

## FOUNDATION UPDATE

Featuring the latest news from the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation  
April 2022



*We make post-secondary education and certifications accessible and affordable.*

## THANK YOU!

# H Be a Student's ero



### You are our hero!

**Thank you to the 465 donors and multiple sponsors who participated in our Be a Student's Hero annual day of giving on March 31st. Together we raised \$131,905!**

Your contributions make a huge difference in the lives of our students, faculty and staff each and every day. Coming together in support of education has never been more critical and we thank you for your trust, compassion and generosity, not only during this day of giving, but well into the future.

Thank you again for making Be a Student's Hero such a success!

[Check out this video](#) and hear from our students about why your support is so important.



## Thank you to our Be a Student's Hero sponsors!

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**Dr. Steven R. Gonzales**, Interim Chancellor,  
Maricopa Community College District

**Brian F. Spicker**, President and CEO,  
Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation

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**Kimberly Britt**, Vice President for Academic Affairs,  
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## U.S. First Lady Dr. Jill Biden Visits with MCCCC Leaders to Discuss New Semiconductor Technician Bootcamps in AZ

On March 7, 2022, Dr. Steven R. Gonzales, Interim Chancellor of the Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCC), MCCCC Governing Board President Marie Sullivan, and Mesa Community College Executive Director of AzAMI Workforce Leah

Palmer, joined First Lady of the United States Dr. Jill Biden and Intel Leaders at their semiconductor manufacturing plant in Chandler. At the event, a briefing was held to discuss how the community college system is developing a groundbreaking Semiconductor Technician Bootcamp to better meet the workforce needs for this growing industry.

"We are honored that First Lady Biden chose to meet with the Maricopa Community Colleges and spotlight how our innovative programs are connecting skilled workers to growing sustainable careers," said MCCCC Interim Chancellor, Dr. Steven R. Gonzales. "As Arizona's largest workforce training provider, and one of the largest in the nation, the Maricopa Community Colleges has seen the positive impact that our System has had on both our local communities and the economy, helping place Arizonans in high-demand jobs with livable wages. The MCCCC Semiconductor Technician Bootcamp will only further the positive impact of workforce development in Arizona across the nation."

Arizona has seen a large increase in semiconductor manufacturing over the past several years, and community colleges have been called upon as a critical partner to develop the talent pipeline for this industry. The Maricopa Community Colleges has collaborated with partners like Intel to develop innovative curriculum to expedite the workforce development for this program, including the creation of a Semiconductor Technician Bootcamp.

[Read the full story.](#)





## Student Selected for Congressional Internship

Phoenix College student and Maricopa Nina Mason Pulliam Legacy Scholar Ryan Young was awarded the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute's Foster Youth Internship Program for Summer 2022. The internship will take place in Washington, D.C. "A

congressional internship on Capitol Hill has been a dream of mine all my life, with my policy interests to better improve institutional systems that serve youth and families each day," Ryan said.

Ryan is a child welfare advocate and consultant with lived experiences from Arizona's foster care system and was born in Ukraine. He has devoted himself to public service, advocacy and consultation into reforming the child welfare system through local, state and national efforts. He is the current President of the Arizona Department of Child Safety's Youth Empowerment Council, where he meets with DCS Leadership and young people with lived experiences to find solutions toward many needed changes in the state's child welfare system.

Read more about Ryan's journey, [here](#).



## Fry's Food Stores Provides Support at PVCC Food Distribution Event

The Kroger Co. Foundation in partnership with Fry's Food Stores presented the Foundation with \$25,500 in support of students struggling with food insecurity at a Paradise Valley Community College (PVCC) food distribution event April 7, 2021. Volunteers from both Fry's and the college were on hand to help with the event.



The \$25,500 grant will provide more than 500 students with a \$50 grocery gift card, or fund 10,200 meals to students in need across all 10 of the Maricopa Community Colleges. It is part of Kroger's Zero Hunger | Zero Waste social impact plan to end hunger in communities and eliminate waste across the company by 2025.

Speakers at the event included: Ray Ostos District Director, Student Affairs, Maricopa Community Colleges, Foundation President and CEO, Brian Spicker, Monica Garnes, President, Fry's Food Stores, Maricopa Community Colleges District Governing Board President Marie Sullivan and Dr. Paul Dale, President, Paradise Valley Community College.

Read more about this longstanding partnership, [here](#).

