



we are evit:
industry pros
as teachers

page 4

what to look for in
quality cte

page 7

meet terah
thielen

page 9

When EVIT teachers tell their students what it's like to work as a welder or a mechanic, a hair stylist or a health-care giver, they are speaking from experience. Unlike other public school teachers, most EVIT instructors weren't trained in a College of Education; they were trained in the College of Work Experience. They left behind careers, sometimes lucrative ones, in business and industry to bring their expertise to the classroom.



For students, this means they spend 2 ½ hours – 4 ½ if it's Cosmetology – every day with someone who has lived the career they are pursuing. Their teacher knows first-hand what it's like to work as a radio producer or a chef, a veterinary assistant or a firefighter. They know what their industry expects from employees and what their students will need to know to be successful in the workplace.

Ask students what they like about EVIT and you'll hear the same answers time and again: "I like being in a school where the students have chosen to be." "I like having classmates and a teacher who are interested in the same things that I am." "I like being at a school that feels like a college campus where everyone majors in something."

We love our teachers. They are the key ingredient in quality career and technical education. They are the passion that inspires our next generation workforce.

They are EVIT.

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6	EVIT Veterinary Assistant students go wild	15	Construction students working hard
7	Superintendent: What to look for in quality CTE	16	EVIT Fire Science students go over the edge
8	We Are EVIT: Terah Thielen	17	EVIT School of Health Sciences
10	Welding students sparking it up	18	News in Brief
11	Tickets, sponsorships on sale for EVIT Foundation breakfast fundraiser	19	Teacher Tuesday on The Pulse & Video Series: Britt at EVIT
12	Automotive teacher named 'Instructor of the Year'		

UPCOMING events

- **Oct. 5, 4:30 p.m. –**
EVIT Governing Board Meeting, Main Campus
- **Oct. 9, 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. –**
EVIT College Fair, Main Campus
- **Oct. 12-16 –**
Fall Break, No School
- **Nov. 4, 7 to 9 a.m. –**
EVIT Foundation Gourmet Breakfast Fundraiser
- **Nov. 14 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. –**
EVIT Gives Back, annual Expo

we are evit Industry pros as teachers

When EVIT instructors teach students the skills they need for a career, they are speaking from their own experience in that industry – an invaluable expertise that contributes to nearly 87 percent of students being in college or jobs in their field of study within a year of completing training at the East Valley Institute of Technology.

“It’s easier to learn from somebody who’s done it than from someone who’s read about it in a book,” says Steve Grosz, who worked for four different radio stations, the Phoenix Suns, and his own DJ company before signing on to teach EVIT’s Radio/Audio Production program and manage its radio station, The Pulse 88.7FM.

Nearly all instructors at EVIT, a career and technical school for high school students and adults, have worked in the industry they are training students to work in. Together with advisors from industry, EVIT teachers design curriculum and instruction that prepares students to test for professional credentials, such as a state Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) license from the Arizona

Board of Nursing or certifications from the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE).

“Those third-party industry credentials are so important because they make our students employable anywhere,” said Superintendent Sally Downey.

Many EVIT programs have exceptional success rates in preparing students to earn their credentials. For instance, the EVIT Academy of Cosmetic Arts has annual pass rates of well over 90 percent on the Arizona Board of Cosmetology exams, and currently has a 100 percent pass rate on the practical exam. Having taken those exams themselves and worked in the industry, the cosmetology teachers are able to give their students expert instruction and guidance.

EVIT students often say that they love learning from teachers who share their passion for that field. Kirsten Carnevale, a 2014 EVIT alumna now attending Robert Morris University, credits her EVIT Dental Assistant teacher, Janet Jensen, with helping her secure a dental internship that ultimately led to her getting a \$44,000 scholarship. Jensen, she said, helped her “learn the material and physically be in that environment. Then I knew the career path I

chose was the right one for me.”

