

UTAH MASONRY COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER



A MILESTONE FOR UTAH MASONRY

A Message from your
Executive Director

September marked a major step forward in UMC's goal to grow Utah's masonry community. By hosting one of the largest Masonry Education Days in Utah's history, UMC brought together 130 students for education, hands-on demonstrations, a plant tour, industry connections, and masonry competitions.

The event introduced more young people to rewarding career opportunities, strengthened relationships among educators and industry partners, and showcased the skill and future of the trade.

This milestone reflects UMC's growing reach and the impact of working together to build a stronger masonry workforce for Utah.

Cassie Mejia
Executive Director
Utah Masonry Council

● Member Spotlight

 **INTERSTATE® BRICK**

This month, we're proud to spotlight Interstate Brick for its continued commitment to masonry education and workforce development. As a Platinum Sponsor of Masonry Education Day, the Interstate Brick team opened its facility to students and professionals, leading a dozen plant tours and offering a firsthand look at masonry manufacturing, materials, craftsmanship, and career opportunities. Their continued support helps strengthen Utah's masonry community and inspire the next generation of the trade.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November 20 | Salt Lake City

Excellence in Masonry Design Awards

Celebrate Utah's best in masonry design, craftsmanship, and innovation. Mark your calendar and join us!

Tickets On Sale | Sponsorships Open

EDUCATION AND INDUSTRY UPDATES

Building Pathways Through Skills USA

Inside construction's circularity challenge

The '100-year flood': How the language of risk has to evolve

Concrete Masonry Check Off Update
updates focused on impact,. Our three priorities: Beauty of Block marketing, the Block Learning Hub and the Block Design Collective. **READ MORE**

San Antonio, TX | June 13–16, 2027
North American Masonry Conference
The Evolving World of Masonry
LEARN MORE HERE

NEW DOPL COURSES COMING SOON

They will be able to be accessed on the UMC website!



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

UMC is now accepting applications for both the Masonry Apprenticeship and Machine Operator Apprenticeship programs.

LEARN MORE HERE

OSHA 10 | MASON CONTRACTORS BUILDING A STRONGER SAFETY CULTURE

OSHA 10 training is a valuable opportunity to strengthen jobsite safety knowledge and support safer, more prepared crews.

Click here -SIGN-UP TODAY!

BUILDING THE NEXT GENERATION

UMC is bringing masonry directly into Utah classrooms through hands-on demonstrations that give students an opportunity to experience the trade firsthand. So far this school year, UMC has visited Canyon View, Westfield High School, and Highland High School—with more to come.

Want to bring masonry to your students?

Schools and CTE programs interested in hosting a masonry demonstration are encouraged to connect with UMC to learn more about our High School Outreach Program.

CONTACT US TODAY!

MASONRY EXPOSURE

CONNECTING WITH UTAH'S CONSTRUCTION COMMUNITY

UMC was proud to sponsor and attend the AGC Trap Shoot, connecting with contractors and industry partners from across Utah's construction community. Events like these provide a great opportunity to strengthen relationships, support our industry partners, and keep masonry part of the conversation.



FROM DISCUSSION TO INVESTMENT

RAC 5 met this month in SLC Utah. Two days of review, discussion, and recommendations ended with 4 programs funded. Such a great meeting and solid collaboration.

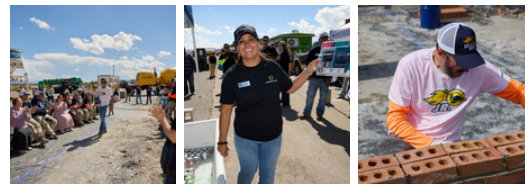


A BUSY SEPTEMBER

MASONRY EDUCATION DAY FOR THE WIN

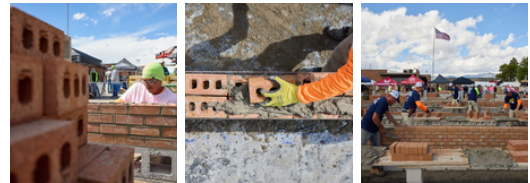
UMC brought the industry together at Interstate Brick on September 18 for Masonry Education Day, welcoming 130 students for a firsthand look at careers in masonry.

The day featured hands-on demonstrations, education, plant tours, industry connections, and plenty of competition—including the Apprentice Skills Competition, Jr. Bricklayer Competition, and SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500®. **MORE ABOUT THE EVENT HERE.**



WHAT A DAY

Masonry Education Day



Delta Stone Natural Stone Education Day

17 members of the AEC community joined Delta Stone for a Day of Education and hands on learning at Delta Stone.





HONORING THE WORK

CELEBRATING THE CRAFT

Join the Utah Masonry Council as we celebrate the craftsmanship, dedication, and projects shaping masonry across Utah. Mark your calendar and get ready for an evening honoring excellence in the industry.

