

# Arizona Girls State Independent



June 4, 2018 • Volume 12, Issue 1 • Tucson, Arizona

## Welcome to the 71<sup>st</sup> Session of Arizona Girls State at UofA

Welcome to the 71st Annual Arizona Girls State. Congratulations on being chosen as a delegate. Your leadership and academic skills have given you the opportunity to represent your school, community and local American Legion Auxiliary Unit at this amazing program.

We as staff are proud to have you here and hope that your learning experience is one that you will take with you.

### Girls State Sponsorship

Girls State is sponsored by the world's largest women's patriotic organization... The American Legion Auxiliary. The Auxiliary is dedicated to helping veterans as well as our future leaders, such as you.

Established in the early twentieth century, the Auxiliary has grown to nearly one million members. In 1919, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) was created, dedicated to supporting the United States Armed Forces and all of the veterans.

Today, the ALA has over twenty national programs that benefit through money and other donations. Two of the ALA's most well known programs are Girls State and Girls Nation.

### New Experiences

As our wonderful Governor explained last night each day here will be filled with new and exciting experiences. Your first day brought you to a dorm floor filled with new and exciting young women who were just as nervous as you. Yet, each of you took that first step in creating welcoming lines and waiting in the lobby area for each girl to come in. You welcomed each girl with a smile and a compliment.

Each day here will bring more fun and more learning with all that excitement of something new. Did we mention lack of sleep? The sleep thing never really gets better with all those exciting emotions and all the new stories.

### Things To Come

During the week you will learn about city, county and state government with emphasis being placed on political parties, campaigns and elections. You will be challenged to use your initiative and imagination. You'll make the most of your week by 'getting involved'.

Within your city you will be able to run for offices, set laws and create your very own city. Creations from businesses to parks and recreational facilities. Remember to be creative when decorating your doors and hallways to show just how much you enjoy your city. Show pride in what you have created. *These will also be judged for awards!!!*

Within the county you will be running for offices and helping to create the best county in Girls State. You will run for State offices as well and of course everyone will be giving speeches.

### Fun gatherings coming

This week there will not only be meetings and speeches but so much more. We have glee club that will be practicing all week to sing us some amazing songs during our Magical Evening.

There will be a talent show held on Thursday evening. A fun way for each of you to show off your talent. Please keep an eye out for the sign up sheet.

Did you see the mention of the magical evening? Oh yes we have a wonderful evening of song and dinner planned with some very special guests.

We will round off our week with an awesome court trial on Friday!! Your court officials that you elect later this week will be working on that one.

Don't forget all of our wonderful guest speakers that are sure to keep you laughing and learning.

### A Few Things To Remember

Please be respectful of the staff and other citizens as we are all here to learn and have fun.

Do not forget to bring your Girls State handbook with you to ALL GS events, including meals as we may not return to the dorms after some meals.

Be mindful of your things in your rooms. If you have valuables that you would like to have secured please see your City Advisor.

Never leave your city without first signing out or letting your advisor know where you are going and why.

If you are feeling ill or become injured remember to see the nurse. Don't wait if you feel sick. The nurses are located on the 6th floor (Arizona Hall) rooms 604 & 602.

### Togs and Treats

Togs and Treats is the official Arizona Girls State Store. They have so much to offer, from t-shirts, shorts, stuffed animals, snacks, roses, and SO MUCH MORE!! Stop by the store and see what wonders they have to offer.

**WELCOME TO GIRLS STATE!!**



**WANT TO SEE YOURSELF AND YOUR CITY ON THE BIG SCREEN??**

**Send in your photos all week and see your photos during the slide show and in this year's yearbook. Send pictures to [photos@azgirlsstate.com](mailto:photos@azgirlsstate.com)**

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# Arizona Girls State Independent



is published daily by  
 American Legion Auxiliary  
 Arizona Girls State  
 Penny Maklary, Director  
 Shannon Mead, Editor

**2018 Girls State Reporters**  
 Isha Paode - Ironwood  
 Maria Cook - Ironwood  
 Laya Reddy - Palo Verde  
 Nicole Ursprunger - Palo Verde  
 Alexis DeStefano - Juniper  
 Tiffany Turinsky - Juniper  
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 Madalyn Fredman - Pinon  
 Mersadez Bowen - Ocotillo  
 Jaalah Engle - Ocotillo  
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 Abbie Spiek - Yucca  
 Leilani Wesley - Saguario  
 Kalena Oorlog - Saguario  
 Madison Brown - Mesquite  
 Isabella Bayer - Mesquite  
 Alexis Jackson - Sycamore  
 Alexandria Smith - Sycamore

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## Meet Your Arizona Girls State Reporters



Say hello to your Girls State Independent reporters. These lovely ladies will be writing articles regarding your cities.

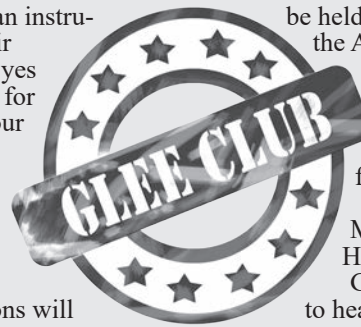
- From Ironwood:**  
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- From Mesquite:**  
Madison Brown & Isabella Bayer
- From Sycamore:**  
Alexis Jackson & Alexandria Smith
- Special Assignments Reporter:**  
Abigayle Mazzocco

## Do you sing or play music? If so then GS Glee Club wants you!

Do you love to sing or play an instrument? How about lead the choir during a big show? If you said yes to either then we have the club for you! Come on down and join our Glee Club.

We are looking for talented young ladies to perform at our Magical Evening dinner. After all, what is dinner without a little music?

The first meeting and auditions will



be held on Monday starting at 4:15pm in the Arizona Hall Lounge. Please be sure to bring your instruments with you if you have them. Also perhaps a few song ideas as well. Please note you must be present at the first meeting in order to participate. If you have questions please see Mrs. Queen in room 803 (Sonora Hall).

Good luck ladies and we cannot wait to hear those wonderful chords on Friday.

## Prepare to be entertained at the Annual Girls State Talent Show!

Do you have that one special talent that sets you a part from the rest? Do you love to sing, dance or act on stage? If you answered yes to either of these questions then we want you for our Annual Talent Night!

Thursday has been set aside just for you to show all of us here your very own talent. Strut your stuff or rock the rafters with that amazing voice.

Of course no talent show is complete without the auditions. All talented citizens are encouraged and must attend the auditions in order to participate. Keep an eye out for the audition sign up on the first floor near the front desk and mail boxes.

Remember to bring all of your needed materials for your talent with you at the time of auditions as we need to see exactly what it is you will be doing for the show.

For all questions and comments concerning the event, please see Mrs. Tinch in room 609 (Sonora Hall).



# 71st Annual Girls State begins with registration

Yesterday each of you began your journey to Girls State by packing up the car and heading to Tucson with your parents and family. Some of you traveled all the way from the Grand Canyon while others came from Yuma and all over in between.

Once you arrived it was time to stand in line and wait. Always the hurry up and wait right? Once the door opened it was all moving from there.

First you started with a warm greeting from the UofA staff giving you your handbook and room assignments. The wonderful staff was so gracious to lend us a hand checking you in today.

Next you were off to have your amazing picture taken for your photo ID badge that you will be wearing during your week here at Girls State.

Then it was off to see the nurses where you dropped off those wonderful yellow cards and the parents could chat with our

team of nurses that you will see off and on all week. They are awesome and very caring!

After the nurses you got to meet more of the UofA staff to help you get the room key for your new home away from home for the week! Please be sure and keep those keys on your lanyard and do not lose them!!

Now you turn and off to the Store/Bank where you meet our lovely store staff and have the opportunity to bank your money so that you do not lose it this week. Remember you will have plenty of opportunity this week to stop in to the store and pick up some great items, like shirts, lanyards, snacks and of course WATER!!!

Then it was off to get those new blue shirts that will tell everyone on campus that WE ARE GIRLS STATE in a sea of beautiful blue. Don't worry about only getting two, there will be laundry days, we promise.

Finally it was off to the elevator where the advisors told your parents that it was time to leave you to adventure Girls State on your own. Don't worry they will see you again on Saturday!!

Once you stepped out of the elevator you were greeted by your JCs and of course your City Advisor. I even bet you got to see some of your new city members. Remember that you will be with these girls for the next week so make the best of each situation.

Now that you are in your rooms and beginning the program take a quick moment to thank those that helped get you here today. Each of the Girls State staff members have volunteered their time to help make this a wonderful experience for each one of you. If you see them wondering the cities or during session give them a quick thanks for everything. They are sure to enjoy it.



# Opening Session At Girls State

Last night was an amazing first night. There were many wonderful speakers and lots of fun. To open the evening our girls posted our very patriotic colors. We were introduced to our wonderful Governor Angelia Ramirez and Secretary of State Kylie Cochrane. Each welcomed you and wished you the best time here at Girls State as well as to reach for your goals and make the best of the week you have here.

Next we heard from the U of A Coordinator. She gave us a great welcome and let us know that the University is here to help us have a wonderful and safe Girls State session.

We had a wonderful flag ceremony presented by Post 36's Copper Knight Color Guard and Mrs. Matteson. During this presentation the 13 folds of the flag

were explained so that you will be able to understand why these ceremonies are so important and such a treasure. It gives true meaning and respect to all those who have fought bravely for this country.

Mrs. Maklary explained the purpose of Girls State and how important it is to be yourself. Each one of you is special and has potential. Stand out and be yourself. Don't let others make your decisions for you. Just B U.

Let's not forget our wonderful and talented JC's, who modeled for us just before dinner. These lovely ladies were kind enough to show you all the store has to offer. Remember "Togs and Treats" has all that you are looking for while you are here at Girls State.

We also owe a special thank you to the staff for the presentation that was

not only informative but fun. Thank you ladies for all that you do for us and our veterans.

