

Arizona Girls State Independent



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Candidates Get Competitive

ShirinAhmadpour
Ocotillo City Reporter

It's not what you say, it's how you say it. Every candidate can shake hands, smile, and ask for your vote; but the true politicians know how to sway your vote. The key is sincerity, the goal is to unlock the hearts of the citizens.

Some candidates feel that in order to gain votes they must first gain friendship by getting to know each person rather than simply trying to promote name remembrance. The precinct committeemen from each party are hard at work influencing citizens to elect their party's candidate and for some PCs they even have the job of campaigning for themselves as well.

The hustle and bustle of creating posters spread across all county floors. These posters show off both creativity and personality. It's human nature to have eyes attracted to vibrant, unique signs with the mind set that if a girl puts in a great amount of effort to create campaign materials, then most likely they would put in great effort into the job at hand.

Of course, a candidate can find herself receiving a vote by proving that she can lick her elbow with her tongue, tap dance, or by daringly walk around in a bumblebee costume.

Yet no matter what a candidate's gimmick happens to be, the ladies at Girls State look deeper. Citizens were able to hear the ideals and plans of the candidates during speeches presented at county courthouses and at the state house. Charisma and conviction in the voices of the candidates who made it passed the primary elections and into the general elections.

Citizens heard of the passionate motives of their future county and state offices. Then in a last attempt to capture votes, candidates for governor and secretary of state were presented with on stage, thought provoking whistle stop questions.

Connie Zuo feels that these questions "Help voters see their qualifications while testing their true personalities on the spot." Today we will all discover the results of the fastest and possibly the most draining campaigns of these young ladies lives.



Candidate Costumes for Meet the Candidate Night

First sister city encounters

SharynTom
Palo Verde City Reporter

Giddy laughter and enthusiastic screaming characterized the sister cities even on Monday night. The cities of Palo Verde and Sycamore celebrated with an exchange of goody bags. The simple swapping of patriotic pencils and wonka treats spread the warm 'n fuzzies all around.

"I really appreciated it," said Darcy Fowler, "It was a great way to meet new people."

Old friends were greeted with hugs and cheers while newcomers received warm

welcomes. When the introductions finished, games and ice-breakers brought further festivities. Rounds of ride the pony, signs and down by the banks created the perfect atmosphere for friendliness.

According to Kendle Romney, playing games that brought people out of their comfort zone was a fantastic way to open up to others. Romney even plans on going back to visit her Sycamore sisters because she had such a great time.

Sister cities not only gives the opportunity to make new friends, but hone life skills.



Anita Diaz, house mother of Palo Verde said, "Sister City night helps you to learn to interact with other people of

different backgrounds."

Overall, the event proved another successful meshing of Girls State delegates.

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Mary Ngugi - Sycamore
Casandra Gill - Sycamore
Kayla DeCant - Ironwood
Katie Scates - Ironwood

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Would you like stress with that?

DanaDale
Juniper City Reporter

Arguably the second best thing about Girls State, after meeting the incredible people here, is the campaigning. The bright posters, catchy slogans and brilliant ideas all contribute to the high spirit in Girls State. For some the brain storming and creating a campaign started once they found that they were going to Girls State. Others started a month before this program. The rest started on Tuesday. Either way

we've waited a long time for election day.

However, if the stress from the campaigning itself is not enough, the stress of waiting for the results comes second. Just to wait to find out if you are in the general election you have to wait seven excruciating long hours to hear the results. In the end 19 long hours are spent waiting, wishing and stressing. As active leaders, we cannot stand the idle waiting and stress over the things we cannot change, such as waiting for the votes to be counted.



Arizona Girls State Talent Show

Emcees: Seneca Bright-Hartzel & Erika Sarrazin (Ocotillo)

1. Lin Wang (Juniper)
Dance & Song "A Friend Like Me"
2. Kelsie Williams (Mesquite)
"Reparations" Dramatic Monologue
3. Stephanie Mejia (Cholla)
and Mariah Barron (Manzanita)
Color Guard "I'll Follow You into the Dark"
4. Chelsea Mortenson (Saguaro)
Song "Se tu m'ami"
5. Caitlin Shaw (Pinon)
Guitar Solo "Amazing Grace"
6. Ruthie Bushman (Juniper)
Dance with glow sticks "Evolution of Dance"
7. Eva Jaramillo (Palo Verde)
Song "If You're Reading This"
8. Sara Jacobs (Sycamore)
Dance "Paradise Circus"
9. Rachel Black (Juniper)
Song "Nothing"
10. Mackenzie Ballard (Sycamore)
Dance "Miss You, Love"
11. Julia King (Sycamore)
Guitar Solo "If I Die Young"
12. Brittany Strobelt (Palo Verde)
Monologue "As You Like It"
13. Chelsea Bright (Manzanita)
Song "When Someone's Wish Comes True"
14. Catherine Gallindo (Juniper)
Ballet "A Pirate's Life for Me"
15. Jena Sykes (Cholla)
Song "If I Ain't Got You"
16. Amanda Schwartz (Juniper)
Pantomime "Circus"
17. Samantha Sidoti (Ocotillo)
Song "Show Off" from the Drowsy Chaperone
18. Brittni Emmett (Mesquite)
Violin Solo "Entrance of the Queen of Sheba"
19. Ji Su Kang (Juniper)
Song "Reflection" from Mulan
20. Kelsey Kelleher (Mimosa)
Irish Reel (Dance)
21. Claire Cambron (Cholla)
and Sharyn Tom (Palo Verde)
Duo Acting "Feminism"
22. Taylor Gath (Manzanita)
Song "Chasing Pavement"
23. Stephanie Whitaker (Pinon)
Guitar Solo "The Way I Am"
24. Shelby Gonzales (Juniper)
Piano "Entertainer"
25. Alissa Sabatino (Sycamore)
Dance "The Words"
26. Natalie Lewis (Pinon)
Song "At Last"
27. Talent Show Participants
"God Bless America"

