



EASTERN ARIZONA COLLEGE PIMA



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NEW EA PIMA FACILITY RIBBON CUTTING EVENT

EASTERN ARIZONA COLLEGE held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to open its first facility in the Town of Pima. The location provides hands-on learning in welding, woodworking, upholstery, lapidary, and gem faceting, with additional programs planned.

The facility is located in Pima High School’s former Career and Technical Education Building, vacated after the high school moved to its new campus.

EA President, Todd Haynie, said the expansion reflects the College’s mission to prepare students for meaningful careers. “Since 1888, Eastern Arizona College has existed to create opportunity, uplift individuals, and prepare students for what comes next,” he said. “The programs offered here will build strong pathways from high school to college to careers and lifelong success.”

EA Dean of Business, Computers, Industrial Technology, and Prisons, Kevin Peck, thanked the Gila Institute for Technology (GIFT) “for its partnership, commitment to student success, and generous financial support in [bringing] this project to life.”

“We are also grateful for a generous grant from The Diane and Bruce Halle Foundation in support of the Forging Opportunity: Rural Welding Expansion Project,” Peck said. “These funds allowed us to expand the welding lab with six additional bays, complete essential HVAC and electrical upgrades, and invest in what matters most — our students and their future success.”

Peck also emphasized that the space will serve adult learners and community members. “[I]f you are 55 or better and have ever thought, ‘I’d really like to try that,’ this is your invitation,” he said. “Come take a class. Come learn a new skill. Come be part of this place.”

The facility will also serve high school students through GIFT, where many enroll in EA courses.

GIFT Superintendent, Clay Emery, said, “This year, GIFT, in partnership with EA, enrolled more than 600 students in Graham and Greenlee counties through early college programs. When combined with other dual and concurrent enrollment programs, that number exceeds 1,000 students.”

“Today’s ribbon cutting represents more than a building,” Haynie said. “It represents opportunity — a place where students learn by doing, skills are built, confidence grows, and futures begin to take shape.” ●



TOP From left: EA President Todd Haynie, EA Chief Government Relations Officer, Keith Alexander, Town of Pima Vice Mayor, Teresa Bailey, and former Pima Superintendent, Sean Rickert.

ABOVE From left: EA Welding Instructor, Van Green, and GIFT Student, Nia Berume.

Dr. Tom Sullivan Scholarship

This scholarship honors Dr. Tom Sullivan’s memory and creates a legacy to help others achieve their goals as they embrace music.

Tom was a lifelong educator. He spent his entire career as a music teacher, working with students of all ages. He emphasized putting students first, believing that each could excel individually, as well as a group.

For 50 years, Tom directed bands at schools and organizations in California and Arizona. He spent 20 years working at local schools in the Gila Valley—including Pima, Safford, and Solomon.

Tom joined EA in 1997, and worked there as a band director for eight years. Through his patience, integrity, and hard work, he turned EA’s bands into top-ranked programs. During his last two years at EA, he served as the Fine Arts Division Chair. Additionally, he founded the EA Community Jazz Band, a program that continues to bring people together through music.

Tom had a direct impact on the music programs in the Gila Valley, specifically at EA. In his own words, “The EA band took the notes off the page and created music full of feeling.”

EA held a special place in Tom’s heart, and we honor him by providing a scholarship in his name to help others love music as much as he did.

To view the video of his legacy, featuring his daughter, Mary Sullivan-Emerton, visit: eacalumni.org/scholarships/drthomasmsullivan scholarship.

”

The EA band took the notes off the page and created music full of feeling.

”



Dr. Tom Sullivan

Sandra Nelson Clark Scholarship

This scholarship was created in memory of Sandra Nelson Clark, who was born to Swedish parents in Mount Vernon, New York, on April 8, 1940. Her family was musically talented: her mother played the piano, and her grandfather played the violin.

Sandra and her sister began piano lessons at a young age. Sandra dreamed of attending Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey, where she hoped to become an accomplished musician. Unfortunately, health issues prevented her from attending. However, with her mother’s encouragement, she began taking organ lessons and became known for playing both the piano and the organ beautifully.

In 1962, she married Lee J. Clark. After several years of graduate school, the family moved to Venezuela for Lee’s job.