Our second part of the evening was saved for our special guest speakers. Teresa Martinez gave a wonderful and creative speech on the function of political parties. What an amazing speaker, so informative. She even gave away some really neat copper coins to all those with wonderful answers and questions.

We were also joined by Maya Holliday, speaking about the Precinct Committeeman.

Ladies a great job on all the wonderful and interesting questions. Way to stay on topic and keep our speakers thinking. Keep it up this week with all of the wonderful guest speakers to come.



# Arizona Girls State Independent



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## DAY ZERO: AZGS PREP

**Madalyn Fredman & Jaeda Hart**  
Pinon City Reporters

On 3 June 2018, over 300 girls in the Arizona state were preparing for a week that would change their lives-- Arizona Girls State; a seven-day course that would challenge their leadership, communication, teamwork, and dedication, and ultimately their character. The girls would be put to the test, while learning, creating life-long friendships, and having a fun experience.

In the weeks leading up to Girls State, there was some considerable preparation the girls had to undergo. Laura O'Donnell from Pinon City said, "I looked up all the background on our government and what each branch does, as well as all the differ-

ent levels of the government. I also went to Target frequently to make sure I had the right clothes for the week"

Sunday 3 June 2018 was a blistering hot day in Tucson, Az., but the girls managed to pull through and maintain their quality of performance. The long lines and blazing sun seemed to only build the anticipation even more. As families bid farewell, the girls walked through doors that would forever leave a lasting effect on the women they are to become.

The competition between the girls is growing, and so are the friendships. By the end of the week, the girls will have made new connections with others from across

the state that will last a lifetime.

Jordan Crooks from Pinon City said, "Day zero was a culture shock for me. Coming from a home where I live alone with my parents, it was certainly a change. Despite this change, my city was ridiculously welcoming, and understanding of everyone."

At the end of "Day Zero", the girls crawled in bed for a good night's rest after an extremely busy day. "It was crazy busy but it was still a lot of fun." said Becca Amador from Kaibab County. The girls are enthusiastically awaiting what the rest of the week has in store.

## We celebrate diversity at Girls State

**Laya Reddy & Nicole Ursprunger**  
Palo Verde City Reporters

Whether from Flagstaff or Tucson, the citizens of AZ Girls State all come from different backgrounds. We celebrate our diversity of culture, race, and interests, and recognize the unique talents and skills of each individual. While important to acknowledge our differences, we must also realize that despite our diversified upbringings, we have much in common. After an interview with all the citizens of Palo Verde, we have compiled a list of their common interests to show just how similar we are.

### Sports

- Jasmine Ayala-Millan (basketball, volleyball)
- Sydney Peare (cheer, volleyball)
- Guadalupe Valdez (volleyball)
- Kaitlyn Divijak (tennis)
- Lily Eribes (hiking, golf)
- Misal Irfan (badminton)
- Nicole Ursprunger (golf) eribes

- Laya Reddy (Taekwondo)
- Teresa Noll (scuba diving)
- Kristin Riggs (soccer, track)

### Music and Art

- Anahi Covarrubias
- Evelyn Rodriquez
- Julia Shackleford (writing, music)
- Samantha Nieto
- Kenna Elliott
- Miquela Frank
- Laya Reddy (trumpet)
- Misal Irfan (photography)
- Kristin Riggs (piano)

### Travel

- Francesca Valadorni
- Teresa Noll
- Nicole Ursprunger
- Samantha Nieto
- Lily Eribes

### Media

- Anahi Covarrubias (memes)
- Julia Shackleford (TV)
- Erin Collins (movies)
- Vivian Gurrola (TV)

### School Involvement

- Grace Menna (public speaking, debate)
- Erin Collins (service)
- Kaitlyn Divijak (mock trial)
- Rachel Thompson (student council)

### Miscellaneous

- Francesca Valadorni (spending time with family)
- Erin Collins (puppies)
- Jenny Mendoza (sign language, origami)
- Vivian Gurrola (politics)
- Evelyn Rodriquez (military)
- Rachel Thompson (food)



**WANT TO SEE YOURSELF AND YOUR CITY ON THE BIG SCREEN??**

Send in your photos all week and see your photos during the slide show and in this year's yearbook. Send pictures to [photos@azgirlsstate.com](mailto:photos@azgirlsstate.com)

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# Arizona Girls State Independent



# Nationalist News

**Tiffany Turinsky**  
 Juniper City Reporter

The very first Nationalist Precinct Committee meeting where new positions were taken up by fellow peers occurred on June 4th. About three to four delegates from each city, nearly fifteen of them ran for the Nationalist State Chairman. After ten brief minutes of improve speeches and voting, Grace Menna had won the majority vote. Shortly after, she got to work tackling the topic planks of judiciary, education, and appropriations issues.

In order to escalate the progress of the meeting, Meena had then separated the committee into three sub-committees: platform, slate and spirit. Platform would decide the foundation of issues. Slate

would reassure campaigners and of course spirit would take on the task of hyping the crowd at rallies.

Later on that evening a rally for each party took place. With the estimated fifteen minutes of part pride the Nationalists party had discussed issues considered the five "I's".

The first "I" consists of increasing public educational staff. It is followed by another "I" that institutes that other state should collectively have access to any existing criminal records. The third "I" is to abolish any sexual harassment in nearly all locations. The fourth "I" will introduce stronger programs for veterans services.

Finally the fifth "I" is aiming

towards the sustainability of infrastructure evolution.

At approximately 8:15 pm the rallies took place outside the dorms. There the platforms introduced their causes and the cheers, chants, and songs were taught to the parties. Some of the Nationalist chants are:

- Who are we? Nats! What are we? Fed Up!
- N-A-T-S Does it right, does it best!
- We are, we are Nationalists!
- The Slow Clap

Menna was successful at hyping up the crowd; she shows great promise of an amazing year for the Girls State Nationalist party.



## The Before & Now of Girls State

**Maria Cook**  
 Ironwood City Reporter

The 71st Girls State session has just begun and all the participants can finally let out a breath of relief. A lot of the girls had expectation of what Girls State would be/look like before they came, some of the assumptions that they were making about Girls State were actually pretty funny.

Now everyone can finally stop worrying about what is the mysterious "Girls State" and just enjoy it for what it really is. It is a group of young, capable, driven, beautiful women who are here to get tasks done.

Some of the citizens in Ironwood had expectations of Girls

State that were all pretty much the same. The majority of the girls throughout Girls State would be "intense".

One girl from Ironwood thought *before* she came that it would be, "A lot of nerds that wanted to be president." *Now* she sees Girls State as, "More fun than she could have hoped for."

Another girl thought *before* she got to Tucson that Girls State was, "Not going to be anything I wanted to do and no one would be like me." *Now* she sees Girls State as, "A place where everyone is very nice and welcoming. There are a lot of people I can see

as my friends."

The last girl interviewed from Ironwood originally thought that, *before* she came to Girls State it would be, "A lot of work and stressful." *Now* she is out making a fortune predicting peoples futures...kidding! Now her view on Girls State is pretty indistinguishable from her first thoughts. "It is still a lot of work, but it is also a lot of fun!"

Are any of these thoughts similar to how you felt before you came to Girls State? If so, then how do you feel now about being here in Tucson? Besides it being insanely hot!

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- Isabella Bayer - Mesquite
- Alexis Jackson - Sycamore
- Alexandria Smith - Sycamore

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# Ballots are in for Cholla City

**Bricella Moreno & Louisa Gilbert**  
Cholla City Reporters

Cholla City is currently enjoying a promising state of elected politicians this year the Girls State. The mayoral candidates from both the Nationalist and Federalist parties, Mary Newman and Autumn Byars, were very strong. While Byars did win, the citizens of Cholla are looking forward to seeing Newman on future county and state ballots.

This exciting and highly competitive race represents only a fraction of the high achieving young women in Cholla.

Inside its boundaries are three International Baccalaureate students, including the Mayor. IB, the programs condensed name, is a global curriculum focused on high level academics and personal achievement. These potential Girls State public servants have benefitted from the high expectations found in the IB program. Many are looking forward to seeing what these young women will accomplish during their stay in the sunny, southern Tucson.

These are not the only accomplished

citizens that can be found at Girls State and in Cholla. All of the young women in attendance have distinguished themselves in many ways including being selected as Arizona Girl State delegates from their respective high schools. In addition, many are highly involved in leadership roles in clubs and in student government programs.

The 2018 session of Arizona Girls State, while only at its beginning, looks promising and high achieving due to its involved and accomplished citizens.

## A Happy Birthday to Lorelei St. Clair

**Leilani Wesley**  
Saguaro City Reporter

Yesterday was a special day for a citizen in Arizona Girls State. Lorelei St. Clair, the proud and reliable pole-bearer of Saguaro City, has turned 17. Saguaro City sang Lorelei the traditional "Happy Birthday" song and many others came to wish her a great birthday.

Running beside the birthday of our fellow citizen, Girls States one of many goals truly shined bright. Arizona Girls State ensures that delegates from the same schools are separated into different cities. This is done in order to encourage us girls to practice the valuable skills of communication and creating relationships. Some would adjust quickly, others would be pushed out of their comfort zone. But it is done for our benefit. Now, as early as day two, Girls State citizens have evolved from shy strangers to fast friends.

Arizona Girls State has created an amiable environment that allows for friendships to blossom quickly. It is evident in the closeness of the city's citizen. It is evident in the cafeteria full of chatter and laughter. It is also evident in Lorelei St. Clairs birthday, where Girls States friendly atmosphere gave her a truly happy birthday. The birthday girl herself said with a smile, "About three hundred people said happy birthday to me. It was almost overwhelming, but I felt special.



## Mimosa rolls the dice with changes

**Ruth Nyagaka**  
Mimosa City Reporter

Mimosa City in the year of 2018 has made remarkable changes. This paradigm shift may be best exemplified by the theme of game night being established. This theme is very different to the years antecedent to 2018. The city of Mimosa may have "rolled the dice" in other words taken a chance despite the odds of the game in this year's changes.

