



City of Glendale
5850 W. Glendale Ave. / Glendale, Arizona 85301



Photo(s) attached from left to right: Glendale Community Services Director Stephanie Small, Cactus District Councilmember Ian Hugh, Yucca District Councilmember Joyce Clark, Barrel District Councilmember Bart Turner, Glendale Chief Librarian Mike Beck, Glendale College, Career and Business Librarian Michael Schor, Glendale Library Board member Jessica Koory and Glendale Library Board member Gary Johnson

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GLENDALE ADDS IDEA CENTER SPACE AND HI-TECH TOOLS FOR BUSINESS INNOVATORS, ENTREPRENEURS AND JOB SEEKERS

GLENDALE, ARIZ--The improved Glendale IDEA Center, located within Glendale's Main Library, 5959 W. Brown Ave., will be an even better space where business innovators, entrepreneurs and networkers can come together to share ideas, form partnerships and learn more about starting and growing a business straight from seasoned mentors and business professionals.

Free and open to the public during regular library hours, the newly expanded IDEA Center will allow for more free classes, workshops and business enterprise resources aimed at helping job seekers, business and nonprofit entrepreneurs succeed in the marketplace.

"The added space and technology upgrades for the Glendale IDEA Center will help improve opportunities for new startups and established businesses that are looking for new ways to innovate and grow their ideas," said Glendale's Chief Librarian Michael Beck.

The re-purposed and enhanced library programming space will include computers, loaded with the latest in Microsoft Office Suite software, Adobe Creative Cloud, scanner and two 3D printers. Additional business services will include a fully-equipped media lab with cameras, green screen imaging, professional lighting, sound equipment and specialty programs for photo editing and video production.

"Libraries are much more than books, they teach computer skills, provide assistance to job seekers and provide innovative resources to small businesses," said Councilmember Bart Turner. "I would like to thank the Arizona State Library for awarding a \$28,300 LSTA competitive grant and Arizona State University for the Kauffman Institute's Empowering Women in Business Pilot Program, which provided \$5,000 in funding to hire public business speakers."

The center will build upon its already successful relationship between Glendale Public Library, Glendale's Economic Development Office, SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives) and ASU's Entrepreneurial Outreach Network. City economic development partners will continue to mentor and connect entrepreneurs to a larger business owner network and opportunities to access additional training and resources.

"I wanted to try and get my name out there and find opportunities for my business idea," said Dru Heffington, business owner and IDEA Center participant. "It was most valuable to sit down with people who understood and cared about what I could do."

For more information about the Glendale IDEA Center and upcoming classes and workshops, call College, Career and Business Librarian Michael Schor at 623-930-3549 or visit www.glendaleaz.com/IDEACenter.

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