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**Part 3**

# EDUCATION SERIES 2024



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## University of Redlands prepares students for lives of meaning and impact

Students develop personally and professionally through experiential learning and unique opportunities.

Krista L. Newkirk | President, University of Redlands



From Grammy Award-winning opera singer Angel Blue to W. Richard West, Jr., the founding director of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, all University of Redlands alumni are products of a unique pedagogy. Founded in 1907, this private, nonprofit institution stands out with its immersive, personalized learning and hands-on experiences inside and outside the classroom.

"We have a strong focus on personalized education, and students come to us knowing they will be highly engaged throughout their learning journey," says Krista L. Newkirk, president of the University of Redlands. "We're giving our students practical and theoretical experience to prepare them for their next step once they graduate."

Redlands offers more than 40 undergraduate programs, including the Johnston Center for Integrative Studies, where students design their own interdisciplinary programs. The university also offers more than 30 graduate programs in business, education, geographic information systems, theology, public policy and music.

With access to more than 70 clubs and organizations, Redlands students are deeply engaged and committed to their communities. The university's 21 NCAA Division III men's and women's athletic teams are also a huge part of what makes the campus so vibrant. Redlands also offers one of the oldest travel-and-study programs in Austria and Central Europe, and the cost of programs like these is built into the student tuition.

"I think one of the most notable things about our campus is how friendly people are," says Newkirk. "We find it to be really important for those who come here to feel connected and have that sense of community."

The university has been named a Top Producer of Fulbright Students, a prestigious award granted by the U.S. Department of State. Since 2008, Redlands has celebrated 28 Fulbright student awards and was recently named one of only five master's universities in California to be named a Fulbright Hispanic-Serving Institution Leader.

Redlands has an incredibly robust community service internship program, which has received national acclaim as students annually complete more than 100,000 hours of public service in over 60 countries worldwide, positively impacting their careers and communities.

Newkirk concludes, "The transformative experience we offer to our students truly prepares them for lives filled with meaning and purpose, empowering them to make a meaningful contribution to society."



## PXU completely supports students' journey to becoming future-ready

Fresh initiatives in an inclusive environment are giving them a chance to make a bigger impact in the world.

Thea Andrade | Superintendent, Phoenix Union High School District



Overseeing 24 schools with more than 26,000 students is a daunting task. However, it is a challenge that Thea Andrade, superintendent of Phoenix Union High School District (PXU), and her staff of over 3,500 professionals have been accomplishing with flying colors. From their freshman year to completing their chosen pathway, students feel a sense of belonging at the all-high-school institution that exerts every effort to equip them with 21st-century skills.

"We're a very progressive district, and we're truly proud of that," says Andrade, who has served in Arizona's public education for nearly three decades and as an administrator for over 20 years. "Our schools welcome and inspire students to go places and do things that matter. That's our promise to the community."

True enough, PXU's unconventional methods have raised student engagement and performance. Acknowledging the difficult period that freshmen undergo, the high school district established freshman houses where the same group of kids stay together for the start of their high school journey. Guided by link crews comprising seniors, the dropout rate among freshmen has declined to 1.5 percent from 6. The institution is further moving towards equity and inclusivity as it launches a dual language education program at Carl Hayden Community High School.

PXU guarantees consistency in the student's academic experience across its different schools as it prepares them to be future-ready. Its expansive career and technical education (CTE) program certifies students for high-demand fields, from aeronautics to precision manufacturing. The school district is also collaborating with universities to give seniors a taste of college life and streamline their acceptance into partner universities.

"The future is now, and if we don't maneuver and shift, our scholars will be left behind," Andrade says. "We would like every student to graduate college, career and life-ready with all the skills needed to succeed in our global economy. We'll continue building strong, robust programs that endow them with assets they can give back to the community."

## INDUSTRY INSIGHTS



**David Goodhew**

Managing Director  
Dukes Education



A good education should change your life, and empowering children to lead extraordinary lives can change the world. Our approach focuses on leadership not just of others but of self. For us, leadership is about high performance, innovation and adventure. We want our students to lead with their hearts, embracing service and cherishing humility.