BUILT TO BE RECOGNIZED



20th | November | 2026

5:30 – 9:30 PM

Hilton | SLC
255 S W Temple
St, Salt Lake City,
UT 84101

***Celebrate Utah
Masonry with us.
RESERVE YOUR SPOT
TODAY***

***SPONSORSHIPS
AVAILABLE***

UTAHMASONRYCOUNCIL.ORG



EXCELLENCE IN MASONRY DESIGN

DAVID RIFKIND

David Rifkind is Dean of the College of Architecture and Planning at the University of Colorado Denver and an accomplished architectural historian. His work focuses on modern architecture and urbanism, with internationally recognized scholarship spanning Italy, Ethiopia, and the United States. As an academic leader, he is committed to expanding access to higher education and strengthening collaboration between academia, industry, and government.

**DAWN DIMEDIO**

Dawn DiMedio brings more than 20 years of architectural experience, including over a decade as managing principal of a commercial firm. She has led multidisciplinary teams, overseen nearly \$500 million in built work, and worked with national and Fortune 500 clients. Based in Colorado, Dawn also contributes her expertise through community service and mentorship, including the Boulder Valley School District and AIA's Design Like a Girl program.

**TODD BERICH**

Todd Berich is a 4th generation mason, and the second-generation owner in Berich Masonry located in Denver and Vail Colorado. Todd is actively involved in the day-to-day operations of Berich Masonry and is a past president of the Rocky Mountain Masonry Institute. Todd also serves on the board of directors of the AGC of Colorado as well as the Construction Industry Training Council. Todd is proud to boast of their company heritage as they enter their 64th year in business.

**JULIE MEENAN ECK, PLA, ASLA, EDAC**

Julie Meenan Eck is a Director in LandDesign's Denver office, where she helps lead a multidisciplinary practice in planning, landscape architecture, and civil engineering. With more than 30 years of experience, she has shaped civic spaces, streetscapes, parks, healthcare environments, supportive housing, and mixed-use developments across the Denver region and beyond. Julie guides teams from entitlement through construction, bringing a practical understanding of how design, materials, and craftsmanship shape lasting places. She also serves on the Denver Planning Board and the Cherry Creek North Design Advisory Board, where she contributes to public review of development and design. These roles inform her perspective as a jury member and her appreciation for masonry's contribution to a project's character and quality.





THIN BRICK

INSTALLATION PROGRAM SUCCESS!

Utah Masonry Council and Interstate Brick proudly hosted the first Thin Brick Installation Certification Program class in Utah this month. The one-day training provided participants with hands-on instruction and industry best practices for the proper installation of thin brick systems. Led by experienced industry professionals, Steven Judd and Ian Moffatt the program emphasized quality craftsmanship, installation techniques, safety considerations, and long-term performance standards.

A dozen masonry contractors successfully completed the course requirements and earned their Thin Brick Installation Certification, expanding the pool of qualified professionals capable of delivering high-quality thin brick applications throughout the State. The training also provided an opportunity for contractors to network, share experiences, and gain valuable insights into emerging trends and products within the masonry industry.

This milestone program represents an important step forward in workforce development and continuing education for Utah's masonry community. By providing specialized training opportunities such as this certification program, the Utah Masonry Council and Interstate Brick continue to support professional growth, elevate installation standards, and strengthen the future of the masonry industry across the state.

[FOR MORE PHOTOS CLICK HERE](#)



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS





**WANT
MASONRY
IN YOUR
SCHOOL?**

**INQUIRE
TODAY!**

UTAH MASONRY COUNCIL **BUILDING SKILLS.** **BUILDING FUTURES.** Masonry Outreach Program



SEPTEMBER | UMC's CTE Masonry Outreach Program recently reached 64 students at Canyon View and Westfield High Schools, providing hands-on exposure to masonry skills and career opportunities.

SAVE THE DATES

CLICK ON IMAGE TO LEARN MORE



BUILT IN STONE

dōTERRA

AN ARCHITECTURAL WALKING TOUR

OCTOBER 31
9:00-12:00



MEET THE GENERALS IN SLC

Topgolf Midvale (SLC)
Utah Subcontractors Alliance
Host (USA)



A high-value B2B networking event connecting regional commercial General Contractors with Utah's leading mechanical, plumbing, electrical, roofing, and specialty trade subcontractors.



EVENT DETAILS

Tuesday, October 13
Meet the Generals: 9:30 to 11:30 am
Lunch & Golf : 11:30 am to 1:30 pm



BUILD PARTNERSHIPS

Subs: Build relationships. Open project pipelines. Get pre-qualified.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Utah Masonry Council



The More You Know

UMC hosted education events bring industry professionals together for practical, real-world learning that strengthens the masonry community. From design and engineering to field application, each session is built to support better collaboration, smarter detailing, and stronger project outcomes.

