

Arizona Girls State Independent



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Doers, Thinkers, and Dreamers

By Jordan Casey
Juniper City Reporter

Today I had the absolute entertainment of witnessing county and state elections. I enjoyed every step of the process and hearing all of the girls give marvelous, well-oriented speeches for their position.

As I was listening to all of the fellow young-ladies speak, I noticed a pattern between them. How they each talked. What they talked about in relation to what they are running for.

I decided on three different categories that all people can be separated into. These categories can be crossed, meaning you have the possibility to be two. You can even be all three.

However, as you read this article, I ask you to ponder the following: Are you a doer, thinker, or dreamer? Read closely and truly consider the raw truth of yourself. Contemplate which category your heart most follows.

The doers are (by social descriptions) the business managers, marketers, public speakers/ relations, social & community managers, etc. The most occurring definition is the doers are people who are the face and body of society.

They build things from scratch and make it their own. They take the broken and fix it up to create something functional for others. Nonetheless, the doers are not boxed and bound to be the surface of who only the eyes of society see.

The doers are people in society who have

a gift of goals that they focus on. Behind the scenes, the doers can accomplish monumental tasks that push society along.

In the candidate discourse, I found that the doers laid out their candid goals in front of everyone. They focus on what they plan for society and don't let anyone stand in their way.

The doers are people who believe in themselves and their opinion in order to influence the public. They have guided and shaped the world throughout decades of long history, and they continue to do so today. The doers are purposeful and impressive people who change the world.

The thinkers are (by social description) the engineers, scientists, medical workers, financiers, etc. The logical and most idealistic definition is that they are the backbone and the brain of society. They take things into careful consideration and look for the most beneficial route. They usually work behind the scenes.

On the other hand, the thinkers are not just confined to "brainy" routes in life. I've met a lot of adventurous, dare-devil people who are thinkers beneath surface level.

The thinkers of society are people I find to look at every possible problem, along with every possible solution. During the candidate election speeches, I decided that the thinkers assessed all of the audience viewpoints.

The "thinker" candidates most consistently talked about statistics of the conflict and how it effects their concerns, then how they plan to change it. They aim for great

heights and use the power of their wit to accomplish their goals. They are driven people who put in the work and it shows. The thinkers are strong-minded and valuable to the world.

The dreamers are (by social description) the authors, artists – of any kind, explorers, designers, etc. The common definition is that the dreamers are the heart of society. They keep the blood of humanity pumping and flowing. They offer balance to the part of society that is grounded.

The dreamers have their heads in the sky and their hearts in the palms of the doers and thinkers. The dreamers are found anywhere and everywhere.

Among the candidate elections, I believe that the dreamers are the ones who were filled with passion. They felt what they said in their soul. The "dreamer" candidates showed desire and devotion towards the audience. They have a strong connection with words and within themselves. They raise humankind to a level of aspiration that is out of this world. The dreamers are considerate and irreplaceable in the world.

So, what are you? A doer, thinker, or dreamer? Do you want to be one, but you're actually more of another? Are you two, maybe even all three of them?

If you truly do not know what you could be, then get a friends opinion. Ask a fellow Girls State girl if you seem like a doer, thinker, or dreamer.

Dedicated to all you fellow doers, thinkers, and dreamers: Follow your heart, you never know where it might take you.

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Arizona Governor comes to town

By Reidiny Aguirre
Saguaro City Reporter

Incredible legacy Governor Katie Hobbs came today in person to talk to the girls of Girls State. Governor Katie Hobbs was genuinely inspiring, telling us her experience about being a social worker and wanting to do more than that to help her community, making a stand to inspire us to do more in our communities to take the lessons opportunities, and teachings we have been given here and take them back home with us and make our community better.

She also told us the setbacks she had faced when

people tried to get under her skin however despite that she kept her goal set and refuse to let any setbacks stand in her way of accomplishing those goals.

She expressed most importantly to us that we will face setbacks as women and minorities but to always keep our goal in the forefront of our minds and not to let anyone tell us we cannot reach those goals.

She gave us a better understanding of what she really does for the community. She said that watching every election from the people running for governor again and again and that sometimes you cannot wait for someone else to step in you have to be the one to make change.

Post Girls State Dreams

By Gargee Tamboli and Delia Riley
Pinon City Reporters

Throughout the week, we've had the pleasure of hearing from many Girls State alumni, from our JCs and past Girls Nation delegates to Governor Katie Hobbs.

The program has its good reputation for a reason. The 2022 Arizona Girls Nation delegates are attending prestigious universities, Harvard and Howard. And, Governor Hobbs hasn't lost an election, which she attributes to her time in Girls State.

She's not the only notable alumni the Girls and Boys State Programs have produced, some of them including Kimberly Yee, Neil Armstrong, Bill Clinton, and Summer Walker.

So, we were wondering, what will our girls achieve in the future? A common theme throughout was the

communication skills everyone has learned here.

