

# Maricopa Community Colleges Innovation of the Year Application

First name	Last name	Phone	Email
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College	Project title		
GCC	GCC Performing Arts Mobile Application		

Team members – List the team members involved in this project, including yourself. Provide name, job title, email for each. One person per line.

Dr. Robert Esler – Sound Design Faculty – Project Lead, Designer and Developer – robert.esler@gccaz.edu  
 Alyssa Beach – Department Secretary – Content Development, Testing and Feedback – alyssa.beach@gccaz.edu

A team photograph including all members must accompany this application. Photograph must be 5"x7" and 300dpi or larger. Create a caption for this photograph Identifying team members (using full names) in order of appearance from left to right.



Robert Esler, and Alyssa Beach

Executive summary (50 words or less)

The GCC Performing Arts Mobile App was developed to provide a centralized virtual portal for students, staff and faculty to communicate information about our events, courses, degree programs, faculty/staff contact information, social media, donation options, and departmental news.

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Innovations should include information that addresses all of the criterion below and is in alignment with the [Maricopa Vision, Mission, and Value Statements](#).

<b>Quality:</b> It is evident that the innovation increases "quality" in the course, program, office, or institution.
The application provides students better access to information about our department offerings in a mobile format that is in use by 95% of our students, staff and faculty.
<b>Efficiency:</b> There is evidence that the innovation contributes to a more efficient way of doing things.
One feature of our application is to provide up-to-date news and the hours of our computer lab. Currently there is no way other than our website pages to accomplish this which can take several days to update. Another feature is an interactive degree checklist that can save the courses and credits students have taken.
<b>Cost effectiveness:</b> There is evidence that the innovation adds a value to the institution while at the same time containing or reducing costs.
This application uses zero college and district resources other than its initial cost of development and deployment. We use zero IT resources, we only attribute public information and take advantage of free tools like Google Calendars to update the content of this application.
<b>Replication:</b> The innovation selected can be replicated in other institutions with a minimum of difficulty.
The code and other assets for this application were developed in such a way that anyone with experience in web development could update or change the application with minimal difficulty. The code is copiously documented and the particular development stack chosen, known as Cordova, uses widely accepted languages and design standards.
<b>Creativity:</b> The innovation should be as original as possible or the adaptation should be creative.
This application was developed to look, feel and function as a customized experience for our department. We did not use any design templates or other developer's code in order for the user experience to be intuitive and resourceful.
<b>Timeliness:</b> The innovation should not be more than five years old in the institution, but it must have been around long enough to be tested so that it meets most of the criteria.
The application has been distributed publicly for over one year and was tested for an additional five months before deployment.
<b>Learning:</b> The results of the innovation have been shared with others for the benefit of students throughout Maricopa.
The mobile app is free for anyone to download. Many of our students have already downloaded it. We have also shared this application with administrators, department chairs and other staff and faculty here at GCC and at several other colleges.
<b>Collaboration:</b> The innovation successfully demonstrates collaboration, teamwork, and cooperation to ensure continuous process improvement efforts on behalf of students throughout Maricopa.
This project was lead by the developer, Robert Esler, and supported by our numerous testers that consisted of faculty, staff and students. Moreover, it is maintained and regularly evaluated by Alyssa Beach. A majority of our staff and faculty, as well as dozens of students, use the mobile app on a daily basis and continually seek to find new features and improvements.