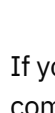




OCTOBER 2024

Comet Chronicles October 2024

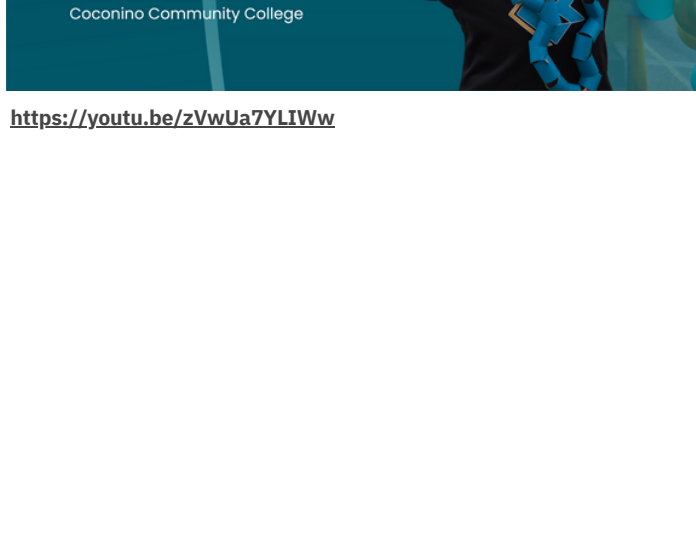
 **Janel States**
Director of Public Relations & Marketing

Welcome to the October Comet Chronicles

If you haven't heard, we've streamlined our communications by combining all our previous newsletters into one comprehensive source, The Comet Chronicles.

This new format will bring you all the latest news and highlights from across the college. We hope you enjoy this fresh approach as we continue to share our stories, successes, and opportunities with our community!

And check out our new video update, The Comet Chronicles Newscast, for a bite-sized review of what's happening at CCC!



<https://youtu.be/zYvUa7YLIWw>

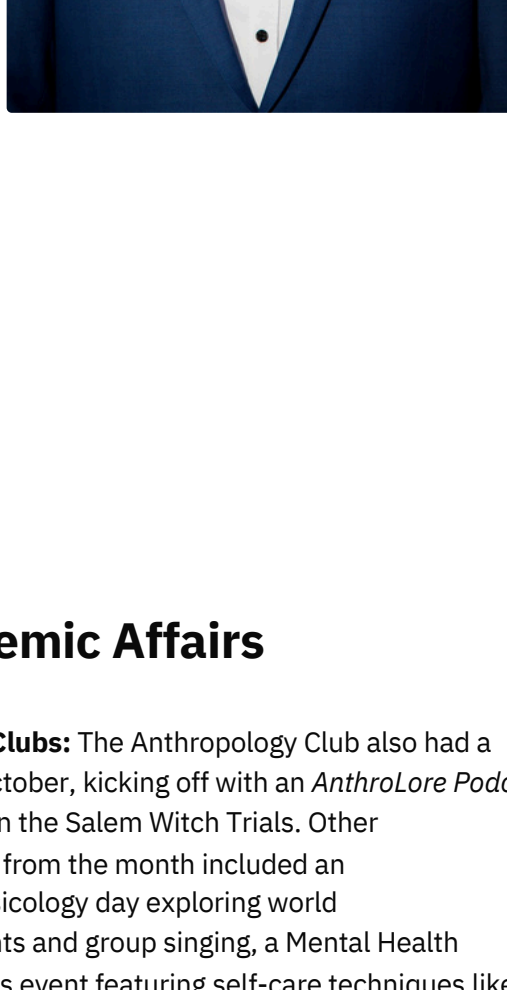
College News

Dr. Heiser selected for Aspen Presidents Fellowship

Dr. Heiser has been selected to participate in the second cohort of the Aspen Presidents Fellowship, sponsored by JPMorgan Chase. Dr. Heiser was one of 25 leaders from across the U.S. selected to be part of the cohort.