# PEORIA PROMISE

City of Peoria Announces Scholarship Program



through a community partnership with Glendale Community College (GCC) and Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation. Beginning in the spring semester of 2022, PeoriaAZ Promise will award college scholarships to Peoria students who qualify for financial assistance.

"PeoriaAZ Promise is near and dear to my heart," said Peoria Councilmember Bridget Binsbacher. "The mission is to provide easier access to affordable education and I'm so proud that we'll be able to offer this program to Peoria families."

In February, the Peoria City Council approved setting aside a portion of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars that the city received to fund a scholarship program. Peoria's Neighborhood and Human Services Department developed the PeoriaAZ Promise program based on the national program, College Promise, and allocated \$200,000 for the program over a period of three years. GCC and the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation will be the responsible parties for the operation and administration of the program.

"Financial aid goes beyond tuition and fees. There are living allowance and cost of attendance issues that our students face that too often serve as a barrier to higher education," said Brian Spicker, president of Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation. "The foundation is thrilled to partner with Glendale Community College and the City of Peoria's PeoriaAZ Promise program to deliver this last dollar and student-need support." [Read more.](#)

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### **Planned Giving Information: Stock is better than cash! Stock gifts give back!**

Did you know that you can get more tax benefits by gifting stocks rather than cash? You can donate appreciated stocks and get the same income tax deduction you would have received from giving cash, plus you will save capital gains taxes on the growth. We can sell stocks tax-free and you can take the full market value deduction, while avoiding the appreciation (capital gains) tax.



Gifting your highest appreciated stocks allows for the most benefit. If you hesitate because you love your portfolio, do not fret. You could use the cash you were going to give and buy back the stock you love or add some diversification to your portfolio.

This concept works for many highly appreciated assets like stocks, bonds, mutual funds, exchange traded funds (ETF's), real estate, business interests, and other types of assets that has grown in value.

Discover how to maximize your gifts and create a living legacy. Learn more, [here](#). Or, contact Judy Sanchez, Chief Development Officer, Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation at [judy.sanchez@domail.maricopa.edu](mailto:judy.sanchez@domail.maricopa.edu) or 480.731.8739.



### **Amazon to Pre-pay Tuition at Maricopa County Community Colleges**

Amazon employees can get their tuition pre-paid at Maricopa County Community Colleges through a new partnership.

The partnership is part of Amazon's Career Choice program that encourages its workers to pursue certificates and degrees without having to worry about being able to afford education.

"As a long-standing partner of Amazon and the Career Choice program, we are excited to see this program expand to make more educational pathways accessible to Amazon associates," said Maricopa County Community College District Interim Chancellor, Dr. Steven R. Gonzales. "Employers like Amazon making an investment in their employees' education is a critical component of driving educational attainment in our state."

Read the full story [here](#).

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### **Chandler-Gilbert Community College Student Receives Thunderbird Field II Veterans Memorial Aviation Scholarship**

Thunderbird Field II Veterans Memorial, Inc. ("TB2") announced a 2022 Aviation Scholarship has been awarded to Lynn Burnett, a Chandler-Gilbert Community College (a Maricopa Community College) student earning an Associate Degree in Applied Science in Airway



TB2 is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the history of aviation in Scottsdale, Arizona, honoring all military veterans, creating unique educational opportunities for Arizona students studying all aspects of aviation, and supporting Dogs4Vets.

Lynn Burnett comes from a military family; his father served in the U.S. Air Force and his grandfather, the U.S. Army. Like his grandfather, Mr. Burnett served in the U.S. Army for over 13 years as an infantryman, machine gunner, squad and platoon leader, and airborne ranger instructor. He earned the rank of staff sergeant and was a member of the elite 75th Ranger Regiment. Lynn also earned his Bachelor of Social Science degree from Troy University. After being selected for Officers Candidate School, he graduated and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and rose to the rank of Captain. His military career included numerous missions and deployments to Latin and South America, including the DMZ in Korea. Lynn has received many distinguished military honors and awards and was inducted into the U.S. Army Ranger Hall Fame on January 29, 2022. After the military, he worked in developing his own business enterprise, including mortgage broker and real estate agent. However, he never gave up his dream to become a pilot and he received his private pilot's license in November 2021. Lynn's goal is to continue his education in aviation, become a certified flight instructor, and help other people like him realize their dreams. [Read more.](#)



