Arizona Masonry Council

Newsletter

Spring | Workforce, Wins & What's Next at AMC

ARIZONA MASONRY COUNCIL

April Update
2026

General Update

The work is moving, the momentum is real—catch up on what's happening across AMC.

— A letter from Executive Director, Dawn Rogers

Workforce

Strong craft starts with strong people—see how AMC is investing in the workforce.

— An update from Ryan Gray, Workforce Development

Legislative

Advocacy isn't abstract—these decisions shape the future of masonry in Arizona.

— A recap from Legislative Representative, Brian Tassinari

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

JUNE 12
MODULE 10 CERTIFICATION: MY WAY, A LEADERSHIP AND PERFORMANCE TRAINING LED BY MICHAEL CRAIN OF PREDICTIVE WINS

JUNE 23 - JULY 28
MASONRY EDUCATORS WORKSHOP

AUGUST 13
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING



April in Focus

"April was a powerful reminder of why AMC does what we do — bringing industry, education, and community together to celebrate excellence, support our workforce, and create real opportunities for the next generation of masonry professionals."

Dawn Rogers
Executive Director | AMC

April was a month of action, connection, and industry impact for the Arizona Masonry Council.

April was a big month for the Arizona Masonry Council — and this may be our biggest newsletter yet. From the Excellence in Masonry Awards to education, workforce development, student engagement, and community partnerships across the state, AMC showed up in full force. This month was all about celebrating the industry, supporting the people behind it, and continuing to build momentum for the next generation of masonry professionals.

What's Inside

- Excellence in Masonry Awards recap
- NAU Construction Management updates
- NAU Mentorship Program launching Fall 2026
- OSHA 10 Class highlights
- Machine Operators Class at Oldcastle
- Workforce development and apprenticeship updates
- Career fairs, advisory meetings, and hands-on student experiences
- Boys & Girls Club partnership opportunity
- AMC recognition with the Arizona Registrar of Contractors and Arizona Diamondbacks

The future of masonry is being built right now—and it takes all of us. Collaboration, leadership, and participation are what move this industry forward.
Be part of it.
Contact Dawn or Amanda today to schedule your member meeting.



A Night of Masonry

VIEW RECAP AND PHOTOS HERE

More Than an Awards Night

OVER 300 Attendees

April 24th, 2026

The Arizona Biltmore became the place to be as more than 300 industry professionals gathered to celebrate the people, projects, and craftsmanship that make Arizona masonry so strong.

Recap of the Night

The 2026 Excellence in Masonry Awards brought more than 300 attendees together at the Arizona Biltmore for an evening celebrating craftsmanship, collaboration, and the people who continue to move Arizona masonry forward.

A Night Built on Strength Beauty Honor



2026 AWARD WINNERS

STRENGTH | BEAUTY | HONOR



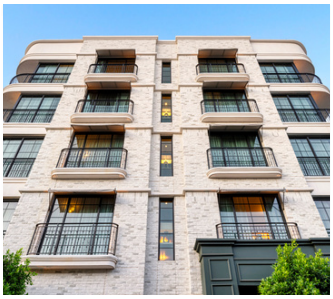
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TOWN OF CHANDLER APARTMENTS