The yearlong fellowship from the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program is intended to help participants "refine and enact a reform agenda to help more of their students succeed both during and after college."

During the program, the fellows work together and with Aspen leaders and other community college presidents to analyze the outcomes at their colleges and develop plans. The curriculum includes data reports on jobs and student outcomes and qualitative reports on the alignment between their colleges' current strategies and practices supported by research on student success outcomes, as well as a variety of professional development offerings. Congratulations, Dr. Heiser!

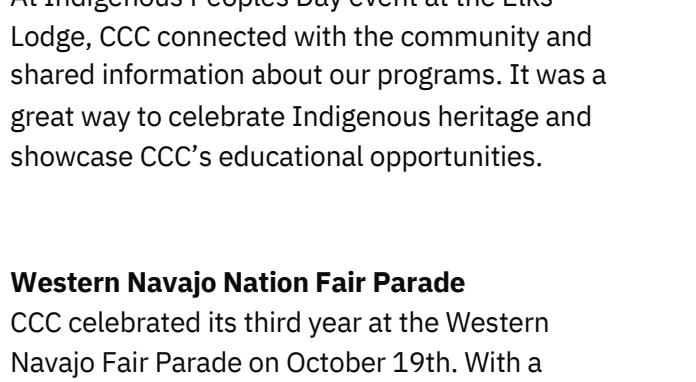


Department Updates

Student Services

Flagstaff Marathon

October kicked off with the Flagstaff Marathon, hosted by the CCC Foundation. Sold out for the third year in a row, the marathon welcomed 450 runners from all over the world and raised nearly \$70,000 for CCC Athletics.



Career Fair

CCC hosted a Career Fair in the Lone Tree Commons, connecting students with community organizations and local businesses for valuable job opportunities and career insights. It was a fantastic platform for students to explore career paths and make professional connections.

Indigenous People's Day

At Indigenous Peoples Day event at the Elks Lodge, CCC connected with the community and shared information about our programs. It was a great way to celebrate Indigenous heritage and showcase CCC's educational opportunities.

Western Navajo Nation Fair Parade

CCC celebrated its third year at the Western Navajo Fair Parade on October 19th. With a theme of "Tradition, Culture, and Wellness," students, mentors, and staff crafted beautiful decorations and traditional attire, including skirts with Coco the Comet fabric.



Inaugural Comet Homecoming

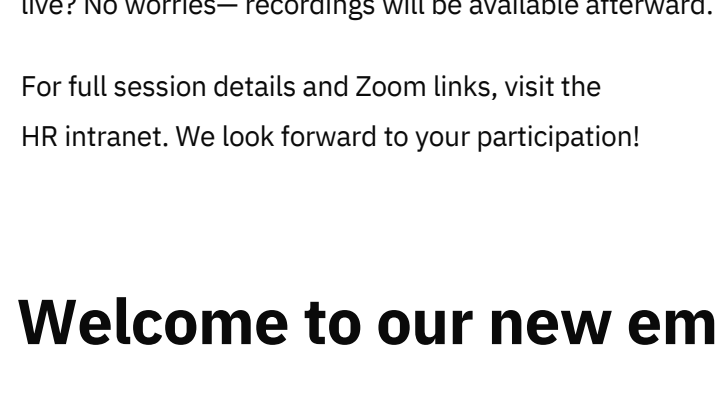
CCC launched its first Comet Homecoming the week of October 14th. Hundreds of students joined in, celebrating CCC Week with unique themes and activities each day, bringing creativity, connection, and Comet pride to campus. Go Comets!

Teal Tuesday!

We launched our Student Life shirts for Teal Tuesday to keep spreading the word about all things Student Life!

Vote Early Day

CCC celebrated Vote Early Day by thanking our election officials and poll workers. Students and staff wrote thank-you cards to show gratitude to those who make Election Day possible.

