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cityscape

the quarterly newsletter for City High School & Tucson Small School Project

City High School strives to be a community of learners in which all members use their minds well. We engage with challenging academics and the unique resources of our city and region in order to become active citizens and responsible stewards of our world.

Tucson Small School Project (TSSP) is dedicated to supporting City High School and to promoting professional development and community dialogue that foster smaller and more equitable learning communities for all students in Arizona. TSSP is a nonprofit corporation with 501c3 status.

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***learning. working.
creating. connecting***

From the Director's Desk ...

IN THE NEWS

I am proud to report that City High School and our students have received lots of local news coverage lately. Over the past few months we've had four feature articles in the city's two daily newspapers, a student piece published in the monthly Downtown Tucsonan, and even a few short television news spots. One article focused on City High School's efforts to pick up trash and litter at Jacome Plaza as part of the Tucson Clean & Beautiful park adoption program. (Pictured below: Junior Gabriella Enos and other students participating in City High School's weekly clean-up activity.)



Another story lauded the City High School senior class for their philanthropy and community service activities on Cesar Chavez Day. Sophomore John Kramer made it onto the cover of the Star's Caliente section for his active involvement in the youth cycling team, El Grupo. See page 3 to learn more about City High School students Chris Stagg and Kailia Miller, whose artistic accomplishments made it into print. To read all of the original stories, follow the media links on the school's homepage www.cityhighschool.org.

MAKING OUR WORK PUBLIC

At City High School students are required to share their learning with their peers, parents, teachers, and community members. This issue of *cityscape* features students taking their work public and presenting to a variety of audiences. The end of the school year is an intense time as students gear up for final "exhibitions" – public demonstrations of their learning. The City Works Showcase for grades 9-11 takes place May 13. Gateway Exhibitions for grades 9 and 11 and Graduation Exhibitions for seniors will be happening throughout the week of May 26-29. City High School will participate again this year in National Exhibition Month sponsored by the Coalition of Essential Schools. To read more programs around the country similar to City High School that challenge their students to make their learning public, visit www.essentialschools.org.

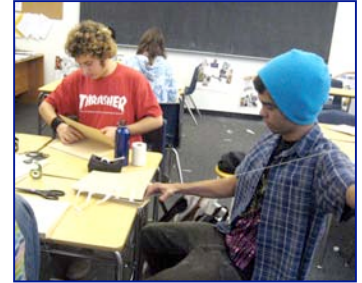
~Carrie Brennan, Executive Director

City Works Program Goes Public

A lot is happening with the City Works program this spring and more is on the way. Students Talena Brown, Na-il Emmert, Kailee Byrnes, and Evangelina Vasquez traveled with staff member Elliott Lax to Nashville, TN in March to participate in the National Youth Service Learning Conference. This annual conference was attended by over 2500 youth and educators from around the globe and focused on the theme of 'Growing Hope, Cultivating Change'. The group (pictured right) presented on City High School's Service Learning program during the conference's Service Learning Showcase.

On April 23, seven students will head to Phoenix for the annual Learn and Serve Celebration. This conference brings together students from schools throughout Arizona to present on their service learning projects. The City High School students will each present the achievements of their particular City Works class. Finally, mark your calendars for the annual City Works Showcase to be held at City High on May 13 from 6-8 p.m. All 9th-11th graders will be involved in the event highlighting their service learning work during the 2008-09 school year. Come check out their amazing projects!

~Elliott Lax, Community Partnerships Coordinator



New City Works Class

The newest Division II City Works offering, Bookmaking, was launched this year in partnership w/SharMoore Children's Productions. Led by City High School teacher Meg Haesloop and community artists Drew and Andrea Burk, the class functions as a small design company, with City High School students illustrating and binding books that feature stories written by elementary school students.

Students learn artistic skills, including illustration, storyboarding, and bookbinding. They also grapple with the challenges of having a real-world "client", who happens to be an elementary school author eagerly awaiting their finished book. The class hosted a booth at Tucson's Festival of Books in March, sharing with the public their process and their beautiful handcrafted products. (Photo top right: Students Che Hise-Gattone and Peter Barnett binding books.)

Pennington Street Block Party

In Downtown Tucson,
on the corner of Pennington & Stone

- *Live music*
- Mariachi Tucsonense
- Combo West Side
- Pony Candy
- Broken End Stereo
- *Fun games*
- Dunk Tank
- Jumping Castle
- Giant Checkers
- *Art*
- Recycled Art
- Jewelry
- Henna Tattoos
- *Delicious food*
- Cafe 54
- Revolutionary Grounds
- Eegees
- Sonoran Hot dogs
- *Craft projects*
- Community Mural
- Recycled Art
- *Dancing*
- Bellydancing
- Breakdancing
- Capoeira

Free Admission

Saturday, April 25

From 12-4 pm

Visit us at...
www.cityhighschool.org
OR
City High School (Tucson, AZ) on Facebook

Brought to you by:
City High School
and our friends:
Voices,
Art in Reality,
Plaza Poetry,
and Tucson Pima
Arts Council



JOIN IN THE DOWNTOWN FUN!

Plans for the first ever Pennington Street Block Party are in full swing. Join in the fun on Saturday, April 25 from 12:00-4:00 p.m. There will be an incredible array of performances and activities appealing to all ages. The Block Party will take place along Pennington Street between Stone and Scott, with the main stage in the parking lot across from City High School.