One of our fellow Pinon citizens says "I'm going into the health science/medical field. Coming here is a great opportunity to expand and interact with more people, and the medical field is all about interacting with people." Many girls wanted to go into the business or medical fields, with some stand outs being architecture and constitutional law.

Another common trend we identified was that people learned more about the democratic process. They learned how to use their voice and don't feel as overwhelmed about the election and voting process as they once were.

Regardless of whether or not the delegates at Girls State go into politics, they have learned extremely valuable skills here that will help them to succeed at anything they choose to do in the future.



Breakfast and Barnstorming

By Juliana Li and Sydney Schurz
Ocotillo City Reporters

On Wednesday morning, the night after Meet the Candidates, the patio was colorfully decorated with posters galore! Delegates were abuzz with excitement, because it was finally election day for County and State!

Here are some opinions on the food and friends of Girls State.

Zoey Stein of Manzanita was our first interviewee. Her favorite breakfast item was the lemon bread.

However, her favorite part about campaigning is a popular opinion: the Girls Nation candidates. She finds all the different bills and passions interesting, something that is echoed across all of Girls State.

At "Meet the Candidates," hopeful Girls Nation Senators could be found aplenty, all trying to make their voices heard and names memorable.

Kailyn Harper, also from Manzanita, had some strong breakfast opinions that could be summarized to "Coffee is bad," and, "Cherry danish is good."

Ally Rumzisz from Supai was the opposite. She liked the coffee, surprising me personally, but ascribed it to normally liking black coffee.

Another dissenting opinion came from Michelle Chen from Manzanita. She was into Cherry danish at first, but then quickly realized the amount of sugar was not suitable for a 7 AM breakfast.

Skylar Greener from Manzanita City was enjoying some granola and yogurt this morning. Her strategy (if you will) was to fill a plate up with granola and dump the yogurt on top. Mix and then it's all ready!

Although Skylar enjoys it, "I wish there was bacon!" she says wishingly.

Greener then goes on, "...my favorite part of campaigning is meeting new people! There are so many to meet with thousands of stories." She is currently running for County Sheriff with the catchy slogan, "The grass is greener with Skylar Greener!"

Adelina Grotenhuis from Sycamore City was not super enthusiastic about breakfast because she was busy doing something far more important; campaigning!

Adelina is taking the bold move of going for Girls Nation, but her bill is something even bolder. She is fighting for sex education to be taught in schools.

When girls walk down the staircase, a huge poster can be seen from as far as the top step. This outlandish strategy definitely

caught the delegates attention, and many have talked about her bill.

Grotenhuis is also running for Supreme Court, and as a strong, confident, and extroverted candidate, she is sure to catch the eye of many girls here at Girls State.

As someone as passionate as herself, Adelina's favorite part of campaigning is seeing others with similar drive sharing their ideas and opinions in creative ways.

Finally, Payton Robbins from Supai had some strong opinions about the muffins.

Quickly running out the first day, the muffins have become a fan favorite, with girls carrying them up and down the staircase.

Her favorite part about campaigning is talking to people! She could be seen campaigning for Girls Nation at Meet the Candidates, an event that was sure to be popular with the extroverted and those looking to secure top positions.

As the girls are getting used to the breakfast and the packed days at Girls State, campaigning and elections have made things even more hectic.

However, there is sure to be both a breakfast item and position at Girls State for everyone as we head into the third full day.

Katie Hobbs inspires Girls State citizens

By Annika Good and Amelia Cooney
Manzanita City Reporters

On June 7th, after leaving the lunch hall, Girls State citizens headed to the state hall, nervously anticipating their next guest speaker. As they chatted amongst themselves, Governor Ester Marish grabbed everyone's attention and introduced the eagerly awaited guest.

Current Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs entered the stage and was met by a room full of excited delegates, who had patiently

waited to hear the advice and wisdom the exemplary leader had in store for them.

After all the citizens had settled down and taken their seats, Governor Hobbs began with a brief introduction, telling the citizens a bit about herself and her professional experience in office before opening the floor to the city mayors for questioning.

In the end, she was able to answer four unique questions regarding the position of Governor before departing to tend to her

busy schedule.

Four city mayors, including Mayor Amelia Cooney of Manzanita city, were able to walk away with inspiring and satisfactory answers to their questions. Mayor Cooney recalls, "The experience was an honor and I'm glad I was able to hear from such a powerful woman in our state government!"

Overall, it was an incredibly rare experience for the girls, and each citizen walked away with fond memories of the event



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Even When Dividing Among Party Lines, Sisterhood is What Defines

By Megan Burke
Saguaro City Reporter

As rallies heighten tension between Nationalist and Federalist Party, Saguaro City presents an intriguing perspective to the polarization. Allegra Canelos, Chairman of Federalist Party, and Lindsay Price, Platform Co-Chairman of Nationalist Party, both are delegates within Saguaro City.

