



Earn to Learn Spring 2019 Newsletter

Hello and Welcome Back to the Earn to Learn Student Newsletter!

As we head into the summer break, we are excited to relaunch this newsletter to share all of the wonderful things our savers are up to with their fellow students, family members, employers, and community partners!

Things you'll find in this email:

- A Note From Our Executive Director, Kate Hoffman
- Evening of Honors Highlights
- Student Spotlights
- Class of 2019 Plans
- Upcoming Financial Literacy and Workforce Development Events

A Note From Our Executive Director



"I believe Earn to Learn is an important tool in the tool chest of college access, affordability and completion. The program is geared towards helping low-to-moderate-income students by combining student savings with scholarships, personal finance training, workforce readiness training and success coaching to support students through to graduation with little-to-no student debt. The program provides students greater financial confidence to navigate their college education as well as to navigate their

future adult financial life once they successfully graduate and enter the workforce. Students benefit from exposure to personal finance training and in building important savings habits. Each graduate is on track to enter the workforce with a credential, critical financial skills and minimal-to-no student loan debt. I am so excited about the future direction of Earn to Learn and looking forward to providing regular updates through our newsletter."

- *Kate Hoffman, Earn to Learn Executive Director*

Evening of Honors Highlights

Arizona State University Evening of Honors

Our annual Evening of Honors at Arizona State University was a touching ceremony that celebrated our current student savers and their families. The event was a success with almost 100 people in attendance. We had the opportunity to hear two student speakers, Daniela Lizarraga and Miranda Yousif share their story of their successes and how Earn to Learn has helped them achieve higher education. Earn to Learn father Juan Carlos Arriola, touched the audience with his passionate story of how the program has helped his 2 youngest daughters get through college without any student loans. Earn to Learn awarded Jacklyn Gueyger from Be a Leader Foundation with our Outstanding



Partner Award for working with us to break down barriers to higher education. Overall, the Evening of Honors was a great experience for everyone and the Central Arizona Earn to Learn Staff are so proud of all of our current savers and our graduating savers.
- Crystal Ramirez, Central Region Success Coach - Enrollment Specialist

University of Arizona Evening of Honors

On Wednesday April 3, 2019 Earn to Learn held our annual Evening of Honors at the University of Arizona. At the Evening of Honors event students, parents, and partners of Earn to Learn came together to celebrate the success of Earn to Learn Savers and the Earn to Learn Program. Earn to Learn took time at the event to honor 5 key partners and to recognize 5 student Savers. One of Earn to Learn's talented Savers shared a touching musical tribute to UA's Financial Aid Executive Director, Rebekah Salcedo, whom unexpectedly passed in early 2019. In addition, we had multiple student and parent speakers whom took the time to share their personal stories of Earn to Learn. The Earn to Learn Southern office would like to take the time to thank all of those whom attended the Evening of Honors event and we look forward to continuing this event in the years to come!
- Sabryna Alers, Southern Region Team Lead - Enrollment Specialist



Northern Arizona University Evening of Honors

On Wednesday April 17th, Earn to Learn held our annual Evening of Honors at the Northern Arizona University. We celebrated our students, parents, and community partners throughout Northern Arizona. We honored Mark Despain with Upward Bound Math and Science and Marissa Bachler with the NACRC (Northern Arizona College Resource Center). Three of our students shared their amazing college journey, celebrating their triumphs in choosing their majors, finding their way academically and their challenges being first generation students. As one of our student speakers said "we are all rising above the statistics... we will be the change we want to see." Our parent speaker shared her perspective of her daughter's time with Earn to Learn and was proud to share that her daughter "has been able to manage her own college and personal finances independently." Thank you all for joining us in sharing the joy and excitement of the end of another amazing year at NAU and our outstanding Earn to Learn students who inspire us every day!
- Delia Withey, Assistant Manager - Enrollment Specialist



Student Spotlights



Erick Ciudad, ASU

Erick is a sophomore at Arizona State University, where he is majoring in Computer Science. His Earn to Learn scholarship has made it possible for Erick to study abroad in Spain this summer, and he's looking forward to an immersive experience that will help cement his bilingual skills. A member of both the Software Developers Association and the Artificial Intelligence Club on campus, Erick plans to get a job after graduation in a computer-related field but is leaning toward artificial intelligence. As a Computer Science major, he believes that the world is his oyster, and with 100 paths to take, any would be a fantastic adventure. In his spare time, Erick plays guitar and enjoys recreating Bob Ross paintings.