Furthermore every business in Mimosa is tailored to games. From the "Operation" Hospital to the "Twister" Yoga one may find a sense of youth when they take a stroll through Mimosa. Owners of each business have made sure to decorate their businesses accordingly, evidently making this city perhaps the city with the most fun in the whole state.

Whether it is a date night with each individual's loved ones or a night on the town with a family, Mimosa certainly conveys fun for all ages while maintaining a family friendly environment and wholesome entertainment.

Yet another paradigm shift Mimosa has taken in the past week is a change in the mayoral office. Despite the great run that the past mayoral office of 2017 had, this year's election was an important breath of fresh air that every Mimosian needed.

The residents of Mimosa came, heard and analyzed the candidates of the year. The Mayor position offered Lucy Fields of the Federalist party and Jasmin Perdomo of the Nationalist Party. Both candidates were

uncontested in their subjective primary elections, but the former pulled through and was elected Mayor Fields of Mimosa on June 4, 2018.

As for the councilman nominees, it was narrowed down in the primaries that three councilman from both the Federalists and the Nationalists would be represented in the General Election. The candidates for the councilman positions were further voted for and on June 4 2018, four new councilman were sworn in: Catherine F. Xia, Ruth N. Nyagaka, Shelby F. Ray, and Alexa N. Ramirez. These councilman promised a brighter future in the next year for Mimosa and the residents furthermore will look forward to this light at the end of the tunnel.

# A Mindful and Momentous Monday in the City of Mesquite

**MadisonBrown & IsabellaBayer**  
Mesquite City Reporters

As Monday morning dooms upon the marvelous city of Mesquite, we are ready to bring the heat beginning with the elections of PCs. After that election is under the rug, us girls quickly move onto the primary election of both the mayor and city council members.

The three nominees of the Federalist party for mayor approaching the primary election are Lila Oyegar, Brooklyn Dean, and Anusha Nataragan. And, on the Nationalist party before the primary election is Megan Harris. Each of the girls was recognized as they explained to our group why they felt they were fit for the tremendous job to be the mayor of our city. After the primary election, the nominee for the Federalist party is Brooklyn Dean, and Megan Harris for the Nationalists. So, we anticipate who the new leader of our city is going to be as we wait for the general election and play some icebreaker games!

Once the general election is underway, Brooklyn Dean comes out victorious. When asked about her experience in leadership, she explains her background and

why she wanted the job to be the mayor of Mesquite city...

**Question:** Why did you want to be mayor?

**Answer (Brooklyn):** It is actually a funny story, my dad went to Boys State and he was mayor, so I wanted to follow in his footsteps and I thought it would be cute. I also wanted to improve my leadership skills and genuinely grow as a person. I feel that this experience will be really helpful for my future.

**Question:** What leadership opportunities have you had in the past?

**Answer:** I have been a part of student government in elementary, middle, and high school. I am also on Scottsdale Mayor's Youth Council. I have really enjoyed these opportunities.

**Question:** Do you think being mayor is going to be similar to those positions?

**Answer:** I think it is a little different, but some of the professional traditions are similar. I feel this position is more politically-gearred and more realistic than the jobs that I do in student government at my school.

I feel that I am serving a more political purpose and becoming extremely educated about the community.

**Question:** How has your experience been as mayor thus far?

**Answer:** It hasn't been very long but it has been so exciting! Our first meeting went very well and I liked to see the differences between my city and the others. I am so honored and excited about this opportunity.

**Question:** What do you hope to accomplish as the mayor of Mesquite?

**Answer:** I want to do something as mayor that is going to make us stand out as a city and make us capital city next year. I also want to help us make the most creative city book.

**Question:** What do you like most about Girls State thus far?

**Answer:** My favorite part has been meeting all of the girls who share similar goals as me. It inspires me that the girls around me are driven and motivated to be just as successful as I strive to be. The hard-working environment has been awesome!

## REMEMBER TO DRINK LOTS OF WATER THIS WEEK!

# The Threshold of Curiosity

**AlexisJackson & AlexandriaSmith**  
Sycamore City Reporters

Through our great competitiveness and wit we found ourselves on a journey to Arizona Girls State, a quite unknown threshold that would soon become our home for a week. As we ventured into our new dorms, thousands of nerves and questions were rushing through our body: "Will I be able to make new friends?", "What positions should I run for?", and most importantly "What exactly is Girls State?" Luckily, in the enchanting city of Sycamore we have established not only friendships and support, but also sisterhood. This is a place where we have the opportunity to join with our own auxiliary, and prosper.

From our experiences so far, we've learned the importance of friendship and

community. Because we are able to network with other people our age, we gain insight into the life of a political worker as well as a unified congregation. As young women who are aiming to be a success in this world, it is important for us to support each other in all endeavors. We as sisters are committed to fight every battle, and stand together as one force in this world. As a city and a state, we believe that Girls State has helped us to achieve just that.

We believe that us women of Sycamore carry ourselves with a certain poise and attitude.

From the start, we have engaged in this program, as well as with ourselves, and are beginning to see how that will help

us flourish this week. Through simplistic team building such as decorating our dorm doors and all the way to mock-running for office, we have the opportunity to grow as a city and plan for the future. Our primary plans are to first elect a mayor, then distinguish a budget and the significance of our city, causing us to ponder "What makes us lucrative?".

The possibilities are endless here in Sycamore, and extensively in our County of Kaibab. These hot reporters ensure you of daily news for the success of the new and improved Sycamore!! Sycamore would like to truly accolade the American Legion Auxiliary for their welcoming hospitality and genuity. Thank you and God bless!



# Election Day!

## What's Happening in Ocotillo

**Jaalah Engle & Mersadez Bowen**  
Ocotillo City Reporters

Monday morning was the kick off to the City elections. We had a great turnout with many of the girls giving insight into their viewpoint to try to persuade the voters in their favor. When talking to the girls of Ocotillo they were both filled with nervousness and excitement over their new positions and responsibilities.

In the primary elections both Nickie and Jackie won for their party for mayor. Nickie Perry is the mayoral candidate for the Federalists. Her top choice for school is Colorado State University where she wants to study psychology specifically adolescent development research to be a psychologist. Her hobbies include lacross, snowboard-

ing in Colorado, doodling, and going on adventures, such as hiking and finding new places.

Nikki Perry said about her experience running for office that, "The idea of unity and diversity can bring a community together in thousands of ways which excites me. The ability to possibly be mayor could be the opportunity of a life time."

On the other side of the spectrum there is Nationalist Party Jackie Ortiz running for mayor. In order to get to know her better she was asked a series of questions. Her first choice for college is Harvard University or the Air Force Academy located in Colorado. She plans to study U.S History and Environ-

mental Science. Her hobbies include volunteering at the animal shelter and watching cartoons with her favorites being Sponge Bob and the Legend of Korra.

Jackie said that her first act as mayor, if she is elected, would be to get the whole city of Ocotillo together and assess every body's individual strengths. Meanwhile, the mayoral candidate for the Nationalists said about the race, "It was an exciting, but nerve wrecking experience but I am glad that I did it."

These candidates are both serving and leading their cities in amazing ways. The general election winner and official mayor for the Ocotillo is Jackie Ortiz.

# The Doors at Yucca

**Elizabeth Figueroa**  
Yucca City Reporter

Now that we have all settled in and become friends with our fellow girls, the city of Yucca has begun to decorate their doors, with the theme of shops. Carissa Carigan says: "I really like how even though we all had a theme, we still got to branch out of that, incorporate our own ideas and work with our own roommates."

These aren't just any shops, the citizens of Yucca have decided to add a patriotic twist to their doors by adding blue, red, and white streamers, and incorporating an American theme into all of their makeshift establishments. Everyone, in a way,

depicted their personal likings on their door and got the opportunity to show their city what they take an interest in. In the hall you can find an Ice Cream parlor, a car shop, a boutique, a pets shop, and so much more. There's definitely a lot to look at if you'd ever pay a visit to the Yucca hall.

The decorating of the doors has sparked a new bond between the girls of Yucca city. They have become closer to their roommates all while being able to express themselves. Gloria Holt, the city mayor has expressed her love for this activity by saying: "it was a cool way to see

everyone's talents." Through this activity, they have discovered that some have exceptional calligraphy, draw beautifully, and others twist streamers in just the right way. The people of Yucca all have many talents and they were certainly shown when creating their doors.

The city of Yucca has, overall, has grown stronger with this activity and they've all had fun with it. "I had to make do with what I had but I enjoyed it," says Emmalee Hall. They had a chance to work on making their city stand out while expressing their artistic abilities and having fun.

# Confident, clever and consumed

**Alexis DeStefano**  
Juniper City Reporter

Confident, clever, and consumed, the candidates for Mayor and City Council in the City of Juniper expressed these qualities and more. These candidates drove to unite the two political parties and listen to individual voices throughout the week of Girls State.

Additionally, these candidates shared a common goal: obtaining the title of the new capital city. Based on recent events in the city, there is no doubt that the City of Juniper has great potential for achieving this goal. Through listening to their fellow citizens, their committee, their council, they promised to bring never-before-seen changes to the City of Juniper, the County

of Cocopah, and throughout Girls State.

New mayor Phoebe Dunn expresses great delight over her victory in the general election and assures the City of Juniper that they can put their trust in her. Mayor Dunn pulled her audience over to the ballots to check off her box with a clever slogan: "I'm Phoebe Dunn, and I'll get it done."

Friendships have formed, cities have commenced, and bonding has begun. The confident and individualistic citizens of the City of Juniper exhibit motivation towards making Juniper into a record-breaking future capital city and a compassionate Girls State family that surpasses the obstacles that this program

may bring— new neighbors, new environments, new responsibilities.

These girls have already been able to discover new aspects of their personalities and refine their social skills to benefit them and their community. Many girls have expressed their happiness towards discovering that, even though they have been told that women should not fill certain positions in the past, they have a voice and a mind that is able to be appreciated and impactful.

