

Spring 2007  
Volume 4, Issue 3

# cityscape

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

## Division I Partnerships Focus On Our Surroundings

### ***Exhibit Helps Students Learn Roots of Tucson's History***

At the beginning of this school year, the Division I Humanities students began to explore an idea that Aristotle proposed: We are how we live. Through the lens of this idea, students studied all aspects of life in Tucson, including commerce, religion, communication and crime. These studies culminated in a multi-genre exhibit titled *We Are How We Live: Snapshots of Tucson History*.

On March 9 the exhibit opened at La Pilita Museum, on South Main Street. Students, parents, teachers, community members, and La Pilita board members attended the opening event. (Photo below, with

student Gabriella Enos and Tucson resident Deezie Manning-Catron.)

Visitors enjoyed a historical look at turn-of-the-century Tucson, which included photos from the Arizona Historical Society and recorded interviews with long-term business owners and residents. One highlight of the exhibit was a life-sized gallows made by a group exploring the essential question: How are our values reflected in the way we treat our criminals?

Students learned valuable skills while studying Tucson history. Ninth grader Felix Valencia stated, "The best thing about the project was all the different kinds of research we did. We learned how to interview, take photos, and use archives."

The project was supported with an Arizona Heritage Foundation grant. City High School has received this prestigious grant for the past two years.

~Eve Rifkin, Humanities Teacher



### ***Water Awareness Unit Leads to Art Contest Winners***

Ninth graders participated in an interdisciplinary unit focusing on the study of water from both scientific and artistic points of view last semester. The project was a partnership with Pima County Department of Natural Resources and the River of Words program. The county was pleased with the collaboration. "City High was a fantastic opportunity to expand *River of Words* into higher grades," said county employee Katy Goudschaal.

Congratulations to Austin Dail, Carrie Soo Hoo, and Hannah Bell, all of whom won awards for creative

work they produced during the water unit. Their poetry and drawings will be displayed this spring, as part of the River of Words Youth Poetry and Art Contest traveling exhibit.

~Carrie Brennan, Principal



**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 to become active citizens and responsible stewards of our world.

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**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 southern Arizona. TSSP is a nonprofit corporation with 501c3 status.

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**learning. working.  
creating. connecting**

## City High School Receives Citigroup Grant to Support Math Curriculum

City High School was awarded a Citigroup Financial Education Grant in March 2007. The grant provides approximately \$1500 to support new math resources. In addition, Citigroup professionals will collaborate with City High teachers to develop and implement financial education and personal finance units in the new applied mathematics and advanced math classes. "There is definitely a need for financial literacy amongst youth today," comments Math Teacher Michael Herzog. "Our ability to navigate finances affects our lives considerably; many young adults fall into the credit card trap and wind up with significant debt at a young age."

The Citigroup Foundation's grant program is part of their commitment to provide opportunities for people to develop the skills and knowledge they need to manage their personal finances responsibly, make informed economic decisions, and achieve success in the global workplace. The grant aligns with City High School's mission to provide real world connections for students and to ensure that classroom learning is life-long.

~Jennifer Camano, Grants and Development Coordinator



## Math/Science Teacher Visits Costa Rica

Teacher Jeff Hartman (*second from right*) traveled to Costa Rica in March for a 10-day trip sponsored by the Toyota International Teachers Program. The group visited the rainforest, met with Costa Rican educators, and attended lectures at Earth University.

Toyota sponsors trips like this to expose teachers to different cultures and encourage them to find innovative ways to share what they've learned with their students upon return. Hartman is already applying some of what he learned in Central America in his ninth grade science classes. Eventually, he hopes to develop a partnership between City High and a school in Costa Rica.

~Andres Cano, Student Contributor

Experience the culmination of a year of hard work by City High School students. Join us for upcoming showcase events:

**April 18, 6-8 p.m.  
Senior Internships**

**May 16, 6-8 p.m.  
City Works Classes**

For more information, contact Elliott Lax, 623-7223 x201

SHOWCASES  
this  
SPRING

Senior Internship Showcase

April 18  
6-8pm

CITY HIGH  
SCHOOL

LEARN MORE

City Works Showcase

May 16  
6-8pm

**ON THE ROAD ...*****Biking through AZ on Spring Break***

200 miles in four days on a bike, with 30 pounds of gear in tow... Sound like fun? It was! A group of City High students spent part of their spring break touring Southern Arizona on bicycle. Accompanied by BICAS leaders Daniela Diamante and Ignacio Rivera de Rosales, the students rode from Sonoita to Bisbee and then back to Tucson in four days.

