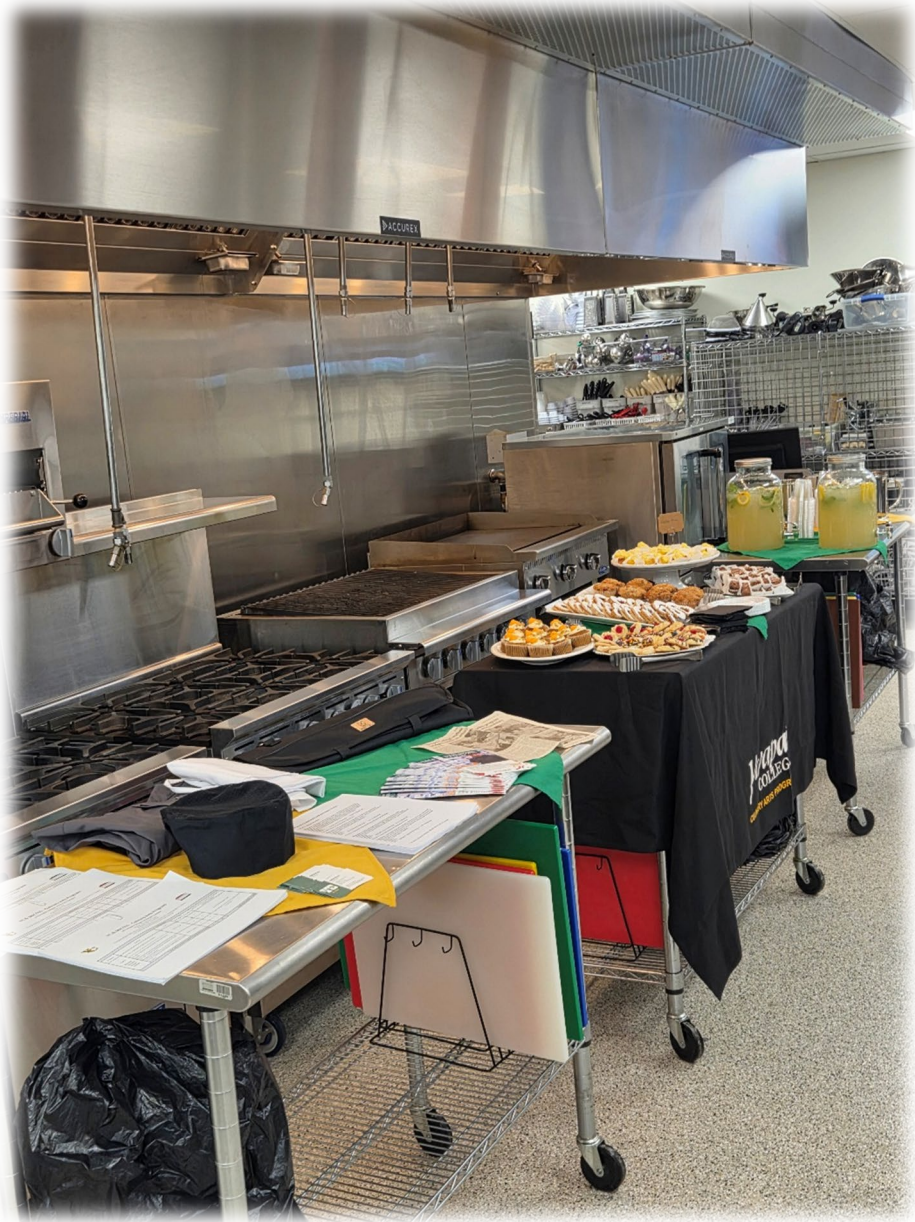


FEC students




Launch Pad Teen Center

Open House Hospitality – During YC’s Open House on April 25, guests visiting the Culinary Arts classroom enjoyed delicious refreshments prepared and served by culinary students, showcasing both their hospitality and culinary talents. 🍊



5th Grade CTE Day Fun – On April 30, culinary students welcomed approximately 150 fifth graders during 5th Grade CTE Day on the Chino Valley campus. The visiting students participated in a hands-on activity where they created their own emoji cookies, giving them a fun introduction to culinary arts and career exploration.



 **Baking & Pastry Creativity** – Baking and Pastry students also spent time sharpening their decorating skills this semester through creative dessert projects, including beautifully themed cupcakes and pastries. One standout creation featured an adorable beach-inspired cupcake design that captured both technical skill and artistic flair.



