Congratulations, graduates!
You made it! Next step: One bright future

Take a bow for all your hard work — you deserve this moment in the spotlight.

Whether you started college in a dorm with other freshmen or fit in your classes around a full-time job and family obligations, you’ve put in years of effort to get where you are today. You’ve read, built, sculpted, engineered, calculated, presented, designed — and filled your brain with myriad ideas and inspiration. It has all been building you up to this milestone moment.

Enjoy the moment. Take it all in. Celebrate your accomplishments, and take the time to genuinely thank the people who helped you get to this point. Be confident you have the skills and know-how to scale the mountains that lie in your future.

Arizona State University wants to celebrate your achievement — and help you succeed in the next step of your journey.

The university offers a number of resources, from networking to professional development to public events. The learning doesn’t stop just because the band is striking up “Pomp and Circumstance”; ASU wants to be a partner in your lifelong enrichment.

This publication is one way to stay connected to your alma mater — in its pages you’ll learn about the discoveries, entrepreneurship and news to improve your life coming out of the Sun Devil community, and as an alum you’ll receive issues throughout the year. The chapters of the ASU Alumni Association offer many more opportunities to plug in.

Life might take some twists and turns, but you have the tools to persevere and the support of ASU. Your education has prepared you to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

We can’t wait to see what you accomplish.

— ASU Thrive team
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May

Online career fair for jobs in China
Whether you are just beginning your job search or seeking advancement in your career, this event will provide an opportunity to connect with a range of China-based employers.
May 1, all day, online.
asu.edu/career

Virtual career fair
Statewide career fair for students and alumni in all majors and all industries in Arizona.
Thursday, May 17, 1–3 p.m., online.
asu.edu/career

Free

Saber Acomodar
This landmark arts and crafts movement exhibition tells for the first time the story of art from the state of Jalisco in Mexico, showcasing collaborations between artists and artisans (potters, carpenters, blacksmiths, jewelers, sign painters and printmakers) who work and live in western Mexico. The result of these intersections is the integration of contemporary ideas, precolonial techniques and methods introduced by the Spanish. Recently, artists have employed traditional materials and practices to produce complex conceptual objects and installations. Comprised of work by 25 artists, the exhibition explores the integration of contemporary ideas with traditional techniques.
Exhibition runs through June 30, ASU Art Museum.
asuartmuseum.asu.edu

Free

Family

School of Rock
Based on the hit film, this hilarious new musical follows Dewey Finn, a wannabe rock star-turned-substitute teacher who transforms a class of straight-A students into grade-A rockers. It features 14 new songs from Andrew Lloyd Webber, all the original songs from the movie and musical theater’s first-ever live kids rock band!
June 19–24, ASU Gammage.
asugammage.com

Ticketed

Family

Data in the Desert Workshop
The Data in the Desert workshop provides a unique opportunity for scholars in fields such as psychology, sociology, biology, business, and the developmental and social sciences. From the intricacies and complexities of interpersonal relationship data, to an understanding of network data, the workshop is for anyone with an interest in understanding the cause and consequence of social interactions and social group dynamics.
June 18–22, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.
Ticketed

Family

Summer programs
Programs are available for students grades K–12 in a variety of topics including engineering, leadership, math and the arts. Programs offered on all four ASU campuses and range from day camps to residential arrangements.
Throughout summer
eosss.asu.edu/summerenrichment/

Ticketed

Family
History of the Future Film Series
This summer, FilmBar and Arizona State University’s Center for Science and the Imagination are going back to the future. This second installment of The History of the Future film series rounds up another set of delightfully schlocky, thought-provoking films from decades past. With introductions and comments from scholars and experts, we’ll examine stories about the future from the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s and think about how accurate those visions turned out to be.

All films will be shown at FilmBar in Phoenix.

"Logan’s Run" (1976) portrays an idyllic future with one major drawback: life must end at the age of 30.
Thursday, June 21, 7–9 p.m.

"They Live" (1988) envisions a society dominated by propaganda.
Thursday, July 19, 7:30–9:30 p.m.

"Demolition Man" (1993) examines policing in a non-violent future society.
Thursday, Aug. 16, 7–9 p.m.

Must See Mondays
In the Cronkite School’s “Must See Mondays” speaker series, students faculty and members of the community fill the First Amendment Forum to hear leading journalists and communicators speak on current events and the latest industry trends. The series has featured Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists, Emmy-winning broadcasters and leaders and innovators in the industry.

Mondays in fall and spring semesters. See event site for specifics. Cronkite School, Downtown Phoenix campus. asuevents.asu.edu

Earth and Space Exploration Day
Hosted by the ASU School of Earth and Space Exploration, this community event offers special science-related activities for students age 5 and up, families, educators and anyone interested in exploring Earth and space. Delve into ISTB 4’s Gallery of Scientific Exploration with a variety of interactive exhibits, and the Marston Exploration Theater with 3-D astronomy shows. Got a rock you think might be a meteorite? Experts from the Center for Meteorite Studies will examine your specimens to determine if they are out of this world. Free teacher resources available, as well as contacts for outreach with ASU scientists and students.
Oct. 13,* 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Interdisciplinary Science and Technology Building IV, Tempe campus.

Homecoming week
A time-honored tradition, ASU Homecoming brings together students, parents and alumni to celebrate their Sun Devil spirit. The weeklong festivities highlight feverish Sun Devil spirit through athletic events, fun on- and off-campus activities, and entertainment. The 2018 Homecoming schedule has something for everyone, so come on out and have a great time!
Oct. 28–Nov. 3
homecoming.asu.edu

Date harvest
Campus Harvest is calling all date lovers to the three-acre Poly campus grove. Similar to a roadside fruit stand, customers can fill a bag or box with their desired quantity and varieties.

Saturdays in Oct., with a preview day in Sept.* Polytechnic campus.

Check in at events to earn Pitchforks and rewards!
Download the Sun Devil Rewards app today for ASU event listings, news, games and more. sundevilrewards.asu.edu.

See full listing of games for the 2018 football season on page 47.

See asuevents.asu.edu for additional ASU events.

* Date is tentative. Please check asuevents.asu.edu to confirm specifics closer to the event.
Certificate will examine veteran experience

While most people have great respect for servicemen and women, the current divide between military and civilian cultures is deep and often results in misunderstandings, say ASU educators Mark von Hagen and Nancy Dallett. The pair are the designers of “Veterans, Society and Service,” the university’s first undergraduate program dedicated solely to the study of veterans, military culture and how they relate to society.

Dallett says the certificate program — expected to start this fall — will combine the disciplines of history, literature, law, ethics, politics, psychology, sociology and the arts, preparing students with a transferable set of skills for careers in veterans’ affairs, public policy, politics, nonprofits, criminal justice, education, health care, business and even journalism.

Sinking ground adds to coastal flooding risk

New ASU-led research using radar imaging to measure elevations has uncovered an important gap in planning for sea level rise in the San Francisco Bay Area: Sections of the shoreline are sinking at rates of nearly half an inch (12.5 millimeters) a year. But knowledge of where the ground in the Bay Area is sinking, and by how much, is not included in the official planning maps that authorities use to assess the local flooding risk from rising sea levels.

The researchers, led by Manoochehr Shirzaei — assistant professor in the School of Earth and Space Exploration and a member of NASA’s Sea Level Change planning team — note that the FEMA maps of the Bay Area need to be updated with the measurements of land subsidence, or sinking ground (often areas of former landfill that are compacting), as well as recent projections of rising sea level so that local authorities can make better flood plans.
Tiny homes make big difference to veterans
On an abandoned dirt lot at 13th Avenue and Buckeye Road in Phoenix, volunteers gather regularly to hang drywall, install insulation or do whatever needs to be done to complete three “tiny” homes taking shape there.

While the typical new American home is around 2,600 square feet, so-called tiny homes are between 200–600 square feet. Many buyers embrace them as a way to reduce housing costs or their carbon footprint.

Mackenzie McGuffie, a volunteer at the site and a senior in ASU’s School of Sustainability, loves this tiny home project for a different reason: It combines her passion for sustainable development with the opportunity to alleviate homelessness among the Valley’s veterans.

The homes are a project of Singleton Community Services, a Phoenix nonprofit that sees its tiny-home project — Build Us H.O.P.E. — as a solution to the lack of affordable, durable and scalable housing available to veterans.

McGuffie and a team of ASU students work to ensure that each home adheres to best-practices in sustainable development. The team is part of the ASU chapter of Greenlight Solutions, which pairs students with nonprofits or businesses so they can collaborate on sustainable solutions to community challenges and gain relevant work experience.

Members spent almost a year evaluating construction materials, “from doors to walls to furniture to appliances,” McGuffie says. They next created a rubric of ethically sourced and affordable material, and established a pricing sheet for future builds.

SCS owns 98 acres in the Valley and plans to build 1,200 tiny homes for veterans, says its president, Elizabeth Singleton.

ASU on Princeton Review’s list of ‘Best Bang for Your Tuition Buck’
ASU has been named to the 2018 Princeton Review list of “Colleges That Pay You Back: The 200 Schools That Give You the Best Bang for Your Tuition Buck.” The Princeton Review, which rates colleges and universities on a host of factors, cited ASU’s “stellar academics, affordable cost and strong career prospects for graduates." Other universities on the list include Stanford, Yale, MIT, UCLA, and Texas A&M; this year, ASU is the only school in Arizona to make the list.

Record donations
Sun Devil Giving Day raised a record 4,325 donations to support students, faculty and researchers with the resources they need to succeed. —

Keep up with the headlines at ASU by subscribing to the ASU Now newsletter at asunow.asu.edu/subscribe.

Man’s best friend in fight vs. cancer
The Open Philanthropy Project has awarded a multiyear, $6.4 million grant to Stephen Albert Johnston at ASU to support the largest interventional canine clinical trial ever conducted. The trial will assess the effectiveness of a unique vaccine in preventing any type of cancer in dogs, in hope that success will lead to human vaccine trials.

Cancer is the leading cause of death in pet dogs, and their cancers are very similar to those suffered by their human counterparts. The canine immune system responds to tumors and vaccines similarly to that of humans, but the course of tumor development in dogs is much shorter. Johnston — who directs the ASU Biodesign Center for Innovations in Medicine and is a professor in the School of Life Sciences — thinks researchers can evaluate the effectiveness of the vaccine in five years or less, rather than the 15–20 years it would take in a human trial.

The vaccine being tested in dogs will have a comparable composition to the one tested in people. The trial will enroll at least 800 owners’ pets.
Tumor-destroying nanorobots to the rescue

In a major advancement in nanomedicine, ASU scientists, in collaboration with researchers from the National Center for Nanoscience and Technology at the Chinese Academy of Sciences, have successfully programmed nanorobots to shrink tumors by cutting off their blood supply.

The successful demonstration of the technology was the first-of-its-kind study in mammals utilizing breast-cancer, melanoma, ovarian and lung-cancer mouse models. To perform their study, the scientists took advantage of a well-known mouse tumor model, where human cancer cells are injected into a mouse to induce aggressive tumor growth.

The treatment blocked tumor blood supply and generated tumor-tissue damage within 24 hours, while having no effect on healthy tissues. After attacking tumors, most of the nanorobots were cleared and degraded from the body after 24 hours.

By two days, there was evidence of advanced thrombosis, and at three days, thrombi in all tumor vessels were observed.

Thrombin can block tumor blood flow by clotting the blood within the vessels that feed tumor growth, causing a sort of tumor mini heart attack and leading to tumor tissue death.

Each nanorobot is made from a flat, rectangular DNA origami sheet, 90 nanometers by 60 nanometers in size.

“This technology is a strategy that can be used for many types of cancer.”
— Hao Yan, director of the ASU Biodesign Institute’s Center for Molecular Design and Biomimetics; Milton Glick Professor in the School of Molecular Sciences.
A promising step in the fight against Alzheimer’s

A team of researchers at ASU has examined the effects of Alzheimer’s disease to rob brain cells of their primary energy source — decades before symptoms first appear. And in a promising finding, the researchers headed by lead author Diego Mastroeni of ASU’s Biodesign Institute have shown for the first time that human neuronal cells can be protected when they are pretreated with a custom-designed experimental compound.

The research reveals that a highly toxic form of a protein implicated in Alzheimer’s — a version of the beta amyloid protein known as oligomeric abeta (OAβ) — disrupts the normal functioning of mitochondria, structures that are the powerhouses of every cell. The compound, designed by Biodesign Institute collaborator Sidney Hecht, acted to protect cells from the degradation caused by OAβ to normal mitochondrial function, offering renewed hope for effective treatment.

Front cover

Mirabella senior living project breaks ground

ASU has broken ground on a complex that will advance a new and innovative concept in intergenerational living and lifelong learning. Mirabella at ASU is a 20-story senior living facility at Mill Avenue and University Drive on the university’s Tempe campus.

The building, scheduled to be completed in 2020, will include 252 independent-living apartments and 52 health care units, as well as an indoor pool, theater, art museum, spa, dog park and four restaurants. The project will link the ASU community to Mirabella residents, who will be able to take classes, have access to the library and be near cultural and sports events.