This was the first major bike trip for the students, and they were all still smiling at the end... despite six flat tires, one crash, and two mechanical failures. Remember: it is the journey not the destination.

*~Ignacio Rivera de Rosales, BICAS*

***Exploring Coastal Mexico***

Division I students and five staff members traveled to the CEDO marine research station in Puerto Peñasco/Rocky Point the last week of March. Students spent time studying estuaries, exploring tidepools, touring the city, and learning about the natural history of the area. The annual trip culminates the ninth grade desert ecology unit.

One highlight was a visit to CetMar, a vocational high school that focuses on marine fisheries, food service, and boat mechanics. Students from City High were paired with students from CetMar for a tour of the school and a visit to the aquarium. Following the tour, the students all played a game of kickball. On the third day, following a visit to a local bakery that still uses a wood stove, small groups of students wandered through Puerto Peñasco neighborhoods and hung Ben's Bells. This was done in coordination with an effort across southern Arizona, and was the first ever distribution of Ben's Bells in Mexico.

*~Jeff Hartman, Math/Science Teacher*

***Rafting along the Colorado River***

On March 18, 17 students, along with staff members Lynn Schneuer and Michael Herzog, and Michael's wife, headed to northern Arizona for the first CHS Whitewater Rafting Trip.

The first night we slept under the stars and fell asleep to the sound of the Colorado River rapids. We spent four days and nights on the river, and were fortunate to have perfect weather. The rapids and scenery were incredible, as were the food and guides.

Each student had an education component to the trip. Each evening students made presentations, and we all learned about numerous topics including the river's bullfrog, water issues, astronomy, and geology.

*~Michael Herzog, Math Teacher*

***Traveling to the Nation's Capital***

Juniors Anne Pinsky and Tristan Blue participated in the Jewish-Latino Teen Coalition trip to Washington, D.C. in March. While there, the group of Tucson teens visited Congress and met with Representatives Raul Grijalva and Gabrielle Giffords to discuss issues facing Arizona today, especially immigration. "It was very fun and interesting to speak with members of Congress in person and hear their own side of the story," said Tristan.

It was the first visit to the nation's capital for both Anne and Tristan. Anne was impressed with the activism she observed. "There were people in front of the White House holding up signs with their feelings about the current government, and I thought that was great!"

*~Andres Cano, Student Contributor*

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS ...**

**APRIL**  
17<sup>th</sup>

Visiting Day for Prospective Students

18<sup>th</sup> 6:00-8:00 p.m. Senior Internship Showcase

20<sup>th</sup> Learn & Serve America Fieldtrip

20<sup>th</sup> ASDB Field Trip, "Out-Signers" Play

25<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:00 p.m. College Planning Workshop

25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> Senior Field Trip to New Mexico

**MAY**

2<sup>nd</sup> 6:00-8:00 p.m. School Picnic @ The Garden

3<sup>rd</sup> 5:30-7:00 p.m. TSSP Board Meeting

8<sup>th</sup> 6:30-7:00 p.m. "City High Parents" PTO Meeting

7<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m- 2 p.m. Visit to Pima Community College

9<sup>th</sup> 6:00-7:00 p.m. Community Advisory Council

12<sup>th</sup> 6:00-11:00p.m. Midnight Masquerade Prom

@ Hotel Arizona

16<sup>th</sup> 6:00-8:00 p.m. CityWorks Showcase

23<sup>rd</sup> 7:00-9:00p.m. Graduation Ceremony @ La Placita

TBA Spring Drama Productions

**JUNE**

7<sup>th</sup> TSSP Board Meeting

18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> City High School Co-Sponsors

Critical Friends Group Institute

*Check out the school website for updated event info.  
[www.cityhighschool.org](http://www.cityhighschool.org)*