Dream Jobs of our Delegates

LilySchleicher
Ocotillo City Reporter

Each of us are nearing the end of one epoch of our lives and the birth of another. Each of us are becoming more than adolescents, were becoming young women.

Each of us are about to embark on our new lives, out there, in the real world. We know it will be tough but we have friends and family who can help us through.

We all have our dream careers as well, myself included. I know, one day I would beyond all measure love to be on the scene with my camera as history is taking place. I want to document the battles, the wars, and the revolutions. However, I'm aware of how hard that is, I know it takes so much more than most are willing to give, I however, am will-

ing to put forth that effort.

Samantha Sidoti too has a dream that is extremely lofty. This Theatre-Enthralled-Miss admires the show "Saturday Night Live" like no other and can see herself as Kristen Wiig. This is very realistic for her though, as her Ocotillo family knows, she is the funniest girl around. "Sam-Bam-Thank-You-Ma'am" never fails to make us laugh. Twenty years from now, her autograph will be worth something, you may want to get it now!

Lin Wang is not unlike us, her goal is an amazing one at that. This dynamic Girl wants to one day be the Ambassador to China and because of her determination, there is no doubt in my mind that she will achieve this goal and be a key connection to such a world power.

Some of us have huge dreams, others

are more localized and inspirational, no matter though, they are all important. That does not exclude Christy Biggers. She has been a vegetarian for five years and knows what its like to have limited food choices. For her, a restaurant of her own where she can express her culinary artistry would be amazing. Her cousin had one but was forced to shut down due to the economical slump we have found ourselves in. I'm sure her food would be scrumptious!

We are all on the path to success and it is imperative we stay there, no matter what. We are leaders now in sense, but one day we will know the true responsibility of being a leader, and its weight. I'm sure all of us Girls State citizens will make excellent choices and continue to do amazing things! Have a wonderful future, see you there!



Congrats to one and all!

ClaireCambron
Cholla City Reporter

With a roll of tape in one hand and scissors in the other, dozens of girls have scouted the hallways for the perfect area to display their posters. As we all know, the posters have been bright, clever, and plentiful! Each girls has the same hopeful goal ion mind, the title of [insert desired position here.]

At the county and state level, competition was intense as eloquently delivered speeches were delivered in every category.

Regardless of how the campaigns turn out, congratulations to all the candidates. Your dedication and diligence has come through, and this whole process has definitely been a learning experience. Truly, all members of Girls State have achieved a great accomplishment by being honored as some of Arizona's best and brightest.

Creativity shows here at Girls State

JackieGerhart
Mimosa City Reporter

As the vote for Capital City approaches and our week comes to an end, it gets hard to miss all the elaborate decorations on the doors and hallways.

It becomes pretty apparent how creative the ladies at Girls State are when we see all the different themes such as the Saguaro Sunflowers, Mystical Mimosa and the Ironwood Irresistible with a candy Land theme.

Not only is there clever things like mailboxes, door frames, and name tags but also jails. Be careful which cities you enter and hang posters in while campaigning or you may be spending time in one.

Things will be getting hectic with campaigning but it is important to keep up the good work with decorating and win the race for Capital City.

Cheetah Girls, Cheetah Sisters

BrookeFinley
Cholla City Reporter

The city of Cholla feels a remarkable bond with the sisters of their city and the selected rooms explain why.

Room 543: "I think we are the most bonded city because we have Cholla spirit that connects us all together and that leads to cheering all the time."

Room 527: "We are always in the hallways and our doors are always open. City before self."

Room 523: "We always hangout together and have no clicks."

Room 521: "Cholla girls sit next to different people at lunch and conversation blossoms anywhere."

Room 525: "As we walk, we play music and sing."

Mayor Emma Sales said with a smile, "We're so close because there's no competition among us and we support each other."