Through events like these, YC Culinary students continue to build confidence, leadership, and professional experience while inspiring younger students and creating welcoming experiences for the community.

Division Two, Health Sciences

Allied Health Club Students Give Back Through Community First Aid Project

Yavapai College Allied Health Club students spent the semester collecting donations and assembling first aid kits to support individuals and families in need within the Prescott community.

Through their efforts, students successfully created 15 large first aid kits that were donated to Agape House, a transitional housing program that serves individuals and families working toward stability and self-sufficiency.

The project gave students an opportunity to apply the spirit of healthcare beyond the classroom by:

- Organizing community donations
- Collaborating as a team
- Preparing practical healthcare resources for local residents
- Supporting community wellness and safety

☀️ Service projects like this help YC students strengthen leadership, compassion, and community engagement while making a meaningful difference in the lives of others. The Allied Health Club continues to demonstrate how student-driven initiatives can create lasting positive impact both on campus and throughout the community.






Division Two, Administration of Justice

AJS Students Explore Real-World Forensics at Arizona DPS Crime Lab

On May 8, 2026, Yavapai College Administration of Justice (AJS) students had the opportunity to tour the Arizona Department of Public Safety Crime Lab, gaining firsthand exposure to the science and technology used in modern criminal investigations.

 The visit connected directly to classroom learning, as students had recently completed a module focused on DNA analysis and forensic science. During the tour, crime lab professionals went above and beyond to explain the full range of DNA testing capabilities and how forensic evidence is processed and analyzed in real investigations.



Students were able to learn about:

- DNA collection and testing procedures
- Evidence analysis and forensic processing
- The role of laboratory science in criminal investigations
- Career pathways within forensic science and law enforcement

Experiences like this help YC students bridge the gap between classroom theory and real-world application while providing valuable insight into careers within the justice system and forensic sciences.



Hands-on learning opportunities and partnerships with industry professionals continue to strengthen the student experience in the AJS program, giving students a deeper understanding of the critical work happening behind the scenes in public safety and criminal justice. 🌟



AJS Student Leader Payton Hoops Recognized for Service, Leadership, and Career Goals

Administration of Justice (AJS) student Payton Hoops continues to make a strong impact both on campus and in the community through her leadership, service, and dedication to public safety.

🌟 Payton was recently recognized as the STAR Award recipient for the AJS program, honoring her outstanding achievement and commitment to student success. She also serves as a student ambassador for both the YC Respect Campaign and the Justice Institute, helping support student engagement and community-focused initiatives.

👮 Focused on a Future in Law Enforcement – Payton’s long-term goal is to become a deputy sheriff with the Yavapai County Sheriff’s Office. While continuing her education, she is already gaining valuable real-world experience through her role as a part-time safety officer with YC Campus Safety.

Expanding Opportunities Through Student Engagement – In addition to participating in the recent student Spring Break educational trip to Alabama, Payton was also awarded a student scholarship from the Prescott Chapter of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), recognizing her hard work, leadership, and academic dedication.

Students like Payton exemplify the spirit of service, professionalism, and determination that define the AJS program. Her continued involvement both on campus and in the community reflects the positive impact YC students are making as they prepare for careers in public safety and leadership.



Workforce Development, Health Sciences and Public Services News

Workforce Development, Health Sciences and Public Services Celebrates Student Achievement at the 2026 Evening of Recognition

Yavapai College proudly honored outstanding student achievements across Workforce Development, Health Sciences, and Public Services during the 2026 Evening of Recognition held on April 24, 2026 at the Prescott Resort Center.



The annual celebration recognized students whose academic excellence, leadership, professionalism, and career readiness distinguish them in programs that play a vital role in Arizona's workforce and communities.

☀ Students from more than 20 career-focused disciplines were honored, including:

- Nursing
 - Aviation
 - Welding
 - Culinary Arts
 - Emergency Medical Services
 - Commercial Driver Training
 - Administration of Justice
 - Fire Science
 - Manufacturing Technology
 - Radiology
 - Allied Health
- ...and many more.

🗨 In her opening remarks, Vice President of Workforce Development, Health Sciences, and Public Services Dr. Marylou Mercado emphasized the broader impact of student success: *“Our students are preparing to enter professions of real impact – work that sustains, strengthens, and advances our communities. The value of what they are learning extends far beyond the classroom and into the everyday lives of the people they will serve.”*



The evening highlighted students who demonstrated not only technical excellence and strong academic performance, but also leadership, perseverance, professionalism, mentorship, and service to others.

