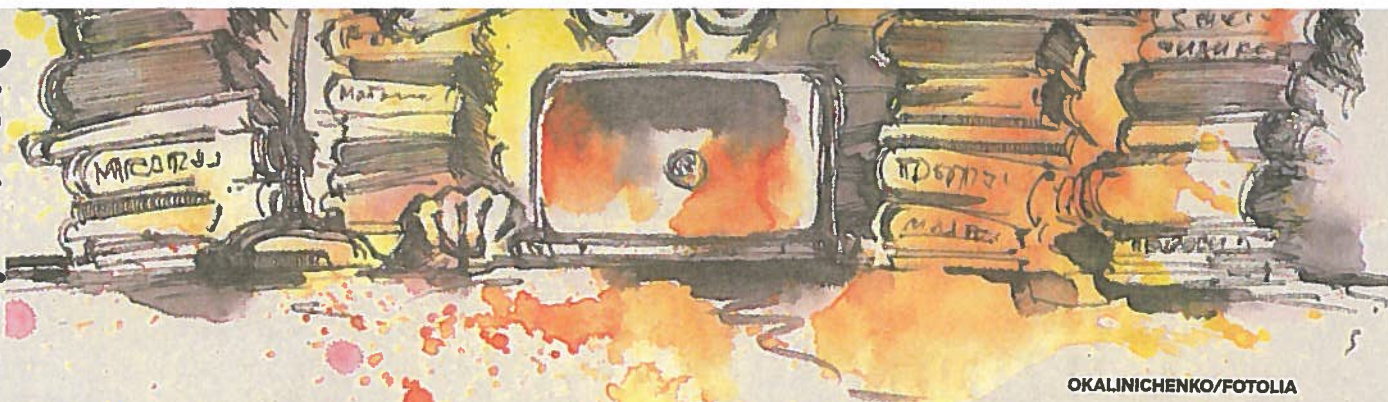


Denver Post 9/27/2015



OKALINICHENKO/FOTOLIA

# LIFETIME LEARNING

## 7 things you must know

BY MIRIAM CROSS | Kiplinger

**1. You have plenty of options.**  
Older adults may enroll in a degree program, sit in on regular college courses, attend classes with peers or take courses online. Many colleges and universities allow older adults to audit or take classes for credit, as well as host lifelong learning programs for adults 50 and over. A good place to start is at [aseniorcitizenguideforcollege.com](http://aseniorcitizenguideforcollege.com).

**2. Age has its privileges.**  
If you are at least 60 to 65, a number of public colleges will let you enroll in credit courses without paying tuition, if space is available. (You may be responsible for fees and textbooks.) Some states have instituted auditing programs for older adults at their state schools. Other colleges may permit auditing; if you don't see information on a school's website, call.

**3. You could earn a degree.**  
The average price tag for a master's degree in 2011-12 was nearly \$23,000. You may qualify for financial aid; there are no age restrictions on federal loan programs. But be sure you don't borrow more than you can afford to pay back, says Mark Kantrowitz, senior vice president and publisher of [Edvisors.com](http://Edvisors.com). One strategy: Stretch out the payments as long as possible. You'll minimize the monthly hit on your income. And federal loans are discharged when you die (that's not the case with most private loans).

**4. And get a tax break.**  
The Lifetime Learning Credit is worth up to \$2,000 a year for qualified education expenses, and, unlike the American Opportunity Tax Credit, it is available for any number of years. You can claim the credit to pay for tuition, textbooks and supplies as long as your modified adjusted gross income is less

than \$65,000 in 2015, or \$130,000 if married filing jointly. Or you could start a 529 college-savings plan with yourself as the owner and beneficiary. Most states offer a tax break for 529 plan contributions.

**5. Sign up with OLLI.**  
Not ready to commit to a degree? Your local college or university may host an Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, or OLLI for short (see [www.nrc.northwestern.edu/find-an-olli-near-you](http://www.nrc.northwestern.edu/find-an-olli-near-you)). You generally pay a membership fee to access courses on everything from European history to shooting videos with an iPhone. At the University of North Carolina-Asheville, for example, a one-year OLLI membership costs \$70 and includes access to more than 280 courses. Even if there's no OLLI in your vicinity, you may find a local school that offers a similar program.

**6. Explore online.**  
Massive open online courses or MOOCs are college-level courses available to anyone. Search listings from the major providers (including Udacity, Coursera and edX) at [class-central.com](http://class-central.com). Few MOOCs offer credit, so look for courses that pique your curiosity. For technical and creative skills, browse the tutorials at [Lynda.com](http://Lynda.com). Lynda subscriptions start at \$20 a month for unlimited access to all videos, but your library card may let you log in free.

**7. Hit the road.**  
Why learn about ancient Peru in a classroom when you can climb to the ruins of Machu Picchu? Some alumni associations, museums and nonprofit groups, notably Road Scholar, offer educational tours around the world. These tours can be pricey, so ask whether the company has any "special offers."

