

# Arizona Girls State Independent



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## Lobbyists are invaluable pieces to democracy

**KellyRice**  
Saguaro City Reporter

Men with questionable morals who are rolling in money is the image that pops into my head when I first think of lobbyists. So I was very surprised when a petite young woman walked into our lobbyist meeting. Ms. Ariana is the current lobbyist for the City of Tucson who works with the Arizona Legislature. Her lessons to Girls State lobbyists were insightful and also changed my personal beliefs about the role of lobbyist within a government.

For starters, anyone can hire a lobbyist: specific towns, school districts, environmental advocacy groups, etc. It is important to remember that lobbyists are not hired to push their own opinions, but rather to push the agenda of their own clients, and be the voice for those the legislature might neglect. For example, Arizona works to represent three key ideals passed by the Mayor of Tucson. Her job is truly fascinating and she loves it. She actually remains in

contact and maintains personal relationships with a large majority of Arizona State legislatures. Including both of our speakers Stefanie Mach and Steve Farley whom are legislatures from Tucson.

Arizona is incredibly busy, particularly around January through mid-April. This time period marks the 100-day regular session of both house and state. In 2014 alone the regular session produced 1300 bills. While most of these get killed in the first few months, Ariana must listen to them all to catch those that will affect Tucson. This year that number totalled 50 bills, all of which she read from cover to cover.

The tough part of Arizona's job is first deciding which bills are a direct threat to Tucson. Next, she must organize those that threaten the Mayor's ideals. Then she must lobby against those that could be drastic, or for those that will accentuate the key goals of Tucson. In short, lobbyists play an invaluable piece in reminding the representatives of our state how their potential decisions could affect the constituents they represent.



## A Night to Remember

**CelesteBaginsky**  
Mimosa City Reporter

Thursday was a very busy day for the girls. The day began by going to find out what the results of the election were. The election results came in and everyone was excited to be elected and appointed to their new job! Congratulations to our new state Governor, Annie Mazarella and our new Secretary of State, Aryanna Thuraisingram!

All of the girls gathered together Thursday night to watch their

friends from their city and other cities perform in the Talent show. Everyone in the talent show did an amazing job. The girls showed off this unique talents such as playing the guitar, singing, dancing, sign language and playing unique instruments such as: mandolin, oboe, and a ukulele. Eden Rivera, from our very own Mimosa, did a wonderful job and showed us all her wonderful talent of dancing.

Fantastic job to everyone! After the show was over everyone gathered together to watch an amazing slide show put together by our wonderful staff to remember our wonderful memories made at Girls State 2014.

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# Arizona Girls State Independent



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 Penny Maklary, Director  
 Shannon Mead, Editor

**2014 Girls State Reporters**  
 Naomi Chien - Ironwood  
 Mea Valli-Doherty - Ironwood  
 Kelsey Yurek - Palo Verde  
 Margaret Tucker - Palo Verde  
 Allyssa Willis - Juniper  
 Jemy Mañalac - Juniper  
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# A World of Cultures

**NaomiChien**  
 Ironwood City Reporter

Here at Girls State, delegates are not only set apart by their unique and intriguing personalities-- it is much more than that! As the week progressed, I witnessed that diversity of cultural backgrounds plays an important role in the development of "self."

Taiwanese, Chinese, Indian, Spanish, Vietnamese, French, Apache, Caucasian—these are just some of the numerous cultures. And with culture comes language—it is often said that the best way to learn a language is to understand its culture. As shown during the meal grace and the talent show, Girl State participants are blessed with the ability to be bilingual...maybe even trilingual! Share your heritage with each other; allow others to engage in the knowledge of different cultures, for we are the future of America! Most important of all, flaunt the traits that your culture allows you to own. Be proud! Be you!

# Nearing Goodbyes

**CarmenDeLaCruz**  
 Manzanita City Reporter

Election results were revealed yesterday and all of the girls on campus were pumped up! Let's congratulate our very own Manzanita City resident, ANNIE MAZZERELLA, for winning Governor!! And a BIG congratulations to all of the rest of the winners!! Spirit was definitely high for this year's elections!

Election results also means that the end of the week is near! It is Friday! TOMORROW is the day that all estimated three hundred girls will go back home. Yesterday was Talent Night, and everyone was spectacular! All of these magnificent events will be remembered by all of us throughout our lives; no one will be forgotten.

So, for the last Independent Newspaper of Girls State 2014, Manzanita City would like to wish everyone, including the staff and junior counselors, good luck with their futures! Have a safe trip home, and for those returning next year, make the most of it! Farewell!!



# A Court Trial Ahead

**JessicaTanner**  
 Cholla City Reporter

Yesterday for several hours in room 110 the newly elected members of the Girls State Court met all together for the first time. The assembled consisted of county sheriffs, county attorneys, superior court judges and clerks, justices of the peace, justices of the Supreme court, and the attorney general.