ASU President Michael M. Crow called it “the world’s coolest dorm” at the groundbreaking ceremony and said, “There’s no reason everyone can’t be a college student and engaged in what this community has to offer for the entirety of their lives.”

Learn more and get a sneak peek inside a model unit at asunow.asu.edu/mirabella.

A famous CEO may not be good for business

Rock star CEOs can bring a lot of attention to their companies, but fame can have a downside. An ASU faculty member’s research found that CEOs can be forced into one of four “archetypes” (creator, transformer, rebel or savior), and that can alter their behavior — and hurt decision-making skills. “You have to live up to that greatness and when you don’t, it leads to exaggerating behaviors,” says Jonathan Bundy, an assistant professor in the W. P. Carey School of Business.

The research refers to these archetypes as “shackles” because, after attaining praise, the company chiefs often not only persist in the behaviors of each type but often will double down on them — sometimes unwisely. With their confidence fueled by fame, the CEOs base more decisions on intuition rather than careful judgment, exacerbated by a lack of external control.

Fewer menus to list calories than previously thought

New Food and Drug Administration guidelines requiring restaurants with 20 or more locations nationwide to post calorie information on menus will go into effect this month. However, research from ASU nutrition Professor Punam Ohri-Vachaspati and ASU alumna Jessie Gruner found that exposure to the practice could be woefully limited, with lower-income populations reaping the least benefit.

The study found that less than half of the number of restaurants projected by the FDA and the National Restaurant Association to be affected will actually be required to adopt menu-labeling — 17.6 percent of restaurants, compared to the projection of 36–40 percent.

It’s alive! Frankenstein game teaches science, ethics

The 200th anniversary of Mary Shelley’s “Frankenstein” has ushered in a new creation: Frankenstein200, an interactive, transmedia experience for children that retells the novel through an exploration of science. The project, developed by a team at ASU, uses videos, webpages, puzzles and games to teach children about the intersection of science and ethics. Learn more at frankenstein200.org.
Outreach

Bringing light to Puerto Rico

Alumni, faculty and students pitch in to help

In the U.S., a mere one-hour power outage is disruption enough and “a six-hour blackout is a huge event,” says Rick Hudson, a maintenance engineering supervisor for SRP and ASU engineering alum. But Puerto Rico experienced the longest blackout in American history, with hundreds of thousands living in the dark for months after a hurricane trampled the territory’s power grid in September.

“It’s hard for me to say ‘no’ when people are in this type of situation,” says Hudson, one of an eight-member volunteer crew sent by Salt River Project in December to help restore power to the storm-battered island.

For 30 days, Hudson and crew worked 13- to 14-hour days for seven days a week to help guide efforts to rebuild the power grid on Puerto Rico’s northeast coast.

He calls it a life-changing event. The degree he earned at ASU gave him the know-how, and his involvement with the ASU Alumni Association provided the inspiration, having seen students create water facilities in developing countries.

Hudson’s efforts were just one way in which the ASU community pitched in and raised awareness for

Three months after Hurricane Maria pummeled Puerto Rico, the ground was still strewn with powerlines.

SRP volunteers helped coordinate some of the 3,500 utility workers striving to restore power in December.

Puerto Rico’s plight. After going nine days without contact with family in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria, College of Integrative Sciences and Arts (CISA) Assistant Professor Manú Avilés-Santiago channeled his nervous energy into opportunity — by teaching the first part of his Intro to Human Communication class in the dark in solidarity for those without power.

It turned into “a fascinating discussion in which we talked about darkness as a metaphor for the lack of knowledge about Puerto Rico, and also as a way to experience the literal darkness and uncertain times that our university peers are facing in Puerto Rico,” says Avilés-Santiago, who learned that same day that his parents were safe.

The university also invited 11 Puerto Rico students (with a 12th arriving in the fall) to continue their studies at ASU. Southwest Airlines provided travel vouchers, and ASU representatives welcomed the group in January. Though obviously dealing with the stress from what they went through, many of the students are thriving with the support of ASU, says Irma Arboleda, School of Transborder Studies assistant director.

She and Associate Professor Maria Cruz-Torres were keys in a school-supply drive for hard-hit elementary schools in Puerto Rico. Faculty, staff and students gathered and shipped 1,500 items, the result of an impassioned effort among units including the School of Transborder Studies, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College and CISA.

— Lori K. Baker, Emma Greguska and Maureen Roen contributed to this story.
UPON REFLECTION

‘What if?’ is one of the most powerful questions we can ask, whether it’s looking at the cosmos in a new way or reflecting on a fresh approach to teaching a classic subject. Life is made richer by looking deeper and nurturing our curiosity — and becoming a lifelong learner is made easier with ASU’s public events, summer camps and online class offerings. It’s worth a second look.

In addition to the iconic “EXPLORE” sign reflected on Lattie F. Coor Hall, text fragments and letterforms etched on the glass façade are one of the largest public art projects on ASU’s Tempe campus.
“We all learn in different ways, and being able to rotate the body from any angle to see all perspectives, students discover for themselves.”

— Jeff Kingsbury, ASU lecturer

Students Evelyn Gutierrez, Ennery Bravo, Cindy Szeto and Taylor Howe test their knowledge of skull bones on the Anatomage Table in their human anatomy/physiology I lab at ASU’s Downtown Phoenix campus.
The challenge of learning human anatomy and physiology can be daunting for many undergraduates: identifying all 206 bones and their every bump, notch and groove; the 320 muscle pairs; the structures and associated tissues of all of the body’s other organ systems — and articulating how all those parts and systems miraculously work together.

To help students master this material, ASU’s College of Integrative Sciences and Arts is integrating an innovative visualization tool, the Anatomage Table, into the anatomy and physiology
The Anatomage Table used by students in ASU’s College of Integrative Sciences and Arts is an innovative visualization tool.

learning experience at the university’s Downtown Phoenix campus.

Adopted by many of the world’s leading medical schools, the table is one of only three in Arizona and is the only one to be used in an undergraduate program (the others are used in a graduate program at Northern Arizona University and at Mayo Clinic School of Medicine).

“About 2,000 undergraduate students will engage with the technology in our beginning and advanced anatomy and physiology courses over the course of a year,” says principal lecturer Richard Bauer, who has headed up the faculty of the Science, Mathematics and Social Science program in the college since the university opened the downtown campus in 2006.

Bauer’s faculty serves students in all of the downtown campus colleges, providing foundational and general-studies courses needed by majors in the College of Nursing and Health Innovation, the College of Health Solutions, the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, the College of Public Service and Community Solutions, and the College of Integrative Sciences and Arts.

“The majority of the students who take these courses want to enter health-related professions, and this tool will help to more fully prepare them, nicely complementing the anatomical models, texts, plastinates and cadavers,” Bauer says.

Like a textbook come to life

As the Anatomage technology has begun to be integrated into lab work, the faculty, teaching staff and students are excited about the table’s features and capabilities.

“The clarity of the images on the table screen is super, like that of a textbook but completely 3-D,” says senior Jessica Lehman, a nursing major in her second year working as an instructional assistant in the

“The Anatomage Table is very intuitive for our students, who are used to clicking and swiping their phones, tablets and iPads to resize images or go deeper into content. They have picked it up very quickly,” - Jennifer Legere, anatomy and physiology laboratory coordinator
200-level anatomy and physiology lab sections. “As a user you have full control of where you move. You can click through each layer of the body, removing one system at a time, or look at an entire system at once. You can choose to search by organ, by body system or by name of a structure.”

Having this additional touchpoint helps students understand context and establish the content in long-term memory, notes lecturer Jeff Kingsbury.

“We all learn in different ways,” Kingsbury says. “And being able to rotate the body from any angle to see all perspectives, students discover for themselves, and can better visualize, the connectedness of body systems and how the function of a structure dictates the anatomical form.”

For Kingsbury’s advanced dissection students, the table provides some rehearsal context and a great in-between medium between plastinates and cadavers.

“The very first day that we were going to be making cuts, we opened up a body on the Anatomage Table and we were able to practice the envelope-shaped cuts we’d be making to open up the rib cage,” says sophomore Kacey Cavanagh, a nursing major. “We were all very nervous about cutting into an actual body, so that was very helpful to see.”

The table also helps those unable to do the dissections.

“Some students, because of religious or cultural reasons or past trauma, can’t work with cadavers,” notes Bauer, “and so the table also accommodates their learning.

“Physical cadavers have their limits,” he continues. “You can only slice into a body once. Students can slice, if you will, into the digital cadavers a gazillion times. Cadavers can be very messy, and they deteriorate over time. Because of preservation and cleaning techniques, it can actually be easier to see some anatomical features in 3-D in the digital environment.”

Junior Kelly Schock has seen this phenomenon firsthand as an instructional assistant for the BIO 494 advanced practicum in human dissection.

Part of her role involves guiding dissection students “to make sure the prosections for BIO 201 and 202 students to observe are meticulously presented and labeled, so that beginning students have access to a near-perfect specimen when viewing a structure for the very first time,” she says.

More than anything, though, Schock says she has seen how this technology has sparked student interest.

“Linking science and technology this way makes the material exciting for students,” she says.

An operating table-sized tablet

The Anatomage technology first came to the attention of Jennifer Legere, ASU anatomy and physiology laboratory coordinator, a few years ago, when she was researching potential teaching tools that would give students more hands-on time.

“The Anatomage Table is very intuitive for our students, who are used to clicking and swiping their phones, tablets and iPads to resize images or go deeper into content. They have picked it up very quickly,” she says.

“Manipulating the technology themselves, they’re immediately engrossed in learning, and it’s impossible to be detached.”

Adeptness in learning the new skills is unlocking new directions for these students’ careers.

“I came into college thinking I wanted to be a doctor, considered switching to business, but then took anatomy; this is where it’s at!” says Schock. “I love anatomy and I like people and social interaction, which is why I’m really excited about doing an Anatomage internship. It’s a perfect combination of the three.”
5 details to know about research into the first stars

1 Quiet, please
Australian law limits the use of radio transmitters within 161.5 miles of the site, reducing the interference that could drown out sensitive observations.

2 Spectrometer specs
Radio waves are collected by an antenna consisting of two rectangular metal panels mounted horizontally on fiberglass legs above a metal mesh.

3 Timeline of universe
This updated timeline reflects the recent discovery that the first stars emerged some 180 million years after the Big Bang.

4 Cold reception
The study also revealed gas in the universe was probably much colder than expected — less than half the expected temperature.

5 Ancient ownership
The MRO is managed by CSIRO, Australia’s national science agency, which acknowledges the Wajarri Yamatji people as the traditional owners of the observatory site.
“There was a great technical challenge. It’s like being in the middle of a hurricane and trying to hear the flap of a hummingbird’s wing.”

– PETER KURCZYNISKI OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Search for the 1st stars

Team finds answers to long-pondered questions

Long ago, about 400,000 years after the Big Bang, the universe was dark. For the next 50 million to 100 million years, gravity slowly pulled the densest regions of gas together until they collapsed to form the first stars.

What were those first stars like, and when did they form? These are questions astronomers have long considered.

Now, after 12 years of experimental effort, a team of scientists — led by ASU School of Earth and Space Exploration astronomer Judd Bowman — has detected indications of the earliest stars in the universe. Using radio signals, the detection provides the first evidence for the oldest ancestors in our cosmic family tree, born a mere 180 million years after the universe began.

Bowman’s team used a ground-based instrument called a radio spectrometer at the Australian national science agency’s (CSIRO) Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory (MRO). The signals detected came from primordial hydrogen gas that filled the young universe and existed between stars and galaxies. These signals hold a wealth of information that opens a new window on how early stars — and later, black holes and galaxies — formed and evolved.

— Karin Valentine
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- ASU® branded debit, credit and gift cards provided exclusively by MidFirst Bank
- More than 20 convenient MidFirst banking centers across the Valley
- The MoneyMoments® financial education program helps people of all ages develop strong money management skills
- Official partnership with Sun Devil® Athletics

MidFirst Bank is proud to support ASU®. When you use your ASU® debit or credit card, MidFirst Bank gives back to the university. In just six years, MidFirst has donated more than $2 million for special initiatives and scholarships, and for other student, employee and alumni programs.

We’re proud to be an ASU® partner and we’ll continue doing our part to strengthen the university.
TASSEL TIME

You’ve aced your last exam and packed up your notes. Now it’s time to celebrate your amazing achievement: a degree, paid for with your creativity, determination and — let’s be honest — more than a little caffeine. But before you set off for that next chapter, let’s take a minute to remember the top moments of your college years and reflect on just how far you’ve come.

Commence

*commence* v: to enter upon; to begin; to take a degree at a university
2014–2018 time capsule

Cultural and campus highlights from the past four years, when the lines between what happened on our screens and what happened IRL blurred together.

by CHRIS HAGAN, BRIANNA DAVIS ’18 AND CONNOR PELTON ’18

### 2014

#### Saturday nights

Sun Devils used Yik Yak to see who wanted to run for the border (the Taco Bell at Apache and Rural), Snapchat once they were there and free Uber ride codes to get everywhere else.

Arizona State University welcomes more than 10,000 freshman for fall with a week of activities, back when women wore high-waisted jeans, and Beats headphones still had cords.

