



Harvard Investments and East Valley Institute of Technology Create a First-of-its-Kind Educational Partnership Through Development of the Cadence at Gateway Master-Planned Community in Mesa

(Phoenix) – [Arizona-based real estate investment and development company Harvard Investments and East Valley Institute of Technology \(EVIT\)](#) are launching a 12-month program that provides high school students unprecedented access in understanding the entire process for building a [master-plan community – Cadence at Gateway \(<http://cadenceaz.com/>\)](#). The program launches Fall 2016 and will be the first of its kind in the nation allowing students to track Cadence’s development as it happens – from groundbreaking to doors opening.

“Our intent is that when a student completes this 12-month study, she or he will have unprecedented knowledge about each step in building a community that will serve 1,700 families as well as businesses, schools, retail and more,” said Craig Krumwiede, president of Harvard Investments. “It puts the young person that much closer to understanding career options within this great industry, first-hand access to watching it get built, linking them to the best professionals in the industry and encouraging next steps in their career path.”

The partnership will impact nearly 200 local high school students in the construction program at EVIT, one of Arizona’s most successful career and technical high schools. The in-depth curriculum includes what a developer considers in identifying viable land, assemblage and purchase, entitlement and working with government entities, financing, buyer research, land planning, architecture and interiors style and execution, home building, branding and marketing and how it all fits together from 30,000 feet.

“We have strong partners in this industry and one of the most successful construction programs in the state,” said EVIT Superintendent Sally Downey. “But the opportunity for students to become part of a project from start to finish and better understand the many partners and pieces that it takes to create something of this magnitude, and which aspects are interesting to them, therefore better guiding career choices, is very exciting for us at EVIT. We are humbled that Harvard Investments and its partners will invest such significant time into our students’ education to create an educational model that has never been done before.”

EVIT students will attend in-class, interactive lecture series with industry leaders such as award-winning land planner and landscape architect Wendell Pickett, architect Bing Hu, Silverfern executive John Fortini and interior designer Kim

Anderson. Additionally, hands-on field trips, summer internships and when appropriate, jobs will be offered.

“What better way to invest in our community than through the education and partnership of local students who have the affinity and aptitude to positively impact our industry in the future,” said Craig Krumwiede, president of Harvard Investments. “Training high-school students and then retaining our talented youth through exciting career opportunities and valuable mentorship is the right thing to do from a community and economic standpoint and speaks to Harvard Investment’s larger commitment to the region.”

Find out more about Cadence at Gateway and what makes it [the premier residential project in Arizona by visiting \(http://cadenceaz.com/\)](http://cadenceaz.com/) Or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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About Harvard Investments

Harvard Investments, Inc. is a real estate investment and development company with real estate holdings throughout the western United States. Harvard combines experience, integrity, and financial stability to create high quality, environmentally sensitive, profitable communities. Harvard’s Canadian parent, the Hill Companies, is a privately held diversified company involved in real estate development, oil and gas production and distribution, broadcasting, surety bonding, and life insurance. The Hill Companies celebrated its 100th year of continuous family ownership and operation in 2003. To learn more visit <http://www.harvardinvestments.com/>.

About East Valley Institute of Technology

The East Valley Institute of Technology offers about 40 CTE programs tuition-free for high school students who reside in 10 East Valley districts – Mesa, Tempe, Chandler, Gilbert, Scottsdale, Higley, Apache Junction, Fountain Hills, Queen Creek and J.O. Combs. Students spend a half-day at EVIT and a half-day at their high school. School districts provide transportation to EVIT for most students.

EVIT students have a 96 percent high school graduation rate, two out of three go on to college; and 87 percent are in jobs, college or the military within one year of completing their CTE training. In 2015, EVIT was named an A+ School of Excellence by the Arizona Educational Foundation, and readers of the East Valley Tribune voted EVIT as Best Public School in Mesa. To learn more visit <http://www.evit.com>.

Websites Referenced in this Document

1. <http://cadenceaz.com/>
2. <http://www.harvardinvestments.com/>
3. <http://www.evit.com/>