Eric Perez worked as a multimedia manager and art director before he became a teacher. In his EVIT Multimedia and Graphic/Web Design classes, he not only teaches students the practical skills, but also emphasizes the communication skills, attention to detail, and deadline discipline he knows from his own experience that they will need to succeed.

Like EVIT’s other instructors, Perez forms a close bond with his students, who often don’t want to leave when their training is complete. “Sometimes, I have to nudge them out of the nest,” he said. But when he does, they are ready to fly: Perez has a 97 percent success rate in placing his students in jobs, college or the military.

“I love being here,” he said of being a teacher at EVIT. “I would sweat and bleed for this place. I believe in this.”

evit veterinary students go wild



superintendent: what to look for in quality cte

Career and technical education, also known as CTE in school circles, is getting a lot of attention these days in national media – and for good reason. Research shows that students who complete CTE training, such as Cosmetology or Radio Broadcasting or Aviation, are more likely than other students to be engaged in learning and successful in school and career. For instance, students who attend the East Valley Institute of Technology have a 96 percent high school graduation rate – 20 percentage points higher than Arizona’s grad rate of 76 percent – and two out of three go on to college. Within one year of completing their CTE programs, 87 percent of EVIT students are in jobs, college or the military.



But not all programs labeled “CTE” in Arizona schools and nationally are the same. As with any education decision, students and parents need to ask questions before enrolling in CTE at their high school, community college, or at a centralized campus like EVIT.

What are the credentials and experience of the instructor? For instance, if your son or daughter is taking Culinary Arts or Automotive or Welding, ask if the teacher has ever worked in those industries. Is the class certified by a professional credentialing body, such as the American Welding Society? Will the training prepare your child to test for a state or national license, such as Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)? If it’s a high school program, is dual enrollment college credit offered? Are business and industry actively involved in determining the program’s curriculum?

Quality CTE trains students in the skills necessary to earn a professional, industry-recognized credential or college credit or both. It provides opportunities for hands-on, real-world experience in the form of job shadowing or internships. It teaches students the so-called “soft skills,” such as being able to communicate effectively, that employers say are all too often missing in today’s job candidates.



And it accomplishes all this because the program works closely with business and industry to ensure that students are being trained to meet current industry standards.

In short: By the time a student completes a CTE program, he or she should be ready to go into the workforce. It might be the job they’ve chosen as their career, or it might be an entry-level position to make money while going to college in a related field. For instance, many students in EVIT’s School of Health Sciences start off their careers as medical, dental, nursing or veterinary assistants – while going to college to become registered nurses, dental hygienists, vet techs, or even dentists, veterinarians or doctors.

Years ago, when CTE was called “vocational education” and EVIT was called Mesa Vo-Tech, it was viewed as an alternative for students who didn’t have the academic skills to go to college. Today, quality CTE and EVIT are proving to be a better prep for success than traditional college prep in meeting the needs of all students -- whether they are merit scholars or students with special needs or those who learn best through hands-on instruction.

But CTE programs are only as good as the expertise, effort and expectations that are put into them. So students and parents: Do your homework, ask questions and choose wisely to ensure your CTE is the high quality that you deserve.

Dr. Sally Downey is superintendent of the East Valley Institute of Technology.

we are **evit**
TERAH
THIELEN



Terah Thielen, 17, of Gilbert is a second-year EVIT student in the Dental Careers program at the Main Campus, after studying Human Anatomy and Physiology for Medical Careers last year at the East Campus. She plans to pursue her interest in the medical field and passion for children by one day becoming a pediatric dental hygienist. Toward that goal, she will participate in a dental externship in the spring and take certification exams for dental radiography and coronal polishing after she completes the EVIT program.

"I've always liked health care," Terah said of her decision to go into Dental Careers. She is also committed to serving her community, and is especially compassionate toward children.

Feed My Starving Children, Save the Family and Voices for the Voiceless are just three of many organizations where Terah volunteers. She also alters dental scrubs for her EVIT classmates, plays piano at retirement homes, and was part of a mission trip to Esperanza Children's Home in Rocky Point, Mexico.