Through the opportunity to campaign for city offices and collaborate on building a city of their own, these wonderful girls already feel inspired and excited for what is next.

# You're gonna hear us roar!

## Planning underway for Saguaro

**Kalena Oorlog**  
Saguaro City Reporter

From the very first day at Girls State, Saguaro city inhabitants have been making a Jurassic first impression. These girls definitely have the big, strong attitudes that parallel that of a Tyrannosaurus Rex, along with the ability to reach the height of pterodactyls as they soar their way through the week at Girls State.

This Monday, it was decided that the new Saguaro city mascot would be the Saguaro-saurus! The creativity stemming from this brand new mascot has citizens beaming with pride and excitement for their city's future.

Voting is already underway in Saguaro city as citizens chose one city seal from a variety of designs, in addition to electing fellow citizen Anna Bruen as the mayor.

Although the Saguaro Girls State experience is almost prehistoric, existing since its initiation in 1947, this year's Saguaro city hopes to make an innovative comeback. While the city construction began with one simple pun courtesy of citizen Rhea Abbott, the unfolding

design is predicted to include a plethora more.

Construction of Saguaro City businesses such as TJ Rexx, a clothing shop for dinosaurs of all sizes, and The Saurus, a bookstore and coffee corner, have citizens excited for the young city's future. In addition, the city will boast a brand new movie theater called "Fossil Flicks", a "Dino Diner", and the "Prehistoric Petals" flower shop.

Construction is already underway as the girls eagerly assemble their storefronts, receive product shipments, and prepare for a week of hard work. These businesses will provide much-needed income for schools and civil services within the Saguaro community, in addition to hopefully leading Saguaro to accomplishing the ultimate goal of being crowned capital city.



## REMEMBER TO VISIT THE STORE FOR WATER AND MORE!!

## "There's Something For Everyone" Breaking the Ice at Breakfast

**Isha Paode**  
Ironwood City Reporter

Monday morning marked the first official breakfast for the new arrivals at Girls State. Anxious but excited to meet more of the people they would be spending the next few weeks with, the girls rushed down to the lobby where the food was being served.

Kailey Hengesbach, the new mayor of Ironwood, commented on the coffee situation: "I really needed a cup, but I wish it had a lid. I almost spilled it a few times, and it would have really helped. It was nice to socialize with the girls outside my city, though!" Hopefully, the potential spills and third-degree burns can be taken care of

before any accidents take place.

Adriana Favela had a different take on the breakfast. She appreciated the whipped cream cheese, as opposed to the typical, stiff topping that most breakfast bars provide. The line was a little too long for her liking, but she plans on waking up earlier tomorrow morning to avoid that. She did, however, notice that the lines allowed her to talk to more girls and bond over their mutual hunger.

Other girls found even more positive elements of the community breakfast. While eating a slightly bruised banana up on the ninth floor, Andrea Villalobos said

that she "enjoyed the variety of cereal and fruit options" she had to choose from, and was looking forward to the next few days. She saw most of her friends with different breakfast foods like bagels, bread, apples, and oranges, so there did seem to be something for everyone. Andrea appreciated the diversity in options, from the sweet and spicy bagels to the hot and cold drinks.

So for the rest of this week - wake up bright and early for breakfast tomorrow and get ready to eat some of your favorite foods and have a fantastic week! After all, breakfast is the most important meal of the day.

# Arizona Girls State Independent



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## DPS, FBI, County Sheriff, and more

Louisa Gilbert & Bricell Moreno  
Cholla City Reporters

In Cholla city things are getting exciting as citizens begin to work on their campaigns for county and state offices. The corridors of floor eight have been a flutter of campaign activities, from poster making to canvassing.

One County Sheriff hopeful from Supai county, Madison Miller, was lucky enough to have a Department of Public Safety (DPS) Officer, Mrs. McMullen as her Cholla City advisor.

This knowledgeable resource was crucial for Miller as she worked on her posters. She was able to discuss the roles and responsibilities of those involved in public safety and law enforcement. Of this advice

Miller said, "I was able to incorporate a seven-pointed sheriff star in honor of my counselor who daily wears a seven pointed DPS badge."

This inspirational mentor has been a great role model for Madison Miller who is looking forward to a career in the FBI.

The significance of the seven-pointed star that can be found on Miller's posters is not negligible. Each point of the star corresponds to a time on a clock and a quality.

- 11 o'clock is justice
- 1 o'clock is undaunted
- 3 o'clock is service
- 5 o'clock is trust
- 6 o'clock is integrity

- 7 o'clock is courtesy
- 9 o'clock is empathy

All together, these key points form the acronym, and word, justice, a central trait of DPS. Additionally, the Arizona DPS motto is courteous vigilance, something that would be an important trait in a county sheriff.

Madison Miller's interest in a career at the FBI has been instrumental in her choice of Girls State offices. She is currently the Cholla City elections committee inspector and as previously discussed, is running for County Sheriff. Best of luck to Madison and all Girls State candidates in their elections and future fields.

**Today is going to be hot and we have lots of walking to do. Please remember to drink lot of water, wear a hat or take an umbrella if you have one and stay cool. STAY HYDRATED!**

## The Benefits of Girls State

Abbey Spiek  
Yucca City Reporter

Clearly Girls State is a wonderful opportunity and honor for girls across the country to participate in. When speaking to girls about the traits they showed to get here the answers were outstanding. Words like involvement, leadership, confidence, and investment flowed off their lips.

What was even more impressive were the answers in response to my question... "How does your involvement in Girls State benefit you for your future?" Many different answers showed how there are so many benefits from political to social skills.

Berna from Yucca City expressed how happy she was to make new friends, build on skills such as leadership, and prepare her for her future.

Mikella from Ocotillo said this was a

great introduction and explanation to the functions of government.

Grace from Sycamore said she said this experience is further expanding her interest in government issues, and helps her to improve her people skills. She extended her answer to say how much she appreciates getting to know girls with similar interests and political identities.

Emmalee from Yucca says she appreciates having things actually explained to her about a political process unlike poor summarizing at school.

Other girls said similar things and elaborated on the different skills that apply to them individually. Confidence, bonding with new people, understanding the government system, and working on human

relations are all things we gain from Girls State.

However, it's also important to recognize the memories we will make and share with the girls surrounding us. We need to understand Girls State has so much more to offer than just a good addition to a college resume.

Many girls I have had the honor to talk to have loved bonding and sharing memories within just the first day. Decorating doors, making chants, picking a mascot, having a rally, voting for new friends, and meeting new people is just a few things we have done so far.

On behalf of myself and all the girls at Girls State, I believe it's fair to say we can't wait for the rest of the week.

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# Arizona Girls State Independent



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### 2018 Girls State Reporters

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 Nicole Ursprunger - Palo Verde  
 Alexis DeStefano - Juniper  
 Tiffany Turinsky - Juniper  
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 Jaalah Engle - Ocotillo  
 Ruth Naygaka - Mimosa  
 Ellen Napolitano - Mimosa  
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 Tia Tuttle - Manzanita  
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 Abbie Spiek - Yucca  
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 Kalena Oorlog - Saguario  
 Madison Brown - Mesquite  
 Isabella Bayer - Mesquite  
 Alexis Jackson - Sycamore  
 Alexandria Smith - Sycamore

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# Counting on the Counties: County Election Preparation

**Isabella Bayer & Madison Brown**  
 Mesquite City Reporters

As the citizens from Paiute County file into the county court house, excited chatter fills the air. Today, citizens throughout the state learn about the workings of the county government and prepare to campaign for county offices.

The day begins with a presentation from Lisa Matthews, Assistant to County Administrator, Pima County. She informs citizens of the importance of county government and what roles they can play in their own counties.

Citizens then report to their county courthouses, where they learn what each position in the county government entails and how they can run for these offices.

Federalists and Nationalists both work to ensure that they have a “full slate” of candidates and that everyone has all the necessary signatures to begin campaigning.

Two Paiute Country residents, Kathie Mota from the National-

ist party and Alaura Salter from the Federalist party, contributed what inspired them to run for a county office and what they hope to accomplish if they win.

Gaining a voice in Paiute County was a major inspiration behind Mota’s decision to run for the office of Paiute County sheriff. “I chose to run for the county office because I want to take on a bigger role and I want to have a voice in our community. If I win, my main goal is to keep negativity out of our community,” said Mota.

Salter had similar motivations, focusing on promoting her party and encouraging a just and fair community. “I want to get more Federalists involved and into office. My main goal if I win is to maintain peace and justice in our county,” said Salter.

Both candidates have been working hard on campaigning everywhere they can, going table to table at dinner and promoting

their platforms and greeting other citizens at the county rally and “Meet the Candidate” event.

When asked about their campaign strategies, both recognized the importance of face-to-face interactions and personal connections with the citizens of Paiute County, as well as citizens across the state.

Mota focused on sharing her experience personal attributes that make her well-suited for the office of county sheriff. “I’m talking to girls and telling them about the skills and experience I have.”

Salter has been campaigning similarly, focusing on meeting the citizens who will be voting. “I’ve been talking to everyone and meeting people personally,” said Salter.

With the first county elections tomorrow morning, candidates are enthusiastic and prepared for the results, and the county of Paiute is definitely in good hands.



## WANT TO SEE YOURSELF AND YOUR CITY ON THE BIG SCREEN??

Send in your photos all week and see your photos during the slide show and in this years yearbook. Send pictures to [photos@azgirlsstate.com](mailto:photos@azgirlsstate.com)

# Mythical and nerve wracking

**Abigail Mazzocco**  
 Special Assignments Reporter

The anticipation leading up to Girls State is both a mythical and nerve wracking thing that seems to encapsulate the minds of every attendee eager to arrive. The girls of Juniper and Manzanita recounted experiencing thoughts of nerves tangled with excitement during their arrival to Girls State. However, upon stepping foot into their cities, many girls began to feel new ideas and feelings arise.