There will be a dunk tank, an interactive recycled art project, mural painting, numerous Tucson bands, an acrobatic yoga demonstration, capoeira, giant chess and checkers, jumping castle, a skate ramp and more! Bring your appetites; there will be food vendors and a demonstration from the City High Culinary Arts class. Pennington Street restaurants, including Dizzy G's and Cafe 54, will be open as well.

The 9th grade students, with the help of their teachers, are organizing the Block Party as part of their City Works class. The students have worked hard to collaborate with the many groups and individuals that are participating in the event. Partnering organizations include Voices, Art in Reality, and Tucson Public Library. Come out on Saturday and enjoy the fun! ~Julie Richelson, Executive Assistant

STUDENT CREATIVITY GOES PUBLIC ...

KAILIA MILLER WINS POETRY CONTEST

Sophomore Kailia Miller (pictured right) won the Tucson Poetry Festival's annual high school poetry contest for her poem "Green Obstruction." This year's final judge was Knox College professor and author, Gina Franco. Ms. Franco was deeply moved and a little terrified by "Green Obstruction," and said she wished she had written it herself. Ninth grader Donovan Caputo received honorable mention for his poem "A Painter and his Dolphins." City High School student Felix Valencia was the contest's top winner last year.

~Chad Blair, English Teacher



Photo Credit: David Sanders, AZ Daily Star



Photo Credit: Chris Stagg

CHRIS STAGG PUBLISHED IN DOWNTOWN TUCSONAN

Ninth grader Chris Stagg had a story and photo in the March 2009 issue of the Downtown Tucsonan. Chris produced the work as part of his involvement in the Voices after-school program, 110 Degrees. His article introduces the Albert Gallegos Skate Park that opened this month in the Santa Rita Park. The Skate Park will provide a place for him and other skateboarding fans, to practice skating tricks amongst peers and role models without inconveniencing pedestrians. Chris used the editing process to make his story more personal, allowing the reader a glimpse into his perspective and interest in skating. Although Chris just joined the Voices program in January, he was chosen to be the featured Voices writer in the March Downtown Tucsonan because it was clear he could write well under quick deadlines! ~ Katie Johnson, Voices Writing Director



STUDENT ART ON DISPLAY

Five City High School students have work on display at the downtown branch of the Tucson Public Library as part of the annual city-wide High School Art Invitational. Congratulations to Seniors Shawn Thiel, Travis Randall and Felipe Samano, Junior Lilliana Lopez and Sophomore Jose Arvayo for having their pieces selected for the exhibit. (The 4 paintings and 1 photograph are pictured above.) Top artists will receive awards at the invitational's awards ceremony at the Library on April 25 at 11:00 a.m. in conjunction with the Pennington Street Block Party (see story, page 2).

~Jason Marrano, Art Teacher

UPCOMING EVENTS FEATURING CITY HIGH ARTISTS

- Students Katelyn Millette and Lilliana Lopez have been invited by our community partner Pan Left Productions to participate in the Arizona International Film Festival's youth panel. Learn more at www.filmfestivalarizona.com
- The second annual P.S. 48 Youth Art exhibit, featuring youth artists from City High School and Voices, will open on April 24 in the City High School exhibit and performance space. Come to the opening celebration on Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. or check out the exhibit during the Pennington Street Block Party on Saturday, April 25.
- The Pan Left Documentary Video City Works class will have their annual screening in mid-May at the Screening Room on Congress Street. Check the school website for exact date and time.

~Jason Marrano, Art Teacher



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MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

<u>April</u>		
4/2	5:30 – 7:00 p.m.	TSSP Board of Directors Meeting
4/6	6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Div IIB Field Trip Parent Info Night
4/7	6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	City High Parents - PTO meeting
4/13 - 4/19		Spring Break
4/15 - 4/19		Grand Canyon River Rafting Trip
4/21	8:30 – 12:30 p.m.	8 th Grade Visiting Day
4/21	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.	College Night @ City High School
4/23-24		Returning Student Registration
4/24		Div. I Stories That Soar Performance
4/25	12:00 – 4:00 p.m.	Pennington Street Block Party
4/27 - 4/30		Division I Grand Canyon Trip
4/27 - 5/1		Division IIB Silver City, NM Trip
<u>May</u>		
5/1	12 – 1:30 p.m.	TSSP Board of Directors Meeting
5/5	6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	City High Parents - PTO meeting
5/13	5:00 – 7:00 p.m.	City Works Showcase
5/22	7:00-11:00 p.m.	Prom @ Hotel Arizona
5/25		No School – Memorial Day
5/26 – 5/29		Exhibitions Week
5/30	10:00 a.m.	Graduation at La Placita Park
<u>June</u>		
6/2		Last Day of School/Make-up Day
6/2		New Student Registration
6/5	12 – 1:30 p.m.	TSSP Board of Directors Meeting
<u>July</u>		
7/3	12 – 1:30 p.m.	TSSP Board of Directors Meeting
<u>August</u>		
8/7	12 – 1:30 p.m.	TSSP Board of Directors Meeting
8/18		Orientation- First Day for NEW St's
8/19		School Retreat- First Day for All St's

Check out the school website for updated event info.

www.cityhighschool.org