Four students received the college's highest student honors, the President's Award and Vice President's Awards:

President's Awards:

- Damien Andino Cross – Commercial Driver Training
- Courtney Handley – Nursing



President's Award Commercial Driver Training student Damien Andino Cross with Associate Professor Doug Harsh

“The CDT staff recommended Damian Andino-Cross for the YC President's Award for the 2026 academic year. Damian Andino-Cross has been an outstanding student in the CDT course. He completed all assignments ahead of schedule, scoring 100% on the final exam. Working full-time as a mechanic, he has been an informal leader using his experience to help classmates learn the pre-trip inspection. His ability to always share his experience with his peers and others at YC has set him apart. Damien finds the right way to support others learning and overcoming life's challenges. He impressed his instructors by adapting to the changes in the training caused by weather. Damien's positive outlook on life, displayed through his personal values; he is known to be supporting his grandmother and cares for his family. He supports and advocates for CPR and first aid training for others, stating he learned that skill in high school. Since attending the YCCDT course, He would like to attend the Electrical Lineman course in the future based on financial assistance. Damien has said many times, had he not attended YC, he would not have realized the possibilities to move up in life and have other opportunities.”

Associate Professor Doug Harsh



President's Award Nursing Student Courtney Handley with Professor Dr. Bambi Pish-Derr and Professor Dr. Randy Derr

"I am honored to nominate Courtney Henley for the President's Award. Courtney isn't just a top-tier student in a rigorous program. She is a natural leader. As President of the Student Nurses Association, she's moved from student to mentor, organizing study sessions and advocating for her peers. In the clinical setting, Courtney's empathy shines. She carries on her family's legacy of nursing with a calm, professional demeanor that earns her the trust of every patient she meets. Courtney represents the very best of Yavapai College, and I am so proud to recognize her achievements today."

Professor Bambi Pish-Derr

Vice President Awards:

- Russell Pritchett – Viticulture and Enology
- Christopher Dollison – Aviation



*VP Award Aviation Student Christopher Dollison
and the Aviation Department*

“Chris Dollison is an exceptionally driven student whose performance far exceeds program expectations. He finished first in his class in both private pilot ground and flight, earning his private pilot certificate in just three months, an extraordinary achievement in collegiate aviation. Approved to complete two flight courses in a single semester, Chris sets a high standard that actively motivates his classmates to follow in his footsteps and pursue an accelerated pace through their own flight training, strengthening the learning environment as a whole. His dedication, leadership, and work ethic exemplify the values of the Health Sciences and Public Services Program.”

Associate Professor Seohee Park



VP Award Russell Pritchett, Viticulture and Enology student who was unfortunately unable to attend the ceremony but was recognized for his outstanding achievement and contributions to the program.

“This student is a tremendous asset to the VEN program, as well as the Verde Valley community. I am more than pleased to nominate him. Russell brings over 2 decades of military leadership, volunteers more than 10 hours per week to the local VFW chapter, is an active coordinator and chaperone for the Verde Valley Special Olympics, and still finds time to work in our vineyard 10 to 15 hours a week while remaining a humble, focused student. His previous experiences have led to workflow improvements in our vineyard, as well as suggestions for improving safety across the board. He is the first to tackle a daunting problem and has an eye for details, and also remains steadfast in his demeanor and tempo at all times. Thank you, Russell Pritchett.”

Program Director Ryan Avery Follensbee

● Faculty across programs recognized students for qualities that prepare them to thrive in high-demand careers while making meaningful contributions to their communities and industries.