Within the first night of arriving, there were many things learned about the government and the way we perceive politics today. Girls State also began to provide something else according

to these girls -- an opportunity to step out of their comfort zones, hear perspectives other than their own, and understand themselves better.

The first thing the girls of Juniper started with was meeting potential lifelong friends and noting the fun-filled schedule that has helped educate us all so much. While the girls of Manzanita elaborated on the educational opportunities and growth Girls State creates that permits each girl to push themselves a little out of their comfort zone. The girls of Sycamore added to Girls State as being a community of young girls that show support and friendship

towards each other, even in competition. Additionally, the girls of Sycamore talked about Girls State being extremely civically engaging and educational.

All the girls managed to speak on how important the perspective of others and how this camp promotes a healthy discussion on each individual’s views. Girls State has even changed girls perspectives so much as to help them recognize the way that each individual thinks. Overall, Girls State promotes the values of being civically engaged and creating new lifelong friends. Girls State shows the promise and start of a legendary adventure!

# The Battle of the Parties

**Alexandria Smith & Alexis Jackson**  
Sycamore City Reporters

Breaking through the campus doors, the Federalist and Nationalist parties were ready for the riot ahead. A great political adversity was about to be broached: Who was better... the Nationalist or Federalist party?

Personally being on the Federalist PC board, my colleagues and I had the opportunity to build a platform, spirit, and slate that would soon shape the candidates of the Federalist Party.

Standing out there united with firm believers just as you was empowering! The first day of Girls State consisted of many long meetings where some may have

thought "What did we get ourselves into?" However these type of interactive activities engage us to be involved in this mythical state government.

First, our state chairman gave a motivating speech basically saying we NEED to fill these subsequent positions, as well as be social because this is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Our leader's energy was addictive and heartened us to spread the buoyancy of the Federalist party.

Here in Sycamore, Federalists entirely filling our city spots, helped spread the influence of the righteous Federalists. We hold a high reputation in being a Federal-

ist city and hope to obtain that on the State level. Great pride is held in our daily city meetings and when we campaign for political positions. Our goal is to not only make our city known, but to be next year's state capitol.

Excitingly, State elections are awaiting and we are positive that Federalists will occupy many if not all State positions!! We got this and have faith in our party. Always remember, Fed 4 H. I. P. E., Fed4Ed, and vote for us! We, Sycamore reporters, promise to suffuse you with the newest and most accurate news of this political election. See you soon!

## Relatable Representative

**Tiffany Turinsky**  
Juniper City Reporter

As we all know on June 5, 2018 Mrs. Lisa Matthews had paid us all a visit. It was empowering to see a woman in such a position. Let's go through a replay of her visit with us.

To begin with let's all note that Mrs. Matthews is human just like the rest of us. She too has changed her career a number of times from wanting to become a journalist to the cyber battlefield of the Air Force. Finally she steered toward a strong female with a county position.

As inspiring as Mrs. Matthews is, she has taught us that your race and gender will NOT stop you from doing whatever it is that you love. You do you, boo, because we

all love you!

During her presentation many of our peers asked amazing questions, a few of which are listed below. Not all questions are word for word.

Question: What is the hardest part of your job?

Answer: Not being able to give out the help that the people ask for.

Question: What is your passionate proposal and its effect?

Answer: Being able to teach more people how the different governments function.

Question: What is the best/favorite part of your job?

Answer: Watching Pima Vocational students evolve.

Some advice we were all blessed enough to witness was to just know when to stop talking and start listening. A spicy quote we all enjoyed from Mrs. Williams was, "We need more women in the government.. because we know how to think."

Her skills and her speech had left us all in awe. Let's hope she will come back for next years girls! Now, here is a thought:

"Your reward comes from when you see that you are truly serving your community and moving your people forward." - Lisa Matthews

## Cliche (but valuable) Campaign Tips

**Kalena Oorlog**  
Saguaro City Reporter

With county and state elections fast approaching, the girls at Girls State are scrambling for ideas on how to present themselves as the best possible candidate for a variety of government jobs. Unfortunately, solely focusing on the goal of winning a temporary and theoretical election is detrimental to the Girls State experience.

Here are some tips on how to campaign genuinely and hopefully achieve your goals throughout the week!

1. Talk to people. As many people as you can. More than you think you can!

With around 300 girls sharing such a small space on the University of Arizona, there is bound to be someone you haven't talked to yet.

Moreover, everyone here has so many indi-

vidual talents and experiences, as evident by the excellent conversations between sister cities Saguaro and Cholla on Monday night. In addition to possibly learning that someone has identical scars on both feet from different instances, another has a miniature dog that can jump 4 feet into the air, and another can speak four different languages, you will also be able to establish real, genuine connections with voting citizens.

2. Show that you care. Much of campaign strategy has to do with communication and portraying yourself in a relatable light.

Saguaro Mayor Anna Bruen has this technique down, but more than that, she genuinely cares about her city, as was obvious when she paraded the halls with a case of water bottles and persistently urged

every girl to take one.

Simply caring about the other citizens can go a long way! After all, would you want to elect a governor that only wants your votes, or one who genuinely cares about your well being?

Giving a simple compliment to another girl can brighten her day, as well as show that you care about and value others!

3. Be yourself. While the Girls State experience has the power to shape your future, it shouldn't completely change who you are as a person! Don't try to embody someone you're not just to garner approval that won't matter at the conclusion of the week. Being genuine and enjoying your personal experience is the only true way to ensure success after the polls have closed.

# The art of food

**Tia Tuttle**  
Manzanita City Reporter

We all know the feeling of hunger in our stomachs before a meal. And I'm sure we are all familiar with the dreaded waiting time to eat here at girls state. Thankfully the girls in Manzanita, as well as across the state, have found a genius way to pass this time joyfully.

It all started the first night at dinner when the girls found out the tablecloths were made of paper. Slowly but surely pens, pencils and markers started to

appear. From inspiring quotes, to mermaids, to the American flag tablecloths were covered in artwork. At the hands of hunger-inspired girls art was born.

Every girl has a unique style ready to be portrayed. Whether it's drawing Snails like Catherine James, or stars like Cecelia Alcantar. Some girls even started playing games of tic-tac-toe.

This artistic expansion has helped the girls of Manzanita realize talent in various form.



**Today is going to be hot and we have lots of walking to do. Please remember to drink lot of water, wear a hat or take an umbrella if you have one and stay cool. STAY HYDRATED!**

# Saguaro Citizen Running for Secretary of State

**Leilani Wesley**  
Saguaro City Reporter

Let the campaigning begin! Yesterday was a hectic day with an abundance of positions to run for and an abundance of voters to talk to. Many girls were busy bees acquiring signatures, making posters, and talking to fellow citizens. The top positions are even more challenging to obtain.

However, one girl from Saguaro City is accepting the challenge. Lorelei St. Clair is running for Arizona Girls State's Secretary of State. She is an enthusiastic citizen and has been hard at work to make her name known.

What makes Lorelei St. Clair qualified for this prestigious position? "Secretary of State is my niche", she states, which she then backs with her numerous leadership positions.

Lorelei is president of the

creative writing club, vice president of her junior civitan group, and secretary of the National Honor Society. "I'm good at internal relations. I'm good at getting people what they want when they want it. I'm good at communicating."

She is also an art director, which she states spans more than just making art. "It entails you to communicate with a group", she said.

Lorelei also has a great fondness for Girls State. "I love the people here. We are so like-minded." Now, what is this excited candidate planning to do if elected for Secretary of State? "I'm looking forward to making Girls State the best it can be."

Sounds like Lorelei St. Clair is a worthy candidate with the leadership, passion, and desire to make Girls State shine.



# Late Night Adventures

**JaalahEngle & MersadezBowen**  
Ocotillo City Reporters

Monday the cities of Ocotillo and Mesquite met together to get to know each other as sister cities. They went around the circle and all said their names, where they are from, and a fun fact about themselves.

Some fun facts that were shared included being able to recite fifty elements of the periodic table, being an arm's length away from an alligator (with picture proof), and making it to Nationals for cheer.

They bonded and connected so well and were so blessed with the opportunity to get to know each other.

The city of Ocotillo handed out handwritten notes to a member of the sister city,

while the city of Mesquite gave out candy to their respective sister city.

Halle in the city of Ocotillo said "It was cool to be able to get to know other peoples stories and I love being able to have other people to say hi to in the hallways!"

Many people in the Ocotillo community are pumped and ready to campaign for county and state offices for the continuing day.

During the rest of the night when Ocotillo had returned to their floor they got to spend some quality time with the beautiful and amazing JC's. Everyone enjoyed the time bonding as well as, giggling and playing a new game called "ha."

When taking a whole recap of the day as a whole it was enjoyable to be able to spend time and bond with like-minded people. In the meantime the girls of Ocotillo look forward to the days to come and getting to gain knowledge or a better understanding on many broad topics.

While experiencing and understanding all of what the advisors had said, we broke for lunch and were told to deeply think about what we would highly consider running for.

The reason for suggesting that was sought to want people for positions that would truly benefit us as an individual and also our county as a whole.



# Girls State Safety

**Madalyn Fredman & Jaeda Hart**  
Pinon City Reporters

It is widely acknowledged that the summers in Arizona are brutally hot. Many people often underestimate the power of Mother Nature and her effects, later suffering the excruciating consequences.

While it's relatively chilly in the dorms, the sun is still beating down outside. And although there isn't a whole lot of time spent outside, the walk to and from buildings throughout the week can leave opportunity for sunburn.

Given said circumstances, it can be easy to "forget" to stay hydrated and protect

ones skin.

Hydration plays a vital role in the maintenance of bodily health, and dehydration can have both physical and psychological effects.

The first sign of dehydration is thirst—so if you're thirsty you're already dehydrated! Some other signs and symptoms of dehydration include (but are not limited to): dry mouth, decreased urine output, headache, dry skin, dizziness or lightheadedness, vomiting, etc.