Dental instructor Janet Jensen nominated Terah for the U.S. Presidential Scholars in Career and Technical Education Awards, which will be announced next year. Scholars are chosen based on their success in the classroom, creativity, and demonstration of community service and leadership skills. Winners will be honored in Washington D.C.

Because Terah has always been home-schooled, EVIT is her first public school experience, which she describes as very positive. "It's been awesome," Terah said. "It was a great way to transition into public school."

Terah maintained a 4.0 GPA last year and was inducted into the National Technical Honor Society, where she was asked to speak at the induction ceremony.

Terah decided to come to EVIT because of its hands-on approach to education. She enjoys the campus environment. "I really like EVIT because pretty much everybody here wants to be here. It's something they chose."

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Aprenda más acerca de los programas de EVIT y pongalos en su agenda.

EVIT ofrece más de 40 cursos gratis de formación profesional para estudiantes de high school con opciones de obtener certificados específicos de la industria así como créditos universitario.

Educación de Adultos @ EVIT también se imparten clases para adultos. Para obtener más información, llame al (480) 461-4000.

Scan this QR Code to learn more!



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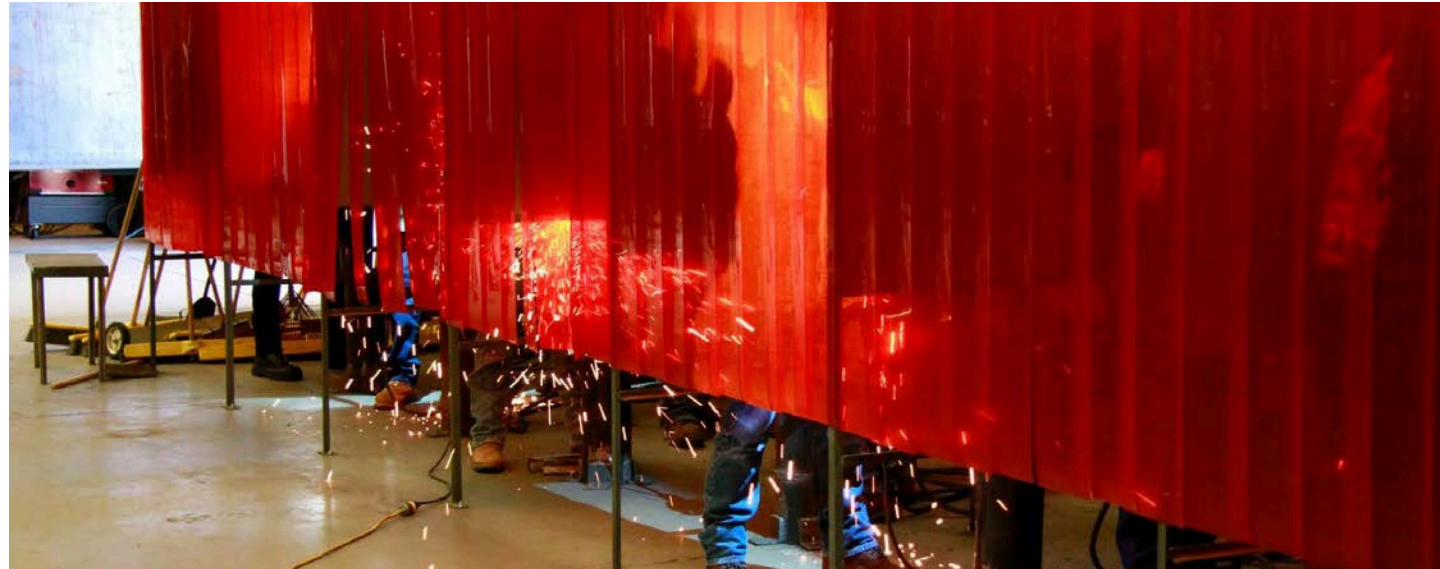
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welding students

sparking it up!



tickets, table sponsorship on sale for breakfast fundraiser

Plans are under way for this year's EVIT Foundation Gourmet Breakfast featuring guest speaker Michael Bidwill, president of the Arizona Cardinals. The breakfast, from 7:30 to 9 a.m. Nov. 4, will be served in the Culinary Arts Banquet Hall at the Dr. A. Keith Crandell (Main) Campus, 1601 W. Main St., Mesa.