Outstanding Student Award, Agriculture Technology Management: Allison Garmon



Outstanding Student Award, Commercial Driver Training: Barry Brian



Outstanding Student Award, CTEC Construction Technology Award: Christopher Hill



Outstanding Student Award, HVAC: Ethan Sinclear



Outstanding Student Award, Culinary: Maddy Fuller



Outstanding Student Award, Electric Utility Linework: Dylan Kirby



Outstanding Student Award, Gunsmithing: Christopher Soper



Outstanding Student Award, Manufacturing Technology: Brayden Johnston



Outstanding Student Award, VERDE Construction Technology: Barrett Williamson



Outstanding Student Award, Welding Technology: Jadon Micale



Outstanding Student Award, Administration of Justice: Payton Hoops



Outstanding Student Award, Allied Health: Aubrie Doyle



*Outstanding Student Award, Aviation & UAS:
Frank Isaiah Jimenez*



*Outstanding Student Award, Emergency Medical
Services: Luke Swanson*



*Outstanding Student Award, Fire Science:
Jackson Tennet*



*Outstanding Student Award, Integrative Health:
Eric Barnes*



Outstanding Student Award, Nursing: Daisy Hacker



Outstanding Student Award, Paralegal Studies: Laura Waltrip



Outstanding Student Award, Radiology: Gabriel Carpenter

Workforce Development, Health Sciences and Public Services New Graduates

On May 1, Yavapai College celebrated the accomplishments of students graduating from Nursing, Radiology, EMS, and Fire Science programs during a series of pinning and completion ceremonies held at the Jim & Linda Lee Performing Arts Center.


 Highlights included:

- **116 Nursing graduates** recognized across BSN, ADN, and Practical Nursing programs
- **13 Radiologic Technology graduates** completing the rigorous 22-month imaging program
- **19 EMS graduates**, including new paramedics and Critical Care professionals
- **18 new firefighters** graduating from the Spring 2026 Fire Academy

Vice President Dr. Marylou Mercado praised graduates for preparing to serve in professions that make a direct impact on the community: *“Our students are preparing to enter professions of real impact, work that sustains, strengthens, and advances our communities.”*

Throughout the ceremonies, college leaders and faculty recognized students for their compassion, perseverance, technical skill, leadership, and commitment to serving their communities in critical healthcare and public safety roles.

Graduates are now preparing to enter high-demand careers across hospitals, clinics, fire departments, ambulance services, and emergency response agencies throughout Arizona and beyond.

 These ceremonies reflect YC’s continued commitment to hands-on, career-focused education that prepares students to lead, serve, and make a meaningful impact in the lives of others.

Read more on YC News:

[Yavapai College Nursing Program Welcomes New Graduates](#)

[Yavapai College Launches New Generation of Healthcare Professionals](#)

[Yavapai College’s EMS Program Christens 19 New Graduates](#)

[Yavapai College Welcomes 18 New Firefighters to the Community](#)

May 2026 Board Highlights

Division Three, Visual, Performing, Film and Media Arts

Yavapai College's Visual and Performing Arts programs continue to demonstrate outstanding creativity, community engagement, and academic excellence.

Dean Bryan Robertson and Professor of Visual Art and New Media Lindsay Masten will be presenting on Emerging Technologies and AI Literacy Framework in Yavapai College's Accelerated Bachelor of Design Degree at the NISOD conference. This presentation describes how the Design program supports persistence and workforce readiness by integrating emerging technologies and AI, aligning with the U.S. Department of Labor's AI Literacy Framework.

Visual Arts

The Visual Art Department is preparing to host the Colored Pencil Society of America International Exhibition at the end of June, featuring exceptional colored pencil works from artists around the world. In addition, the department will welcome the Society's international convention to the gallery, further elevating Yavapai College as a destination for nationally and internationally recognized visual arts programming.



Performing Arts

The Performing Arts Department recently presented a highly successful production of *The Sound of Music* at the Jim and Linda Lee Performing Arts Center, drawing several sold-out crowds and earning rave reviews both throughout the community and across the college.



Film and Media Arts

Film and Media Arts also recently presented a special screening of *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, followed by a panel discussion featuring Prescott City Council Member Jay Ruby, Yavapai College Associate Professor of Political Science Chris Harrison, and Yavapai College Dean of Visual and Performing Arts Bryan Robertson. The discussion was moderated by Phoenix Film Circle critic and Prescott Film Festival juror Jeff Mitchell, providing students and community members with a thoughtful conversation on film, civic engagement, and democracy.



Division Four, Academic Programming: Early Childhood/Education, English, Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

Nichole Guzzo, professor of **Psychology**, who recently completed her PhD, was honored with the selection of her dissertation as “the top dissertation from Grand Canyon University over the last 12 months (out of about 600 dissertations).” That’s not all: Her dissertation was then submitted and honored as the top dissertation among those written at other Arizona universities. She will be honored at a ceremony this coming June. Congratulations Nichole!



