

THE LEAD

LOCAL | MN/ND

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ISSUE 18



Happy 2024!

As we begin the new year, the second semester for many of you and the beginning of the training year for those in block training, I'd like to reflect on your many accomplishments. To our third-year bricklayer, third-year PCC, and second-year tile setter apprentices—you're in the final stretch of your training and this is no small feat. Apprenticeship requires a certain level of perseverance and dedication, some of these days you may have just felt like not showing up or maybe there had been a time when you were laid-off over the years and considered quitting, but you didn't! You're here and you've almost completed your related training! Congratulations! Now, if you're attending OSHA 30 in person do **NOT** be late...it's basically the apocalypse if you are...

Second year tile finisher apprentices, I haven't forgotten you! This may or may not be the end of related training for you. Maybe you want to become a tile setter, maybe you don't—the point is that this is your choose-your-own adventure book, and you've overcome your own obstacles and adversaries (dragons?!) and it's almost time to celebrate those successes no matter which page you choose next.

Second year bricklayer and PCC apprentices, this is the literal halfway point in your apprenticeship! You're still here, which means you've overcome some of the biggest challenges in your career...that first winter, right? Your classes have gotten a little smaller, as not everyone chooses to continue this path after their first year—but for those who have, keep up the hard work and the great attitudes! We look forward to continuing watching your growth and accomplishments!

All the first-year apprentices, both those who have been here and those that will be coming for the first time in the next couple weeks, it's already been a journey, hasn't it? This may be one of the hardest times of your apprenticeship, the first winter, and some of you may already be experiencing your first lay-off. Do not forget to use your resources, the training center, the local, your mentors, and classmates—don't be afraid to ask for advice or if they've got a contact for a company they are or have been working for. Our doors are always open here, just don't come to me to complain about all the cheese in this newsletter 'cuz I ain't here to hear it!

Last but not least, all of you who are interested or considering pursuing a career with the Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, don't let any of that scare you away. You could ask any of our current apprentices and there would be a resounding "do it!" Pre-apprenticeships are just around the corner. We're accepting applications for Spring Brick/PCC pre-apprenticeship beginning on March 25. Tile pre-apprenticeship will take place in May and Summer Brick/PCC pre-apprenticeship will begin June 3.

Pre-Apprenticeship

March Brick

Pre-Apprenticeship

- Free, unpaid 6-week training
- 90% job placement rate
- \$30.97 + benefits/hour starting wage
- Decide during training career path: bricklayer or pointer-cleaner-caulker

Click Here to Apply

For more details:
www.bactraining.org/become-apprentice



ACT Certification Success!



Last month, Lupe Ortiz was back at the training center to evaluate the hands-on portion of the Gauged Porcelain Tile Advanced Certification for Tile Installers (ACT). Congratulations to Journeyworkers Josh Bartel, Bryce Brahaum, Jacob Dengel, Victor Lyakh, Kevin Schmock, and Jesse Stonehouse on successfully achieving their ACT in gauged porcelain tile! We would also like to recognize and extend a special thank you to those who volunteered their time to assist with these evaluations: Eric Andersen, Kyle Balder, Josh Leopold, Joe Schmock, and Jesse Stonehouse—there could not have been the same success without your help!

[Read more about the Advanced Certification for Tile Installers here.](#)

IUBAC's 2nd Annual Women's Leadership Conference

Congratulations to 2nd year tile setter apprentice Alexis Kroska on her acceptance to the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers' 2nd Annual Women's Leadership Conference!

New Instructors

A well deserved congratulations to Craig Lundberg, our PCC Instructor who retired this summer, and to Mitchell Reins, our Brick Instructor that retired this January! We welcome our new instructors Justin Korbel (PCC) and John Kent (Brick)!

January 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	2	3 2nd Year Brick 2nd Year Tile Finishers	4 1st Year Tile Layers	5
8	9	10	11	12
1st Year Correspondence Brick Classes Mon-Fri, 7am-3:30pm				
OSHA 30, 7am-3:30pm				Blueprint 01
3rd Year PCC Classes Mon-Fri, 7am-3:30pm				
3rd Year Brick, 7am-3:30pm				
2nd Year Tile Layers, 7am-3:30pm				
15	16	17	18	19
1st Year PCC Classes Mon-Fri, 7am-3:30pm				
2nd & 3rd Year Correspondence Brick Classes Mon-Fri, 7am-3:30pm				
All Correspondence Tile Classes Mon-Fri, 7am-3:30pm				
		Volunteer Opportunity! Construct Tomorrow		
22	23	24	25	26
2nd Year PCC Classes Mon-Fri, 7am-3:30pm				
3rd Year PCC Classes Mon-Fri, 7am-3:30pm				
	All 1st Year Brick	2nd Year Brick 1st Year Tile Finishers	3rd Year Brick 1st Year Tile Layers	
			Volunteer Opportunity! Construct Tomorrow	
29	30	31	1	2
1st Year PCC Classes Mon-Fri, 7am-3:30pm				
1st Year Correspondence Brick Classes Mon-Fri, 7am-3:30pm				
	All 1st Year Brick	2nd Year Brick 2nd Year Tile Finishers		