During the flag ceremony this morning, predicted rivals joined forces and presented a beautiful performance of the Star Spangled Banner.

Interested by their unity, I interviewed Canelos and Price on their opinions on the differing parties.

I began by asking the delegates “Do you notice any polarization between Federalists and Nationalists within your own city?”

Price began by explaining that she hadn’t seen any polarization. In fact, she stated that Saguaro is solidly unified as a group of girls no matter their party.

Even though leading positions of the Federalist and Nationalist Party co-exist nearly next door to one another, we are all

still Saguaro Sisters. Even out of the city, we can be in our own party but understand to demonstrate kindness and civility.

Impressed by the poised response, I continued my interview asking “How do you promote civility among the different parties?”

Canelos explained that civility is rooted from simply demonstrating kindness and not taking rallies too far. At the end of the day, everything is a joke and delegates are at Girl State for a fun and educational experience.

As Chairman of the Federalist Party, Canelos informs her party to focus on strengthening themselves, not on the other party.

I closed my interview with a final question: “How do you think being party chairmen living in the same city as an opposing party chairman has taught you about finding unity among differing ideas?”

Price and Canelos agreed that they found unity despite their differing parties. Specifically through their Star Spangled Banner performance, Canelos explained that they could connect in art and personal passions.



Price clearly explained that at the end of the day what matters is the relationship you have built, not the party who won. Saguaro City clearly demonstrated the important skill of maintaining an open-mind and protecting civility, no matter the political circumstance. Even when differing opinions and beliefs exist, sisterhood persists.

Campaigning Around Sycamore City

By Gabby Comer
Sycamore City Reporter

As all of Girls State dives deep into campaigning for primary and general elections, many of the girls in Sycamore city are running for most of the county and state positions.

Ever since they could start campaigning all the girls in Sycamore have been hard at work making campaign materials and helping the other citizens.

“I am helping out my city with campaigns by going out and just really expressing how

amazing these girls are. Being in their city I have personally got to know them and I am confident in all of their abilities to be amazing in each of their positions! I am trying my best to get their names out and known! As well as offering advice where needed,” says Brooke Wilkens, Sycamore City Federalist Precinct Committee.

Sycamore City has also welcomed many nominees from other cities, from all over Kaibab County and Girls State. The halls throughout Sycamore are decorated with tons of campaign posters from all over the state.

“Seeing the posters of girls in other cities and counties really brings all of us together, because I think I speak for most of us when I say that our halls have become like a piece of home for us, and seeing the marks of the other girls around us in our city feels like we are seeing them on a more personal level,” says Avery Borghoff, Sycamore City citizen.

Girls in Sycamore making door decor and campaign materials.

Campaign poster hung up in Sycamore City.



The Key to Leadership: A Lecture by Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs

By Sania Patel
Yucca City Reporter

Today, the students of the ALA Girls State Program were ecstatic to meet the incredibly accomplished Governor of Arizona, Katie Hobbs! During this meeting, Hobbs discussed her work and her contributions to her community while also highlighting the importance of passion and proper leadership skills.

To start with some background, Hobbs herself was a Girls State Delegate years ago. Her experience during the program helped her not only realize her future career path but also develop the skills necessary to succeed when in positions of leadership.

First, Hobbs provided some information about her past education and work. Hobbs studied at Northern Arizona University and Arizona State University, eventually earning a Master's Degree in Social Work. It was through her social work that Hobbs began to notice the immense amount of issues Arizona was struggling with.

In order to advocate for what she believed in - and make a real change - Hobbs used the campaigning skills she had learned during her time at Girls State to run for the Arizona House of Representatives in 2010.

After spending some time serving for the House of Representatives, Hobbs ran - and was elected - for a seat in the Arizona Senate. She served as Senate minority leader and then was later elected as Arizo-

na's Secretary of State in 2018.

Now, as Governor of Arizona, Hobbs focuses on incorporating leadership into her connection with the community. During her speech, she focused on the importance of humility and honesty, as she stated, "Without truth and accountability, it's impossible for the government to run smoothly."

She also told the girls that, despite the increasing political polarization within the nation, "my goal has always remained the same - and that is to serve my community and my state."

Following her statement, Hobbs expressed her focus on her mission. According to Hobbs, despite the harassment, political violence, and personal attacks she faced, she continues to "...stay focused on my mission. Not getting bogged down by the harshness of politics has allowed me to work better for the people of Arizona."

At the end of her discussion, Hobbs handed the floor over to the Mayors of the Girls State cities. Our very own Yucca City Mayor, Caleigh Ragsdale, questioned Hobbs over the involvement of women in the political sphere and - specifically - how women have impacted politics thus far.



In her answer, Hobbs stressed the importance of overcoming the stereotypes of women in politics, as females bring exceptionally detailed and thoughtful ideas, as well as "bring[ing] a different perspective to the table... it's not just about creating the jobs and building the economy for everyone, but what that means to someone's life and their family and how that affects them."