*we have it!*

# Letter: Comic Con raises \$15,000 for library

Nathan Scott and Nick Armstrong 5:41 p.m. MDT September 24, 2015



(Photo: Courtesy Photo)

Sept. 12, the first-ever Fort Collins Comic Con occurred at the Northside Aztlan Center benefiting the Poudre River Public Library District. Nearly 2,000 attendees congregated to raise over \$15,000 for the library. The event featured panels, cosplay costume contests, interactive displays, gaming rooms hosted by Dungeons and Drafts, and a full hall of vendors, artists and entertainers.

The Aztlan Center staff did an outstanding job in supporting the event, making sure logistically everything ran as smooth as possible.

Costume Contests organized by Nathan Morimitsu and Voxxy Cosplay were a highlight. Special thanks to our distinguished guests including the Honorable Mayor Wade Troxell, Councilman Bob Overbeck, Singer-Songwriter Danielle Ate the Sandwich and Comic Book Legend Ron Fortier.

Fort Collins Comic Con could not have happened without the outstanding work of our 180+ volunteers organized by James Lopez including The Friends of the Library providing a slew of volunteers, led by Robin Gard. We also would like to thank the outstanding programming efforts of Ali Baumgartner to arrange the day's amazing panels (as well as all the Panelists themselves!), Candice Perrotta who organized the 140 vendors, Chalice Taylor — the shortstop volunteer who handled everything from vendor customer service to volunteer refreshments, Math Stein and Jamie Leben from the Fort Collins and Loveland Makerspaces for our awesome Minecraft Room and Trophies, and Paula Watson-Lakamp from the Poudre River Public Library District.

Thanks also to our sponsors and partners: WTF Marketing, Rhythm FX, Millennium Tattoo, Pedersen Toyota, BracesU, GeekFuel, Miramont Fitness, OtterCares, Odell, Secret Compass, Val-U-Ads, WeedIn Agency, Dungeons and Drafts, GeekStreetSociety, Distortions, Bizaare Bazaar, Rogues Roost, Gryphon Games and Comics, Grand Slam Sports Cards and Comics, the Haunted Game Cafe, Dungeons and Drafts, Totally 80's Pizza, Tabletop Fables, artists Ned Ivory and Joe Oliver, CSU, KRFC, Scott Beasley, Out in Style Limo, the Cheyenne Zombie Fest, Hyphytek, Amanda at the Loveland Library, Grey Gecko Press and Big Al's Security.

Most of all: thank you to the community. See you next year. Excelsior.

Nathan Scott and Nick Armstrong are co-founders of Fort CollinsComic Con.

Read or Share this story: <http://noconow.co/1FjrsRg>



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# TrailGazette <http://www.eptail.com>

## Pen to Paper Grant Writing Class Offered

Jill Lancaster - For the Trail Gazette

POSTED 09/15/2015 10:28:25 AM MDT

**Pen to Paper Grant Writing** is the only opportunity of its kind in Colorado to sit down with a fund development professional and review an active grant application. Each session of this 3-part series focuses on a different element of the Common Grant Application that will help you strengthen your grant application and turn it into a winning proposal. Participants receive direct feedback during the class and have time to revise their proposals in between sessions.



Thanks to the collaborative efforts of the Poudre River Library District, the Loveland Library, the Estes Valley Library, the Community Resource Center and Estes Park Nonprofit



**Estes Park Nonprofit Resource Center**

NURTURING THE FUTURE  
</portlet/article/html/imageDisplay.jsp?contentItemRelationshipId=7077356>

Resource Center, we are able to bring you **Pen to Paper Grant Writing** – a comprehensive three-day training for a fraction of the normal cost. Generous donations from our sponsors, Mueller & Associates CPA, United Way of Larimer County, and the Poudre River Public Library District have made this possible.

This class will be held on **Tuesday, October 6 in Estes Park, Tuesday, October 20 in Fort Collins, and Tuesday, November 3 in Loveland from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm.** The cost for the entire training is \$75 per person. To register please visit the website: [crcamerica.org](http://crcamerica.org) and click on the education/training tab.

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This training will be facilitated by Amanda Barlow, RPD Program Coordinator at the Community Resource Center. Amanda completed her Masters of Public Administration specializing in Nonprofit Management from Brigham Young University's Marriott School of Management. She brings five years of experience working with governments, nonprofit organizations, foundations and private businesses.

**Part 1 on October 6 in Estes Park** will focus on Developing your Effective Case for Support. Defining your program goals,

objectives, activities, and timelines are the most critical part of effective grant writing and help to build your strong case for support. You will learn how to maximize the limited space available to tell your story in your grant proposal and work to clarify and refine your organizations goals and objectives with the help of peer review.

