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Home Education Empty Bowls event raises money for charity, also to be held Nov. 3

# Empty Bowls event raises money for charity, also to be held Nov. 3

Oct 26th, 2015 · by Richard H. Dyer · 0 Comments



Peggy McBride, Helen Jones, Peggy Strauss and Kay Tassainer, volunteers from New Frontiers for Lifelong Learning who served lentil or coconut curry soup donated by Pita Jungle for the charity effort. (Photo by Richard H. Dyer, Independent Newspapers)

Empty bowls lined tables at a room at **Mesa Community College** last Wednesday.

The ceramic vessels were designed by students and faculty at the college, 1833 W. Southern Ave., or by artists at the Mesa Arts Center, 1 E. Main St. Anyone who paid \$10 for a handcrafted bowl was welcome to a hearty helping of lentil or coconut curry soup.

Proceeds from the sale of the bowls went to the Paz de Cristo Community Center, which provides anti-hunger and empowerment support for the East Valley's homeless, unemployed, working poor and their families, according to a press release.

The annual Empty Bowls event has been held for more than 25 years, Linda Speranza, who has taught ceramics at Mesa Community College since 1983, said.

"As things go on people take ownership of different parts of the event and step up to the plate. It's such a win-win situation," she said. "If everyone pitches in and buys a bowl, together we make a difference to help Paz de Cristo. That's the beauty of this event – that you can participate and be part of a group to support them and a \$10 donation goes a long way for them. They can buy roughly \$80 worth of food through their resources with a \$10 donation."

She said Empty Bowls is a nationwide movement of ceramic artists to feed the needy in their local area. "There are parameters in order to be able to use the name Empty Bowls. Everything that's in here – all of the supplies, everything has to be donated. So the food's donated, the clay to make the bowls is donated," she said. "And then 100 percent of the proceeds go to the charity.... And then the other thing is the money has to go to a local organization around you, not to a big national organization."

Empty Bowls was held 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. and 5-8 p.m. on Oct. 21 at MCC. It will also be held 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. and 5-8 p.m. on Nov. 3 at Mesa Community College at Red Mountain, 7110 E. McKellips Road.

"The same experience in just a couple weeks," Ms. Speranza said.

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## This Week's Newspaper

Mesa **INDEPENDENT** Now Online  
 Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015 Vol. 87, No. 4 mesaindependent.com

**Ladies' 'Stocking Project' prevails**  
 Judge finds Welda Rose Estates HOA decision to ban group 'discriminatory'

By Richard H. Dyer  
 The Welda Rose Estates Homeowners Association's decision to ban the Ladies' Stocking Project from using common areas for a Christmas event is discriminatory, an Arizona judge ruled Tuesday.

**We want your photos**  
 The Independent continues its history of highlighting the positive and scenic beauty of the community.

**Bus service changes**  
 Routes that serve Mesa will be adjusted Oct. 26 to accommodate the Holiday Merry regional auction.

**Fiesta District night parks lighting ceremony held in Mesa**  
 The city of Mesa on Wednesday celebrated the city's new lighting in the Fiesta District.

**Mesa nonprofit helps developmentally delayed clients with social and life skills**  
 Clients at Mesa's D.E.I. Center have been able to gain valuable life skills.

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Dorothy Stewart, a Mesa Community College pottery student who made bowls for the charity event, stands by tables of bowls made by artists. (Photo by Richard H. Dyer, Independent Newspapers)

"They are made by students and faculty here at Mesa and also at the Mesa Arts Center; we're a partnership." Dorothy Stewart, a Mesa Community College pottery student, made several pieces for a silent auction and made bowls for the charity event last year and this year.

"I think it's a wonderful thing to be able to do something that's so much fun and that's so creative and also give something to the community," she said.

Some of the volunteers who help serve soup that had been donated by Pita Jungle for the charity effort included Peggy Strauss and Kay Tassainer.

"The students make these and through them we're able to use what they've made to sell and donate to places," Ms. Tassainer said.

"It donates to Paz de Cristo, which feeds people," Ms. Strauss said.



Bowls lined tables at the charity event at Mesa Community College (Photo by Richard H. Dyer, Independent Newspapers)


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