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THE GLOBAL EMBASSADOR



SURPRISE FIRE STATION



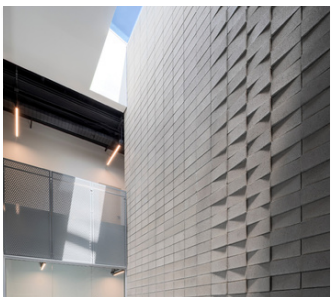
SONORAN TRAILS



MOUNTAINSIDE MODERN



RESIDENCY @ VERDE PARK

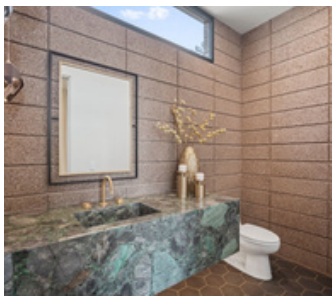


PIMA COUNTY NW BLDG

EXCELLENCE IN MASONRY



MCCORMICK RANCH PARK



MIRABEL LOT 349



LEGACY PLACE

2026 Award Winners

STRENGTH | BEAUTY | HONOR



MCCORMICK RANCH PARK 2



MCCORMICK RANCH PARK 1



JOHNSON RESIDENCE



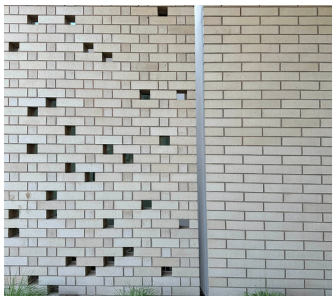
LAGADO WEST



JADE IN CROWN CANYON



EXCALANTE



CASA BLANCA SOUTH



CASA BLANCA SOUTH 2



CASA BLANCA SOUTH 1

EXCELLENCE IN MASONRY



AEGIS

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STRENGTH | BEAUTY | HONOR

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Oldcastle APG A CRH COMPANY

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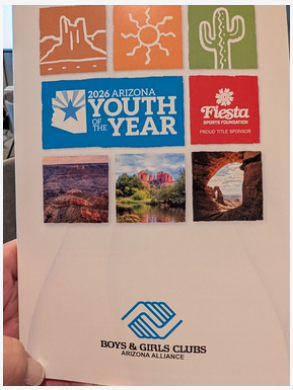
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CONCRETE DESIGNS

CELEBRATING ARIZONA'S YOUTH

AMC was proud to support the Boys & Girls Club State Youth of the Year event, with our very own Dawn Rogers serving as emcee for the evening. This organization is especially near and dear to Dawn's heart, making the opportunity even more meaningful as she helped celebrate Arizona's inspiring youth, their stories, and their bright futures.



SHOWING UP WHERE IT MATTERS MOST

From signature events to hands-on workforce development, AMC continued to show up across every level of the masonry industry. The month was highlighted by the Excellence in Masonry Awards, bringing together over 300 industry professionals for a night dedicated to celebrating craftsmanship, leadership, innovation, and the people who continue to move masonry forward.

Beyond the awards, AMC remained deeply engaged in education and industry collaboration. Participation in the NAU Industry Advisory Board Meeting and the NAU Construction Management Demolition Ball & Graduation Dinner reinforced AMC's commitment to supporting emerging talent and strengthening relationships with future construction professionals. This work continues with the upcoming implementation of NAU's Construction Management Mentorship Program, set to begin in Fall 2026. AMC is proud to be part of the task force helping bring this program to life through both strategy and fundraising support.

Education and training remained a key focus throughout April. AMC hosted an OSHA 10 Class and supported hands-on industry training through the Machine Operators Class at Oldcastle's Western Plant in partnership with Columbia Machine. These opportunities continue to provide valuable access to safety education, technical skill-building, and real-world industry knowledge. CONTINUE READING

Member Perk

Get Found. Look Professional. Move On.

Exclusive for Current AMC Members

Through a partnership with Arizona Masonry Council, Northern Hospitality is offering members a straightforward way to establish a strong, professional online presence—without the time commitment or guesswork.

- Landing Page + Google Business Setup: $800
- Full Website (up to 8 pages): $3,200

Built specifically for contractors and small businesses, this offering is clean, efficient, and done right the first time—so you can stay focused on your work.
Limited availability through June 30, 2026. Projects will be scheduled on a first-come basis.

Contact Amanda to get started. Amanda@Experiencenoho.com | 518.278.6269

NORTHERN NOHO Northern Hospitality HOSPITALITY



SkillsUSA on display—AMC was proud to be part of a competition that brings student talent to the forefront. From precision to craftsmanship, the next generation of the trades is already making an impact.

WE ARE SO PROUD!

