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04/ 17/ 2024

City Hosts Graduation Ceremony for Students of Career Online High School Program

- WHO: City of El Paso Public Libraries
- WHAT: Adult High School Graduation Ceremony
- WHEN: 6 p.m. Thursday, April 18
- WHERE: The Cortez Ballrooms, Cortez Building, 310 N. Mesa

The City of El Paso Public Libraries is hosting a graduation ceremony for students who completed the Career Online High School Program.

The graduates will receive a fully accredited high school diploma from Smart Horizons Career Online Education. The graduating class of 2024 consists of 17 adult students with the oldest graduate being 53 years of age. Since 2023, 29 students have graduated from the program.

Organized by the Public Libraries, the Career Online High School program is designed for students who are 19 years of age or older, who have never finished their high school education, and who want to earn a high school diploma. The online program allows students to work at their own pace so long as they are making steady progress.

The free program pairs students with an academic coach, who provides students with an individual career path, offers ongoing guidance, evaluates performance, and connects the student with the resources needed to master the course.

Since the program began in 2016, 151 students have graduated from the program. Graduating students have ranged in age from 19 to 60 since 2016. Many students have gone on to higher education or sought to get better-paying jobs as a result.

The graduation ceremony will include speakers including City of El Paso Interim City Manager Cary Westin, who will deliver the keynote speech. The celebration also includes a reception with food, music and dancing.

To learn more about the Career Online High School program, visit <u>ElPasoLibrary.org</u> and click on Programs tab.

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