Professor Guzzo also gave a science lesson on the brain to two 4th grade classes at Acorn Montessori Elementary in Prescott Valley last week then another lesson to two 5th grade classes at Franklin Phonetic Primary School elementary. This marks her 6th year volunteering her time to turn on young kids to the science behind psychology. And the kids unquestionably enjoy the content and her enthusiasm.

On April 25, Professor Guzzo was joined by **Denise Woolsey (Communications)**, **Tara O’Neill (Early Childhood Education)** and **Karissa Lockard (English, Verde Valley campus)** to recruit new YC students at the Prescott Campus Open House. They connected with scores of prospective students—along with their families and friends—and answered questions and shared their knowledge about their subject areas. Events like this are a vital way to showcase the opportunities available at YC, and their engagement helped create a welcoming, informative, and positive experience for everyone who attended.



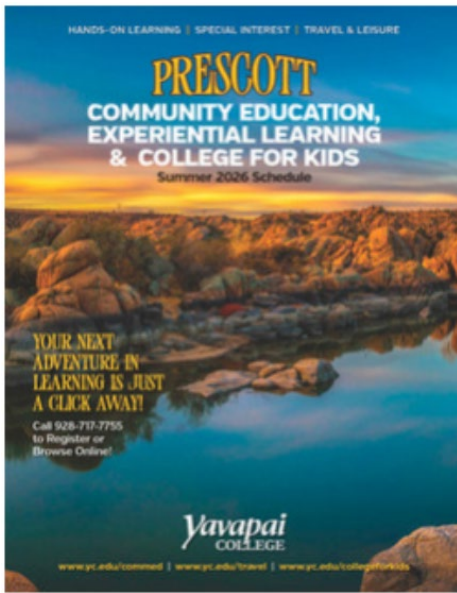
Division Four, Division of Lifelong Learning

OLLI at Yavapai College in Prescott, Prescott Valley, Sedona, and the Verde Valley

OLLI will be bringing 35 members to Ireland from May 23 – June 1, with a special visit to OLLI Members Deb and Mark Dillon, who move to Ireland 2 years ago.

OLLI is sponsoring the *Star-Spangled Sing-Along* on July 1st in collaboration with the Southwest Wine Center, which will be a companion to our current class offerings on America 250

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



Summer 2026 Community Education & Experiential Learning: Registration opened Mon, April 13. Summer is historically a lighter term however enrollment numbers continue to rise online, via phones and by walk-ins in both Prescott and Verde Valley areas!

Experiential Learning - Prescott & Verde/Sedona Community Education – Prescott



Multiple Summer classes have solid enrollments!

- Qigong | Qigong Extended Evenings | The Lazy Gardner: Gardening with Native Plants| Crystal Allies | Portrait Drawing Workshop| Watercolors for Beginners| And many more!

Enrollments and Revenue are a bit higher than last summer.

- **2026:** 92 enrolled so far; 10.4K rev so far
- 2025: 82 enrolled total; 7.6K total

College for Kids (C4K) – Prescott



Enrollment and Revenue:

- **2026:** 232 students enrolled so far (31 classes); 34K rev
- **2025:** 225 enrolled full program (27 classes); 34.4K full program

College for Kids Scholarships: Offered to low-income families

- **2026:** 29 scholarships requested so far; 29 awarded, total of 4.2K/10K so far
- **2025:** 27 requested total; 50 awarded total, total of 7K/7K

Division Five, Business, Science, Computer Science and Math

School of Business

AACC Dale P. Parnell Distinguished Faculty Member

In mid-April 2026, Dr. Megan Hanna, School of Business Department Chair, was recognized as an AACC Dale P. Parnell Distinguished Faculty Member. This award recognizes faculty for exemplifying dedication to student success.



NACCE Partnership & Pitch Competition

We joined the National Association of Community College Entrepreneurship (NACCE) and attended the Fall 2025 national conference. Through this partnership, we secured \$5,000 in external funding to launch the YC School of Business Pitch Competition, which will directly support student startups.

To prepare for our upcoming pitch competition, YC School of Business (Dr. Brett Watts and Dr. Megan Hanna) served as judges at the April 8, 2026, Moonshot Pitch Competition, where eight businesses competed for up to \$1,500 and a total of \$3,000 in prize money. This experience provided direct exposure to pitch evaluation, event structure, judging criteria, and participant coaching needs. It also allowed us to observe a well-established pitch competition, identify best practices in event execution, and gather practical insights to strengthen our upcoming competition.