Never hesitate to tell someone if you or another girl suspects dehydration. Dehy-

dration is a serious issue and can even lead to a medical emergency.

While here at Girls State, it may be a good idea to avoid things such as caffeine, foods/drinks that have a lot of sodium, large amounts of sugar, excessive consumption of poor food. Some things that can promote health and hydration are a well-balanced diet, water, low-sugar juices, milk, fruit, etc.

Please remember to drink water and other fluids, make smart food choices, and wear sunscreen in order to stay in optimal shape while here at Girls State.



## Campaigns In Process!!!

**Abbie Spiek**  
Yucca City Reporter

Posters flood the halls in the county of Supai (enter supai cheer), and girls reach out to new faces as elections approach. Anywhere you walk a friendly smile greets you and maybe says hello. Introductions leave people happy but confused.

It is difficult for one to remember all the friendly faces much less the names that go along with them. It is amazing to see all of the different slogans and methods used, along with meeting the wonderful girls participating this week.

Mini flyers are handed out, even paper hearts are passed around in a desperate attempt to catch the eye of fellow candi-

dates so your name will be on their ballot.

Slogans like "Go to the poll vote for Nicole" rings in people's ears and girls like Laya Reddy says she was "Born Reddy to lead". Girls in my home city scream out, "Payton Liles will go the Miles", "Sarah Bailey will keep the peace daily", "Kari Harper, no one sharper", and "Let the will of the people bloom, vote for Emily Blum".

Ladies walk around with signs hanging from their necks while others tape paper to their backs. The hour meet and greet was very successful from my point of view.

It allowed many girls to form bonds with

people they would otherwise never meet. Cleverness throughout our state has further proves why these truly intelligent and creative girls made it to this week. It's all very humbling and shows us just how difficult it is to stretch your name out to just under 300 people.

It's difficult to imagine spreading your name in confidence to a whole state. The campaigning process is teaching the delegates from Girls State one of the most important aspects of government as well as leaving us with new friends and hopefully a few more memories.



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## Sister cities!

**Ellen Napolitano & Ruth Nyagaka**  
Mimosa City Reporters

Sister cities! Another wonderful opportunity at Girls State to get to know other girls and make new friends. Last night, us at Mimosa went to Manzanita's floor to play games and chat. First we played an extreme game of telephone - a childhood favorite amongst all of us. While the original phrase can't be recalled, the game ended with fits of laughing and giggling. In total, there was almost 50 girls in one city hall, so it was definitely a tight fit, but it was totally worth it. The final game we played was Down by the Bank. We made a giant circle and took turns singing the hilarious tune that goes along with the game. There were a few battle scars from

playing this game; one girl got hit in the nose after pulling her hand away. She was okay, and eventually returned to watch the rest of us jostle it out to be the champion of this mildly silly game.

In the end, Manzanita was the victor. The paramount facet of the sister cities exchange was most definitely the networking that took place between the two cities. Each and every resident from both parts of Girls State connected with each other. We were able to exchange social medias and numbers. This aspect was definitely important for growth as leaders of the community. No doubt will we remember each and every one of each other. As girls state

delegates, we have a responsibility to connect despite the boundaries of race, sexual orientation or political party. Having sister cities enables this connection to sprout as more and be lifetime bonds. We are extremely thankful as a city to be able to be given this opportunity from the whole Girls State staff and all the schools who brought us here. Thank you from Mimosa!

*This wonderful story was originally scheduled for the June 6th edition. In error of the editor it was missed. The editor apologizes for the error.*

## Selfie game strong

**Tia Tuttle**  
Manzanita City Reporter

No matter who you are or where you come from, the selfie is a universal term. Whether winning over a cute boy or just taking some with friends, the selfie is a centerpiece in societal structure. Girls State is no different.

Since the start of the week the girls at Manzanita have been snapping photos. First it was a quick one of the group walking, then some at dinner, it all peaked when the bathroom mirror selfies started up. As the week has progressed our girls have grown undeniable close; as is evident by the overwhelming number of face mask selfies our camera rolls have accumulated.

We are all willing to be goofy and have fun taking pictures together. Even today we witnessed Senator Yee indulge in a quick pic. It all goes to show how comfortable we have become with each other in such a short period of time.

Due to the evolution of how Girls State selfie, Manzanita girls have now started up

a meal selfie tradition. Every meal we eat together, except of course breakfast, we take a selfie. Once we all have our food and are sitting down out come the front cameras. Heads turn, faces are made, and pics snapped.

When interviewed both Jasmine Nixon and Catherine James had fond regards to these bi-daily selfies. Both girls shared how much fun they had taking these selfies, and plan to reflect on them in the future.

Amulya Donaparthi feels the selfies "are a cute way for our city to interact", and that's what being here at Girls State is all about!

The enjoyment of selfies is one to be shared. Let us all indulge in a good selfie or five to further the relationships we are making at girls state.



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# Arizona Girls State Independent



is published daily by  
 American Legion Auxiliary  
 Arizona Girls State  
 Penny Maklary, Director  
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- 2018 Girls State Reporters**  
 Isha Paode - Ironwood  
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 Isabella Bayer - Mesquite  
 Alexis Jackson - Sycamore  
 Alexandria Smith - Sycamore

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# Our City Mayors

**Jaeda Hart & Madalyn Fredman**  
 Pinon City Reporters

On Monday June 4, 2018 city mayors, despite political standings were nominated and selected. The mayor running within Piñon was a tight race, and this was the case with many other cities as well.

During lunch on Monday, mayors from each city were presented with ribbons to signify their new leadership position. We interviewed 3 of our states newly elected mayors a specific question each and here are their responses.

**Peris Lopez, Manzanita Mayor**

To you what is the difference between managing and leading?

“Managing is making sure that everybody is doing what their job

is and telling them and delegating. Leading I think includes a sense of inspiration, you have to inspire them along in helping them and guiding them along the way. You need to make sure that everyone is in it for a common goal and there is a purpose behind their work.”

**Lucy Fields, Mimosa Mayor**

Being a mayor is a lot of work, how do you plan on keeping everything in order?

“This is my first time as a leader, I plan on keeping everything in order with the help of input and suggestions. A lot of help comes from the city clerk and I see that a lot. The city clerk really

helps keep things in order, as well as the advisor, they are really good at helping and giving me advice. I love to take leadership, it feels like I’m being really creative.”

**Gloria Holt, Yucca Mayor**

How do you feel about this opportunity to be a mayor?

“I’ve always wanted to have a big role influencing people, especially being a positive influencer. I try to create a positive impact, wherever I can be. That’s definitely the biggest thing, and as well as meeting a lot of people, that’s the best. I feel as mayor you have that platform where people want to reach out to you more, which I think is really cool. “

## Two Rather Different Parties

**Laya Reddy**  
 Palo Verde City Reporter

The Nationalist and Federalist Parties represent the two major political parties of AZ Girls State, much like the Democratic and Republican Party of the United States.

The concerns of each party greatly differ, but are often unrecognized by the opposing party. We often watch debates on TV in which candidates from opposing parties combat over different issues without recognizing the

other’s concerns. We must promote political awareness by educating each party on the ideals of the other party, so we interviewed Precinct Committeemen from each party to get insight into their party’s political beliefs in an effort to create more understanding and awareness among citizens.

The Federalist Party at Girls State focuses on four main principles. These include: increasing accessibility to proper Health

care, strengthening Infrastructure, improving Public welfare, and reforming the Education system. Get HIPE with the FED 4! Party colors: red and white Party mascot: teddy bear

The Nationalist Party aims to end sexual harassment, improve the Veterans’ Affairs, increase sustainability, and place restrictions on felons’ ability to obtain weapons. GO NATS! Party color: white Party logo: N symbol

## Game night! Game night! Game night! Fun for all and a great time!

**Ellen Napolitano**  
 Mimosa City Reporter

This is not to persuade you necessarily to hold a game night, however I’m just merely telling you in great projection (with exclamation points) what Mimosa’s theme is. Here at Girls State, we have themes for each of our cities- each one signifying the creativity for each group of young, intelligent ladies.

The picking of the theme was simple. A frenzy of suggestions were thrown out into the room. It started with the suggestion of a candy land theme- by yours truly- which eventually spiraled into suggestions of monopoly and

even western themes that somehow paved the way to the settling on Game Night. Doors will be lit up with fun takes on the theme, all of course while still maintaining their business quota. Each pair of roommates picked their own game, so it’s only fitting that their will be a hint of competition amongst the roomies to be the best decorated door. Their is however the underlying basis that each room will be imitating a business.

For example, one of the rooms chose Monopoly as their game. Their door will be decorated in the style of their game, but will have

to relate back to a local business. They could choose to be a bank, railroad station, or even a realtor office. Another room chose their game to be GoFish- an American Classic. Now you’re asking yourself - how is that going to be a business? Fishing pond! The childhood favorite game turned fishing pond will be a glittering star amongst the other doors.

All in all, it was so much fun getting to pick our theme and decide on how we would execute it to the best of our ability with the rest of our teammates and roommates.

# New Perspective

**Louisa Gilbert & Bricella Moreno**  
Cholla City Reporters

The citizens of Arizona Girls State are going into their senior year of high school and many are beginning the strenuous, and stressful process of applying to college.

This is one of the many benefits of Girls State this week: getting a glimpse into life on a college campus. Being able to live on a campus for a week is an invaluable experience that has helped many to solidify their higher educational aspirations.

During the tracks from County Courthouse, to State House, to the park student

union and back again, the young women of Arizona Girls State have had the opportunity to criss-cross campus soaking in the life of a full-time wildcat.

On the move, citizens passed by a plethora of University of Arizona buildings and other collegiate activities. Students passed by the ROTC building. This was especially interesting for the Girls State participants who are looking forward to or are already involved in military programs.

When passing Old Main, the young

women of Arizona Girls State had the opportunity to see Wilbur the wildcat. They also later in the day saw him attempting to hitchhike on passing golf carts.