#### We’re #1

Before ASU was No. 1 in innovation, it was No. 1 in music streaming. In 2014, Sun Devils streamed more songs on Spotify than any other university.

#### ‘Happy’

This song by Pharrell from “Despicable Me 2” was the top track for the year on Spotify.

#### The Jael Mary

Down by two points with seven seconds to go, Sun Devil wide receiver Jaelen Strong catches a 46-yard Hail Mary pass to defeat USC, 38-34.

#### Brain freeze

The Ice Bucket Challenge raises $115 million for ALS research.

#### Bachelor’s for baristas

ASU partners with Starbucks to launch the Starbucks College Achievement Plan.

#### Welcome to the fam

The Thunderbird School of Global Management becomes part of ASU.

#### #selfie

Will selfies still be a thing in 20 years? Who knows. One thing is for sure, 2014 was the year of the selfie stick.
Charter for change

ASU carves its first official charter in stone. President Michael M. Crow describes the document, focused on a mission of inclusion and social responsibility, as an expression of “the reason for the existence of the institution” and one that reimagines the role of a major university in the 21st century.

“ASU is a comprehensive public research university, measured not by whom it excludes, but by whom it includes and how they succeed; advancing research and discovery of public value; and assuming fundamental responsibility for the economic, social, cultural and overall health of the communities it serves.”

Super Bowl XLIX comes to the Valley, and ASU is at the center of the action. The marching band performs Taylor Swift’s “Shake It Off,” students from the Cronkite School assist the NFL with news coverage and “Tonight Show” host Jimmy Fallon shows up at Old Main.

The earliest evidence of the human genus Homo, uncovered in Ethiopia by an ASU team, was featured in the journal Science. The lower jaw was dated to 2.8 million years ago, predating other Homo fossils by 400,000 years.

Hurley’s hired

ASU hires Bobby Hurley, one of the best collegiate point guards of all time, as head coach for Sun Devil men’s basketball. His intensity and passion on the sidelines instantly become part of Sun Devil lore.

The man bun

No one rocked it better than the hipsters of Herberger.

#dressgate

A dress posted on Tumblr goes viral, sparking a debate for the ages: #blueandblack or #whiteandgold?

A little dab’ll do

The Dab craze sweeps the nation and guard Shannon Evans II shows us how it’s done.
The year that was so ... extra.

Gonzalez grabs the Groza
In his senior season, Zane Gonzalez wins the Lou Groza award, which goes to the nation’s best kicker.

The number of ASU alumni worldwide surpasses 500,000.

What do you meme?
SpongeBob goes caveman, Jordan sheds some tears and iconic duos are named in the year’s biggest memes.

Speedo of Distraction
Michael Phelps, the most decorated Olympian of all time, trains for the 2016 summer games at ASU. The 942 Crew recruits him to join the ‘Curtain of Distraction,’ wearing his gold medals and a matching gold Speedo. Oregon State misses both free throws, obvi.

Ready Player One
ASU’s West campus hosts author Ernest Cline (“Ready Player One”) for its Summer Community Read before Steven Spielberg takes it to the big screen in 2018.

Sun Devil shade
The last of Palm Walk’s Mexican fan palms are replaced with date palms.

The Mayo Clinic School of Medicine welcomes its first cohort of 50 students in Scottsdale. The curriculum is jointly developed with ASU.

Sun Devils become sun watchers for the first coast-to-coast solar eclipse in 99 years. The School of Earth and Space Exploration had solar-safe viewing glasses at the ready.

adidas superstars and velvet everything are on fleek.

#squad go als
Infernofest brings the All American Rejects to Wells Fargo Arena.

ASU researchers help develop a rapid, low-cost test for Zika that could stop a potential pandemic.
ASU’s Polytechnic campus is home to AZLoop, a team of more than 100 students competing as finalists in SpaceX’s Hyperloop competition.

By the numbers

10,603 fans per game
The men’s basketball team had Sun Devils shook. Their perfect nonconference record helped secure record attendance numbers at Wells Fargo Arena during the Pac-12 season and set the team up for a trip to the big dance – their first since 2014.

The Broadway smash hit “Hamilton” is the hottest ticket at ASU Gammage in years and “Black Panther” is the woke superhero the world’s been waiting for.

ASU’s Polytechnic campus is home to AZLoop, a team of more than 100 students competing as finalists in SpaceX’s Hyperloop competition.

The new Student Pavilion, designed for students by students, opens on the Tempe campus.

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#fake news

The Cronkite School partners with Facebook to combat the epidemic of fake news following the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

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To protect human and environmental health, the Food and Drug Administration bans two common but ineffective antimicrobials from consumer products, such as antibacterial soaps, based in part on extensive research at ASU.

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By the numbers

10,300+ undergraduate students will receive their degrees.

14,753 total grads with all degrees in the Spring Class of 2018.

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Student slang decoder

#hashtags (n.) a word or phrase preceded by a hash sign (#), used in social media, especially Twitter;

extra (adj.) excessive or dramatic; doing the absolute most;

family (n.) your chosen family;

IRL (acronym) in real life;

meme (n.) a digital image, video, piece of text, etc., that is copied (often with slight variations) and spread rapidly via internet;

obviously (adv.) short for obviously;

on fleek (adj.) flawlessly styled or groomed;

shocked (adj.) shocked, surprised; left speechless;

squad goals (n.) something you and your friends aspire to;

throwback (n.) a reminder of the past;

woke (adj.) aware of issues relating to racial and social justice.

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Members of Gila River Culture and Language Teacher Cohort support each other and their community as they earn their master’s degrees

In the 1950s, after the Indian Relocation Act was enacted, Priscilla Espinoza’s family moved from the Gila River Indian Community in the far southeast Valley to Southern California.

She met her husband, Phillip, there. They raised six kids. And they felt the sting of discrimination and racism that was commonplace to her people in those days. They became activists, joining the Brown Berets, a group modeled after the Black Panthers in the 1960s.

Espinoza was marching with them in Los Angeles during August 1970 when two activists and newspaper editor Ruben Salazar were killed. Salazar was struck by a tear-gas canister fired by a sheriff’s deputy.

“I was there, marching and dodging tear gas,” she says. “It really did make an impact, and a lot changed in Southern California. Because of that big march they started getting more minority teachers, and there was a big push for equal education.”

She put her own higher education, however, on the backburner. Through it all, she never forgot her place among the Akimel O’otham people in Arizona.

“I never lost my identity when I left,” Espinoza says. “I take it with me wherever I go.”

After Phillip, to whom she was married for 42 years, passed away seven years ago, the 69-year-old great-grandmother of two and grandmother of six felt a pull from home and a push from her late husband, who had told her to “keep going, keep living.”

“He was my greatest supporter,” she says.

Now she is among five women from the Gila River Indian Community who call themselves the “soul sisters.” Soon, they will be the graduating grandmas.
mothers — and remarkable role models for the people of their community and beyond.

Ranging in age from 36 to 69, Espinoza, Edwardine Thomas, Nina Allison, Marcella Hall and Starleen Somegustava are completing work on Master of Interdisciplinary Studies degrees as members of the Gila River Culture and Language Teacher Cohort, a partnership between Arizona State University’s Center for Indian Education, New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences and the Gila River Indian Community Tribal Education Department. The first-of-its-kind program trains future teachers on their home reservation with a focus on tribal history and keeping alive the Akimel O’otham language.

The group has formed a tight bond.

“We have all been through a lot of stuff together,” says Thomas, a 56-year-old grandmother of four. “These are my sisters. We’ve gone through a lot of stuff. We’re still going through a lot of stuff. Every week year has been the most stressful year ever,” says Hall, 36, a cultural instructor for fifth- through eighth-grade students at Sacaton Middle School, about an hour south of Phoenix. She has a daughter and is caring for a niece and nephew.

“I’m handling it, and it’s hard,” she adds. “Coming here and letting the ladies know and having their support, it gets easier.”

Espinoza and Thomas are the elders of the group. Each happened upon the cohort by happenstance.

“I always tell people I’m a lifelong learner,” Thomas says. “I’ve been going to school since after high school. I went to college for one year but had to drop out, just for family things. I had to take care of my siblings. So I had to work.”

She has worked for 26 years at the Blackwater Community School in Coolidge. When she attended an in-service teacher training program at the Wild Horse Pass Hotel and Casino, it led her back to school.

“There were people there from South Mountain (Community College), and they asked if any people were interested in obtaining their degrees,” she says. “So that’s where it started.”

Now, she is the only member of her family to earn a college degree. Her work at Blackwater focuses on making home visits to people in the community and working with parents and children to reach child-development milestones in gross and fine motor skills and language.

“We incorporate the O’otham language in our visits because a lot of the parents do not know our language,” she says. “So they learn along with their kids.”

She says her ultimate goal is to establish a full-immersion
school in the Gila River Indian Community that all of the soul sisters might someday work at.

To that end, the women will join forces this summer to bring together members of the community’s seven districts for a camp that would immerse participants in the O’otham language and culture.

“We’re going to try to do it for three weeks and see how that goes,” Thomas says. “The rest of my cohort members are going to be in on that, too.

“It’s going to be limited to about 10 families per district, and hopefully this will be like a steppingstone for other people to come and join our group, because we’re open to anyone helping us — other community members that are fluent in language or dances or basket making.”

When Espinoza returned to the area to be near one of her sons living in Maricopa, she paid a visit to the Gila River Indian Community Governance Center to complete some paperwork. She and her husband had hoped to retire in the community.

“I had retired from a school district in California, where I was a special education (instructional assistant),” she says. “I was at the Governance Center to talk to a lady about my paperwork. I wasn’t looking for a job. This young lady was putting up flyers that said ‘special needs (teacher) urgently needed.’

“I said, ‘I used to do that for years.’ Long story short, they interviewed me that day, got my paperwork and hired me on the spot.”

She was asked to work with a young boy with cerebral palsy, who couldn’t walk or talk.

“He could only say ‘mama’ and ‘no,’ ” she says. “I put all my energy into this little boy. ...”

“I would see him every morning and say, ‘Good morning, what is your name? My name is Priscilla.’ I said that over and over for six months. One morning I said, ‘Hi, buddy,’ and he looked at me and said, ‘Hi, ‘scilla!’ Oh my gosh, I knew then that this is it.”

Gregory Mendoza, who was Gila River Indian Community governor at the time, came to visit Casa Blanca Community School in Bapchule, where Espinoza works, and told her he had gotten a report about her work with the young boy, who now uses a walker.

“He said, ‘I want you to get into this program we have going on, this cohort. We want you to get your degree. We need people like you to help our people here.’ So that was it,” Espinoza says.

“I’m so proud of who I am — I incorporate the O’otham language in our visits because a lot of the parents do not know our language. So they learn along with their kids.”

— EDWARDINE THOMAS

The Akimel O’otham language
In 2009, the Gila River Indian Community adopted an orthography — a system of written words — for their Akimel O’otham language. Keeping that language alive is part of the mission of the Gila River Culture and Language Teacher Cohort.

A sampling of words from the language:

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ASU THRIVE MAGAZINE 27
and proud of what I represent to the people here. They trust me because they know I’m a member of the community, too. So my heart is full.”

The women in the cohort — many of whom are able to participate because of private giving — agree that they are motivated most by what they represent for their families and community members. Espinoza says the cohort members hope their successes will “snowball.”

“When family members see each one of us, the five of us, I think it will trickle down,” she says. “It will snowball, pick up momentum. That’s what we’re hoping for.”

“I tell my students, ‘Don’t be a statistic,’” Hall adds. “We have a lot of high school dropouts, and not many of our people are going to college. I say, ‘Make your people proud. Make your family proud of you. We need our people in our communities sitting in the seats we are in as teachers, as educators, as tribal council members. You are all going to be filling our seats.’”

Allison, a mother of four and grandmother of three, briefly stopped her studies in the program when a nephew was killed in a car accident. He had just graduated from high school. The desire to set an example for others kept her from giving up.

“I didn’t do homework. I didn’t do readings. That was a struggle for me,” she says. “... I told myself I had to get back on track. You do it for your kids. You do it for your family. You’re that role model. You’re that example.”

“You have ups and downs and have struggles, but you go on.” Thomas tells young people to get their education while they’re young instead of waiting like the members of the cohort.

“If I could turn back time, I wish I would have stayed in school and finished (college) after high school,” she says. “(I tell them) ‘You can do it. Just set your priorities straight and know your family will always be behind you.’”

— NINA ALLISON
LEARNING BY THE LAKE

ASU strives to meet its students where they are — and for the 130 students at the ASU Colleges at Lake Havasu City, that’s on the edge of a 19,300-acre reservoir in northwestern Arizona. For students, Lake Havasu’s proximity means plenty of opportunities for outdoor recreation and in-the-field learning, such as the ecology lab pictured here. An active lifestyle is one reason students choose the Havasu location.