**Dr. Roland Faller**

Dean

Whitacre College of Engineering



We truly pride ourselves in nurturing industry and job-ready graduates. If our graduates go out into the workplace, they shouldn't need additional training; they can start working right away. We're hiring the best people to prepare top students to solve the challenges of the region, the nation and the world.



**Brendan Conroy**

President

Mount Carmel High School



We're strong in our foundation. The values that have driven Mount Carmel High School are still in place, but despite having many amazing traditions, we're dynamic. We continue to evolve, grow and become better at educating young men whose families want more for their sons. We're preparing them to lead and make a better place for everyone.



**Professor Shalini Randeria**

President and Rector

Central European University



CEU's mission is based on the ideal of an open society: a society that prioritizes free inquiry, democracy, social justice and equity. Our faculty and students address some of today's biggest intellectual challenges, including bioethics and corporate responsibility, climate change and environmental security, economic inequalities and labor market transformations, and geopolitical challenges and rising authoritarianism.



**Tim Flattery**

Provost

College for Creative Studies



We are focused on the outcomes of our programs, how we accommodate industry demand and the excellence in which we achieve those through our curriculum. There isn't anything that we see, experience or touch that hasn't been conceptualized or designed by someone. As such, there are unbelievable opportunities that are afforded to a graduate with an art or design degree.



**Anelli Harvey**

Interim Head of School

International School of Los Angeles



Our core values are diversity, excellence and respect. We strongly believe that bilingualism fosters empathy and creates a worldview that we desperately need today. We nurture strong bilingual critical thinkers who can make up their minds and see issues from different perspectives. We want our students to be open-minded and caring towards others.

The Lausanne campus offers top-notch infrastructures.



## EHL Hospitality Business School: How experiential learning prepares leaders across sectors

Swiss learning model blends theoretical principles with practical application.

EHL Hospitality Business School transcends traditional education by embracing a dynamic model that combines academic rigor with hands-on practice and real-world experience. This innovative approach, known as experiential learning, has become a cornerstone of EHL's pedagogy, fostering a new generation of leaders equipped with business acumen, customer service experience and human-centered leadership skills that stretch into sectors beyond hospitality.

For over 130 years, and as the first hospitality business school in the world, EHL has been a pioneer in hospitality education. In 2024, it was recognized once again as the world's leading institution for hospitality and leisure management by QS World University Rankings, marking the sixth consecutive year of this prestigious accolade. In addition, EHL Hospitality Business School is also recognized by AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) as one of the best business schools in the world.

### Swiss Learning Model

EHL's success is deeply rooted in its Swiss learning model, which blends academic theory with practical application. This educational philosophy ensures that students not only understand hospitality principles but also know how to apply them in real-world settings. Dr. Achim Schmitt, dean of EHL Hospitality Business School, highlights the significance of this approach: "At EHL, we offer our students a pedagogy based on experiential learning and the teaching of both soft and hard skills. Our campus in Lausanne offers top-notch infrastructures and fully immerses our students in an environment that fosters human interactions."



**Dr. Achim Schmitt**

Dean, EHL Hospitality Business School

A prime example of this immersive learning is EHL's on-campus Michelin-starred application restaurant, The Berceau des Sens, where students gain first-hand experience in a luxury dining environment. They serve discerning guests and learn the intricacies of high-end hospitality. "The Berceau des Sens enables our students to work during some weeks in a real luxury setting with external guests expecting a high-end fine dining experience," Schmitt explains. "This is one of many real-world experiences we offer to our students so they can truly embrace and live luxury beyond the traditional classroom environment."

### Hospitality Skills for Leadership

EHL's curriculum is designed to develop both soft and hard skills to strengthen core competencies sought after by global companies across sectors. Emotional intelligence, human-centered leadership, communication and cultural agility are emphasized alongside technical competencies like economics, finance, strategy and marketing. This dual focus ensures that graduates are well-rounded professionals capable of leading diverse teams and making informed business decisions. The journey through EHL's programs begins with a preparatory year divided into two semesters, focusing on foundational knowledge in hotel and restaurant operations, followed by a six-month operational internship. This structure ensures that students build a strong practical foundation early in their education and understand the operational challenges.