In addition to the many other campus activities, attendees were able to see the campus full of prospective UofA students on tours.

Even though the walks are long, hot, and plentiful, they allow for Girls State citizens to learn about the University of Arizona campus here in Tucson.

## David and Liza

**Maria Cook**  
Ironwood City Reporter

Although girls at Girls State are loving having their own city and county to live in, the real world outside of Girls State is still very much changing. If you are reading this and you do not already know, Liza Koshy and David Dobrik broke up, please take a moment to let it sink in.

It was just like any other morning for Ironwood City: girls going down to get their breakfast, doing their make up, and chilling in city hall, when the first girl said "Oh my gosh love isn't real, Liza and David broke up!"

That was when all phones broke out. The

video explaining their break up is on David Dobrik's YouTube channel titled "we broke up." There really is no right way to describe the video itself. It's one part funny, another part sad.

Even though the girls at Girls State are heartbroken over the power couple YouTubers David and Liza, the reason for their break up is truly an inspiration to young girls everywhere. In the video David said, "It wasn't healthy for us to continue to be together *for now*."

Liza mentions in the video that, "We have a lot of growth and development and

learning and loving for ourselves to do." Anyone who has taken the time to watch Liza's YouTube videos can see just how energetic and charismatic she is. What we do not see is how she is when she is not on camera. It is truly sad to see such a young, beautiful woman like Liza Koshy struggling with self love.

It really makes a person wonder about other girls that may be dealing with similar problems. If you see someone, maybe just give them a smile. Help your fellow girls out while here at Girls State, and intern, they may just give you the same love back.

## Kindness is key when running a city

**Catherine James**  
Manzanita City Reporter

Everyone knows the feeling of being excluded, either intentionally or unintentionally. It may be accompanied with a sinking stomach, or just discomfort in the social situation, but most of the time it's simply very disappointing. Coming into an experience like Girls State, a lot of girls may have felt apprehensive because they were worried they wouldn't be able to make the kinds of social connections that they yearned for. Nobody wants to be excluded (most of the time), and especially not during such an influential week in their life.

Having talked to and agreed with many other fellow citizens, I feel like many of us

can say that Girls State is extremely special and has been a positive experience so far. The social setting has been hugely responsible for this. All the girls here are smart; successful in school, and other aspects of their lives. We are all motivated to achieving our goals, and we all have a similar mind sets here at Girls State. Despite that we are very diverse too. With differing backgrounds, motives, attitudes, and personalities, Girls State is vibrant and thriving with the different ideas and views. What is also truly beautiful is how so many people are passionate about connecting with and being inclusive to their peers. Without this passion, Girls State would certainly be much

less fun for all of us. With so many girls who are being so genuine, kind, and inclusive to each other Girls State has become a wonderful experience for everyone.

We all know how rare it is to be in such a large and close group of successful, beautiful, passionate young women. While it might seem intimidating at first, my hope is that we can all learn how to be confident and proud of our own abilities and ideas, without comparing ourselves to each other. If we can do this, then we will become even stronger in our abilities on a more regular basis after Girls State. As the week goes on, lets keep up this good work. Lets keep being sweet to each other.

# Did we mention scholarships?

Ellen Napolitano & Ruth Nyagaka  
Mimosa City Reporters

It's senior year. So what does that mean? Time to start stressing about college and more importantly how you will pay for it all. But no need to fear, the American Legion Auxiliary has got you covered. With numerous scholarship opportunities and chances to win college money, your stress can decrease (a little bit).

Many of the ALA units and Legion posts offer local scholarships. More than one million is awarded every year. The first scholarship is James H. Parke Memorial Youth Scholarship. Up to \$20,000 is awarded to a deserving high school who has volunteered 100 hours in the VA healthcare system.

The next scholarship is the Samsung

Scholarship. Any Girls State and Boys State citizens who are direct descendants of wartime veterans are able to apply.

The next scholarship is the American Legion Legacy scholarship and is awarded to high school seniors or graduates whose parents were active duty military, guard, and reserve personnel who were federalized and had passed while defending our country on or after 9/11.

The Oratorical Contest is a competition that gives the opportunity for those involved to create a speech about a section or component of the United States Constitution and present it. Our very own Secretary of State Kylie Cochrane won the contest for Arizona this past year; winning

\$1500, and then went on to Indianapolis to compete at the National level. Her speech was on the right to vote.

If an individual wins first place at the national level, they are awarded \$18000 in scholarships, if they win second place, \$16000 and if they receive third place, \$14000. This is an amazing opportunity if you are interested in public speaking and have a talent for eloquence.

Scholarships, are basically free money. You will not lose anything by applying for a scholarship, you only have the chance of gaining. Every individual, if they qualify should apply for the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary Scholarships, for they only benefit the delegates.

## Arizona Girls State Talent Show 2018 Thursday, June 7, 2018

### Emcee's

Name/s:	City:	Description:	Time:
Brooklyn Dean Maddy Brown	Mesquite	Emcees	--

	Name/s:	City:	Description:	Time:
1.	Amy Carpenter	Yucca	Flute Solo Sonata in F Major	5:00
2.	Jordan Crooks	Pinon	Monologue of Pride and Prejudice as Elizabeth Bennett	2:00
3.	Alexandria Smith	Sycamore	Singing "Someday" from The Hunchback of Notre Dame	3:30
4.	Lynell Sandoval	Mesquite	Poem "Earth"	2:00
5.	Cloey Mundt	Sycamore	Singing "Bali Hai" A Capella	5:00
6.	Saryn Fleming	Yucca	Fiddle "Orange Blossom Special"	4:30
7.	Amanda Chin	Saguaro	Singing "Photographs"	4:30
8.	Jaelyn Ioane	Cholla	ASL "Fight Song" Rachel Platten	4:00
9.	Cara Redding	Ironwood	Singing "Journey to the Past"	3:30
10.	Tia Bailey	Juniper	Poem Recitation "My Humble Cry"	3:00
11.	Paige Owens	Cholla	Singing "Sunday Morning" with Ukelele	2:30
12.	Elaina Barrera	Sycamore	Dancing to "BreezeBlocks" Alt-J	2:00
13.	Samantha Nieto	Palo Verde	Singing "Amazing Grace" A Capella	2:00
14.	Brooke Zanon	Ocotillo	Poem Recitation "Home"	1:00
15.	Ashley Dennis	Juniper	Singing "She Used to be Mine"	4:00
16.	Ashley Holtz	Yucca	Dancing to "Lovely"	1:15
17.	Kaycee Molino	Juniper	Singing "If I Ain't Got You"	3:00
18.	Evelyn Rodriguez Misael Irfan	Palo Verde	Singing "Rip Tide" with Ukulele	3:00
19.	Mallory Lemmon	Pinon	Playing Guitar and Singing "El Vaquero" (in Spanish, a song she wrote)	2:00
20.	Manuela Busby	Saguaro	Singing "I Will Survive"	4:00
21.	Special Presentation		Mrs. Maklary	

# Arizona Girls State Independent



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## Mememes, Vines, and More!

**Kalena Oorlog**  
Saguaro City Reporter

After being here for a few exciting days, it's become obvious that Girls State is not all just hard work. We asked Saguaro City inhabitants to share their favorite meme and have compiled a record of memetastic data. Behold: The Battle of The Memes.

Which is your favorite meme?

"I love spongebob memes. You can't go wrong with a spongebob meme!"

"Patrick Star memes."

"Kylie Jenner -- is that a chicken?"

"Is this a pigeon is clearly the best."

"Bad taxidermy!"

Two unfortunate citizens, however, did not know what a meme was. It has become apparent that some internet education needs to take place within the city of Saguaro, and additional funding may needed to be allocated to schools for this purpose.

Despite this devastating finding, asking Saguaro citizens to share their favorite meme proved to be a bonding and humorous experience. From all of this intensive research, one conclusion remains clear: the girls of Saguaro really know how to laugh.

Mememes have remained popular for years, and their evolution from the prehistoric "Bad Luck Brian" and "Grumpy Cat" forms demonstrate the exponential growth of the meme community intelligence. Stemming from traditional photo mememes, the transcendence of vines in recent years is arguably even more interesting and inclusive.

Vine, an archaic platform to share iconic 7-second video clips remains a distinct mark of Generation Z culture and has been a way that Saguaro citizens in particular have cemented their friendship bonds these

past few days. The girls of Saguaro are currently working hard to create a reenacted vine compilation of their most treasured vines, among which will feature "It's an avocado!", "hurricane tortilla", and "look at all those chickens."

Hanna Griffin (known as HG within the city) came up with the idea because of her deep passion for vines and the laughter they spread throughout the nation.

During lunch this past Thursday, Hanna and her fellow Saguaro sisters huddled together to enjoy Youtube vine compilations preserving their favorites from the now-extinct app. Although the filming process has yet to begin, one can only expect that the recreated vines will enable citizens to embody their love for the app and its humor. Vine may be dead, but its legacy lives on.

**Yearbooks will be available to order through Saturday! Be sure to get yours ordered before you leave!**

## Election Results are In!

**Jaalah Engle & Mersadez Bowen**  
Ocotillo City Reporters

Thursday morning was full of both excitement and nervousness. All of the Girls Staters came together in the State House to hear the revealing of the election results. However, before this could be announced Amy Love from the Arizona Supreme Court gave a speech to all the girls.

She spoke on the Judicial branch of government and did an incredible job informing all of the girls on how this part of the government functions. After Ms. Loves speech, the girls were on pins and needles about who would fill the positions of the

governor and secretary of state.

Finally the time had come to announce the winners. The Governor and Secretary of State who were voted to preside over the 72nd Arizona Girls State session were Alexandria Smith and Misaal Irfan.

So many amazing girls were elected into state and county offices. They all worked so hard this week campaigning and giving speeches. Congratulations to all who ran, and to all who were elected.