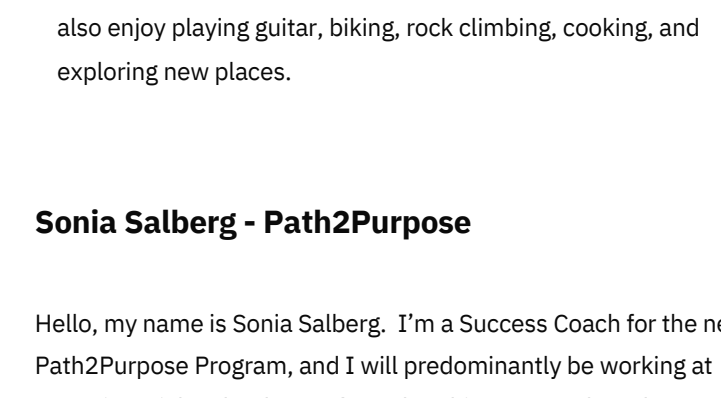


Halloween Celebrations

CCC had a memorable Halloween season! The Strengthening Indigenous Student Success Peer Mentors hosted a "Hallow-Beading" Workshop, sharing the cultural significance of Native clothing and jewelry.

We also joined Trunk or Treat events in Flagstaff, Williams, and Page, where the Page Indigenous Comet Club won the "Scariest Decorated Trunk" award for their "Beetlejuice" theme!

Finally, our Halloween Spooktacular welcomed over 130 attendees for a fun celebration with costumes, pumpkin activities, and student clubs.



Human Resources

The **Professional Empowerment** series continues! These dynamic 30-minute Zoom sessions will help you sharpen essential workplace skills and boost your success. Sessions are held monthly during Comet Hour from 8:30 to 9 a.m., covering topics like communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and leadership. Managers are encouraged to join with their teams, but anyone can attend. Can't make it live? No worries—recordings will be available afterward.

For full session details and Zoom links, visit the HR intranet. We look forward to your participation!

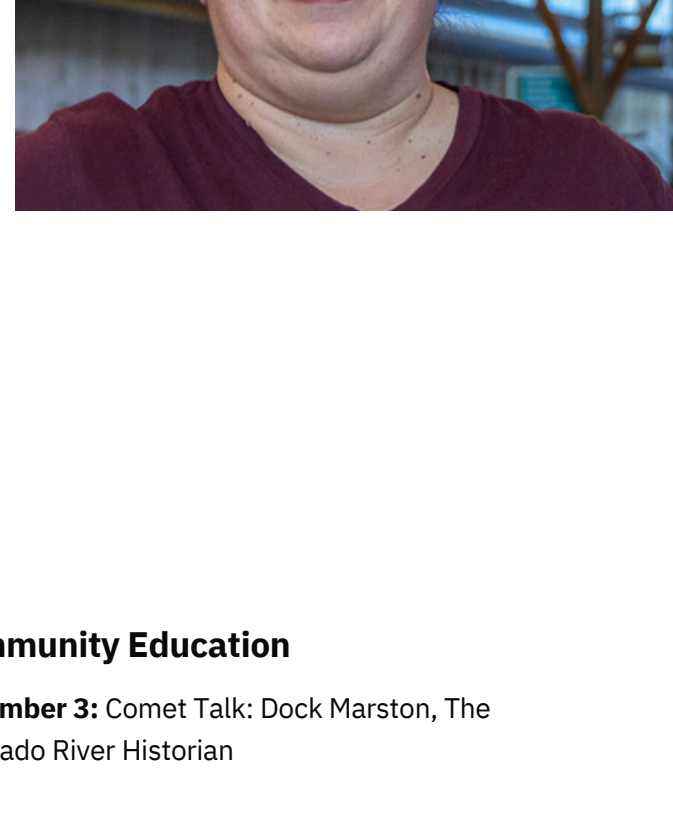
Welcome to our new employees

Kate Rhea - Path2Purpose

Hello, my name is Kate Rhea, and I am one of the Success Coaches for the new Path2Purpose program. My office is located at Flagstaff High School, but you might see me at CCC's Lone Tree campus occasionally. I moved to Flagstaff for college where I earned my B.S. in Sociology and my M.Ed. in Counseling & Student Affairs. I have a background in career counseling, alumni engagement/foundation, and crisis management. I am incredibly excited to be a part of the Path2Purpose program where I can increase access to higher education. My dog Zuko is the love of my life, and I enjoy baking, reading audiobooks, playing video games, and D&D. I also love making connections with others, so say hi when you see me!