Left: Steve Ziomek, Chairman & President, TB2  
Center: Lynn Burnett, TB2 Aviation Scholarship Recipient  
Right: Rudy R. Miller, Chairman, Advisory Board & Scholarship Committee, TB2

## Apply now for the Avondale EDGE Culinary Scholarship!

To avoid delay, follow these simple steps:

- Step 1** Get admitted to the Maricopa Community Colleges: <https://www.maricopa.edu/admissions/enrollment-steps>. If you are admitted, proceed to step 2.
- Step 2** Navigate to <https://emcc.edu/scholarships/apply/applynow.htm>.
- Step 3** Sign in with your MHEID or Password. If you do not know or need to reset your MHEID or Password visit <https://admissions.maricopa.edu/ID-Reset.html>.
- Step 4** Locate the College-Specific scholarship box and click on College Scholarships.
- Step 5** Locate the Avondale EDGE Culinary Scholarship and apply.
- Step 6** Award notifications will be sent to your student Gmail account.



## Avondale EDGE Invites Applications for Culinary Scholarships at EMCC

The City of Avondale, in collaboration with Estrella Mountain Community College (EMCC) and the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation, is inviting students interested in pursuing degrees or certifications in Culinary Arts to apply for the Avondale EDGE Culinary Scholarship.

The scholarship program is open to all current and prospective EMCC students and will assist with tuition, books, equipment, and uniforms. Scholarships will be available for

the Fall 2022 semester. Deadline to apply is April 30, 2022.

The City's Avondale EDGE program worked with Estrella Mountain Community College (EMCC) and the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation to create a unique scholarship program that in addition to Culinary Arts will fund other scholarship areas including: Nursing, Social Work, counseling and Psychology. The program is funded through federal dollars the City received from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to invest in the community, education and local workforce to assist industries impacted by Covid-19.

"We're excited to work with EMCC on this innovative scholarship program that goes beyond providing financial assistance to students. It also serves as a pipeline to recruit new skilled talent for the Avondale businesses and restaurants that were hit hard during the Covid-19 pandemic," said Ken Chapa, director of the Avondale Office of Economic Development and Tourism. "As Avondale continues to attract more hotels and restaurants, our goal is to create and maintain a strong culinary and hospitality workforce – and what better place to start than with local talent attending culinary school at the college here in our city."

Read the full story, [here](#). Apply for hundreds of Fall 2022 scholarships with just application by clicking [here](#) by April 30, 2022.

## Foundation Welcomes New Board Members

**Michelle Gayles** serves as the Chief Strategy Officer for Phoenix Union High School District (PXU). She is responsible for managing long-term strategic planning for the district, developing and expanding the district's portfolio of schools and ensuring that all students have access to quality schools and programs. Additionally, she oversees technology, data and research, facilities and construction and transportation. Prior to joining the PXU team in 2014 as the Assistant Superintendent of Operations, Michelle was Vice President of Community Impact at Valley of the Sun United Way.

**Warren Whitney** serves as Senior Vice President of Government Relations for Valleywise Health, a public teaching hospital and safety net health care system. Warren joined Valleywise Health in 2005 after voters approved the creation of the Maricopa Special Health Care District – moving the health system from county government to a special taxing district

system's government affairs programs, legislative agenda and real estate strategy.



Gayles



Whitney

## Help Change Lives by Becoming a Volunteer Scholarship Application Reviewer

Every year, the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation receives more than 9,000 scholarship applications from students seeking to improve their lives through higher education. That is why we're reaching out and inviting our community to participate in a process that provides assistance to the most deserving of our students, as they pursue their educational goals.



Our need for scholarship application reviewers has never been more critical. Please consider taking advantage of this volunteer opportunity which requires only a 1-2 hour time commitment each semester, from the comfort of home. Visit [mcccdf.org/volunteer](https://mcccdf.org/volunteer) to sign up today! Questions? Contact Karley Mellberg, Scholarship and Donor Relations Manager, Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation at [karley.mellberg@domail.maricopa.edu](mailto:karley.mellberg@domail.maricopa.edu) or 480.731.8406.

### Have you signed up to support the Foundation through a loyalty program?

When you shop using [AmazonSmile](#) and designate the Foundation, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases back to the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation.

[Fry's Community Rewards](#) is another program that can support our students as well with every eligible purchase you make with your Fry's VIP card. Simply log-in to your Fry's account and search for the Maricopa Community College District Foundation either by name or LV566 and click ENROLL.

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