In the evening was the annual Girls State talent show. Some of the acts included

singing, poem reading, dancing, and much more. To conclude the talent show a slide show was shown displaying the whole week. The girls got to see themselves on the big screen and remember all the great times they had all week.

When asked about the talent show Mikelle Langston from Ocotillo said, "It was the cutest thing ever!" This week has been an absolute blessing and truly something that everyone will never forget. And remember once a Girls Stater always a Girls Stater.

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- Alexandria Smith - Sycamore

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# One-on-one Interview with New Governor Alexandria Smith

**MariaCook**  
 Ironwood City Reporter

Alexandria Smith, the new governor of the 2018-2019 Girls State session had time to answer a few quick questions about how she feels about being governor, and what she hopes for the future. When asked how she feels about coming back to Girls State, Smith said, "I'm really excited to see next years group, because I know that they are going to be just as intelligent, just as bright, and just as passionate as you guys are. I am very excited to meet next years girls. I appreciate what Angel and Kyle did when they were Governor and Secretary of State, going around and talking to people. They made everyone feel very special and inspired. I plan next year when I come back to do

the same thing."

Alexandria talked about what prepared her to run for Girls State Governor, "I can do this, I'm going to do this!" she answered saying, "I didn't think I deserved to be here period. But after really coming to meet you guys, I kind of got back into my own skin and realized that everyone has an equal opportunity and a clean slate."

Alexandria stated that her plans after high school before she came to Girls State included that she wanted to be a lawyer or a Nero scientist, now things have changed, "After Junior year I decided that my long term goal is to be happy." And what makes Alexandria Smith happy? She

answered very passionately that, "The thing that makes me happy is I've been involved in music since I was younger. I've never taken any lessons, but musical theater is something that I am very passionate about. I love musicals, I love the feeling it gives me when I am on stage and it's just beautiful."

Alexandria is clearly passionate about music and musical theater, and isn't it with passion that we get the motivation to strive for something greater?

Miss Smith is very genuine and will certainly go on to accomplish more great things. Alexandria Smith also encourages everyone to watch The Hunchback of Notre-Dame. You can find clips of the play on YouTube.



# Addressing the Addresses

**CatherineJames**  
 Manzanita City Reporter

Safety is one of the highest priorities here at Girls State. Out of everything we do here, safety takes the most importance. Citizen's must document where they are at all times, or must be with a facilitator. We must all wear the same shirts, have sun protection, and drink lots of water. Citizen's are even prohibited from ordering food from Uber eats, or other food delivery apps. We aren't allowed on our phones while walking between meeting sites. All of these things are done with citizen's safety in mind.

Everyone has become familiar with their Girls State handbook by now. There are position defini-

tions, our schedule, and, among other things, a list in the back. This list contains all of the citizen's of Girls States names, rooms, party, and... home address. With such an emphasis on safety, how could such a breach of privacy be displayed to everyone?

Understandably, these are most likely listed in case we want to send letters to each other. However, that's not a very common thing to do these days. If in the wrong hands, our addresses could be used to exploit us, and definitely compromise our safety and security in many ways. Most of us trust our peers here, especially in such an extraordinary setting.

But can all of us trust three hundred people with such personal information? Granted, many of us might throw our handbooks away once we get home. But not many who do this will go through the trouble of shredding them. It could be so easy to have our addresses fall into the wrong hands. This is not okay.

I hope that in the future, all of the girls' addresses won't be listed in everyone's handbooks. Perhaps we could have our email addresses listed instead, which would be much more useful, and safe. Most of all, I hope that all of us stay safe here at Girls State, and once we get home.

# Synonymously Diverse

**Tiffany Turinsky**  
Juniper City Reporter

Over this past week we've all been in the presence of lovely, powerful women that represent all colors. It's been a fantastic time getting to know people of different ethnicities. In this community, there has been so much support for and from every Girl States citizen regardless of ethnicities, religions, believe, you name it!

Now, I don't know about anyone else, but I could not believe that I would make as many friends here as I did. I got to thinking and came to a conclusion: it is because we are surrounded by women who are just like you. These ladies are here for the same reason you are: because you want to be, not

because you got to be.

We are so used to peers at school moaning, complaining, dragging our success down with them. But then you show up to the University of Arizona and start feel all this positivity and courage radiate off of all these girls who are different yet a like from you.

As we count down the days, we realize we do not want to leave this made up society. We don't want to face being put down. If you take away anything at all from this program, it is to be yourself. When the going gets tough, the tough get going.

When Saturday comes and we all retreat

back home, do not forget a single lesson from this magnificent week. Do not be afraid to stand out. Do not be afraid of your past. Do not be afraid to be you. Spread these lessons everywhere you go.

As a finish remark I want everyone to feel appreciated for all the hard work they tackled head on that this summer. As a finishing remark I'd like to share with you this quote:

"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is a progress and working together is a success."

Henry Ford

Enjoy your summer, Girls Staters!

## Experience and Suggested Improvements of Mesquite City

**Madison Brown & Isabella Bayer**  
Mesquite City Reporters

It has been a long, tiring, exciting, extremely intriguing week for Mesquite city at Arizona Girls State! Each and every one of us has encountered different experiences that have been quite enriching and we have learned from every second of these five days. A group of the young ladies of the marvelous Mesquite city were kind enough to share their opinions about this experience and share their suggestions for improvements to add to this opportunity.

Question: If you could describe your experience, what would you say? What improvements would you make?

*Nova Korman:* I've learned a lot about the government that I did not know before. And obviously, I have learned a lot about friendship. I don't know if there's anything I can really think of to change about Girls State.

*Augustine Hing:* At Girls State, I have learned how to open up and how to become more friendly and I have definitely made new friends. If I were to change something, I would definitely change the amount of walking we do. I would also say to make sure that the people who are not county or state officials also have other jobs to do at

all times. I love this experience!

*Shoshanna Noriega:* In the beginning, I was unsure about how I felt coming here into the unknown for an entire week. I realized this is a place to make connections and find the importance of our voices. I would definitely improve the connections between not only counties but the entire Girls State. Also, I would love thirty more minutes of sleep.

It is too bad that it is only a week long and most citizens do not return. It has been an amazing experience for all of us in Mesquite City.

## Its Money Honey

**Leilani Wesley**  
Saguaro City Reporter

When leisure time comes, Girls State runs...to the store. The Terrific Togs and Treats is a paradise for girls wanting to sport Girls State shirts, buy a cute plushie, or satisfy their teenage need for goodies.

But for those who want a snack and wish not to acquire cavities, there are free and healthy items to choose from. Bananas, cereal, milk, and yogurt are

there for the taking. Want some chips and don't have a dollar? Get some cereal and it will make you holler... or simply be a quick snack.

However, some simply want the goodies on the table. Money flies from wallets as girls leave the store with armfuls of chocolate, chips, gummies, and more! And when arms are not enough, boxes are grabbed and filled to the brim! The snacks are

stacked, prices affordable. Togs and Treats sure knows how to use our cravings to their advantage.

We still must realize what the real lesson is. With parents gone, us girls must be independent and make reasonable decisions. It is yet another skill encouraged here in Girls State. That is exactly why whenever the store opens, girls scramble to the land of milk and sugar.

# TALENT SHOW

**Abbie Spiek**  
Yucca City Reporter

Yes folks it sure is!!! It's the night that we have all been waiting for... And no it's not the election night! Drum roll please..... IT'S THE TALENT SHOW!!!

From flute playing, reciting poems, singing, and fiddling--- the ladies at Girls State continue to show how talented they truly are! This whole week girls in each county, city, and room have proved themselves. These talented women routinely show leadership, fearlessness, intelligence, and of course talent.

Every girl is unique and beautiful in their own way! Voices rang out and bodies moved like waves. It's incredible to see all of the skill while girls were speaking, play-

ing, or singing before you.

Sunday morning was sang beautifully by Paige Owens, Saryn Fleming played her violin like a queen, Ashley Dennis killed it singing "She Used to be Mine", Ashley Holtz danced the night away, and Alexandria Smith sang "Someday" amazingly.

With many more amazing performances there was so much talent brought to the stage! Even after only knowing people for less than a week, there was constant crowd support. Girls cheered before, during, and after performances as loud as possible. It's truly a blessing that such sweet, friendly girls have participated this week and become such great friends.

The talent show in my opinion was quite the success, and resulted in even more bonding (if that's possible). Flashlights illuminated the sky as people swayed back and forth in support for their new friends. Girls clapped in rhythm, sang in harmony, and stood in applause for the contestants.

We even had the honor of seeing a wonderful video made by one of our very own supervisors that included pictures from all week. Various songs resulted in girls belting their hearts out to some of our favorite songs and loving each other all the more!

Overall, the talent show has officially become one of the MANY highlights of Girls State.



## Palo Verde Takes On Elections

**Laya Reddy & Nicole Ursprunger**  
Palo Verde City Reporters

Palo Verde did amazing in the recent election! Here are the positions obtained by citizens of the city of Palo Verde:

- Misaal Irfan: Secretary of State
- Julia Shackelford: County Attorney
- Laya Reddy: Mayor
- Nicole Ursprunger: Senator (Minority Party Leader)
- Miquela Ford: Clerk of the Superior Court
- Rachel Thompson: Director of Airports
- Evelyn Rodriguez: Public Defender
- Kaitlyn Divijak: County Treasurer
- Sydney Peare: House of Representatives
- Grace Menna: Senator (Nationalist Party Chairwoman)
- Erin Collins: Director of Hospitals
- Kristin Riggs: House of Representatives
- Jasmine Ayala-Millan: Lobbyist
- Francesca Valli-Doherty: Supervisor for District 3
- Jenny Mendoza- House of Representatives
- Vivianne Gurrola- Budget Committee
- Anahi Covarrubias- Parks and Recreation
- Guadalupe Valdez- House of Representatives
- Kenna Elliot- Planning and Zoning Committee
- Teresa Noll- Clerk of the Board I'd Supervisors