New director Raymond Van der Riet expects the student population to more than double in the next five years, something the surrounding community embraces. The city’s support is tangible: $1 million of the location’s startup funds was raised through bake sales and other community fundraising.
Hive minds

Ask A Biologist

ASU’s Ask A Biologist is an educational website that provides free articles, games, podcasts, lessons and other resources — including a virtual-reality tour of a beehive — to learners of all ages. In 2017, more than 12 million visits were registered to the site, which has a feature where biologists answer visitors’ questions. Highlights from the site are in gold throughout this article.

askabiologist.asu.edu

ASU researchers’ work with bees is being applied to human health and human behavior.
ASU’s bee scientists apply their sweet smarts with the aim to improve life for the insects — and for humans, too

Story by KAREN FERNAU

When Robert Page walks through the 4 million honey bees housed at Arizona State University, he sees the potential to better understand how to survive tough living conditions. The Regents’ Professor also sees a way to build stronger immune systems.

Gro Amdam, a professor with the School of Life Sciences, considers the bees in 100 hives at ASU’s Honey Bee Research Lab as nature’s role models. “If everyone respected the environment like bees, we would all live in a better place.”

To the lab’s project manager and apiculturist, Osman Kaftanoglu, the bees offer a working blueprint on living efficiently and peacefully. “I wish we could act more like bees; thousands of hard workers who live close together in harmony.”

Although their research projects differ, ASU’s bee scientists share goals: turning research into cures for diseases, gaining a better understanding of human behavior and protecting crops by reversing the plague that has killed an alarming number of bees over the past decade.

“Our research is making contributions that make a lasting difference to bees and humans,” says Page, recognized as the world’s leading bee geneticist, who has authored more than 230 research articles, ranging from the division of labor in honey bee society to genetics and evolution of social organization.

A buzz-worthy lab

ASU began its honey bee research in earnest in 2004 when Page left his post as chair of the entomology department at the University of California in Davis to become founding director of the ASU School of Life Sciences.

Two years later, ASU opened its bee lab on the Polytechnic campus in Mesa, the largest of its kind in North America, that attracts visiting scientists from the U.S. and abroad.

Page — whose titles include provost emeritus and Foundation Chair of Life Sciences in the ASU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences — decided early on to devote his career to researching bees, and he has stayed true to his commitment for more than three decades, winning international accolades along the way.

But, for him, it’s the bee lab and its handful of researchers that deserve praise. Their discoveries are both vast and significant.

Led by Page, researchers found that bees that collect more protein-rich pollens and less carbohydrate-loaded nectar are healthier, and that selectively breeding the protein-consuming bees leads to healthier colonies.

ASU bee researchers helped discover that our own gut bacteria may contribute to the alarming antibiotic resistance to bacteria that causes disease. They also discovered that bees faced with short-term starvation when young adapt better to starvation as adults.

In a move to save the bees, researchers are studying how pesticides affect larvae and behavior. Other research is focused on preserving genetic stocks, artificial insemination of queen bees, territorial patterns and the widespread death of bees.

No one discovery alone is expected to reverse the spiraling death toll of bees and protect the food supply. But together they make a solution possible, or at least slow the spiraling decline.

“Research is always incremental, with pieces being added by all of us.

There are so many things we can learn from bees,” says Page.

**Food and human health**

To Bob McClendon, a farmer growing organic fruits and vegetables on 93 acres in greater Phoenix’s West Valley, the lab’s research into the alarming death of bees hopefully will help rebuild their ranks.

There were 5.5 million U.S. colonies in the 1950s, down to about 2.5 million today, researchers estimate. They blame a combination of pesticides, pollution, diseases, parasites and habitat destruction for the decline.

“Without bees, there simply would not be enough food to go around,” says McClendon, who first learned the importance of bees to agriculture decades ago as a college student working at a USDA-funded bee lab in Tucson.

In Arizona, these mega-pollinators support the harvesting of $7 billion in agriculture.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, of the 100 crops that account for 90 percent of the world’s food, 71 rely at least in part on bee pollination.

“Keeping bees alive and healthy is something we all should care about. Research gives us hope.”

— BOB MCCLENDON, OWNER OF MCCLENDON’S SELECT ORGANIC FARM

How do bees give directions to the best flower patches?

The dancing bee waggles back and forth as she moves forward in a straight line, then circles around to repeat the dance. The length of the middle line, called the waggle run, shows roughly how far it is to the flower patch.

**Bee dance game on Ask A Biologist:** In this interactive module, learn how to find the best flowers.

Who’s in charge?

A honey bee colony has one queen bee and many worker bees. Queens are in charge of laying eggs and can lay more than 1,000 eggs a day. Most eggs turn into female worker bees, who gather nectar, care for the young and build the colony. A few eggs become male bees, or drones, that leave the colony to mate with other queens.

**Biology Bits flashcards on Ask A Biologist** include easy-to-digest information about the bee life cycle, anatomy and more.
empower your child to take their STEM skills to the next level. From coding and game development to robotics and design, your child will develop in-demand skills and ignite lifelong passions—all within a fun, inclusive environment. Get ready for the best summer ever!

Ages 7–18. Held at ASU & 150 locations worldwide.

#1 Summer STEM Camp is Back for its 12th Season Held at ASU

Get a brochure and find a camp near you!

iDTech.com | 1-844-788-1858

Bee-ware: a digger in the desert?
One midsize species (bigger than a honey bee, smaller than a bumble bee) found in Arizona goes by the scientific name Centris pallida. Unlike the honey bee, this native bee has no universally accepted common name and so we are free to call it the "digger bee" in honor of its habit of digging in desert soils. Why does it dig? Get the answer at askabiologist.asu.edu.

Amdam believes that research into the bees’ finely tuned social structure holds the potential to improve ours. “I hope what we do inspires people to understand nature, animals, plants and our roles in living together. Our research goes beyond health and happiness,” she says. “It can teach us how to respect the natural world.”

Kaftanoglu, who has been lab director from its inception, has spent four decades studying bees. One of his favorite lab responsibilities is hosting open-to-the public courses on beekeeping, including instruction on establishing hives and harvesting honey, beeswax and royal jelly.

He believes that healthy bees promote healthy communities.

This summer Kaftanoglu plans to retire, but not from bees. He will continue teaching beekeeping courses around the world.

“I find (bees) as interesting and important today as I did as a graduate student,” he says.

“And, for me, they bring peace. If I feel down or depressed, I just open the beehive and talk to the queen.”
Scholars around the world

Sun Devils have a bold way of putting ASU on the map. The university’s world changers venture forth each year to discover new paths in faraway places. Here’s where some of ASU’s top scholars are currently or are preparing to study and serve around the globe.

**The Gilman International Scholarship program** provides awards for U.S. undergraduate students who are receiving federal Pell Grant funding at a two-year or four-year college or university to participate in study abroad programs worldwide.

**The Fulbright program** provides opportunities to teach, study and conduct research abroad. In 2018, among public universities, ASU ranked seventh in student Fulbright awards, ahead of the University of Virginia, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Penn State and Ohio State.

-Albania-
- Daniel Klingenberg - Fulbright

-Austria-
- John Harkness - Fulbright

-Belgium-
- Cassandra Roose - Gilman International Scholarship

-Bulgaria-
- Taja Moertle - Gilman International Scholarship

-Canada-
- Layla Anderson - Killam Fellowship
- Jeanette Dilley - Killam Fellowship
- Brittany Hale - Killam Fellowship

-Chile-
- Laura Stanovich - Gilman International Scholarship

-China-
- Anthony Costantini - Gilman International Scholarship
- Dominique Reichenbach - Gilman International Scholarship

-Costa Rica-
- Diana Chen - Gilman International Scholarship
- Ataiyo Viafora - Gilman International Scholarship

-England-
- Erin Schulte - Marshall Scholarship
- Ngoni Mugwisi - Rhodes Scholarship
- Christopher Balzer - Churchill Scholarship

-Ghana-
- Callan Gillette - Gilman International Scholarship

-Guatemala-
- Khushbu Ahir - Gilman International Scholarship

-India-
- Ainsley Pfeiffer - Fulbright
- Patricia Esch - Fulbright
- Jasmine Fin nell - Gilman International Scholarship

-Macedonia-
- Christopher Briones - Gilman International Scholarship

-Netherlands-
- Frea Mehta - Fulbright

-Nicaragua-
- Sophia Le - Gilman International Scholarship

-Northern Ireland-
- Alyssa Santa Cruz - US-UK Fulbright Commission Summer Institutes

-Spain-
- Spain

-Thailand-
- Thailand

-Vietnam-
- Vietnam

-China-
- China

-South Korea-
- South Korea

-Japan-
- Japan

-Malaysia-
- Malaysia

-Singapore-
- Singapore

-United Kingdom-
- United Kingdom

-Ireland-
- Ireland

-Belgium-
- Belgium

-Russia-
- Russia

-Netherlands-
- Netherlands

-Poland-
- Poland

-Slovak Republic-
- Slovak Republic

-Switzerland Austria-
- Switzerland Austria

-Morocco-
- Morocco

-Qatar-
- Qatar

-Nepal-
- Nepal
The Killam Fellowships program allows undergraduate students to participate in a curriculum of binational residential exchange. Killam Fellows spend one semester or a full academic year as an exchange student in the host country.

The Marshall Scholarship enables intellectually distinguished young Americans, anticipated to be the country’s future leaders, to study in the UK so that they may gain an understanding and appreciation of contemporary Britain and act as ambassadors.

The Rhodes Scholarship provides full support for study in any discipline at Oxford University. Rhodes Scholarships reward outstanding academic achievements, character, commitment to the common good and the recipient’s potential for leadership.

The Churchill Scholarship is among the most prestigious postgraduate awards in the world and is offered to only 15 students per year. It provides funding to American students for a year of master’s study in science, mathematics, and engineering at the University of Cambridge, based at Churchill College.

Peru
Michael Corder
Gilman International Scholarship

Esteisy Gutierrez
Gilman International Scholarship

Poland
Molly Benkaim
Fulbright

Qatar
Joseph Conant
Boren Scholarship

Russia
Baltazar Hernandez
Critical Languages Scholarship

Switzerland
Samantha Fetterley
Gilman International Scholarship

Slovak Republic
Chloe Wapinski
Fulbright

South Korea
Thuy-Phuong Nguyen
Gilman International Scholarship

Tanzania
Glenn Ivan Bascon
Gilman International Scholarship

United Kingdom
Kelsie Hammitt
Gilman International Scholarship

Germany
Peter Oie-Sabay
Gilman International Scholarship

Italy
Sadaf Aayar
Gilman International Scholarship

Vietnam
Megan Kelly
Fulbright

Canada
Guatemala
Nicaragua

Costa Rica

Malaysia
Singapore

China

Japan

Russia

Japan

China

The Killam Fellowships program allows undergraduate students to participate in a curriculum of binational residential exchange. Killam Fellows spend one semester or a full academic year as an exchange student in the host country. Killam Fellowships provide full support for study in any discipline at Oxford University. Rhodes Scholarships reward outstanding academic achievements, character, commitment to the common good and the recipient’s potential for leadership.
ASU Cronkite alumna Nicole Carroll takes compassion, curiosity and a nose for news to her role as USA Today’s new editor-in-chief

Story by JULIA WALLACE
Photos by JAROD OPPERMAN; BRANDON SULLIVAN

From the time she was an undergraduate at ASU, it was clear that Nicki Carroll was going places.

For one thing, she didn’t let obstacles — like the lack of a car — get in her way. When she was assigned to cover a water commission meeting in Apache Junction for a public affairs reporting class, she simply hopped on her red scooter and drove it the 26 miles.

“You just do whatever it takes to get the job done,” she says.

Nicole Carroll, who graduated from the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication in 1991, recently was named editor of USA Today, one of the top media brands in the country. She credits Cronkite for setting her on the path that has led to her success, but that’s not surprising: Carroll is always quick to give credit to others.
When she won the Ben Bradlee Editor of the Year Award from the National Press Foundation a few months ago, she insisted the award belonged to the journalists she works with, her husband and her three children. Let’s just say that’s not the typical acceptance speech.

Carroll has been the top editor at The Arizona Republic for 10 years, earning a reputation as a compassionate and thoughtful leader who loves journalism and the people it serves. She has been in charge during a time of dramatic change in the news business — change that she has met head-on with a series of initiatives to engage audiences in new and meaningful ways.

For example, the Republic invested nine months in a series about the border between Mexico and the U.S. that examines what would happen if a wall was built. The project maps the entire border for the first time and allows users to travel the border virtually to see for themselves what it is like.

It’s the kind of creative storytelling that Carroll prizes. Journalists, she says, need to be adventurers. What would happen if ... ? How could we ... ? Those are the kinds of questions that interest her.

And she wants collaborators, people who can work well with others. “We really need journalists who are going to lead the way and help us transform,” she says. “Just being a good writer isn’t enough anymore.”

Carroll worked at USA Today early in her career, first in the features section and then in the graphics department. In 1996, she was working at the paper and had just finished a master’s degree in liberal studies at Georgetown University. Her husband had just graduated from law school. That winter, “they had shut down all the freeways, and we had to shovel a path for our dog out the back door to go to the bathroom,” Carroll says. The couple decided to head back to the blue skies of Phoenix to build their life and raise a family.

She landed a job at the East Valley Tribune and gave birth to twins. A few months later, she moved to the Republic as an assistant city editor. As she rose through the ranks over the next decade — and added a son to the family — she learned to juggle work and family in creative ways. She would often pack two suitcases for herself when the family went on vacation so she could leave mid-vacation for a business meeting somewhere. She watched her daughters try on prom dresses via FaceTime.

