



16th Annual WICKENBURG LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Graduation Ceremony: November 3, 2026

To be eligible for graduation, participants must attend a minimum of 7 sessions.

Session 1 : Who is the Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce?

August 25, 2026

Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce: 216 N. Frontier St.

Speakers: WLI Producers, Wickenburg Chamber Staff

- Karla Mortimer, Executive Director
- Rhodde Bedke, Event Coordinator
- Ana Moffit, Chamber Relations
- Emily Gordon, Office Coordinator

Session 2 : Cultural History and the Arts

September 1, 2026

Sigler Western Museum: 21 N. Frontier St. & **Webb Center for Performing Arts:** 1090 Vulture Mine Rd.

Speakers:

- Hillary Harnasch, Interim Executive Director, Sigler Western Museum
- Andy Halseth, Executive Director, Webb Center

Session 3 : Environmental Stewardship

September 8, 2026

Hassayampa River Preserve: 49614 US Hwy 60/89, Wickenburg, AZ 85390

Speakers:

- Lisa Atkins, Former Arizona Land Commissioner
- Bernadine McCollum & Judy Rice, Wickenburg Conservation Foundation
- Ann Steward, Social Performance Manager, Freeport McMoRan - Bagdad
- Maricopa Parks Representative

Session 4 : Transportation & Infrastructure

September 15, 2026

Cultural Crossroads Learning Center: 21 N. Frontier St. Wickenburg, AZ 85390

- Andy Roth, Assistant NW District Engineer, Arizona Department of Transportation
- John Bullen, Transportation Funding Policy Program Manager, Maricopa Association of Governments
- Cason Chambers, Public Services Director, Town of Wickenburg

Session 5 : Local Government

September 22, 2026

Town of Wickenburg Council Chambers: 155 N. Tegner St. Wickenburg, AZ 85390

- BG Bratcher, Mayor, Town of Wickenburg
- Newly Elected - Constable, Hassayampa Precinct
- Newly Elected - Justice of the Peace, Hassayampa Justice Court
- Honorable Judge Charles J. Adornetto, Town of Wickenburg

Session 6 : Local Education & Opportunity

September 29, 2026

Wellik Learning Center at Vulture Peak Middle School: 920 S. Vulture Mine Rd.

- Chris Lowe, Principal, Wickenburg Christian Academy
- Stephanie Lindsay, Founder, JM Learning Inc.
- Dr. Michael Sivertson, Superintendent, Wickenburg Unified School District No. 9
- Dr. Scott Spurgeon, Superintendent, Mest-MEC Career & Technical Education
- Todd Sandrin, Dean, Arizona State University

Session 7 : Who is our Municipality?

October 6, 2026

Town of Wickenburg Council Chambers: 155 N. Tegner St. Wickenburg, AZ 85390

- Lt. Kenny Lutkiewicz, Wickenburg Police Department
- Tarah Mayerhofer, Director of Human Resources, Town of Wickenburg
- Troy Smith, Town Manager, Town of Wickenburg

Session 8 : Community & Economic Development

October 13, 2026

Sophies's Kitchen at Wickenburg Ranch: 3430 Club Terrace Way, Wickenburg, AZ 85390

- Representative - Wickenburg Ranch
- Anna Smith, Public Affairs Manager, Arizona Public Service
- John Heiney, Community Services Director, Town of Wickenburg
- Robert Martinez, Finance Director, Town of Wickenburg

Session 9 : Health & Human Services

October 20, 2026

Wellik Senior Center: 466 W. Wickenburg Way, Wickenburg, AZ 85390

- Lory Loreda, Program Director, AllThrive 365
- Representative - Community Initiatives Director, Maricopa Association of Governments
- Representative - Wickenburg Community Hospital
- Katie Renwick-Espinoza, Executive Director/CEO, Meadows Behavioral Health

Session 10 : Public Safety & Emergency Management

October 27, 2026

Wickenburg Police Department: 1980 W. Wickenburg Way, Wickenburg, AZ 85390

- Lt. Aaron Hadley, Wickenburg Police Department
- Chief Tony Christofferson, Wickenburg Fire Department
- Sargent Todd Bentley, Arizona Department of Public Safety
- Erik Lechleitner, Paramedic, Lifeline Ambulance
- Christina Cox, Air Medical Base Supervisor, PHI Cares Air Medical

Graduation Ceremony

November 3, 2026 from 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Sophie's Kitchen at Wickenburg Ranch: 3430 Club Terrace Way, Wickenburg, Az 85390

Sponsored by: Arizona Public Service & Freeport McMoRan - Bagdad Operations