As a part of this effort, we are launching The Founders Society (Student Entrepreneurship Organization) in the 2026-2027 academic year, a campus-based organization that will provide monthly workshops, mentorship from local business leaders and faculty, and peer collaboration. This creates a co-curricular space for students to actively develop their ventures and prepare for opportunities like the pitch competition.



Yavapai College's Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) come home with top awards from the 56th Annual State Leadership Conference

Five students from Yavapai College's FBLA chapter attended the State Leadership Conference in Tucson on April 6th to compete at the state level in hopes of placing and moving forward to the National Collegiate FBLA Conference competition in June. We're proud to share that all five students qualified, and two of them will be heading to Las Vegas, June 5-9th.

Awards received at the conference include:

Student Awards:

Sam Bengoa - 1st Place - Foundation of Marketing

Sarah Khalil - 1st Place - Business Ethics Presentation

Ashlynn Waggener - 2nd Place - Sports Management and Marketing, 2nd Place - Foundations of Marketing, 3rd Place Customer Service Role Play

Campbell Augustinovich - 1st Place - Foundations of Selling, 1st Place - Public Speaking, 1st Place - Customer Service Role Play

Luke Smith - 1st Place - Management Case Competition, 2nd Place - Customer Service Role Play, and recognized as Who's Who in FBLA Collegiate

Chapter Awards:

Yavapai College - Outstanding Chapter

Yavapai College - Exceptional Chapter

Advisor Awards:

Collegiate New Advisor of the Year - Brenda Lee

Collegiate Co-Advisor of the Year - Deanna Baker



Yavapai College's Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) partners with the American Red Cross to host a Blood Drive

Yavapai College's FBLA chapter proudly partnered with the American Red Cross to host a community blood drive on April 16th in support of patients and hospitals in need of lifesaving blood donations.

The blood drive was organized as part of FBLA's commitment to leadership, service, and community engagement.

The original goal for the drive was to collect 26 units of blood. Thanks to the incredible support from community members who signed up to donate, the event exceeded expectations, collecting a total of 38 units of blood. Each donation can help save multiple lives, making the event's impact even more meaningful.

Through partnerships like this with the American Red Cross, Yavapai College FBLA continues to provide students with opportunities to develop leadership skills while serving the community in meaningful ways.





Selena Graduate of the Associate of Arts program with her tutor, Elsie.




Tutoring services gave me the clarity and confidence I needed to truly understand my coursework, turning challenging concepts into manageable steps. Elsie was there every step of the way, constantly encouraging me and reminding me I was capable from start to finish. Seeing her show up at my graduation to celebrate with me meant everything and made the achievement even more special.



During Finals Fest, Library and Tutoring Services supported students at both the Prescott and Verde Valley Center for Learning and Innovation (CLI) locations through a variety of academic support and wellness activities. Offerings included free snacks, Thrive Bags, pizza and donuts, massage chair sessions, study spaces, stress-relief activities, and access to tutoring and library support services. Finals Fest was designed to help students reduce stress, stay engaged, and finish the semester strong.


In April, Library and Tutoring Services conducted a student survey to gather feedback from those using the Center for Learning and Innovation (CLI) spaces. The survey focused on preferred Fall/Spring and Finals Fest hours for the upcoming academic year, desired expanded services, and overall perceptions of CLI spaces and services.

SCAN TO TAKE THE SURVEY



Takes about 2 minutes.

What do you think of the CLI, our tutoring, and our library services?



CENTER FOR LEARNING & INNOVATION

Verde Valley Campus

Events on the Verde Valley Campus:

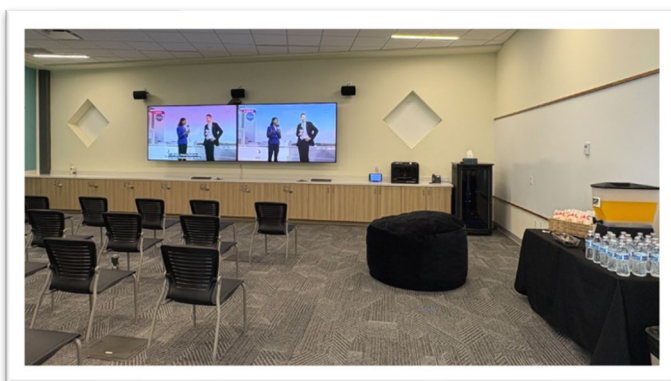
WATCH PARTY! – NASA’s ARTEMIS II LAUNCH TO THE MOON



What began as a last-minute, spur-of-the-moment idea quickly turned into an unforgettable celebration of innovation, curiosity, and community spirit. Students, faculty, staff and local residents came together at Yavapai College’s Center for Learning and Innovation—VR Room and Community Room—to witness NASA’s historic Artemis II launch, humanity’s bold return toward the moon after more than 50 years. Broadcasted on big screen TVs, the event transformed into a shared moment of awe and inspiration, complete with nostalgic treats like Tang and Milky Way bars that paid tribute



to the golden age of space exploration. The excitement in the room was electric, reminding everyone that space exploration still has the power to unite and inspire across generations.



Building on this incredible momentum, we plan to bring the community together once again in 2028 to experience the even more monumental Artemis IV moon landing.

Third Party Rental - VERDE SEARCH AND RESCUE (a Yavapai County Sheriff's Auxiliary)

Verde Search and Rescue, a Yavapai County Sheriff's Auxiliary, brought their expertise to campus for an engaging and essential annual land navigation and CalTopo training. Utilizing the Forestry Department's trail system behind the campus, team members participated in hands-on exercises that sharpened real-world search and rescue skills, from map reading to terrain navigation. The training not only strengthened unit readiness but also highlighted the strong partnership between the college and local emergency services—turning the campus landscape into a dynamic learning environment dedicated to safety, precision, and community service.



VERDE VALLEY CAMPUS SPRING OPEN HOUSE

The Yavapai College Verde Valley Campus Open House welcomed the community for a lively and engaging showcase of opportunities, programs, and campus life. Visitors explored classrooms and labs, connected with faculty and staff. The event created a warm, inviting atmosphere where prospective students and families could envision their future at YC, ask questions, and experience the supportive environment firsthand. It was a vibrant celebration of learning, connection, and the many possibilities available right in the heart of the Verde Valley.



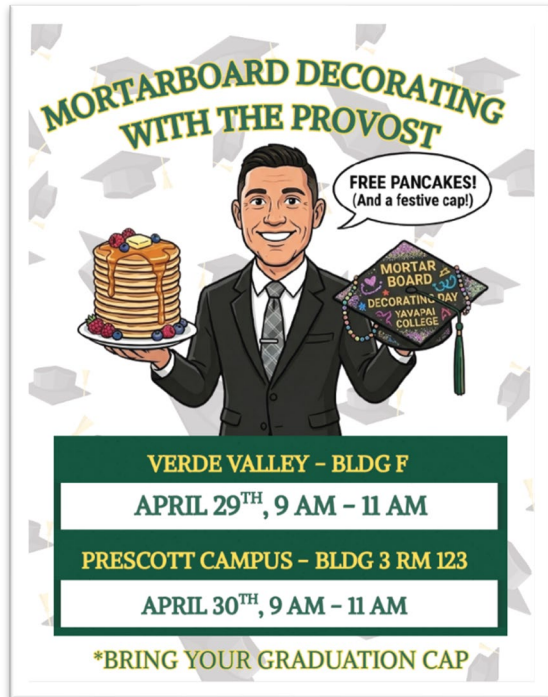


SPRING STUDENT ART EXHIBITION – Patty McMullen-Mikles Art Gallery



PANCAKES & MORTAR BOARD DECORATING WITH THE PROVOST

Yavapai College Student Services and the Provost office helped graduates celebrate commencement season with its “Pancakes and Mortarboard Decorating with the Provost” events at both the Verde Valley and Prescott campuses. Students enjoyed free pancakes and decorated their mortarboards alongside Provost Dr. Doug Berry in a fun, community-centered atmosphere. The event encouraged graduates to show their creativity, connect with fellow students, and prepare for graduation day with school spirit and personal flair.



MORTARBOARD DECORATING WITH THE PROVOST

FREE PANCAKES!
(And a festive cap!)

MORTAR BOARD DECORATING DAY
YAVAPAI COLLEGE

VERDE VALLEY - BLDG F
APRIL 29TH, 9 AM - 11 AM

PRESCOTT CAMPUS - BLDG 3 RM 123
APRIL 30TH, 9 AM - 11 AM

*BRING YOUR GRADUATION CAP