Gold | Kate McEuen
Canyon Del Oro High School
Silver | Brayden Byrd
Centennial High School
Bronze | Sasha Barrera
Valley Academy for Career and Technology Education

780+ REASONS MASONRY'S FUTURE LOOKS STRONG

AMC's workforce development efforts continued strong throughout April, with apprenticeship programs active at both locations and instructors doing an outstanding job supporting the next generation of masonry professionals.

Throughout the month, AMC connected with hundreds of students, educators, and future tradespeople through career fairs, advisory meetings, and hands-on training opportunities across the state. Career fairs and advisory meetings reached approximately 500 people, creating valuable opportunities to introduce students and job seekers to masonry careers.

AMC also visited NAU to provide a hands-on masonry experience for Construction Management students, giving nearly 60 participants a quick "how-to" before challenging them to design and build their own masonry creations. The team also attended an advisory meeting at Phoenix Job Corps, helping open the door for continued hands-on training opportunities, and visited West-MEC Southwest Campus to connect with Mr. Vargas and approximately 20 Construction Technology students.

Additional outreach included Peoria School District's reverse job fair and a Maricopa County career fair at Goodyear Ballpark, where AMC connected with roughly 200 people interested in learning more about careers in the trades. CONTINUING READING TO LEARN MORE

Workforce in Action | Shared by Melonie Leslie - AMC Chair

AMC apprenticeship instructor Jacob Brooks, along with apprentices Miguel Angel Andrade, Gerardo, and Manny, volunteered their time and skills to support an Eagle Scout project for Liam of Troop 1776. The team helped teach Liam and fellow scouts how to repair a damaged CMU screen wall, pour footings for a new extension, and install the new wall with stucco — a hands-on project benefiting American Legion Post 145. SEE MORE PHOTOS HERE






BUILDING FUTURES AT NAU

AAMC was proud to attend NAU's 2026 Construction Management Demolition Ball and celebrate the graduating class, including Dawn Rogers' mentee, Josephine McAfee. As the school year comes to an end, Dawn also had the opportunity to spend time with Josephine at the mentorship dinner, making it a meaningful close to a year of connection, guidance, and celebrating the next generation of construction professionals.







IF YOU FAIL TO PLAN, YOU ARE PLANNING TO FAIL

Brian has shared a template for a heat plan from the Industrial Commission's office: Heat | Industrial Commission of Arizona ADOSH is also offering a free consultation visit for employers to help establish appropriate safety systems.



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Visit azmasonry.org for more info

Legislative Update

On May 5, Governor Katie Hobbs vetoed a Republican-backed $17.9 billion state budget, calling it "unbalanced and reckless." The proposal, passed along party-line votes by the Republican-controlled Arizona Legislature, reflected major GOP priorities on taxes and spending cuts but immediately triggered conflict with Hobbs.

READ FULL UPDATE HERE



INDUSTRY NEWS

STAY INFORMED

APRIL UPDATE | 2026

THE BEAUTY OF BLOCK

Discover the enduring beauty and versatility of concrete blocks for your construction needs. Durable, aesthetic, and eco-friendly.

THE MASONRY SOCIETY

We bring together researchers, engineers, architects, contractors, educators, and industry leaders to share knowledge and improve the design, construction, manufacture, use and maintenance of masonry.

CMHA CONCRETE MASONRY & HARDSCAPES ASSOCIATION

Represents concrete masonry producers of the US and represents hardscape and MSV producers, suppliers, and contractors of interlocking concrete pavement and segmental retaining walls in both the US and Canada

MCAA

The MCAA is committed to preserving and promoting the masonry industry by providing continuing education, advocating fair codes and standards, fostering a safe work environment, recruiting future manpower, and marketing the benefits of masonry materials.



TUCSON STUDENTS TURN INVASIVE BUFFELGRASS INTO ADOBE BRICKS

WHY ENGINEERS SHOULD PLAN FOR WEATHER AND CLIMATE CHANGES

WHOLE LIFE CARBON ASSESSMENTS OF BUILDINGS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

17 WAYS TO MAKE A COMPANY MORE SUSTAINABLE