



Support the Cougar Foundation and enter to WIN a Jeep Rubicon, cash, and more!



Now through November, buy tickets for the Jim Click Millions for Tucson Raffle. 100% of each ticket you purchase goes straight to the Cougar Foundation and utilized to fund classroom mini-grants, student scholarships, financial aid, campus improvements, and more.

Buy online by visiting sahuarocougars.org

Inside: News and Notes from the Cougar Community



Scott Carter ('70 / Hall of Fame 2012) speaks at TedX Asbury Park; Michael Frost ('73) and the class of 1973 make a donation to the Cougar Foundation in honor of Steve Weinstein ('73 / Hall of Fame 2015); Tim Ashcraft ('03 / Hall of Fame 2020) achieves rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army at Fort Liberty, N.C., plus Honors Night awardees and 2024 Golf Tournament photos



Board Members Wanted!

The Sahuaro Cougar Foundation is seeking new board members. The foundation's mission is to perpetuate the history, traditions, and spirit of Sahuaro High School, to support the activities of its students and staff, to provide services to the Alumni, and to invoke a system of honors and awards that recognize the achievements of the students, staff, and alumni.

More information about the Sahuaro Cougar Foundation is available at sahuarocougars.org - those interested in board service should contact board President Jeffry Gardner at jeffry@sahuarocougars.org.

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Class of 1970 member and 2012 Hall of Fame honoree Scott Carter speaks on navigating relationships through political differences at TedX Asbury Park

Differences need not be deal breakers, notes TV political roundtable producer Scott Carter.

Scott Carter hosts the podcast Ye Gods! and won a regional Emmy as Co-Creator/Executive Producer of Love & Respect With Killer Mike (PBS). He received many Primetime Emmy nominations as Producer/Writer of Politically Incorrect With Bill Maher (Comedy Central, ABC) and Real Time With Bill Maher (HBO), for which he also won the Producers Guild of America and Writers Guild of America awards. His play, *The Gospel According To Thomas Jefferson, Charles Dickens & Count Leo Tolstoy: Discord* has been seen in many U.S. cities and in Canada, Scotland and Switzerland.

[View Scott’s speech here >](#)



Class of 1973 Reunion donates more than \$4000 to the Cougar Foundation in memory of Steve Weinstein (‘73, Cougar Hall of Fame 2015 Honoree)



The donation from the Class of 1973 was due to hard work from their 50th reunion committee, and from generous contributions from several of '73 classmates. Says one of the organizers Michael Frost, “I’m honored to have been involved in this & other reunion planning which has helped keep our class pretty tightly knit. And acknowledging & showing the respect Steve Weinstein had from our class & the Cougar Foundation made me very proud of our effort.”



Class of 2003 member and 2020 Cougar Foundation Hall of Fame Inductee Lieutenant Colonel Tim Ashcraft earns United States Army promotion

The promotion ceremony took place at Fort Liberty, NC on Tuesday, April 2nd.



Sahuaro High School Cougar Foundation

Charity Golf Tournament

All of our photos from the 2024 tournament are on the website at sahuarocougars.org - here are a few of our favorites!



2024 Honors Night Cougar Foundation Honorees

Congratulations to the Cougars below who earned a Cougar Foundation Award. We are proud of you!

SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP

Marisol Domingez \$1200

RED AND BLUE SCHOLARSHIP

Logan Culliton \$1200
Canberra Basham \$1200
Ryker Oswalt \$1200
Victoria Ojeda Gomez \$1200

COUGAR PRIDE AWARD

Justin Payne \$2500
Cassie Coolidge \$2500

THE ANN GROSE MEMORIAL AWARD

Benite Luhando \$1635

CALEB SALAZAR SCHOLARSHIP

Rayna Gonzales \$1000

DAVID ASHCRAFT ARTIST-SCHOLAR AWARD

Valerie Juarez \$500

HAL EUSTICE SPIRIT AWARD

Ethan Bess \$750
Rogelio Gonzalez \$750

DICK MCCONNELL SCHOLARSHIP

Brooklyn Comfort \$1774

DIANE SMALL PERSEVERANCE AWARD

Canberra Basham \$1000

HARRY JOHNSON SPIRIT AWARD

Seth Gustafson \$200
Cassandra Coolidge \$200

COUGAR SPIRIT AWARDS

Class of '25: Marley Gandee \$200
Class of '26: Andrew Kruszewski \$200
Class of '27: Maria Kpakpo \$200

EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Most Improved Student: Yolanda Hill
Outstanding Initiative & Effort: Arion Burnette

Music To Our Ears

The Sahuaro High School Guitar Program, directed by Cougar Alum Philip Hemmo ('86) is a hub for students city-wide interested in guitar. With multiple levels of courses (including dual credit college courses) students can start from scratch, and with practice and guidance, reach a high performance level.

The Advanced Guitar Orchestra (pictured) performed all over the state of Arizona in over 20 concerts including performances at K-8, middle schools, the Arizona Music Educators Association Conference in Mesa, The Festival of Books, and several performances at the University of Arizona.

Sahuaro High School also hosts a yearly Guitar Festival open to all T.U.S.D. schools. This year organizers hope to have over 300 students attending and have added a Classical Guitar competition with prizes. Please reach out to Director Philip Hemmo (philip.hemmo@tusd1.org) to help in any way.



Editor's note: The Cougar Foundation proudly made a donation this year to support Mr. Hemmo's Guitar Program.