While traveling throughout Venezuela, they discovered the Venezuelan harp and cuatro. They acquired both instruments, and Sandra worked to master the harp.

Throughout her life, Sandra used her musical talents in church as a pianist, organist, and chorister.

In the 1990s, the Clark family—who had moved to Safford by then for employment—found their children finishing high school and enrolling at EA. Sandy also enrolled at EA to help her children with their homework. In addition to her coursework, she took music theory and composition classes. She was a diligent student and completed her associate’s, scoring near the top of her class.

Because of Sandra’s love for music, her husband created this scholarship to help fellow music-loving students.



Sandra Nelson Clark

MONSTER ALUMNOTES



Dala Evans

Dala Gallentine Evans, '75, worked in the medical field while raising six children. She is deeply grateful for her EA nursing education, which gave her the confidence to make important decisions about her family's health.

Building upon this foundation, throughout her career, Dala maintained a strong interest in emerging medical research and technologies. Her background in nursing helped her evaluate developments in the field and educate others.

She credits EA with providing the foundation for her clinical career and curiosity. The knowledge and discipline gained at EA shaped her life.

Now 71, Dala continues to educate those around her about health and wellness. She enjoys helping others think critically in a world full of hype and misinformation. She does not plan to slow down anytime soon.

Richard McCardle, '86, graduated from EA with an associate's in electronics. He fondly recalls instructor



Richard McCardle

Rick Peters, who guided their cohort, encouraged teamwork, and used problem-solving activities that mirrored real-world scenarios.

Richard started as a field service technician at Advanced Copy Systems, then spent 15 years at a telecommunications software company.

In 2003, he joined Next Level Solutions, deploying wireless networks for the Honeywell account. A decade later, he joined Honeywell, where he serves as a networking administrator, deploying and implementing campus network technologies.

Richard married Debby in 1990. They have two children.

Reflecting, he said, "I admire EA's mission to keep student debt low, prepare students for higher education, and offer four-year degrees without the Arizona university system."

Danielle Causey Nelson, '07, earned her associate's in business administration from EA. She later earned a bachelor's and a master's degree in human resource management from university and obtained her Society for Human Resource Management - Certified Professional certification.

Danielle started at Mt. Graham Regional Medical Center, gaining experience in employee relations, compensation, and organizational development, while building expertise in HR operations. She later moved to municipal service and is the City of Safford's HR director.

Danielle and her husband



Danielle Nelson and Family

have three sons and three daughters. She balances work, her children's activities, and enjoying her community.

Harold Rowley, '08, grew up in a military family and enjoyed stories of his parents' time at EA: **Harold J. "Hal" Rowley, '76**, and **Renee Day Rowley, '77**.

He enrolled at EA in 2004 and graduated with an associate's in nursing. At the College, Harold was active on campus, and met his future wife, Shirine Hoopes.

After graduating, Harold worked at the San Carlos Hospital while earning his bachelor's. He credits EA connections for helping him secure a position in the cardiovascular intensive care unit at Banner Baywood Medical Center, where he worked for two years.

He later moved to Erie, Pennsylvania for graduate school. After earning his degree, he worked in Phoenix with Valley Anesthesia.

Currently, Harold and his



Harold Rowley and Family

family live in Clovis, New Mexico, where he works as an anesthetist.

Reflecting on his journey, he shared, "It amazes me the reach that EA has. Every place I have worked or lived, I have met other EA graduates. I am thankful for my time there—it set me up for success, and now my kids are looking forward to attending EA!"

Ikponmwosa Theo Oghide, '16, after graduating from EA, continued his college basketball career at Southwest Baptist University, where he earned a bachelor's in exercise science.

After earning his degree, Theo worked for six years in the fitness industry. In 2023, he returned to school to pursue his Master of Business Administration, fast-tracking the program and graduating that same year.

In 2023, he married his wife. Last year, the couple welcomed their son, Atticus.

Theo now works as a commercial loan officer for Arvest Bank.



Ikponmwosa Oghide

Elianna Cazares, '22, continued her education at the University of Arizona after graduating from EA. She will graduate with a bachelor's in retail and

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consumer science, and a minor in business administration and management.