Josselyn Rivera Castor, UA

Josselyn Rivera Castor is a Tucsonian from birth, and as a first-generation student at the University of Arizona, she is excited to pave her own path. She is a sophomore majoring in Spanish with a minor in Pre-Health, and she hopes to go to medical school after graduation to become a pediatric physician. Josselyn is a member of the American Medical Student Association, the Latinx Health Student Association, and the Vida Club. With the Vida Club, she will be heading to Costa Rica this summer to help establish clinics in rural areas. Josselyn is also working on a mentorship through El Rio Health, and in her spare time, she likes to hike and explore local trails.



Janneza Miranda, NAU

Janneza Miranda is a sophomore at Northern Arizona University, where she is double majoring in Environmental Engineering and French. As a first-generation college student, she found that majoring in EE was the best way to create change rather than just advocate for it. In her senior year, Janneza plans to study abroad, hopefully in Morocco, as a part of the Interdisciplinary Global Program. She recently participated in the job shadowing program offered through Freeport McMoRan, and she works as an NAU Peak Performance Math Tutor. Janneza is a member of the Society of Women Engineers, and in her spare time, she loves to knit, sew, and go on hikes.

*Do you know an Earn to Learn student saver who should be in the spotlight?
Nominate them by emailing devon@earntolearn.org*

Class of 2019 Plans

**We asked our graduating seniors what they're up to next.
Check out what some of them had to say!**



Veronica Valenzuela | University of Arizona BS - Public Health

- I plan to take a year off to save money or hopefully gain experience. I then plan to apply to nursing school to receive my certification as a RN.

Cynthia Gardner | Arizona State University (BSW - Social Work)

- Pursuing a Masters in Social Work at ASU in Phoenix, AZ.

Margarita Ruedas | University of Arizona (BS - Family Studies and Human Development)

- Starting a career at ICAN in Chandler, AZ.

Hunter Hardwick | Arizona State (University BS - Computer Science)

- Starting a career as an Engineer at General Motors in Chandler, AZ.

Lisbeth Ramirez | Arizona State University (BA - Business Administration)

- Applying to grad school and working part time at SAAVI in Phoenix, AZ.

Genesis Matthew P. Florendo | University of Arizona BA - Anthropology

- Pursuing a career in the Air Force.

Ahjajna Graham | Arizona State University (BA - Political Science)

Renee Colmenares | University of Arizona (BS - Sustainable Built Environments)

Brianna Goodwin | University of Arizona (BS - Nursing)

Wendy Alanis | Arizona State University (BA - Elementary Education)

Daniela Lizarraga | Arizona State University (MACC - Master of Accountancy)

- Starting a career as a Business Risk Consultant at Deloitte in Phoenix, AZ.

Daniela Ibarra | University of Arizona (BS - Computer Engineering)

- Starting a career as a Software Engineer at Raytheon Missile Systems in Tucson, AZ.

Kimberly Guinac Duarte | University of Arizona (BA - Law; BS - Criminal Justice)

Gabrielle Scott | Northern Arizona University (BA - Social Work)

- Pursuing a Masters in Social Work at Fordham University in New York, NY.

Natalie Saylor | University of Arizona (BA - Psychology)

- Starting a career as a HR Generalist at Hexagon Mining.

Dayanara Rubio Sandoval | Arizona State University (BA - Interdisciplinary Studies)

- Pursuing a Masters in Higher and Post Secondary Education at ASU in Phoenix, AZ.

Graduating this spring? Let us know where you're headed!

Upcoming Workforce Development and Financial Literacy Events



Workforce Development
(Hosted by Society for Human Resource Management - Greater Tucson)

May 15th: Brand You! Webinar

[Register Here](#)

June 19th: Networking 101 Webinar [Register](#)

[Here](#)



Financial Literacy Webinars
(Hosted by Vantage West Credit Union)

More to come this summer and fall!

Thanks to Our Fabulous Sponsors!



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Tucson Electric Power



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