Scott Shaffer - Path2Purpose

Hello, my name is Scott Shaffer. I am a Success Coach with Path2Purpose and will mainly be working at Flagstaff High School. I grew up in Boise, spent the last 10 years in Salt Lake City, and am excited to call Flagstaff my new home. My bachelor's degree is in Secondary Ed with an emphasis on History and over the past 12 years I've worked in Mental Health in wilderness therapy, therapeutic boarding schools, and life coaching. My wife and I have 3 dogs, River, Gunner, and Shackleton, and love spending time outside hiking together. I also enjoy playing guitar, biking, rock climbing, cooking, and exploring new places.



Sonia Salberg - Path2Purpose

Hello, my name is Sonia Salberg. I'm a Success Coach for the new Path2Purpose Program, and I will predominantly be working at Coconino High School. I am from the Chicago area, but I have spent my adult life living in various places including all over Colorado, Lima, Peru, and Phoenix. I have a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English, Creative Writing from Colorado State University and a Master's Degree in Education Curriculum and Instruction from Arizona State University. I have nineteen years of teaching, mentoring and coaching experience in different educational settings. My husband, son, puppy, and I just moved to Flagstaff. We are thrilled to be part of this amazing community and to explore the outdoors! In my free time I love hiking, skiing, traveling with my family, writing, and cooking new recipes. I'm excited to be mentoring students at Coconino High School and to learn more professionally.



Kieragan Wall - Path2Purpose

Hello, my name is Keiragan Wall. I am one of the new Success Coaches with the Path2Purpose program. My office will be at Coconino High School! I was born and raised in Chandler, Arizona. I graduated from Montreat College in North Carolina with a Bachelor's in Psychology. I spent the last couple of years teaching and coaching soccer at Williams Field High School. I moved to Flagstaff in May and live with my fiancé Sierra and our two dogs, Moose and Fitz. Fun fact about me is I drive a 1971 Volkswagen Bus that I love to spend my free time working on! I am so excited to get started and get to know the Flagstaff community!



Valerie Devoy - SBDC Director

Hello! I'm Valerie Devoy, and I'm thrilled to join the CCC team as the SBDC Center Director. My expertise lies in business management, strategic planning, and community development. Since moving to Flagstaff in 2018, I've worked as the Executive Communications Specialist for the Office of the President at Northern Arizona University and founded Skunk Rock, a music program for children. I hold a Master's in Professional Communication from the University of San Francisco and a Bachelor of Arts from The Evergreen State College. In my free time, I enjoy reading, cooking, practicing yoga, crafting, playing music, and spending time at the beach. I'm excited for this opportunity and look forward to helping Coconino Community College's Small Business Development Center keep growing and doing great work in supporting local businesses.

Monique De La Luz - Workforce Training Coordinator

Hi everyone! I'm Monique De La Luz, and I'm excited to join the CCC team as the Workforce Training Coordinator with Extended Learning. I'm excited for what I can bring to the team. My background has been in social services and connecting individuals to workforce opportunities. For the past 20 years, I've been with Coconino County Health and Human Services, just recently as a Workforce Development Specialist.



In my free time I enjoy spending time with my family especially my new grandson, learning new crafting ideas and reading, cooking especially for the holidays.

Upcoming Events

December 2 - 6: Fuel Up for Finals
December 3 - 5: Clay Club Sale
December 5: Spectrum Club Open House
December 13: CCC Holiday Party
December 14: Flagstaff Holiday Light Parade

Community Education

December 3: Comet Talk: Dock Marston, The Colorado River Historian