“In the beginning when I would need to go to a school event, I would say, ‘I’m going to an appointment’ — (being) sort of nonspecific about it,” she says. “And now I say out loud, ‘Hey, I’m leaving early to go to my son’s soccer game. I hope you do, too.’” And if anyone needs her, they know they can reach her on her phone, which she checks constantly.

A newspaper that reflects its readers

As she heads to USA Today, based in the suburbs of Washington, D.C., Carroll is thinking a lot about what it takes to lead a successful news organization. Part of the answer is transparency, telling readers how news decisions are made — and why — and providing original documents that back up reporting whenever possible. That, she says, helps build credibility.

News organizations also need to connect with readers, really listening to their concerns and issues, she says.

One of the criticisms of the Washington press corps is that it is too insulated from the concerns of the people who live outside of the East Coast corridor. This lack of connection is widely seen as part of the reason so many news organizations were surprised by Donald Trump’s election as president in November of 2016.
“I think bringing the perspectives of my neighbors and the people that I interact with every day will be important,” she says.

Connection extends to internewsroom efforts as well, something the Cronkite School and the Republic have built during her time there, from co-sponsoring debates and polls to an ASU multimedia class that provides hands-on experience working on the Republic’s breaking-news desk. In addition, three ASU journalism students were also involved in the award-winning “The Wall” project. The trio worked with an ASU geographical information system specialist to synchronize 40 hours of footage, linking every second of the video to its location on the map of the nearly 2,000-mile border — a crucial, painstaking step that allowed readers to see all aspects of the border themselves.

Carroll has great admiration for USA Today, which was founded in 1982 among much derision from the journalism establishment. It is now one of the largest print newspapers in the country, with a daily readership topping 3 million. It is one of the most-used digital media news outlets, with more than 120 million unique views a month.

Carroll says USA Today has always prided itself on being a reader-focused newspaper that gives people what they want, not just what journalists think they need. It’s an approach she thinks works: “I say this all the time: We have the First Amendment responsibility to educate and inform to empower our communities. If we write stories that nobody reads, we’re not upholding that responsibility.”

Carroll says she also hopes to build on USA Today’s pioneering spirit. “When USA Today started,
A day in the life of a Cronkite student

Gabriella Bachara, a junior in the Cronkite School, reviews her assignment to cover an antibullying event.

After checking out her equipment, she heads to the state Capitol to meet up with representatives of lobbying group Public School Options.

With background video of associated events completed, Bachara focuses on interviews with campaign organizers and supporters.

Video wrapped, the young journalist heads back to the Cronkite newsroom to meet her 2 p.m. deadline.

Now in one of the newsroom's four fully-equipped editing bays, she edits today's video, preparing it for the evening's Cronkite News broadcast.

A bright outlook for Cronkite grads

“Almost every major media outlet has hired our students, and they all tell us our students are extremely well prepared,” says Cronkite School Senior Associate Dean Kristin Gilger. “And we also want students to be prepared to lead those organizations when the time comes. We want the future of news in the hands of as many Nicole Carrolls as possible.”

A strong partnership

At the Republic, Nicole Carroll often used her leadership position to advocate for philanthropic support of the Cronkite school. Among the initiatives she helped launch are:

- Jeffrey Dozbaba Memorial Scholarship, in honor of a former managing editor who died of lung cancer. Along with Republic colleagues, Carroll worked with Dozbaba’s widow Mary to establish an annual scholarship to support print journalism students at ASU.
- Don Bolles/Arizona Republic News21 Fellowship, honoring an investigative reporter mortally wounded while covering allegations of corruption in Arizona. It supports an ASU student in an annual investigative reporting initiative.
- High School Journalism Innovation Camp, Carroll was a driving force behind the launch of this high school summer program focusing on innovation in journalism. Funded entirely by the Republic, the inaugural camp took place in 2017 and will run again in 2018.
it was revolutionary," she says. “I think that we need to continue to have that, even though we’re no longer the startup. We need to increase our innovative rigor. We need to continue to experiment with new ways to get information to people to think about.”

Carroll will be the third woman editor of USA Today. She replaces Joanne Lipman, who left to promote her book on men and women in the workplace. The newspaper’s first female editor was Karen Jurgensen, who was named to the job in 1999.

“We really need journalists who are going to lead the way and help us transform. Just being a good writer isn’t enough anymore.”
— NICOLE CARROLL

While many major news organizations — including The Washington Post, Los Angeles Times and CBS News — have never had a woman in the top leadership job, USA Today has traditionally led the industry in diversity efforts. Its founder, Al Neuharth, believed that news organizations need to reflect the people they cover.

Carroll will launch her editorship by scheduling small group meetings with every member of her new staff, learning everything she can as fast as she can. The approach is vintage Carroll. She remembers covering the opening of a new building while a student reporter at ASU. As a group of reporters toured the facility, Carroll started opening every door. “Just stay on the tour,” the others told her. But Carroll says she felt compelled to find out what was behind every door.

Did she find anything interesting behind those closed doors?

Not really, Carroll says. But she’s still glad she did it, and she would do it again in a heartbeat.

Here, there, everywhere

ASU student media outlets

The Cronkite School’s student journalists cover the news for a variety of outlets. See some of their work at these local student-centric organizations:

**The State Press**
The independent student publication covering ASU since 1890 counts many prominent media leaders among its alumni, including Nicole Carroll (shown above with the sweatshirt from her State Press days).
statepress.com

**Downtown Devil** A student-run online publication launched in 2008 and dedicated to providing news quickly, accurately and completely to the downtown Phoenix community.
downtowndevil.com

**Cronkite News** The news division of Arizona PBS produced by the Cronkite School. News packages regularly appear in statewide professional news outlets, nationwide through an agreement with Tribune News Service and in a weekday newscast carried on Arizona PBS.
cronkitenews.azpbs.org

Julia Wallace is the Frank Russell Chair at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication. She was the managing editor of The Arizona Republic when Carroll was hired.
Employers love ASU graduates so much, they ranked us among the best in the nation for employability. How does that happen? Great academics, tons of student support … and donors like you. When you give to scholarships at ASU, you energize the workforce of the future.

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We don’t always see our generous donors, but you’re always in the picture.

Together, our potential is limitless
GiveTo.ASU.edu
PERFECT SEASON

**Victory is** sweet, but it’s even sweeter when it’s your trademark. Sophomore wrestler Zahid Valencia captured the NCAA wrestling title at 174 pounds in Cleveland on March 17, capping an undefeated season (32-0) and a remarkable two-year run with just one loss and two All-American honors in his hip pocket. Valencia avenged the only loss of his collegiate career when he defeated Penn State’s Mark Hall 8-2 in the final.
“The possibilities are endless. We’ve got a really special group. We’ve got fun, we’ve got talent, we’ve got good team chemistry. I just think we’ve got to get hot and we’ve got to get lucky.”

— Trisha Ford, Sun Devil softball coach

May 4–6 vs Stanford
For more information and tickets, visit TheSunDevils.com/softball
School’s out, but there are more great Sun Devil softball and baseball games to catch before the break for summer.

Spencer Torkelson broke a 35-year-old freshman record held by Barry Bonds with his 12th home run of the season.

“We’re trying to win a championship because that’s what we set out to do. Every decision is made for those 35 guys in that locker room. That hasn’t changed from Day 1, and it won’t.”
— Tracy Smith, Sun Devil baseball coach

Remaining games at home this season

May 4–6 vs Washington
May 13–14 vs University of Pacific
May 24–26 vs California

For more information and tickets, visit TheSunDevils.com/baseball
Women's tennis

500!

McInerney becomes 6th ASU coach to score win milestone

The Sun Devil women's tennis team made history in February at the Whiteman Tennis Center as Arizona State's sweep of Santa Clara was head coach Sheila McInerney's 500th career win in her 34-year tenure.

“ASU has treated me very well, and I just hope I have reciprocated that,” McInerney said following the match.

McInerney is the sixth coach in school history to eclipse the 500-win mark and is the sixth-winningest ASU coach across all sports.

“I love tennis,” she says. “You wear shorts and a T-shirt to practice, you do this for a living and you realize it’s not really work. I think it’s important to have passion for what you do, because I think it rubs off on the student-athletes.”

Coach Sheila McInerney says camaraderie on the court and in the stands makes days like her 500th victory even better. “It’s why you’re in college; for the relationships.”

Gymnastics

Leonard-Baker, Santos earn Pac-12 honors for stellar year

Arizona State gymnastics netted a pair of conference awards, as Gym Devil freshman standout Cairo Leonard-Baker was named Pac-12 Freshman/Newcomer of the Year, while second-year head coach Jay Santos earned Pac-12 Coach of the Year honors.

Leonard-Baker became the first gymnast in program history to earn the best-of recognition. She also became just the second Gym Devil in Arizona State’s illustrious history to earn yearly honors.
Camp Tontozona field to undergo facility upgrades

Sun Devil Athletics and Sun Devil Football have announced Camp Tontozona will undergo upgrades, with a new synthetic field replacing the natural grass, as well as other renovations. The project is expected to be completed by the start of the footballers’ 2018 camp in August.

The synthetic field will feature a water system for cooling and cleaning the field, sleeves for goal posts, field striping for multi-sport use and more.

Inclement weather has sometimes forced the team to move its daily routine from Camp T to Rumsey Park in Payson, a 20-plus-minute drive away, or cancel practices altogether.

The 2018 field enhancements will help reduce the chances of field flooding and maintain practices at Camp T throughout the week.
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Valid through May 7, 2018.
v: to come together; to build a rapport; to establish relationships

**Connect**

**DRIVEN TO SUCCESS**

There are many ways to show your ASU pride — but there’s just one way that helps your fellow Sun Devils at the same time. Part of the fee for the newly redesigned ASU license plate goes to the Medallion Scholarship fund, the ASU Alumni Association’s signature scholarship initiative that incorporates leadership and service.

Zouheir Ridouani (biochemistry) and Haya Sweidan (psychology) are among ASU’s newest alumni in the Class of 2018.
Welcome new Sun Devil graduates!

As a 2018 graduate of ASU, you are a valued and important member of one of the country’s largest alumni associations — some 500,000 strong! And, as you take your next steps toward a professional career, ASU is your powerful partner, each step of the way. Find out more by visiting alumni.asu.edu.

Link up!
You have your hard-earned degree from ASU! Now it’s time to update your LinkedIn profile to include your graduation deets (degrees, clubs, accomplishments, plans) and let the world know you’re ready to make a difference. Build and engage your network while accessing others. Here’s a first step: linkedin.com/school/arizona-state-university/alumni

A ‘rewarding’ app, just for you!
Download the free Sun Devil Rewards app today and cement your pride and passion for the ol’ Maroon and Gold. Stay up to date on all things ASU. News, events, trivia and other activities are all worth valuable “Pitchforks” that open the way to a catalog of riches, including ASU gear and exclusive VIP experiences. sundevilrewards.asu.edu

When in town

On-campus events provide opportunities
Career Exploration Nights and career fairs, Innovation Showcase and networking get-togethers. If you’re rooted in the Valley, ASU and alumni events are a great way to stay in touch, make new connections and be entertained! asuevents.asu.edu

Wherever you are

Make the most of your alumni experience
Take advantage of ASU resources for your career, family, vacations and more. Visit alumni.asu.edu/services.

Career services for life!
All ASU alumni have lifetime access to ASU Career Fairs, webinars, in-person and virtual networking opportunities, as well as a variety of career development events. And, Career and Professional Development Services can help you chart your career path! alumni.asu.edu/services

Volunteer, Devils!
Volunteer opportunities abound with the ASU Alumni Association. From ASU Cares to Tillman Honor Runs and more, feed your passion for giving back. alumni.asu.edu/volunteer/asu-cares
Join a chapter

and attend meetups to stay current on what fellow alumni are doing. See alumni.asu.edu/chapters for links to regional and special-interest chapters.

Facebook Instagram LinkedIn Email

Special-interest chapters

Aguila
ASU Black Alumni
ASU Chinese Alumni Club
Xiaojie.Li@asu.edu
Catholic Newman Center
matkins@asuatholic.org
Devil's Horns
Devils' Advocates
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businesscordon@gmail.com
Hispanic Business Alumni
Irish American Club
LDS ASU Alumni Chapter
Leadership Scholarship Program
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Los Diablos
Medallion Scholars Alumni Club
Native American Alumni
keelyn.smith@asu.edu
State Press Club
writejodie@yahoo.com
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jmitter@asu.edu
Veterans

Don't see a chapter you're looking for? Send an email to Trish Thiele-Keating, assistant director, chapters and clubs, at Trish.Thiele-Keating@asu.edu

Connect with your chapter at alumni.asu.edu/chapters

Class notes

2010s

Taylor N. Burgoon ’17 JD has joined the Phoenix office of Fennemore Craig, a leading western U.S. business law firm. During her law school days at ASU, she served as an extern for the Honorable John J. Tuchi, U.S. district judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona.

Meaghan Cosgrove ’17 BS (marketing and integrated marketing communications) has joined Facelite’s Phoenix location as a customer service representative, supporting the sales and account managers of office furniture and architectural interior products and services for a variety of industries. She previously served an internship as sales coordinator with Cushman & Wakefield.

