



Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance
CONNECT • ADVANCE • LEAD
Mesa East Valley Chapter

Mesa East Valley's IN TOUCH



AFWA invites you to our Fall
Student Night

on October 29th from 5:30 to
8:30pm at Devry University in
Mesa

Visit our Website

Moderator Barbara Gonzalez, Resident Accounting Faculty at South Mountain Community College, will facilitate our live panel discussion on how to move from **classroom to career**.

Learn how to build your brand so you are an **attractive candidate** to your target companies and take action by signing up for a **professional headshot** by Jerry Portelli Photography. <http://www.jerryportelliphotography.com/index.html>

Get the **inside scoop** on the most current **salaries** for every job title in finance and accounting from entry level to CFO from our panelist Matt Collins, Division Director at Parker Lynch and **LinkedIn guru**.

Find out how to **hit the ground running in your career** from our successful millennial panelists Shelby Williams, Senior Accountant at Harkins Theatres, and Andrea Owens, Senior Financial Analyst at Aetna.

Don't miss out on your chance to **set yourself up for success**, register by October 16th at <http://www.mesaeastvalleyafwa.org/meetings.html>



Shelby Williams- Panelist
Senior Accountant at Harkins



Matthew Collins: Panelist
Division Director at Parker Lynch
and LinkedIn guru



Barbara Gonzalez- Moderator
Resident Accounting Faculty at South
Mountain



Andrea Owens: Panelist
Senior Financial Analyst at Aenta

Upcoming Events



October 26th-28th- AFWA National Conference

- Select from 4 tracks of CPE to earn up to 21 hours of credits

October 29th- Monthly Meeting Fall Student Night

- Speaker panel, professional head shots, and Chipotle catering

November 10th- Monthly Meeting at Sheba Mediterranean Grill on Rural and Baseline

- Get in the holiday spirit! Participate in our Community Service Holiday Drive

December 8th- Monthly Meeting at Dobson Restaurant on Dobson and Baseline

- Join us for our Holiday celebration and gift exchange
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Past Events



August 28th - **Empowering Today's Accountant Seminar**

- Did you miss it? Read about it in the President's Corner

September 11th- **D Backs game and Networking with the IMA**

September 17th- **Joint Monthly Meeting Hosted by AFWA Phoenix Chapter**

September 19th- **1st Quarterly Mentoring Brunch**

September 22nd- **AFWA attended the SMCC Internship Fair**



President's Corner with Deanna Schantel

Networking You Can Count On

The 9th Annual Empowering Today's Accountant Seminar was a success due to the extraordinary teamwork of our Chapter members, the Phoenix Chapter and the IMA. I was pleased to work so closely (and feverishly) with a great team of women. A total of 59 attendees, sponsors, speakers and volunteers contributed to a profit of just over \$2,000, which we shared equally with the Phoenix Chapter. Our share will directly support our members by covering their hotel expenses at the National Conference, and the Phoenix Chapter dedicated their share to support their scholarship fund.

The success of this event is a testament to the power of a strong network. Wondering what that looks like in real life? Here's an inside look at the impact of the seminar from my perspective: I was contacted by Marcy Maslov, our Phoenix Chapter counterpart who I've only met in passing, to decide if we needed to cancel the seminar since Laura was in the hospital. I knew I couldn't let that happen so we got to work, Marcy shared what she knew and I dug through Dropbox for details.

Marcy, Diane Hewlett -dual member of our chapter and the IMA, Joyce Barden -Phoenix Chapter and DeVry faculty member, and I emailed each other our challenges and successes as we reached out to speakers and filled the schedule. Joyce's employer, DeVry, donated the printing and binders. Marcy, Joyce, myself and our own Ruth Roman met to complete the binders and that evening, I learned that Joyce had recruited Marcy to teach at DeVry.

Diane not only created nametags and beautiful speaker gifts, she also secured a sponsorship for the seminar from her employer, MerryMeeting Inc. On the morning of the seminar, Barbara Gonzalez, our Membership Director, generously donated her time to oversee the registration table and organize our volunteers, all of whom were DeVry-sponsored students.

These details are a glimpse into the depth of the relationships we are building together. I was involved in the seminar, not just as a responsibility of my position in the chapter, but more so because one of our members needed help. All year, Laura Mangan works tirelessly for not just our Chapter, but the National organization and the IMA as well, and I was passionate about not letting her down when she needed us. We were all happy to see Laura arrive to attend the seminar that she had started in motion.

A month after the seminar, Shelby Williams and I represented our chapter at the South Mountain Community College Internship Fair. We would have supported this event regardless, but I was there because Barbara Gonzalez was the organizer. I would go out of my way to support the woman who smiled for hours while she worked our seminar registration table.

Looking forward, in October we will be hosting our Fall Student Night at DeVry's Mesa campus. This was made possible because Joyce and I casually discussed venue challenges while we were assembling seminar binders. Even though she is at the Phoenix campus, she paved the way for us at the Mesa campus through an introduction and plans to promote our event with her students.

Establishing authentic networking relationships creates synergies and expands our resources. Even if it's not clear where a contact will lead, all we need to do is care about something. Show up, be present and trust that the bigger picture is forming around you. Next time you need to reach out for feedback, a job, supporters or sponsorship you'll find a network that starts with our AFWA chapter and leads to connections you might not even know you already have.

[Visit our Chapter Website](#)

Connect with us