This annual fundraiser draws hundreds of business people, elected leaders and members of the community, whose donations help pay program fees for EVIT students in need.

While EVIT is tuition-free for high school students, each student still must pay program fees and purchase uniforms. And adult students are also required to pay tuition. So the EVIT Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, steps in to provide financial assistance to students who need help and qualify.

"The foundation promotes excellence in education and enhances educational and employment opportunities for youth and adults," said Kona Purcell, EVIT Events and Foundation Coordinator. "Since it was created in 1999, the foundation has provided over \$350,000 in assistance to more than 1,500 EVIT students."

The gourmet breakfast is planned, prepared and served by EVIT Culinary Arts and Commercial Baking students. Guests can also participate in a silent auction before the program begins. Registration starts at 7 a.m.

Individual tickets for this year's breakfast are \$125. Table sponsorships range from \$1,500 to \$10,000. Space is limited, so please reserve your seat or table by Oct. 30. All monies raised will go directly to eligible students.

For more information, visit www.evit.com/evitef or contact Kona Purcell at kpurcell@evit.com or (480) 461-4114.



automotive teacher named 'instructor of the year'



Long-time EVIT instructor Randy Baker has been chosen as the Byrl Shoemaker/ASE Industry Education Alliance Instructor of the Year. Baker will be honored by the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) and Automotive Youth Educational Systems (AYES) during an awards banquet in Scottsdale on Nov. 18.

Winners of the award must be Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Master Certified, have taught in a NATEF accredited program for more than five years, be involved in SkillsUSA, and participate in AYES or other internship programs.

Baker has taught Automotive Technologies at EVIT for 17 years. Before he became a teacher, Baker ran his own auto repair shop for 14 years.

"The impact that you can have on lives through teaching and (career and technical education) is great," he said in an interview last spring. "How many math teachers have students who come up to them years later and say, 'Thank you for teaching me that quadratic formula'? But I have students who come up and say, 'Thank you, Mr. Baker, for teaching me to work on cars.'"



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Learn more about EVIT programs & put us on your schedule!

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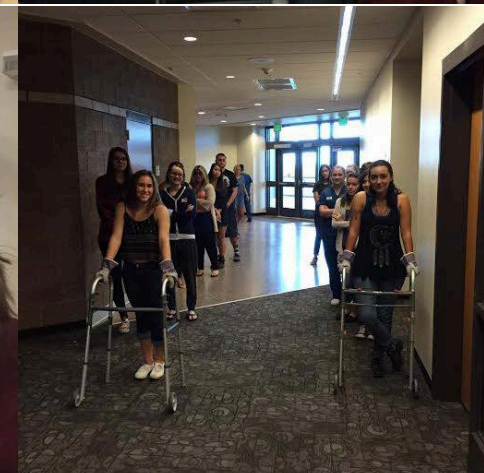
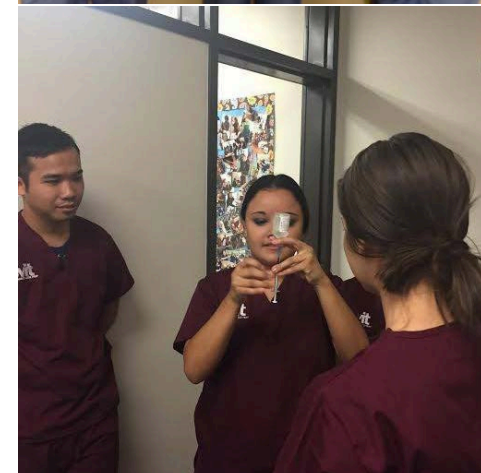
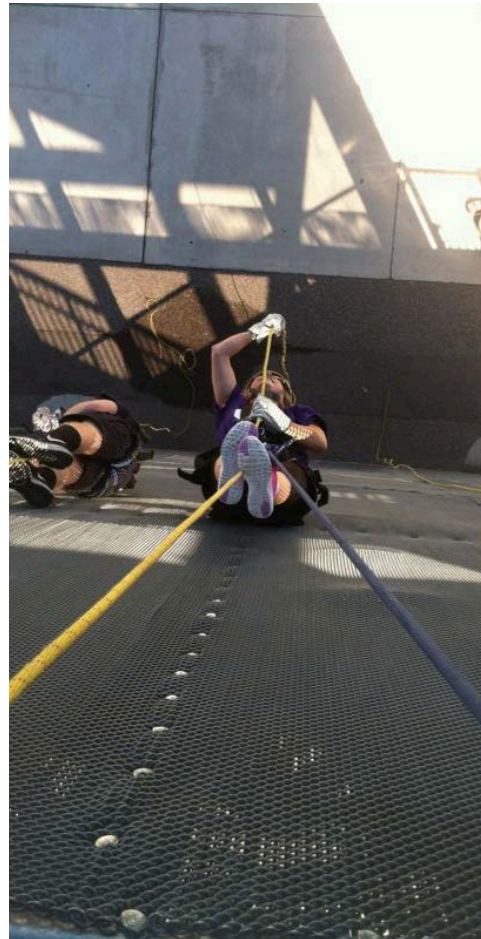
construction students

