



## *Alumni eNewsletter - June 2009*

### *Vol. IV, no. 2*

### **Alumni Association News**

#### **Alumni Association elects new officers**

The Alumni Association elected officers for 2009-10 at its annual general meeting in May. The group will continue providing opportunities for social networking, family fun (Pima Alumni at Zoo Lights is scheduled for December 8th) and scholarship development. Officers include:

Chair	Mark Hanna
Vice Chair	Jake Kagele
Treasurer	Terrell Bivins
Secretary	Marilyn Osborn
Members at Large	Juan and Laura Ciscomani
Immediate Past Chair	Jaimie Leopold

#### **Gathering our Heritage**

The PCC Alumni Association is embarking on a history project to collect stories and essays that help define the college from the point of view of its students, faculty and staff. Please help us by writing a short story or an essay about a memorable event, day, class, or person during your years here. Because this may be read by the general public, don't assume your reader will understand your story if you simply refer to "the Downtown Campus." Include enough color and description for the reader to imagine the location or pinpoint a decade.

The stories may be published on our web site or in some other format. At the end of the story (no longer than 1,000 words), please indicate your name, the years you attended or worked for the College, and what you are doing now. Photographs in digital form are also welcome. Be sure to identify places, people and approximate dates.

Send your story by July 18th to [alumni@pima.edu](mailto:alumni@pima.edu). Please put “history project” in the subject line and let us know how to contact you. The history project committee reserves the right to publish stories and photographs it deems appropriate. We will notify you if your story is selected for publication.



## **Alumni Honored at 40th Anniversary Gala**

The Pima Community College Foundation, together with the PCC Alumni Association, celebrated the founding of the College with a Gala banquet at La Paloma in April. Community groups and individuals who have been instrumental in supporting our students were honored and the first induction into the Alumni Hall of Fame was held.

The Champion Award recognized the League of Mexican American Women for forty years of scholarship support. That support demonstrates the group’s historic and on-going belief in the power of education to transform lives. Over the years, the League has donated more than two million dollars in scholarships to students who otherwise could not afford college.

The Innovator Award was presented to the Jim Click Automotive Team in recognition of the JCAT Scholarship, which provides motivation and support through full scholarship aid and on-the-job training for qualified automotive students. Students who complete the program also receive a \$5,000 set of tools with which to begin their careers.

The Founder Award was presented to Jim Cocke, retired from the banking industry, for forty three years of support of the College. He holds the profound conviction that education uplifts and improves the lives of all who trod its path. Mr. Cocke served on a number of the early community committees convened to establish a junior college and remained its most active supporter, a sometimes instructor and long-time Foundation Board member.

## **Alumni Hall of Fame**

**Georgia Cole Brousseau**, a member of the College’s first graduating class, was inducted into the inaugural Alumni Hall of Fame for her leadership in the education field. She was an early member of the Pima College Board of Governors and a founding president of the first PCC Alumni Association. Ms. Brousseau also taught in TUSD schools for two decades, retiring as principal of Wheeler Elementary School, and has served on the Pima County Merit System Commission since 1991.

**Rene Diaz-Lefebvre**, was inducted into the inaugural Alumni Hall of Fame in honor of his soaring career as a scholar and educator who has made major contributions in the field of multiple intelligence research. A fifth-generation Tucsonan, he was the first student to register at the new college, graduated with its first class, and gave the student address at the first graduation ceremonies in 1972. Dr. Diaz-Lefebvre, who teaches at Glendale Community College, has received numerous prestigious awards honoring his teaching from national educational organizations.

**Richard Fimbres** was inducted into the inaugural Alumni Hall of Fame in recognition of his inspiring efforts to encourage young people to continue their education together with his advocacy for equality in education. Mr. Fimbres served Governor Napolitano as Director of the Governor's Office of Highway Safety and is a 20-year veteran of the Pima County Sheriff's Department. He has been a member of the Pima County Community College District Board of Governors since 1997 and, with his wife Mary, and others founded in 1989 the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Youth Leadership Conference, which has motivated thousands of high school students to continue their education. Mr. Fimbres was named Man of the Year by the Tucson Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce in 2002 and National Man of the Year in 2001 by LULAC.