While completing her degree, Elianna secured internships with Freeport-McMoRan and accepted a contract control specialist position at the company. ●



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Send your information to:

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In Memoriam

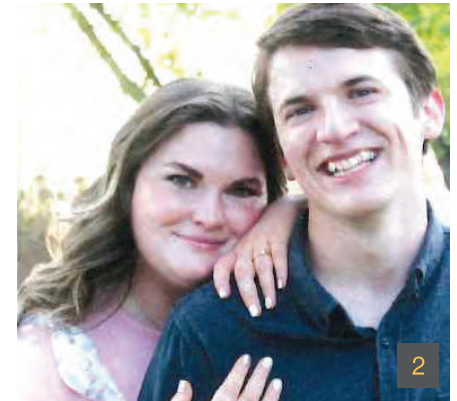
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 Kevin L. Haymore, '93 – July 12, 2025
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 Wesley T. Foster, '65 – August 8, 2025
 Frank R. Ruiz, '88 – August 9, 2025
 Patricia “Trish” Hawkins Dominguez, '92 – August 10, 2025
 Judith “Judy” Farley, '60 – August 11, 2025
 Lonnie D. Foster, '55 – August 18, 2025
 Austin Lee Slade, '11 – August 23, 2025
 Melissa Castro Sanchez Moss, '91 - August 24, 2025
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 Terry Jane McNair Burgess, '66 - August 29, 2025
 Concepcion L. Cocreham, '76 – September 2, 2025
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 Laura Lynn Abbey Thomas, '85 – September 11, 2025
 Benjamin Allan Haberman, '67 – September 11, 2025
 Nelma Larsen Greer, '48 – September 18, 2025
 Elaine McBride Mattice, '43 – September 18, 2025

Lonnie D. Bristol, '63 – September 24, 2025
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 Sheila D. Locust Wright, '73 – September 29, 2025
 Dorothy Alvarez, '87 – October 1, 2025
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 Donald R. Cluff, '75 – December 18, 2025
 Marilyn I. Crawley Layton, '09 – December 30, 2025
 Sherry L. Richins Conner, '72 – December 30, 2025

Obituaries July 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

WEDDING BELLS

1	Jul. 12, 2025	Elizabeth Warn '23 and Cody Mullenaux '23
	Aug. 1, 2025	Cassidy Wakefield '25 and Ricky Quinlan '25
2	Aug. 8, 2025	MaKay Drollinger and Thomas Haynie '25
	Aug. 9, 2025	Ella Peterson '26 and Derek Scott '26
3	Aug. 23, 2025	Natalie Larson '24 and L. Gage Heap '25
	Sept. 6, 2025	Leah Morris '26 and Mark Wren '24
4	Sept. 13, 2025	Aubrie Sherwood '23 and Hunter Cluff '20
5	Sept. 13, 2025	Sophia Welker '26 and Dallen Rogers '25
	Oct. 3, 2025	Whitney Farar and Atticus L. Voss '24
	Dec. 19, 2025	Adona E. Spackman '25 and Tucker W. Wilkins '23
	Dec. 20, 2025	Rebecca L. Willis '27 and Benjamin S. Burk '25
	Dec. 27, 2025	Amelia Barker and Michael Greer '21
	Dec. 27, 2025	Emma Hogle '24 and Preston J. Richins '21
	Dec. 27, 2025	Olivia G. Haynie '22 and Grant Montierth



THE EASTERN ARIZONA COLLEGE *Foundation Technology Endowment*

The Eastern Arizona College Foundation Technology Endowment provides a perpetual source of funding to support the College's technology instruction and infrastructure. By keeping equipment and systems current, EA ensures that students are prepared for in-demand careers.

Because only the earnings from the endowment are used, the principal remains intact, allowing the fund to support important projects year after year. Last year, earnings helped replace all host servers in the College's Information Technology Department. This year, the endowment provided

a classroom set of laptops for the new cyber security program.

Thank you to all who have contributed to the endowment through the years. Your generosity helps EA continue equipping students with the tools, education, and skills they need for the future. ●



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e-newsletter, "Monster Tracks,"
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Pictured: Ribbon cutting ceremony at the opening of
the new EA Pima Facility.