Alex McElroy ’15 MFA writing has published a short-story collection, “Daddy Issues,” that has earned him the Cupboard Pamphlet’s 2016 Editors’ Prize. Says fellow author Alexandra Kleeman, “(His) writing burrows its way to the deep tissue of feeling and lodges there, determined.” McElroy is also fiction editor of Gulf Coast, a journal of literature and fine arts.

Bradley J. Pew ’13 BA Spanish, an attorney focused on environmental law, water law and commercial litigation, has joined the Phoenix office of Fennemore Craig. Prior to joining the leading business law firm, he completed a clerkship with the Honorable Jay S. Bybee of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

2010s

Reyna Montoya ’12 BA transborder Chicana/o and Latina/o studies, U.S. and Mexican regional studies; ’12 BA political science, founder and executive director of Aliento, has been recognized by Forbes as a “30 Under 30” to watch in social entrepreneurship. The national recognition comes on the heels of being honored as an NBC “Latino 20” awardee for community achievements. Reyna’s nonprofit Aliento supports undocumented youth and children of immigrant parents through art, leadership development and education.

Josephine E. Groh ’11 BS sustainability has joined the Las Vegas office of national law firm Weinberg Wheeler Hudgins Gunn & Dial as an associate. A former lead articles and technical editor of the Journal of the National Association of Administrative Law Judiciary, she specializes in civil litigation with an emphasis on catastrophic injury, premises liability and medical malpractice.

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Graham Rossini ’02 BS, ’11 MBA
Travis Snell ’00 MPA

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Josh Meibos ’11 MPE
class notes

physical education was named Arizona
School of Education Foundation.
physical education teacher at David
Crockett Elementary School in
Phoenix, was awarded $15,000
and a trip to the White House to
meet with the president.

Joseph Passamani ’11 JD

has joined the Silverman Law
Office in Helena, Montana. The
summa cum laude graduate of
the Sandra Day O’Connor College
of Law had previously worked
for a transactional and business
firm in Florida where his specialty
was commercial and residential
real estate transactions, business
acquisitions and business
development, estate planning, and corporate transactions.

Kathleen Winter ’11 MFA

creative writing has authored
a winner of the 17th annual Elia
Press Poetry Awards. Judge Bob
Hicok says of “I Will Not Kick My
Friends: Poems” and the author:
“Kathleen is unusually attuned to
the intersection of the imagined
and the common place. She
weaves her loves — personal,
artistic, intellectual — into her
daily life, making this a book of
passionate intimacies. This is a
wonderful book.”

Douglas Manuel ’10 BA

creative writing has written
his first book, “Testify,” reviewed
by award-winning poet and
Guggenheim fellow David St.
John as “a brave, brilliant debut
about the African-American
experience in the American
Midwest,” and “a book of elegiac
ambivalence; (the) speaker often
finds himself trapped between
received binaries: black and white,
ghetto and suburban, atheism and
Catholicism.”

Fernando Pérez ’10 MFA

creative writing has produced
a dynamic debut collection, “A
Song of Dismantling: Poems.” In
his work, Fernando — a regular
contributor to Crab Orchard
Review, Más Tequila Review,
Exquisite Corpse, and Hinchas de
Poesia — explores how migration
affects relationships between
people of different generations.

2000s

Stephanie (Smith) Mitrovic

‘09 MArch

architecture is the new science
teachment and technology
studio leader for
SmithGroupJ JR, one of the nation’s
largest design firms. In her role,
Stephanie will cultivate the studio,
maintain client relationships and
build new avenues to connect with
future clients. Previously, she
served as SmithGroupJ JR’s lead
interior designer.

Katherine Palmer

’09 MM

performance, ’13 MA

ethnomusicology, ’13 DMA

performance, the museum
educator at the Musical Instrument
Museum in Phoenix, is the new
director of the Daraja Music
Initiative. DMI, formerly
Clarinets for Conservation, is a
nonprofit providing an
interdisciplinary approach to
sustainability through music
education.

Katherine is also a faculty
associate in ASU’s Herberger
Institute for Design and the Arts.

Heather Dreblow

Townsend

’09 BS

accountancy has opened
Townsend Financial, a
virtual financial planning firm.
The fee-only advisory practice
works virtually with GenerationX/Y
professionals seeking advice on
services such as retirement
planning, risk management,
college savings, cash flow, debt
management, work benefits, and
estate and incapacity planning.

Joey Eschrich ’08 BA film
and media studies, ’11 MA
gender studies has joined Ed Finn,
ASU assistant professor in the
Department of English/School of
Arts, Media and Engineering, as
coresearcher of “Visions, Ventures, Escape Velocities: A Collection of Space
Futures.” Featured narratives use
the economic and social history
of exploration, as well as current
technical and scientific research,
to inform scenarios for the future
of the “new space” era.

Nicole Zoe Garcia ’08

MPA

public administration

has been appointed
director of jury
services for the
Superior Court of Arizona in
Maricopa County. She now
oversees all jury operations for
the superior court, as well as the
summoning for all county justice
courts, most of the municipal courts
in Maricopa County and the state
and county grand juries.

Samantha N. Winter
McAlpin ’08 BA English
literature, ’08 BA Spanish,
’08 BA history

has joined Gust Rosenfeld
PLC as an associate in the
firm’s litigation group. A summa
cum laude graduate of ASU’s
Barrett, The Honors College,
she brings litigation-claims
experience involving trustees,
personal representatives,
beneficiaries and the exploitation
of vulnerable adults.
When can you start?

Interview tips to help you land your dream job

Your resume and LinkedIn profile can get you in the door, but landing that dream job will likely come down to how well you interview. The right preparation can definitely boost your confidence and also serve as a reflection of your interest, so do some research on the company or organization you’re meeting with. Take some time to think about possible questions and what your answers will be.

Here, we share some common interview questions and strategies you can use.

Tell me about yourself.
A solid response can lead the conversation in a direction that allows you to elaborate on your qualifications. While this seems like a piece of cake, it can be difficult to answer effectively because it is so broad. The important thing to remember is that you should respond with your strongest selling points for the position, including your education, professional experiences and most important qualities.

What are your strengths and weaknesses?
This is your opportunity to showcase your strengths. Give concrete examples. Be honest in describing areas where you want to improve (i.e., weaknesses), and be sure to describe how you are working to improve them.

Where do you see yourself in five years?
Show some ambition. It’s OK not to know all of your goals moving forward, just be honest with how you hope your career will progress and what skills you want to develop.

Why do you want to work here?
Show what you know about the organization; do some advance research.

Why did you leave your last job?
Always bring up the positive attributes of your previous employment, even if it was not always a positive experience. Avoid criticizing previous employers in an interview.

Besides being ready to answer questions about yourself, it’s a good idea to have some questions in mind for the interviewer. It’s a way to demonstrate genuine interest and enthusiasm. Ask about the company’s culture, opportunities for advancement or what the interviewer’s favorite part about his or her job is.

ASU’s Career and Professional Development Services offers coaching and resources to you for free, for life. To learn more about the tools available, visit asu.edu/career.
David L. Biscobing ’07
BA journalism and mass communication has been recognized, along with his ABC-15 team, with a prestigious Alfred I. DuPont–Columbia University Award for “Cash for Compliance,” a “relentless investigative series (that) exposed an audacious group of litigators who exploited the Americans with Disabilities Act for profit,” according to the committee. Biscobing joined ABC-15 in 2008; his stories have won a national Emmy, a Scripps Howard Award and nearly two dozen regional and local honors.

Todd Fredson ’07 MFA
creative writing is the translator of Josuè Guébo’s collection of serial poems, “Think of Lampedusa.” The book addresses the 2013 shipwreck that killed 366 Africans attempting to migrate secretly to Lampedusa, an Italian island in the Mediterranean Sea. Within the pages of “Lampedusa,” author Guébo explores what motivates a person to become part of what he calls a “seasonal suicide epidemic.”

Whitney M. Harvey ’07 BS
accountancy, ’10 JD has joined the firm of Gust Rosenfeld PLC, as an associate in its litigation group. Focused on municipal liability, insurance defense and general civil litigation, Whitney was designated a “Southwest Rising Star” from 2014 to 2016 by the Super Lawyers rating service of outstanding lawyers.

Ryan S. Hilburn ’07 BSA
aviation maintenance management has completed eight years as a chief warrant officer 2 in the United States Army. He was an OH-58 pilot most recently stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas.

Talonya Adams ’06 JD
has been elected 2018 chair of the seven-person City of Phoenix Board of Adjustment following her tenure as the board’s vice chair. Talonya is the founder of and a business attorney at 1700 West Law, a boutique firm serving entrepreneurs, small and microbusinesses, and capital market participants in the areas of business and corporate law, international trade and government affairs.

Fatma AlHaidari ’06 MA
English; ’12 PhD rhetoric, composition and linguistics, has authored “The Discourse of Business Meetings: Agency and Power in Financial Organizations.” The book examines the social organizational discourse of task-oriented business meetings in a Kuwaiti financial organization and an American nonprofit trade organization.

Katie Cortese ’06 MFA
creative writing, whose stories and essays have appeared in journals such as Blackbird, Gulf Coast and Day One, has authored “Make Way for Her: And Other Stories,” reviewed as “an affecting and unusual exploration of the bittersweet rewards of offering, receiving and returning love as imperfect human beings.” Katie is also the author of “Girl Power and Other Short-Short Stories.”

Jonathan Grindell ’06 MSTC
global technology and development has opened a sole proprietorship in the state of Washington, Solidarity Legal. Jonathan will focus his practice on “harm reduction, prison abolition and stemming the tide of mass deportation.”

Elizabeth Hiscox ’06 MFA
creative writing has published her debut poetry collection, “Reassurance in Negative Space.” One online review says of Elizabeth’s effort: “By turns ecstatic and somber, profane and sacred, wise and whimsical, Hiscox proves she is a poet of the first order with this memorable collection.”

Christopher O’Neil ’06 BA
English literature has been appointed to the Pinal County (Arizona) Superior Court by Arizona Governor Doug Ducey ’86 BS finance. Chris was previously presiding judge for the Casa Grande (Arizona) Municipal Court. A summa cum laude graduate of the W. P. Carey School of Business, he has also served as a staff attorney for the Pinal County Superior Court.

Celeste Plumlee ’06 BA sociology,
’13 MPA social work, ’13 MPA public administration has been appointed executive director of Tempe Neighbors Helping Neighbors, a grassroots, membership-based nonprofit founded in 2009 to enable adults to remain in their homes as they age.

Michelle Acosta ’05 BSD
architectural studies has received the prestigious 2018 Young Architects Award from the American Institute of Architects. The award recognizes industry professionals who have been licensed 10 years or fewer and have shown “exceptional leadership and made significant contributions to the profession,” says the national institute. At SmithGroupJJR in Phoenix, Michelle is a health care project manager currently overseeing the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Northeast Ambulatory Care Clinic and the campus master plan for the University Medical Center of Southern Nevada.

John D. Gibson ’05 BS
business administration, ’10 MBA, southern Arizona regional bank president for Wells Fargo and a member of the ASU Alumni Association board of directors, has been elected to the Valley of the Sun United Way board for 2018. John has been recognized with a “40 Under 40” award by the Tucson Chamber of Commerce and has held several leadership roles with Wells Fargo since joining the company in 2005.

Courtney L. Klein ’05 BIS
interdisciplinary studies, ’10 MNPS nonprofit studies, co-founder and CEO of nonprofit social entrepreneur incubator Seed Spot, has announced plans to expand to 50 more communities across the U.S. Since 2012, she and Seed Spot have worked with more than 500 companies, creating more than 1,000 jobs and raising more than $10 million in capital funding.

Ryan McEnroe ’05 BSD
architectural studies has been recognized with the 2018 American Institute of Architects Young Architects Award. In recognizing Ryan, AIA noted, “Through his energy and thoughtful outreach on a national level, (he) has empowered the next crop of architect leaders. Leading by example through countless volunteer hours, he has instilled in design professionals a drive to strengthen the profession and better serve society.”

Sara Agne ’04 BA
journalism has been appointed to the Maricopa County Superior Court by Arizona Governor Doug Ducey ’86 BS finance. A magna cum laude graduate of the Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication who served as editor in chief of the ASU Alumni Association board of directors, has been elected to the Valley of the Sun United Way board for 2018. John has been recognized with a “40 Under 40” award by the Tucson Chamber of Commerce and has held several leadership roles with Wells Fargo since joining the company in 2005.

Governor Doug Ducey ’86 BS
finance. A magna cum laude graduate of the Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication who served as editor in chief of the ASU Alumni Association board of directors, has been elected to the Valley of the Sun United Way board for 2018. John has been recognized with a “40 Under 40” award by the Tucson Chamber of Commerce and has held several leadership roles with Wells Fargo since joining the company in 2005.
Shaunté Glover ’11, bachelor of fine arts in photography. A rising storyteller, she is a visual artist specializing in photo and film. See more of Shaunté’s work online at shaunteglover.com.

