

Brad Kuluris
Arizona MALE's

I grew up in Orange County California. I am the oldest of four boys and had a wonderful childhood filled with camping, backpacking, fishing, and rock-climbing. I am an eagle scout which was my first rite of passage. I was married right out of high school while attending UC Irvine as a pre-med student. After four years of study I knew medicine was not for me and I changed my major to Psychology then to business and strategy. I am the father of four daughters and two sons and have two grandchildren. I was first introduced to male spirituality at my parish when I went on a men's retreat in 2000. We were invited to start a small group and meet regularly after the retreat. I have been blessed over the last 13 years to be in two small groups that meet every Friday from 6-8am and the other that meets every other week. These two groups truly saved me from myself. After 28 years of marriage, I was divorced and during this process I went on my Men's' Rite of Passage at Ghost ranch in 2003. This experience changed the course of my life. I questioned everything I had done up to this point and redirected my life. I left the business world and went to work for a nonprofit. I focused on sharing male spirituality with men and boys in my community.

After my MROP, several of the initiated men in Arizona decided they wanted to bring the MROP to Arizona and with Richard Rohr's blessing and leadership we had our first MROP in 2005. Since that time, we have continued the MROP every other year and held numerous Firmings and retreats. We have developed Rites of Passage for children entering adolescence, middle schoolers entering high school, and high school seniors entering adulthood.

I am a passionate drum builder and native American flute player. I love to lead sweat lodges and councils with men. I am an avid reader and enjoy poetry.

My day job is the chief operations officer for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Phoenix. I love working with school age youth in the inner-city as well as in our correctional facilities and group homes. The last Illuman event I participated was our annual Soularize gathering. This is where the elders of Illuman gather and through ritual, council, and discernment forge the path for the next years activities. I was able to work with two wonderful men, Belden Lane and Stephen Gambill, to create the rituals and theme for the gathering. Whenever I am with my Illuman brothers I get a full recharge of my spiritual batteries and generate new excitement for the men I work with in Arizona. If I could be so bold as to offer one thing for men on their spiritual journey it would be to maintain an open stance, or in other words, a beginner's mind. I have been able to grow in ways I would have never thought possible because I have been able to suspend my judgment and dualistic thinking long enough to allow new ideas, experiences, and people to enter my life.

Join us on the Journey of illumination and peace be with you.