**Part 2 on October 20 in Fort Collins** will focus on Mission Building Blocks. Nonprofit best practices are the critical building blocks for any effective and sustainable organization. Many of the questions in the Common Grant Application are directly related to widely accepted sector best practices, and Part 2 of the series will focus on reviewing and interpreting nonprofit principles and best practices and writing a narrative that references instructions to ensure you are answering the questions posed in an application.

# Social media threat prompts Front Range CC evacuation



Jason Pohl, [jasonpohl@coloradoan.com](mailto:jasonpohl@coloradoan.com) 6:39 p.m. MDT September 18, 2015



(Photo: Jason Pohl/The Coloradoan)

A Snapchat video that referenced what Fort Collins police described as a “Columbine-type incident” led to the Friday evacuation of Front Range Community College and landed a 19-year-old student in jail.

A student alerted campus officials about a threatening social media post about 11:15 a.m. Friday, Fort Collins Police Sgt. Dean Cunningham said. While specific details about the reported statements were not immediately released, Cunningham said the video appeared to have been taken on a different day from a classroom on campus – the college said the threats were made against a student and instructor.

Police worked with staff and identified 19-year-old Sebastian Calvo as a suspect.

He was arrested without incident about 3 p.m. at his place of employment, Sam’s Club in the 4700 block of Boardwalk Drive. He faces a Class 1 misdemeanor charge of interference with staff, faculty or students of an educational institution.

Despite Snapchat’s ability to make recordings and messages disappear after being watched, Cunningham said police have retained a copy of the video.

Everyone was ordered off the campus about 1:20 p.m. The community college posted a tweet about 1:30 p.m. urging people on the Larimer campus at Harmony Road and Shields Street to take their belongings and leave the campus immediately. It also posted on its website that nobody should come to the campus until further notice.

Officers and security personnel worked to clear students and faculty from the campus and move vehicles away from the buildings. The parking lots were almost entirely empty by 1:45 p.m., and police staged in the nearly-empty west parking lot while some passersby waited to be let back into the buildings and a news helicopter circled overhead.

The campus was re-opened and back to normal operations at 5 p.m.

Anyone with information about the case is asked to call Detective Brian Mallory with Fort Collins Police Services at 970-221-6880 or Crime Stoppers at 970-221-6868.

Friday’s incident wasn’t the first time a threat closed down Larimer County arm of Front Range Community College.

Someone scribbled a bomb threat in a women’s restroom in March, 2013, prompting the evacuation of campus and the delay of midterm exams. No bomb was ever found, and the campus re-opened the next day after a thorough search of the property.

*Reporter Jason Pohl covers breaking news for the Coloradoan. Follow him on Twitter: @pohl\_jason.*

**NO EVIDENCE:** [Police search church roof near Old Town for reported gunman \(/story/news/2015/09/18/police-search-church-roof-near-old-town-after-report-gunman/72407452/\)](http://story/news/2015/09/18/police-search-church-roof-near-old-town-after-report-gunman/72407452/)

**CONTROVERSY:** [Fort Collins’ proposed NISP alternative finds few fans \(/story/news/2015/09/18/fort-collins-nisp-cactus-hill-reservoir/72393808/\)](http://story/news/2015/09/18/fort-collins-nisp-cactus-hill-reservoir/72393808/)

Read or Share this story: <http://noconow.co/1KlrPtr>

# Al Roker promoting new book in Fort Collins



Erin Udell, erinudell@coloradoan.com 3:24 p.m. MDT October 1, 2015



(Photo: Victoria Will/Invision/AP)

Television personality and "Today" weather anchor Al Roker will make a stop in Fort Collins on Oct. 10.

Roker, 61, will be at the University Center for the Arts starting at 3 p.m. to promote the release of his new book, "The Storm of the Century: Tragedy, Heroism, Survival, and the Epic True Story of America's Deadliest Natural Disaster: The Great Gulf Hurricane."

In the historical nonfiction book, Roker dives into a monster storm that brought winds faster than 200 miles per hour and 15-foot waves to Galveston, Texas in 1900, ultimately destroying the town and killing about 10,000 people.

Single tickets cost \$17. By purchasing a \$30.06-copy of "Storm of the Century," you can gain admission for two people.

Tickets are on sale at Old Firehouse Books [and online. \(http://www.oldfirehousebooks.com/al-roker-single-ticket\)](http://www.oldfirehousebooks.com/al-roker-single-ticket)

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**FORT COLLINS THINGS TO DO (/TOPIC/9C1862A5-A2EA-43BC-AEF7-811BA4545E9C/FORT-COLLINS-THINGS-TO-DO/)**

**Oct. 10: Fourth annual Bounty and Brews beer dinner (/story/entertainment/2015/09/29/oct-fourth-annual-bounty-brews-beer-dinner/73030872/)**

Jose Sexton