Headed by two experts in prosecution, they began a process heralded as one of the most exciting in the week long camp. It started with a comprehensive explanation of court basics, after which participants

deliberated and chose a felony to be tried. A story was then developed, complete with witnesses to either corroborate or bring the defendant's alibi into question.

They are developing what is known as a mock trial or a portrayal of an invented court case which features a slew of attorneys and witnesses which is performed after only one day of preparation in front of every citizen in the state. The girls will continue fine tuning and rehearsing their presentation today, to be performed at 1:15 pm in the State House at Koffl 204. Those participating promise a thrilling show and look forward to seeing everyone there.

# Rising to the Occasion

**Erin Kong**  
Pinon City Reporter

Girls State has truly been a test of physical, emotional, and mental strength, and each day only adds on pressure. However, each girl is still putting in her best effort towards making the county the best it can be.

Kaibab county worked meticulously planning out their city books from everything from highways to education to budgets. Each girl throughout is rising to the occasion, putting in hours to make their county--and state--the best it can be.

Although the girls may seem a little worn, each girl is persevering and pushing through to go the extra mile, and to become strong workers and leaders, and to gain the best experience they can.

# Girls State Talent Show of 2014

**Dominique Williams**  
Mesquite City Reporter

Everyone pumped to see all the fun and creative performances tonight. I bet no one expected the amount of energy that was Displayed on that stage. I know everyone enjoyed the dances, poems and beat boxing but in the end the one thing I know we will all remember in our minds and hearts was the final slide show showing all the fun and stress we have had all week.

I know the slide show brought tears to many of your guys eyes and that you guys are going to miss everyone here at Girls State. However, what you may not realize is everyone here and girls state including faculty and JC's are going to miss you too.

# Stressful yet exciting!

**Mallory Jenkins**  
Saguaro City Reporter

Today was by far the most stressful day that we've had here at Girls State. Although we were all a tad bit sleep deprived, the tension in the room during the general election results kept our minds sharp. Congratulations to all of the wonderful girls who now hold state, county, city and other offices!

We were honored to have Ms. Stefanie Mach, a much respected member of Arizona's House of Representatives come speak to us about her role as a young woman in politics. She eloquently spoke about a variety of subjects. Ranging from her motivations and inspirations, her struggles, and her success.

My respect for Ms. Mach heightened as she continued to speak. She spoke about the fact that we, teenage girls, cannot allow our determination to deteriorate due to a little bump in the road

Goodnight and Goodbye Ladies!



# Girls State Talent Show Success

**Kelsey Yurek**  
Palo Verde City Reporter

The Talent Show of the 67<sup>th</sup> Session of Girls State has been long anticipated over the past five days. Auditions were lengthy and extended well throughout the night as staff struggled to view all citizens wishing to perform due to an already packed Girls State schedule. Tonight, all the skills and hours of practice were showcased.

The show started strong with Maryn Hooper's rendition of "No One" that had the crowd wondering whether future performances had the ability to live up to it.

Several performers—Sunshine Sanchez (Cholla), Amanda Becker (Palo Verde), and Julia Garringer (Juniper)—engaged the crowd with singing or dancing. Others brought the crowd to tears—Addie Fairley (Juniper) and Brianna Antram (Sycamore)—through interpretations of songs via signing and singing. Each artist brought a different flavor in their performance: sassy, soulful, classical, or full of attitude. Rare skills were displayed in Alena Ohumukini (Palo Verde), Aubrey Dodge (Ocotillo), and Rhiannon Watkins (Pinon). Girls dedicated their performances to their new friends and cities

at large. Erin Kong (Pinon) devoted her rendition of "On My Own" to anyone who has had their heart broken. No need to be a fan of *Les Miserables* to enjoy her rendition; who knew such a big voice could come from such a tiny singer.

Altogether, the Girls State Talent Show served its larger purpose in providing a memory free of the stress elections brought. Each citizen, city, county, and Girls State overall left the auditorium without much of a voice or the ability to hear, but an abundance of memories that will make the good-bye on Saturday a tough one.

# Girls State citizens give back to the veterans

Mrs. Mead

Each and every year here at Girls State we collect pairs of socks to aid our veterans. This has been quite the tradition at Girls State with each year striving to beat the last year. This year the total count was 987 socks!! WAY TO GO LADIES!!

These pairs of socks go to the VA's as well as the homeless veterans shelters and medical centers around the state.

To some this may seem like a simple project, yet the idea is to see this project through the veterans eyes and not our own. To some of these veterans receiving this simple token is much more than just a need it is a gift. A gift that says we as Girls Staters care about our veterans and their families.

Keep up the great work ladies and remember to reach out into your own community when you return and continue to help those in need.