working hard



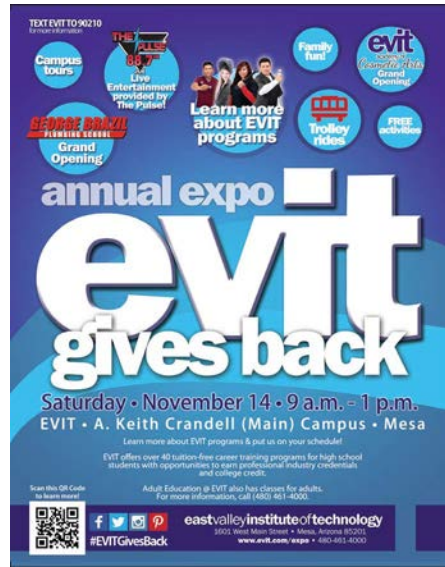
evit fire science students go over the edge

evit school of health sciences



EVIT News in Brief

EVIT EXPO



Don't forget to mark Nov. 14 on your calendar for the annual EVIT "Gives Back" Expo from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Main Campus, 1601 W. Main St., Mesa. The open house will also include Ollie the Trolley tours of the campus, entertainment sponsored by 88.7FM The Pulse, grand openings for

the EVIT Academy of Cosmetic Arts and the George Brazil School of Plumbing, a pet adoption event, food vendors, activities for kids and more. See you at the Expo!

EFFECTIVE EDUCATOR



Aesthetics instructor Karen Ortiz recently had the honor of speaking on "Effective Teachers in the Classroom" at the International Congress of Esthetics and Spa. Educators from all over the U.S. attended the training in Long Beach, CA. "I must say that I have been in this field for over 37 years, and for the last 10 I have grown leaps and bounds thanks to EVIT," Ortiz said. "The experiences, professional knowledge and related college courses that I have been exposed to were the attributing factors of my presentation."

GEORGE BRAZIL SCHOOL OF PLUMBING



The first class offered in the new George Brazil School of Plumbing will start Oct. 19, from 12:05 to 2:35 p.m. at the Main Campus, 1601 W. Main St., Mesa. This class is a great opportunity for high school graduates under 22 who are already enrolled in a morning program at EVIT, such as one of the other industrial trade programs. For more information, contact the Center for Career Advancement at (480) 461-4025.