Hannah Manuelito ’17, bachelor of fine arts in photography. Hannah works as a photographer for OXDX, a Native-owned clothing line based in Chandler, Arizona. See more of Hannah’s work online at hannahsreverie.wordpress.com.

Recent ASU grads specializing in photography catch up with fellow alumni for a lens-like view a few years after graduation

For photographer Shaunté Glover, perspective is everything.

The ASU alumna loves to tell the stories of people she finds interesting, especially in the downtown Phoenix community.

She says taking a variety of courses at ASU — both technical skills and conceptual art — has made her a stronger storyteller.

On the following pages, she and fellow photographer Hannah Manuelito share their photos of recent graduates and the advice for new grads these alumni shared.

Glover’s advice?

“If there’s something they want to do, just stick to it,” she says. “It might take a while, it make take longer than this plan they have in their head after graduating. If you stick with it, it will happen.”
student-produced State Press, Sara is a partner in the special litigation and compliance practice group at Snell & Wilmer. She is a member of the Arizona Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Rules of Evidence and of the State Bar of Arizona Civil Practice and Procedure Committee.

Kevin S. Krahenbuhl ’04 BAE secondary education (history), ’09 MLS liberal studies has authored “The Decay of Truth in Education: Implications and Ideas for its Restoration as a Value.” Says Cambridge Scholars Publishing of “Decay”: “(The book) presents a compelling case that documents how educational institutions and political institutions alike have abandoned truth as a primary virtue.” The targets of Kevin’s critique range across political, religious and social groups.

Eric Fierro ’02 BS justice studies has been promoted to partner at Keller Rohrback LLP. Eric oversees the legal technology group, providing electronic discovery and litigation support to colleagues and clients on a wide array of cases. Prior to joining Keller Rohrback, he was a managing consultant for Huron Consulting Group and has been a featured speaker, panelist and presenter at national and regional conferences.

Joey (Blackburn) Fordyce ’01 BA communication recently took the stage in the first-ever TEDxED Talk in Ukraine, one of her many stops as an English Language Fellow for the U.S. State Department. Her topic, “Improv to Improve Speaking in EFL Classrooms,” is the latest highlight of her work with the fellows program in the Ukraine’s Odessa region since August 2016 — she has worked with Internationally Displaced Youth in the Microscholarship program; facilitated a nationwide media literacy MOOC project; conducted teacher-training and professional development workshops; led best-practices training for critical thinking, creative thinking, board work and student voice; and more.

Natalya Shkoda ‘01 MM performance, ’06 DMA solo performance has released her fourth solo CD album, “Tchaikovsky: Les Saisons, Op. 37B and Album for the Young, Op. 39.” The Ukrainian-born concert pianist is a recording artist, artistic director of the Earl R. and Marilyn Ann Kruschke Prize in Piano Performance Competition, and is considered to be one of today’s most dynamic young artists, master teachers and competition adjudicators.

Ethan Rhoads ’17, bachelor of fine arts in photography. Ethan is an assistant preparator at the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art and a gallery attendant at ASU’s Art Museum.

Best piece of advice to those graduating now: “Go get it; just plain try hard. Staying connected to school, making a point to network at events, applying early and often; all of these things should come easy if you majored in something you enjoy.”

Kimberly Yee ’01 MPA public administration, a member of the Arizona Senate representing District 20 since 2013, has been selected a member of the 2018 GOPAC Legislative Leaders Advisory Board. Kimberly has worked for California Governors Pete Wilson and Arnold Schwarzenegger and also served as communications director for the state treasurer of Arizona.

Tayari Jones ’00 MFA creative writing has authored “An American Marriage,” a stirring love story that is reviewed as “a masterpiece of storytelling, an intimate look deep into the souls of people who must reckon with the past while moving forward — with hope and pain — into the future.” Her most recent scribe follows “Leaving Atlanta” and “The Untelling,” winners of the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award and the Lillian C. Smith Awards, respectively.

Nate Rhoton ’00 BS economics has been named executive director of One-N-Ten, a not-for-profit dedicated to serving and assisting LGBTQ youth. Nate joined One-N-Ten in 2015 and will now oversee programs and a handful of satellite centers across Arizona. A Valley Leadership grad and a Flinn-Brown Leadership Fellow, Nate is the recipient of the Mayor Phil Gordon Community Spirit Award, the Neil Giuliano Alumni Award and the One Community Foundation Local Hero’s Award.
Anna Haney '13/'16, bachelor's degree in criminology and criminal justice/master's degree in criminal justice. Anna is a program coordinator at the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission.

Best piece of advice to those graduating now: “Go after it! The time post-graduation can sometimes feel like you’re on a roller coaster of emotions. Always remember your purpose.”

Tony Garcia '95 BSD
architectural studies, winner of the 2014 Young Architect of the Year award from the San Diego chapter of the American Institute of Architects, has been named one of the organization’s 2018 Young Architect of the Year national awardees. A founding partner of San Diego’s Asquared Studios, Tony is principal in charge at Asquared, designing, managing and overseeing the construction of commercial and residential projects. A regular guest critic and mentor, he also leads exercises for youths focused on architectural practice and techniques for the Built Environment Education Program, San Diego.

Rigoberto Gonzalez '97 MFA
creative writing has published his third memoir, “What Drowns the Flowers in Your Mouth,” a powerful and moving portrait of a complex and troubled family and of memory and regret. “Rigoberto looks back not in anger but with great generosity of spirit,” says Guillermo Reyes, author of the award-winning “Madre and I.” Author of 17 books of poetry and prose, Rigoberto is a contributing editor for Poets and Writers Magazine and is on the board of trustees of the Association Writers and Writing Programs.

Tracy Leonard-Warner '94 BMUS musical therapy, '11 MHI health care innovation has been named executive director of Ryan House, a greater Phoenix nonprofit providing care and programs for children and families navigating life-limiting or end-of-life journeys. In her new role, Tracy will serve as the organization’s chief fundraising and administrative officer. Prior to joining Ryan House in 2017, she led an interdisciplinary health care team for Hospice of the Valley for five years.

Stacy A. Miller '95 BS physics has been awarded the Minnesota Solar Energy Industry Association’s Ralph Jacobson Lifetime Achievement Award for her contributions to the state’s solar industry. She is a solar policy specialist for the Minnesota Department of Commerce and has been with the agency since 2006.

Raúl A. Monreal III '95 BS computer science has been honored with the 2017 Horquilla Award, presented by the ASU Los Diablos Latino Alumni for his contributions to the advancement of the Los Diablos chapter, including his fundraising work in support of undergraduate scholarships at ASU. He is also the 1998 ASU Founders’ Day Young Alumni Achievement Award winner. Monreal is a senior program manager at General Dynamics Mission Systems.

Mike Marden '94 BS architectural design recently celebrated his 15th year as principal architect at WDS Architecture, a firm he launched in 2002. Mike has more than 20 years of experience as an architectural design professional, including professional roles in residential and commercial design, production and build; construction project management; and executive leadership.

Neil Russell, '94 BS management, currently vice president of investor relations and communications for food-service distributor Sysco, has been named treasurer of Kids’ Meals in Houston, a 501(c) 3 first responder to children ages 5 and under who face debilitating hunger due to extreme poverty. In his role at Sysco, Neil serves as the chief
ASU alumni pay it forward

ASU Alumni contributing members make a difference in the lives of the next generation of Sun Devils. Nearly 2,000 Class of 2018 grads support ASU through contributing memberships. alumni.asu.edu/membership

New Gold-level alumni members

Mary H. Hentges ’81 BS
Mark H. White ’82 BS
David M. Svob ’82 BSCJ
John W. Greco ’82 MS
Russell T. Fiorenzo ’82 BA
Leland A. Henderson ’62 BS
James R. Lodge ’87 8E
David A. Regoli ’88 BA
Kimberly F. Thurston ’88 BS
Paula L. Lodge ’91 BA
Margaret A. Pagnillo ’93 BS
Peter J. Olson ’93 BS
Daniel J. Pagnillo ’93 BS
Rao Sadhu ’94 MS
Michael A. Marden ’94 BSD
Amanda K. Clague ’96 BS
Catherine M. Borgia ’74 BS
Jeffrey S. Zinn ’99 MSC
Christina O. Hernandez ’04 BS
Bradlee H. Rideout ’03 BA
Hector J. Lopez ’07 BS
Brandy L. Rideout ’06 BLS
Laura Saavedra ’03 BAE
Beth M. Ranney ’04 BS
Ignatius L. Jackson ’06 BS
Cheryl J. Kline ’04 BSN
Aimee R. Vondrak ’09 BA
Freddy A. Saavedra ’09 BSA

Kryslen S. Holt ’13 BA
Joseph B. Ranney ’13 BIS
Shannon E. Bohn ’13 BS
Levi D. Surls ’14 BA
Margery J. Reynolds ’15 BS
Greg S. Nedwetzky ’15 BA
Eric B. Potter ’15 MS
Christopher T. Carlson ’15 BSE
Warren S. Gorowitz ’16 ESM
Daniel L. Paredes ’17 MENG
Regina T. Villafior ’17 MS
Brenden G. Hawn ’17 BA
Christine E. Bishop ’17 BS
Gregory C. Diamond ’17 MBA
Ryan A. Boyd ’17 BS
Vanessa L. Poe ’17 BS
Matthew W. Campbell ’17 BS
John D. Claric ’17 BSE
Tharon S. Mills-Vieg少不了 ’17 MED
Stephanie A. Deskins ’17 BS
Radha R. Sadhu
Joan L. Braun
Miss Nadia Claric
Andy G. Borgia
Stanley R. Clague, II
Peter B. Braun
Stacie Marden
Lyn White

New Maroon-level alumni members

Susanne M. Gauthier ’82 BSN
William B. Cassidy ’83 BS
Robert K. Richardson ’84 BSE
Alice Coronado-Hernandez ’84 BS
Jacqui H. Penner ’84 BS
John P. Stransk ’85 BSE
Holly L. Barrett ’86 MBA
Karen D. Stransky ’86 BSE
Paul A. House ’89 BS
Cindy J. Andrews ’92 BA
William D. Broome ’72 BA
Albert L. McHenry ’76 MS
Arblee Bishop ’68 BAE
Nancy L. Dickson ’75 BS
James W. Skelton, Jr. ’68 BS
Jay A. Soloff ’73 BAE
Kathleen H. Dewey ’73 BAE
Daniel Campos ’77 BA
Gary R. Gauthier ’78 BS
Robert C. Szabo ’97 BA
Tiffany A. Schomaker ’04 BSD
Michael J. Gilley ’00 BS
Lisa A. Carey ’02 BS
Brian C. Schomaker ’06 BS
Bryan Lightfield ’05 BS
Carter T. Teppan ’06 BS

Matthew D. Byrne ’10 BS
Tonia M. Rogers ’11 BS
Margaret M. Moe De Zamora ’07 BSN
Mary Beth Reisinger ’12 MBA
Robert A. Celaya ’12 BA
Catherine A. Mauk ’13 MSw
Joseph K. Martin ’14 BA
Kellie J. Tefft ’15 MED
Marlinda S. Perez ’15 MAS
Ryan E. Tefft ’15 BA
John A. Simas ’16 BS
Liam A. Makowski ’16 BS
Ryan N. Jones ’17 BSA
Chauancey A. Beck ’17 BS
Don Colt ’17 MA
Olivia A. Schertz ’17 BA
Michelle L. Marzen ’17 BS
Darryl L. Chinn ’17 BA
Tangie Roberts
Conor J. Makowski
Junette C. West
Daniel Rogers
Anastacia Celaya
Paula C. Richardson
Barbara Bogar
Carol M. Shockley

Russ Sanders
’92 BSD
architectural studies,
’97 MArch
architecture

has been
promoted to workplace studio leader at SmithGroupJJR, one of the nation’s largest design firms. Russ will oversee the studio’s project delivery and business development efforts throughout the Southwest US. region while continuing to work with clients such as the City of Phoenix, Caterpillar and the City of Eloy (Arizona).

Deanna M. Villanueva-Saucedo
’91 BA
psychology,
02 MPA

distribution leader.

public administration

has been chosen Mesa (Ariz.) Woman of the Year by the Mesa Citizen of the Year Association for her distinguished record of volunteer service in educational, community-based and human service organization areas. She boasts a distinguished career working for the City of Mesa and the Mesa Public Schools and currently serves as the community engagement director for the Maricopa Community College District.

1980s

Richard C. Daniel ’88 BS

physical education

has been named Native American Alumnus of the Year by the ASU Native American Alumni Chapter in recognition of his contributions within Indian Country, including his Warrior Society Development youth football camps, which he has staged across the U.S. and in Canada. As a Sun Devil (1984–86), Warne played football for ASU and is a member of the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame.

Jim E. Warne ’87 BS

education

has been nameduty football for ASU and is a member of the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame.

Tom Liguori, ’86 MBA

is the new chief financial officer at Phoenix-based global electronics components and services leader Arnet. A summa cum laude graduate of W. P.
Megan Smith ’17, bachelor’s degree, fine arts, in photography. Megan works as an art teacher at BASIS Scottsdale charter school and as a freelance photographer.

Best piece of advice to those graduating now: “It’s OK to be scared. But follow your dreams and don’t be afraid to put yourself out there and to make connections.”

