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# ESTRELLA MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE PARTNERS WITH WEST VALLEY ARTS COUNCIL

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November 25, 2014 / Karen Harbin/Estrella Mountain Community College / [Stories by You](#)

The [West Valley Arts Council](#) has recently invited Dr. Kathleen Iudicello, Dean of Academic Affairs at [Estrella Mountain Community College](#), to their Board of Directors.

EMCC is poised to become an artistic hub for the Southwest Valley with its new Performing Arts Center, which is currently in the final phases of construction and scheduled to open in spring 2015.



Dr. Kathleen Iudicello is Dean of Academic Affairs at Estrella Mountain Community College.

In preparation, EMCC has begun expanding its fine and performing arts academic programs and reaching out to the community for enhanced arts partnerships.

Dr. Iudicello was inspired to become a part of the [West Valley Arts Council](#) to support partnerships with local artists and serve the artistic needs of the West Valley community.

“The Council’s vision for further enhancing the West Valley arts community in supportive, creative, and educational ways aligns perfectly with the college’s dedication to serving the needs of students and community by placing learning first in everything we do,” said Dr. Iudicello.

According to WVAC Executive Director Bernadette Mills, the Council’s strategic plan focuses on building alliances and creative capital for the West Valley, bringing the arts into discussions of city planning and economic growth in thoughtful and proactive ways.

“We have a long standing and strong relationship with Estrella Mountain Community College and we are delighted to have Kathleen join our Board of Directors. She is an advocate who sees the importance of the arts and community partnerships, and will be a great asset to our Board,” said Mills.

The WVAC focuses on expanding collaboration with schools, area artists, and organizations to integrate art into the lives of the members in West Valley communities, and to become the nexus for arts education in the West Valley.

Estrella Mountain Community College offers academic courses leading to associate degrees, university transfer, certificates and short-term job training to more than 14,000 students annually. The flagship campus is located on Thomas and Dysart Roads in Avondale and is home to the SouthWest Skill Center.

The satellite campus, EMCC’s Buckeye Educational Center, is located in downtown Buckeye. Estrella Mountain is one of ten colleges in the Maricopa County Community College District, one of the largest community college districts in the nation.

For more information, please go to [www.estrellamountain.edu](http://www.estrellamountain.edu) or [www.maricopa.edu](http://www.maricopa.edu).

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