**Nancy Turner** was inducted into the inaugural Alumni Hall of Fame in celebration of her meteoric rise as a scholar and author, setting an example for generations to come of Pima students. Ms. Turner entered Pima Community College in 1992 as an adult along with her eldest daughter, hit her stride in a fiction-writing class and soon began looking for an agent and a publisher. Ms. Turner is author of a series of three novels based on a journal kept by an early relative detailing the family's wagon trip into territorial Arizona. These is My Words, the first novel in the series, was selected as Good Housekeeping Novel of the Month in 1998 and was voted One Book AZ, the one book Arizonans wanted to read in 2008. Ms. Turner's literary accomplishments include several additional novels. She also managed to sandwich in more academic pursuits, earning a BA in Fine Arts Studies with a triple major in writing, music and ceramics from the University of Arizona in 1999.

## **Consider a Contribution to Support the Alumni Scholarship Fund**

Now more than ever, our students need your help. Education holds the key to growth as an individual and growth as a community. Many small donations can literally change a life. You can now [donate online](#) to the PCC Foundation. To donate to the Alumni Association Family Scholarship (that goes to alumni and their dependents), click on the donation button, select general scholarships and write in: "Alumni Association Family Scholarship". For scholarships offered by the PCC Foundation, check out the list at: [pima.edu/foundation/ways/scholarshipapp/types/](http://pima.edu/foundation/ways/scholarshipapp/types/)

## Opportunities for Alumni

### Pima is for Kids, Too!

Young people ages 5-18 years old are invited to experience a unique learning opportunity with Pima Community College. "Pima for Kids" offers full and half-day academic enrichment programs at six Pima Community College locations. Topics include the arts, biological science, puppetry, music, creative writing, dance, cooking, reading, study skills, drama, forensics and more. Pima for Kids 2009 summer programs run June 1- Aug 31. To view the full list of programs, go to: [www.pima.edu/personalinterest/](http://www.pima.edu/personalinterest/) and click on "Pima for Kids." For more information call Jill Rogers Lewis at 206-6444.

New programs this summer include:

- **Pima Puppets:** Learn story creation, character development, puppet construction, set design, and performance.
- **Words Play at Camp!:** Let your imagination fly. Your story will be honored with a "book" signing, readings of your creative work and a reception honoring you, the author.
- **Holiday Camp:** Learn about the traditions and origins of various American holidays: Halloween, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and more. Make decorations, taste foods and celebrate all week long.
- **Pima College Summer Institute for Teens:** Teens 13 and older can experience college life and meet teens with similar interests (arts, drama, dance and more).

### Try Something New - Take a Class or Tour

Learn, enjoy and explore with Pima Community College. Now is a good time to enhance your professional skills with classes such as Writing Winning Proposals - or to introduce your teens to workplace skills.

The Activities catalogue is now online for your convenience. Check out the variety of classes and local tours available. How about an evening tour of Kitt Peak? Or, why not visit the Mount Graham International Observatory and escape Tucson's heat for a day? Learn to make divine Italian Sauces, or check out your own Personal Financial Fitness: How Healthy is Your Bottom Line? Go to [www.pima.edu/personalinterest](http://www.pima.edu/personalinterest) or call 520-206-6579 for more information.



### Alumni Salute!

Valerie Galloway has been a successful photographer for twenty years. But like so many professionals, she still makes time to improve her skills through classes at Pima. Valerie's elegant desert photographs were selected as the award gift for

the Foundation's 40th Anniversary Gala honorees. Her images take on a personality - moody, ancient, evocative. She uses photographic methods combined with hand tinting to develop images that are unique.

“There is such a high level of professionalism and creativity in the photography courses at Pima. I have learned so much from Ann Simmons-Meyers - she both motivates and pushes the limits.”

Having lived and worked globally, but primarily in New York City, Valerie is enjoying the switch from cityscapes to portraying the desert. Her work has been exhibited at the Brooklyn Museum of Art, Center for Creative Photography, and Tucson Museum of Art and sold through their museum galleries, as well as locally at Obsidian Gallery.

## Upcoming Events

A complete list of key dates, events, Athletics, and the College Center for the Arts can be found on the [Pima Community College Online Calendar](#).

To learn more about Pima Community College, go to [www.pima.edu](http://www.pima.edu)

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Comments or suggestions are welcome at: [alumni@pima.edu](mailto:alumni@pima.edu)

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