Summer Newsletter

Recap LionFest - Alumni Company tabling

Thursday, May 3
11:00am-2:00pm
The EMCC Alumni Association held its first “LionFest” prior to commencement to celebrate the accomplishments of the graduating Class of 2018 and welcome them to the EMCC Alumni Association! At this event, we also had EMCC Alumni representatives present that highlighted opportunities that their organization could offer our recent graduates.

**Alumni & Friends: Medical Lending Center, Youngtown, AZ**

Our very own Alum, Barb Todd with Medical Lending Center from Youngtown, AZ came to get involved and represented her organization at the Lionfest! Medical Lending Center hosted a table that showcased volunteer opportunities at their center or ways to join their board!

Be on the lookout for more company events to promote volunteer, internship and/or career opportunities to your fellow Alums. This event will be a way to connect and gain new team members that are also your fellow Mountain Lions!

**Dr. Ernie Lara Congratulates Faculty and Staff on 2018 Academic Year**

“We successfully carried out the 22nd Annual EMCC Commencement Ceremony! We are very proud of the hard work and commitment displayed by the graduating class of 2018 and wish our graduates the best as they continue on to their next milestone.

Again, thank you to all involved and your continued commitment to student success.”

This year our EMCC Alums graduated for the first time at the Grand Canyon Arena. Welcome the 2018 graduates as they start to join the Alumni events!
Remember… Once an Estrella Mountain Lion, Always Part of the pride!

Alumni Congratulate Graduates

Lorenzo Cabrera, Class of 1996 represented the EMCC Alumni Association at the 2018 Commencement ceremony on stage, May 11th! As a proud member of the EMCC Alumni Association, Lorenzo welcomed and congratulated the graduating class and highlighted the alumni pin each graduate received on this day.

Lorenzo also walked across EMCC's stage in 96' to receive his own Associate of Arts degree in General Studies, and later transferred to ASU West campus to complete his Bachelors in Secondary Education and his Masters in Educational Leadership through NAU. Cabrera is currently a proud Principal of Franklin Police and Fire High School, a small signature school within the Phoenix Union High School District, which is a nationally recognized Blue Ribbon, a Gold Medal Beat-the-Odds, and an “A Rated” School.

Lorenzo Cabrera's memory of his path at EMCC: "I truly believe Estrella Mountain Community College and the faculty and staff were instrumental in assisting me finding my calling. Individuals like Adolfo Gamez, Homero Lopez, Ernie Lara, Cheryl Bradshaw, Debbie Pina, Pearl Williams and John Bradley changed my life and the trajectory of my future. Had it not been for the numerous opportunities and the relationships I discovered at Estrella, I would not have realized my full potential. I found a family at Estrella, who truly believed in me. I will never forget my experiences at Estrella, as these experiences and relationships serve as a model as to how I now create life changing educational experiences and opportunities for all kids and build positive meaningful relations in my current role as principal."

Find out how to become more involved in the Alumni Association - Alumni Advisory Board.
Alumni Highlight:

Al Cutright

Al Cutright, age 82 graduated from Estrella Mountain Community College this past May 2018, reaching his goal that he has dreamed to accomplish. You might recognize his name. Al is a living history of the country’s early struggles for civil rights.

Along with 12 younger siblings, Al Cutright moved to Arizona for a “better life.” It wasn’t uncommon for African Americans to move their families for a job opportunity. “When we came to Arizona it was because my father’s sister, Aunt Mertha. She said that Blacks had more opportunity to work and be paid more,” said Cutright. “Unfortunately, most of this was following the crops. While in Arkansas, Missouri and Ohio, our family participated in sharecropping.”

Al spent most of his youth helping his father in a new church plant in a new little community called El Mirage. As the town grew, and Cutright grew up to become more involved in the civil rights movement, he served on the city council for fourteen years. He served under four police chiefs as police commissioner.

“I have met a lot of great people including Martin Luther King, Cesar Chavez, Barry Goldwater, President Clinton, and Henry Cisneros, worked with Benjamin Brooks and Clovis Campbell on many community initiatives. I was able to bring most of these great people to the church and let the people know what was going on around them and listen to how they can affect the community. Former Secretary of State Art Hamilton was my guest along with Rev. Oscar Tillman with the NAACP. All of the greats have either graced the pulpit or at a minimum heard me speak of the greatness of the church on Doris Street,” said Cutright.

It was history and inspiration for young students that made Cutright a student and an advocate at Estrella Mountain Community College.

**if you have a success story you would like to share, please send them to EMCC’s Alumni Association: alumni@estrellamountain.edu

Buy a Brick, Build a Legacy

Your chance to be part of EMCC history and legacy will be offered with the launch of a buy a brick program. The bricks will surround the Time Capsule location in the Image Zone. All purchases of a brick go towards student scholarships!

Our entire campus community identified a special area to place the College time capsule at the conclusion of the 25th Anniversary in December 2017.

True to the Estrella Way, the college came together from designing, to building, to make this time capsule placement a unique and creative space – the Estrella Legacy Patio.

The Estrella Legacy Patio highlights our college logo with the diamond in the center. The College time capsule is at the tip of the diamond in front of the commemorative stone. Each brick sponsorship will be placed in the design acknowledging the individual or organization’s support of EMCC student scholarships.
By buying a brick, you will be part of building EMCC’s legacy. A legacy that we are proud of and one that we are excited to grow for the future.

Please join us in celebrating EMCC’s proud legacy and supporting educational opportunities for our students. If you are interested in purchasing a brick, please visit our Buy a Brick page:

https://www.estrellamountain.edu/giving/build-a-legacy

Buy a Brick Today!

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EMCC Alumni Association

Contact Us
623-935-8249 • alumni@estrellamountain.edu
www.estrellamountain.edu/alumni

The mission of the Estrella Mountain Community College Alumni Association is to honor the heritage of Estrella Mountain and the legacy of its students and graduates. By fostering lifelong connections among alumni, students, faculty, staff, and the community, EMCCAA encourages meaningful involvement and leadership to benefit all. EMCCAA strives to cultivate goodwill and support for the college by sponsoring social, educational, philanthropic, and service-oriented programs.

Estrella Mountain Community College is a Maricopa Community College