AN EVENING AT ROLF'S



Some lucky EVIT Cosmetology students recently enjoyed a night of education, refreshments and giveaways at Rolf's Salon as they learned about hair and makeup. Several students won products and tools they can use as cosmetologists. But Kristina Hines walked away with the biggest prize: A chance to be an assistant at Rolf's Oscar Party!

EVIT COLLEGE FAIR



The Main Campus will host an EVIT College Fair from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Culinary Arts Banquet Hall for EVIT students who are interested in more information about higher education. Over 20 colleges, universities and other post-secondary schools will be available to talk with students and

answer questions. Two out of three EVIT students go on to college, so this is a great opportunity to learn more about higher education opportunities that are available.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES



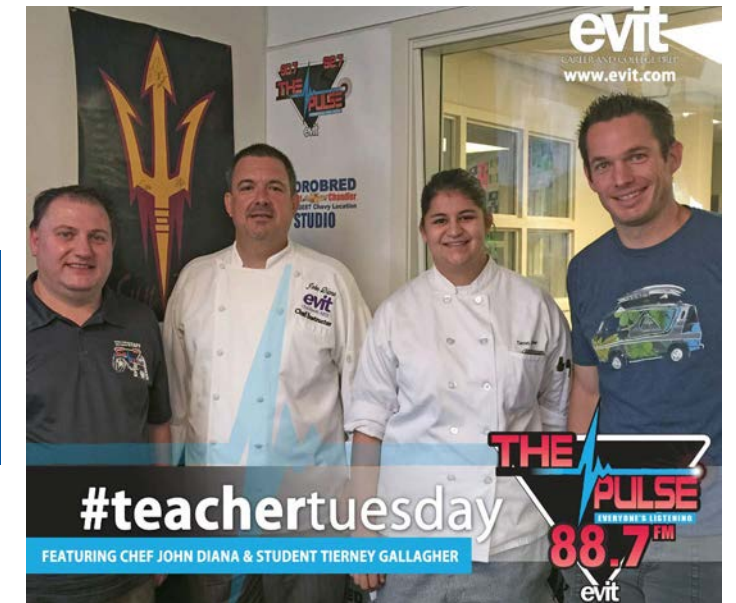
EVIT Alumni and students: Go to www.evit.com/studentjobs to find postings from area employers with job openings. Businesses contact EVIT when they have positions to fill because they know our alumni and students come highly recommended. Over 250 Valley businesses hired 322 students from the EVIT Class of 2014 alone. So polish up that resume and check out the employment opportunities that are available!

TRIP REDUCTION PROGRAM



In a partnership with Valley Metro, the EVIT Trip Reduction Program is designed to reduce single occupant vehicle (SOV) trips to the work site. If you carpool, vanpool, walk, bike or ride the bus to school you are considered an Alternate Mode User (AMU), and you can register to win quarterly prizes valued at \$25.

For more information, or to sign up as an alternative mode user, contact Lacy Davis at 480-461-4016 or e-mail ldavis@evit.com. You can find more information about carpooling at www.sharetheride.com or bus route information at www.valleymetro.com.



#TeacherTuesday on 88.7 FM, The Pulse
Listen to The Pulse on Teacher Tuesday for an exclusive interview with EVIT instructors and amazing EVIT students. You can also listen on soundcloud.com/evitnews.



Video Series: Britt At EVIT
EVIT Recruiter Brittany Johnson is having a blast learning about EVIT programs and even participating in the same hands-on activities the students do. Check out Britt's amazing ventures on Wednesdays at evit.com/britt.

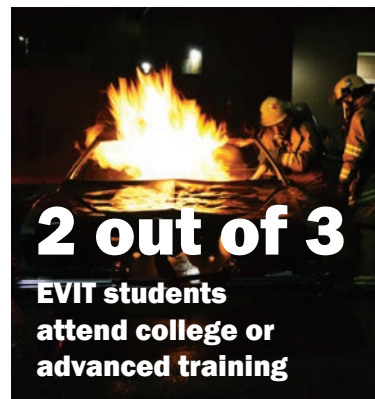


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