Throughout their studies, EHL students engage in various hands-on activities, including compulsory internships, real-life business projects and industry conferences. These experiences are designed to reinforce classroom learning with practical application. In their final semester, students work on consulting projects for real clients, conducting research and offering recommendations that address actual business challenges. Over 600 such projects have been completed with renowned companies like Accor, Nestlé and Audemars Piguet, often leading to job offers for the students involved.

### Bridging the Academic and Business Worlds

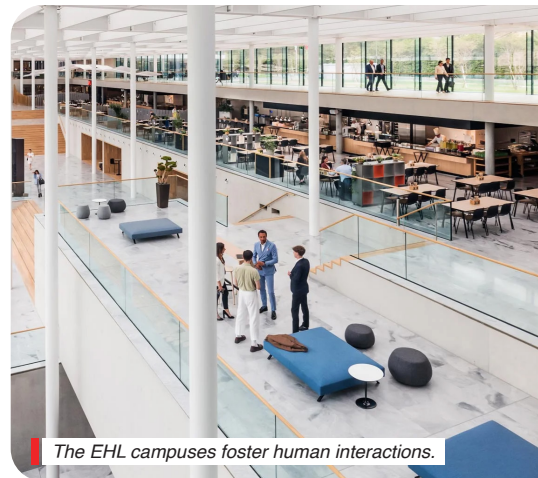
EHL's strong ties with the industry provide students with unparalleled networking opportunities. The school partners with prestigious luxury brands such as LVMH and Chopard, as well as health care institutions and consumer brands, bringing industry leaders on campus to share insights and discuss current trends. These interactions allow students to gain a deeper understanding of the industry and build valuable professional connections.

Schmitt emphasizes the importance of industry engagement: "We partner with many brands whose C-level executives frequently come on campus for their own learning and development as well as to talk to our students and faculty about the industry's trends and real challenges. This way, they do not only invest in their own careers but also provide our students with hands-on insights, connect with new talent and allow to enrich their own perspectives."

EHL's commitment to experiential learning extends to its master's and executive education programs, featuring field visits, real-world business projects and direct engagement with industry professionals. These experiences enable students to explore concrete applications in a wide variety of industries and expand their professional networks beyond the academic environment.

The innovative approach to education at EHL ensures that its graduates are not only knowledgeable but also adept at applying their skills in practical settings. This holistic education model prepares students to become leaders in the hospitality industry and beyond. As Schmitt notes, "Our curricula are designed to allow students who wish to immerse themselves in the essence of luxury, for example, to specialize through dedicated electives, where they dissect successful luxury brands' strategies and delve into the nuances of crafting unparalleled experiences."

As the business landscape and job market continue to evolve, EHL remains dedicated to nurturing talent that can meet and exceed ever-changing demands, ensuring its graduates are equipped with the skills and experiences necessary for success.



The EHL campuses foster human interactions.



## Rock Hill Schools puts heart in students' holistic development

Its "Leader In Me" program serves as the foundation for bringing out the best in every child.

Dr. Tommy Schmolze | Superintendent, Rock Hill Schools



Rock Hill Schools, located just south of Charlotte, North Carolina, is committed to developing well-rounded leaders prepared for tomorrow's challenges. Dr. Tommy Schmolze, the district's superintendent, emphasizes the institution's dedication to holistic education, focusing on both academic excellence and essential life skills.

"We want to create leaders in every sense of the word," says Schmolze, who oversees three high schools, five middle schools, 14 elementary schools and additional programming, including a career technical education center, early childhood and alternative programs. "Our goal is not just about academic achievement but also about career readiness and community engagement. We help students take their inner genius and use it to the fullest of their ability."

A cornerstone of this approach is the district's "Leader in Me" program, based on Stephen Covey's book "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People." The initiative is designed to instill leadership qualities and crucial soft skills, such as being proactive, having a win-win attitude and creating synergy, in all students and adults in the district.

Innovation is another key area for Rock Hill Schools, particularly in staying ahead of technological advancements. The district was one of the first districts to provide each student with a laptop while working to offer courses to prepare students for jobs that may not even exist yet but will be in high demand soon.

Schmolze sees every adult in his organization as an educator. For him, a bus driver, custodian, receptionist or cafeteria worker has the same impact on students as the classroom teacher, principal or superintendent. Valued equally, each of these individuals can have an exponential impact on the children's development as these educators create synergy with the time they spend with students.