Carey School of Business, Tom has more than 30 years of finance and operations experience, including, most recently, three years as CFO of Advanced Energy, a Phoenix-based diversified global business delivering advanced power and control technologies to customers across a broad range of industries.

Julie Zucchini ’86 BS advertising has joined Faciliteq in Phoenix as an account manager, responsible for the sale of office furniture and architectural interior products and services to a variety of industries, including health care, education, government, corporate and hospitality.

Nate Kipnis ’85 MArch architecture has been named co-chair of the American Institute of Architects’ National 2030 Commitment Working Group. In his role with the AIA committee, Nate will work with architects to encourage the industry’s professionals to design toward carbon-neutral buildings and developments by 2030. Founder and principal of Kipnis Architecture and Planning in Chicago, Nate is a member of the College of Fellows of the AIA, recognized for his “significant contributions to the profession and society on a national level.”

John “Chip” Wright ’85 BS finance has completed a term on the nonprofit Regional Center of Orange County (Calif.) board of directors. He is currently executive vice president with the commercial real estate firm CBRE in Newport Beach, California. The center also has announced Chip’s election to serve as board treasurer.

Lois Roma-Deeley ’84 BA journalism, ’88 MFA creative writing has produced “The Short List of Certainties,” winner of the Jacopne da Todi Poetry Book Prize. A collection of poems on beauty, love, tragedies and kindness, “Short List” has been called a “tour de force” and “a curious blend of authority and self-doubt that marks our best poets,” by Pulitzer Prize finalist and former Vermont poet laureate Sydney Lea.

Jeanne Maxan (Shimizu) Blanchet ’87 MA art education, author, lecturer, artist and composer, has authored “Cursed: A Novel of Bravery and Betrayal in Rome’s Final Century.” The historical fiction work takes place as Christianity was declared the official state religion of Rome in 394 A.D., following the adventures of the story’s characters against the backdrop of the fall of the Roman Empire, the rise of Christianity and the mass migrations that took place in Europe during those turbulent times.

Demetria Newman ’81 BS advertising is an entrepreneur who has built her own marketing companies and recently published “The Beauty Enigma: The Art of Ageless Beauty from the Inside Out.” Says Holly Fine, Emmy Award-winning producer of “60 Minutes”: “(She) shares with us her vast knowledge of beauty and the connection of body, mind and the universe with an informative and yet very personal writing style.”

1970s

Dana G. Abbott ’78 BS geography has been honored with the Grand Masters Cup for his expertise in and dedication to martial arts. The website centurymartialarts.com says of the “shihan”: “This story could be the plot of a martial arts action movie — a young man from Arizona dreams of learning swordsmanship, sets off for Japan to follow the same path as the Samurai warriors from centuries past and studies under one of the world’s premier masters to emerge decades later as a master in his own right.”
Showcasing ASU innovation

Since 1964, Founders’ Day has showcased ASU’s evolution as the top innovative university in the country. This signature event honors alumni, faculty and university advocates whose efforts have advanced groundbreaking research, distinguished service and visionary philanthropy.

For more information and videos on Founders’ Day 2018, visit alumni.asu.edu/events/founders-day

The Fulton family
Ira A. Fulton, second from left, with son Doug, daughter Lori and late wife Mary Lou. The Fulton family has been honored with the 2018 Founders’ Day “Philanthropist of the Year” award from the ASU Alumni Association.

Fred Van Etten ’77 BS general business administration, former president of Scottrade Equipment Finance, has joined Midland States Bancorp Inc. in a similar role where he will direct the company’s equipment finance business in an expansion of its loans, leases and hybrid products. Fred helped found Scottsdale Bank Equipment Finance in 2012 and served as its president until the $4 billion sale of Scottrade to TD Ameritrade in September 2017.

Ross Kremsdorf ’76 MA psychology, ’78 PhD psychology, a professional veteran of 40 years of service as a community mental health administrator and psychologist, is retiring to complete a self-help book he has in the works, and to continue his volunteer work providing counseling services and supervising interns at a local agency in Cambria, California.

Ross developed innovative treatment programs and received a variety of awards for recovery-oriented services following his doctoral degree from ASU.

Stephen E. Adams ’74 accountancy has been selected Mesa, Arizona “Man of the Year” by the Mesa Citizen of the Year Association. A well-known civic leader, community volunteer and businessman, he has served on a wide variety of community nonprofit boards, assuming leadership roles and helping to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarship and facilities support at Mesa Community College.

Lawrence F. Lihoist ’74 BS sociology has published “Travels in South America” and its artistic companion, “Slacker’s Confession: Essays and Sketches.” His literary work, including 11 published books, is eclectic and features poetry, short stories, travel essays, memoirs, history and how-to. In
Nancy Gonzales, PhD
1984 ASU graduate was honored with the 2018 Founders’ Day Faculty Research Achievement Award.

Gerald Heydt, PhD
ASU Regents’ Professor was honored with the 2018 Founders’ Day Faculty Service Achievement Award.

Ariel D. Anbar, PhD
ASU President’s Professor was honored with the 2018 Founders’ Day Faculty Teaching Achievement Award.

Sambo “Bo” Dui
Three-degree ASU alumna was honored with the 2018 Founders’ Day Young Alumni Achievement Award.

Missy Farr-Kaye
Reigning Pac-12 Women’s Golf Coach of the Year was honored with the 2018 Founders’ Day Alumni Achievement Award.

Robert Page Jr., PhD
ASU Provost Emeritus was honored with the 2018 Founders’ Day James W. Creasman Award of Excellence.

“Travels,” the author, his wife and sister-in-law embark on a six-month odyssey across South America, traveling by plane, jeep, hydrofoil, dugout canoe, horse, ox and on foot, crossing the Andes, the Chala Desert, a flooded Bolivian savannah and the Pampas.

Les Schiefelbein ’68 BS marketing, ’71 JD has been elected CEO and vice chairman of the Silicon Valley Arbitration and Mediation Center. In this role, Schiefelbein will lead SVAMC’s initiatives to advance arbitration and mediation for dispute resolution in technology matters. Les is founder of Schiefelbein Global Dispute Resolution, bringing more than 30 years of experience as a corporate lawyer in resolving international and domestic legal and business matters to the practice of dispute resolution.

Calvin C. Goode ’49 BS business administration, ’72 MAE counseling psychology celebrated his 90th birthday in January while working to preserve and restore the Carver Museum and Cultural Center in Phoenix, site of his alma mater, Phoenix Union Color High School. Calvin, was elected to the Phoenix City Council in 1972 and served for 22 years, longer than any other council member in history. He heads a committee in the $5 million restoration of the museum and center.

1960s

Leah (Bloom) Miller ’14 BIS interdisciplinary studies and Michael Miller ’10 BS communication were married March 19, 2017, on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. The couple met 10 years earlier while working as student interns at Hillel Jewish Student Center at ASU.

1940s

Elizabeth (Wilcox) Cavalieri ’10 BA design studies and Christopher Cavalieri were married on Jan. 7 at The Barn at Gibbet Hill in Groton, Massachusetts.

Sun Devil weddings
Sun Devil births

Samantha (Valtierra Bush) Melbourneweaver ’12 BA journalism and mass communication and Preston Melbourneweaver ’12 BA journalism and mass communication, both Cronkite School graduates, were married on Nov. 4, 2017, in New Almaden, California.

Ben Peterson ’12 BS manufacturing engineering technology and Alexa Peterson were married in San Clemente, California, on July 15, 2017. The couple met while surfing Ocean Beach in San Diego and now make the city their home.

Rhett Alexander Benver provided parents Jordan (Jacob-Gorman) Benver ’14 BIS interdisciplinary studies and Jared Benver ’15 BS psychology with an early Thanksgiving prize, coming into the world on Nov. 7, 2017.

Henry Alan Delk was born to Elise Delk ’08 BS accountancy, ’09 MACC accountancy and Kenneth Delk ’08 BS finance on Dec. 2, 2017, in Sacramento, California. Henry is the couple’s first child.

Liam Edward Law was born to Sun Devil duo Carrie (Houghton) Law ’04 BA journalism and mass communication and Matt Law ’03 BS industrial technology (information technology) on Sept. 1, 2017, in Mesa, Arizona.

The ASU Thrive new year’s issue did not include Ezra Mendel Gibbs’ debut photo, courtesy of parents Rachel (Fisher) Gibbs ’11 BS marketing and Andrew Gibbs ’11 BA political science. Ezra is now “official,” born Sept. 8, 2017, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Thomas Pickering was born Aug. 4, 2017, in Scottsdale, Arizona, to Taylor Pickering ’12 BS exercise and wellness and Elizabeth Pickering.

Clark Jeffrey Taylor was born to Katie (Gardiner) Taylor ’08 journalism and mass communication and Jeff Taylor on Jan. 24, 2018, in Mission Viejo, California.

Carlo Gibney was born to Alexandra M. Gibney ’12 BAE early childhood education and Dennis C. Gibney ’04 BA communication on April 26, 2017, and lives with his parents in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Rose Marie Walker celebrated her first birthday, born on Nov. 22, 2016, in Walnut Creek, California, to Michelle (Dayton) Walker ’09 BSN and Chris Walker ’10 BS kinesiology.

— Stephen Des Georges ’14 MAIS

Improv Wisdom
by Patricia Ryan Madson
This book introduces the reader to the practice of improvisation as a critical tool for everyday life. Improv teaches us how to listen, respond, adapt, generate new ideas and be fully present in the moment. Improv can make you a better colleague, a more productive member of a team and a better parent or friend. The ability to be improvisational can help you get through a job interview; kick off a collaborative team meeting; write a song or story; or simply pay attention to the world around you in ways that enrich your life.

The Rise
by Sarah Lewis
So much of our creativity is constrained by our natural impulse to avoid failure — to play it safe. But all extraordinary creativity comes from taking risks — pushing yourself to think or respond to the world in ways that are not yet tested. So failure must become normal and expected. We must be resilient in the face of failure and learn how to respond, iterate, improve and advance. The Rise is a road map to bold and fearless creativity.
4 inspiring reads
to support your creative growth

By Steven Tepper, Dean,
Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts

We are living in a creative age. The economy increasingly relies on the intellectual output of creatives, with growing demand for well-designed products as well as compelling stories and experiences (film, music, television, games, etc.). The top 1,500 U.S. CEOs report that creativity is the number one quality they are looking for in new graduates. And, in a world of accelerating and often disorienting change, creativity is critical for adapting and innovating, not only for individuals throughout their lifetimes but also for companies and organizations seeking to remain relevant. So, here are three book suggestions to help you think about developing your own creativity and imagination, as well as one book of fiction that talks about the importance of art in a world where everything familiar is lost.

**Where Good Ideas Come From**
by Steven Johnson
A prevailing myth is that creativity is the result of the lone genius. But, as a sociologist, I have studied the conditions that make it more likely that creative ideas will emerge.

Steven Johnson provides a great review of what environments lead to breakthrough ideas — places where serendipity is possible; places where fields and disciplines come together; diverse teams, distributed networks; time for incubating ideas. Creative people need not only to focus on their own inspiration but also to help create the spaces where both they and others can achieve the improbable.

**Station Eleven**
by Emily St. John Mandel
This is a work of fiction that examines a future world where a flu pandemic has wiped out most of civilization. Nothing is the same.

What I find so compelling about the story is that it centers around a group of traveling actors who bring theatre to people in small makeshift towns. If we were to return to a tribal existence with no technology and no market economy, what might be the role of the artist? If we can imagine their value in a world with nothing, why can’t we fully imagine their value in today’s world of abundance?
Sun Devils in the driver’s seat

Put a Pitchfork on your plate.

Upgrade your ride and let the world know you’re part of the Sun Devil Nation. The all-new black-and-gold ASU specialty license plate puts the Sun Devil pitchfork front and center, and was inspired by alumni just like you.

“We're so appreciative of the direction and support we received from ASU alumni throughout the design process. It’s great to have such an active and engaged alumni base,” said ASU CMO Dan Dillon upon the March unveiling of the specialty plate.

“Now we have finalized the design they liked best and made it available to Sun Devils across Arizona,” says Dillon.

The plate was designed by Allison Perlis, ’12, BS, visual communication design, a designer at ASU.

To order or personalize your plate, or to switch out your current plate, visit asuplates.com.

1989 The inaugural design was approved by former Gov. Rose Mofford. U.S. President Ronald Reagan received one as a memento of his ASU visit in 1989.

2010 The last ASU license plate redesign saw Sparky get larger on an all-gold background. Today, there are more than 18,000 ASU plates on Arizona roads.

Your new license to give

Your purchase of the new ASU license plate directly supports the ASU Alumni Association’s signature scholarship initiative, the Medallion Scholarship, with $17 of the $25 fee going to the scholarship fund. Medallion scholars are among Arizona’s best and brightest, and your support provides them with hands-on leadership, scholarship and service opportunities. More than 100 Medallion scholars are currently at ASU making a difference — volunteering in the community, leading and participating in student associations and activities, and serving internships across the public and private sectors. Tomorrow, they’ll be pioneers in health care, innovators in education and leaders in Arizona and beyond.

The new ASU plate is your license to forge a stronger Sun Devil community.
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