- Interested in learning a specific topic - don't hesitate to reach out! we are happy to accomodate

CONTACT US TODAY



801.264.6651



www.utahmasonrycouncil.org



We come to you or make it virtual!

Lunch provided. CE credits available.



DESIGN SMARTER
**SPECIFY WITH
CONFIDENCE**

BECOME A UTAH MASON TODAY



Brick • Block • Stone
Build Your Future With Us

**Looking for a career that's
hands-on, high-demand,
and built to last?**

WHY CHOOSE US?

- High-Demand Career –
Masons are always in
demand across Utah.
- Earn While You Learn – Paid
training from day one.
- No Experience Needed –
We'll teach you from the
ground up.
- Skilled Trade. Lifelong Craft.
– Build more than buildings
—build a legacy.
- Backed by Industry Leaders
– Learn through UMC's
trusted network of
professionals.

NO EXPERIENCE? NO PROBLEM.

We train motivated individuals
ready to work hard and build
something real.



Contact:

Cassie Mejia
801.264.6651



BLOCK MACHINE OPERATORS PROGRAM 2027

Deadline to sign up December 18th
Class Begins January 2027



Who Should Attend:

- Entry-level apprentices
- Current block plant workers
- Foremen or crew leads looking to upskill
- Anyone interested in production-side masonry careers



What You'll Learn:

- Safe and proper block machine operation
- Maintenance procedures and troubleshooting
- Production efficiency and quality control
- Real-world applications and hands-on training

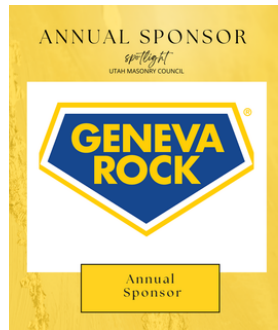
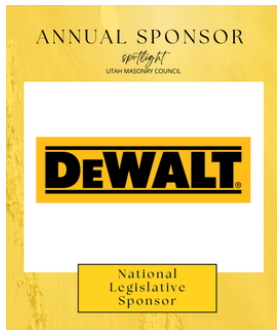
Build Your Skills. Lay the Foundation for a Stronger Career.

Are you ready to take the next step in your masonry career? Join us for a specialized apprenticeship class designed for current and aspiring Block Machine Operators. Learn the essential techniques, safety standards, and technical knowledge required to operate block machinery efficiently and effectively in today's construction industry.

Utah Masonry Council
299 S Main Street
Suite 1300
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

PARTNERS WHO HELP BUILD UTAH MASONRY COUNCIL

CURRENT ANNUAL SPONSORS – THANK YOU



ANNUAL SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

What is an Annual Sponsorship?
An Annual Sponsorship puts your company name and logo on event signage and emails and provides free attendance to events.

Why Should You Become a Sponsor?
It generates greater name recognition and visibility for your company. Whether you are looking to sponsor a specific event, be an annual supporter of UMC or market your services, we have the opportunity for you!

Who Can Buy Them?
Only members of the Utah Masonry Council can participate in the Annual Sponsorship Program.

What's the Advantage?
Besides receiving year-long visibility, you can also pay quarterly and know you haven't missed any opportunities available to promote your company/organization.

SPONSOR BENEFITS	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$500
Seats at Excellence in Masonry Design Awards Banquet	8	6	-	-
Seats at Apprenticeship Graduation	8	6	-	-
Registration at UMC Annual Meeting & Golf Tournament	4	2	1	0
Booth Exhibit at UMC Annual Meeting & Golf Tournament	YES	YES	YES	YES
Registration at UMC Mixers and Sponsored Training Courses	8	6	2	1
Registration in the Masonry Certification Classes	8	6	2	1
Banner and a Booth at Masonry Skills Competition	YES	YES	-	-
Banner at Masonry Skills Competition	YES	YES	YES	-
Recognition at all UMC Events/Trade Shows & Banner Signage	YES	YES	YES	-
Logo displayed on Website, upcoming event emails & newsletters	YES	YES	YES	YES
Social Media Recognition (Company Spotlights)	YES	YES	YES	YES
Company Name Badge Recognition at all Events	YES	YES	YES	YES

www.utahmasonrycouncil.org

LET'S BUILD TOGETHER – SUPPORT UTAH MASONRY

- Invest in workforce development & apprenticeships
- Support education and continuing learning
- Strengthen industry advocacy
- Connect with Utah's masonry decision-makers
- Build long-term relationships in a trusted trade community

GET INVOLVED | BECOME A SPONSOR | LEARN MORE...