Looking ahead, Rock Hill Schools envisions even stronger partnerships with the community and local businesses. "We can't do it alone," says Schmolze. "Our business partners play a vital role in shaping the future workforce. We are committed to being good stewards of the resources they provide as we reshape and impact a child's life forever."



## Hermiston School District: Empowering the next generation of future-ready students

Offering multiple pathways with strong emphasis on employable skills and care for community

Dr. Tricia Mooney | Superintendent, Hermiston School District



In the heart of Eastern Oregon's largest district, the Hermiston School District proudly serves approximately 5,500 K-12 students. A standout feature of this district is its exceptional career and technical education (CTE) programs, offering six distinct career areas with 11 diverse pathways.

At Hermiston School District, real-world learning is a cornerstone of the educational experience. Every year, students engage in CTE programs, choosing pathways that align with their interests and career goals. In the construction pathway, students gain practical experience by building a house, which is then sold to fund future projects. In the business pathway, students manage an on-campus coffee business, while others run a printing press company.

These hands-on opportunities not only teach valuable technical and business skills but also instill essential employability competencies. These skills empower students to care for themselves and their families and contribute positively to the community.

"We really focused on making our students career-ready," says Hermiston School District Superintendent Dr. Tricia Mooney, an educational leader with a doctorate in education. "You can't learn employability skills such as showing up for an appointment or developing working relationships unless there's an opportunity to learn them. Our kids need to be part of something bigger than themselves."

The Hermiston School District's commitment to career readiness matches its deep dedication to the community. The district collaborates closely with local organizations to provide apprenticeships and job placements, ensuring students have the tools they need to succeed.

The success of these programs is further enhanced by a passionate staff, many of whom are former Hermiston students. With a comprehensive support system that includes counselors, social workers and nurses, the district places a strong emphasis on the well-being and mental health of its students.

"We want kids to leave us ready to care for themselves and others," says Mooney, who brings nearly three decades of experience in education. "We're building a better tomorrow for everyone today."

### INDUSTRY INSIGHTS



**Dr. Julie Porter**  
Head of School  
Park Century School



We champion a personalized approach to instruction for students with learning differences like dyslexia, dyscalculia, dysgraphia and ADHD. By aligning our teaching methods with their unique brain wiring and drawing on the latest research in neurodiversity, we unlock each student's potential. Our success lies in understanding how they learn and adapting our instructional methods to meet their needs. Together, we empower these creative minds to shape a brighter future for all humanity.



**Dr. Robert Mendonsa**  
Founder and CEO  
Naomi's Village



I was practicing orthopedic surgery in Dallas when we first visited Kenya in 2003. My wife Julie witnessed the plight of thousands of homeless children in the Great Rift Valley, and it broke her heart. If we help these children through their immense suffering, they can become outstanding leaders in life and an incredible gift to humanity. For more information, visit [naomsvillage.org](http://naomsvillage.org).



**Dr. Keith Miller**  
President  
Greenville Technical College



We can turn on a dime as technology changes. If we're going to train people on the latest equipment, then we need to change, not on an annual basis but almost on a monthly basis. The ability to evolve as the need dictates and the entrepreneurial spirit to make change happen are two big keys to our continued success.



**Renee McLamb**  
Head of School  
Northwood Temple Academy



I'm really proud we have a strong faculty that can speak truth into our students' lives. Our dedicated instructors not only teach but also mentor, creating a supportive environment where students can thrive. We want to foster an attitude of getting better at getting better. Students should never stop learning and influencing other people's lives in a positive way.



**Dr. Michelle Bernat**  
Head of School  
Pardes Jewish Day School



We teach children *how* to think, not *what* to think, and emphasize that strong character can make a real difference in the world. For us, this is critically important. We want kids to understand how to collaborate, think through problems and solve them. We are creating future leaders who will be able to bring people together.



**Rosalina Rivera**  
Superintendent  
Delano Union School District



We're a progressive and innovative learning community where students recognize and develop their talents and give their personal best each day. Our efforts are collectively centered on one key commitment—"Promise 180: Every School Day Counts." Excellence is achieved by caring for each student and staff member individually, fostering an enthusiastic and energetic family-focused environment where students can maximize their full potential.



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# EDUCATION

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