

Fall 2006

Volume 1, Issue 1

# cityscape

the 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 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*

## Grant Enriches Student Learning at City High

City High School received the competitive "Learn and Serve America" grant for a second year in a row. Sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the grant is designed to encourage service-learning programs in K-12 schools. City High School received nearly \$10,000 in funds to support its innovative City Works program.

As a recipient of the grant, City High School sent a team of students and teachers to the annual Learn and Serve Leadership Camp in Prescott, AZ. The group gathered with other recipients of the grant from around the state to share ideas and

learn new leadership skills.

Community partners for City Works classes this year include UA Flandrau Science Center, Pan Left Productions, and the Sculpture Resource Center. The program continues to grow each year. In 2006-2007, the first senior class is participating in required internships. Internship placements include Tucson Children's Museum, UA Radiocarbon Lab, KXCI Radio, Tucson Downtown Alliance, the Humane Society, and BICAS.

*~Jennifer Rosenthal, Grants & Development Coordinator*

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## Teachers Lead 3 Sessions at National Conference

A team of five school staff members and one community partner traveled to Chicago on November 1 to participate in the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Fall Forum of the Coalition of Essential Schools. Eve Rifkin, Elliott Lax, Brett Goble, Molly Renner, and Jennifer Rosenthal, along with community partner Sharon O'Brien of Stories that Soar, attended and led sessions at the annual conference on school reform that brought together teachers, students, and school administrators from around the nation.

The City High School team led three sessions focused on creating and sustaining community partnerships, developing a senior internship program, and integrating a performing arts-based unit into the humanities curriculum. Each of the three workshops drew a sizeable crowd of educators seeking to learn from our experiences at City High.

The City High staff attended workshops and panels. Noted speakers at the conference included renowned educators and authors Linda Darling-Hammond, Deborah Meier, TheodoreSizer, and George Wood. The group also networked with teachers and students from other reform-minded schools in Arizona and New Mexico and started discussions about opportunities for further sharing, including school visits and exchanges.

City High School is a member of the Coalition of Essential Schools. This affiliation provides an important philosophical framework for our school and a vital connection to like-minded schools and educators around the country. To learn more about the Coalition, visit [www.essentialschools.org](http://www.essentialschools.org).

*~Eve Rifkin, Academic Director*

## City High School Students Active All Around

For a small school with an enrollment of 140, City High has a remarkable number of students involved in all kinds of extracurricular programs. The accomplishments of a few students are featured below.

Students **Dan Schaller** and **Andres Cano** were both chosen to be Tucson Citizen Columnists. Their editorial-style pieces are featured in the Tucson Citizen monthly throughout the school year. Look for teen columns in the Citizen each Tuesday; archived columns of Cano's and Schaller's are posted on the school website.

Junior **Candice Hill-Crouch** Candice will travel to Atlanta, GA as a member of Arizona's delegation to the National 4-H Congress this year. The Arizona delegation consists of nine teens; over 1,200 delegates from throughout the U.S. and its territories will be participating. Candice is an avid horseback rider who has been involved in 4-H for over 7 years.

Student **Caitlin Sax** teamed up with Counselor Angela Daniels to organize a team for the community walk to raise funds and awareness for juvenile diabetes in October. The City High team of 30 walkers, dubbed "Caitlin's Crew", included students, staff, and parents.

Congratulations are in order ... to Junior **Anne Pinsky** for her successful completion of the competitive biotechnology program at Pima Community College last semester ... and to Junior **Isabella Soto** for her selection as a youth representative on the Pima County Women's Commission.

We are so proud of all of our students' accomplishments and are eager to feature them. To share news about a student, contact Carrie Brennan at 623-7223 x203 or [carrie@cityhighschool.org](mailto:carrie@cityhighschool.org).

Read about the City High Basketball and Bike Teams in the next newsletter.

- **Carrie Brennan, Principal**



*Candice Hill-Crouch with her horse Jax (above). The City High "Caitlin's Crew" at the start of the annual juvenile diabetes walk, October 28 at the U of A campus (below).*



*Left: Argentine visitor Olga Besso (center) with Carrie Brennan and her homestay host, Teacher Jeff Hartman. Right: TSSP Board members Ann Modica Mary Jo Ghory and former board member Anne-Marie Hall with Carrie Brennan at the 40-Under-40 Awards Ceremony.*



### City High Principal Receives Awards

City High Principal Carrie Brennan was chosen to participate in a school administrator exchange program sponsored by the prestigious Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. As part of the exchange, Olga Besso, a vice principal of a secondary school in Villa Dolores, Argentina, traveled to Tucson for three weeks this fall to visit City High School. In July, Brennan will reciprocate with a visit to Argentina to shadow Besso and to learn more about the education systems in South America.

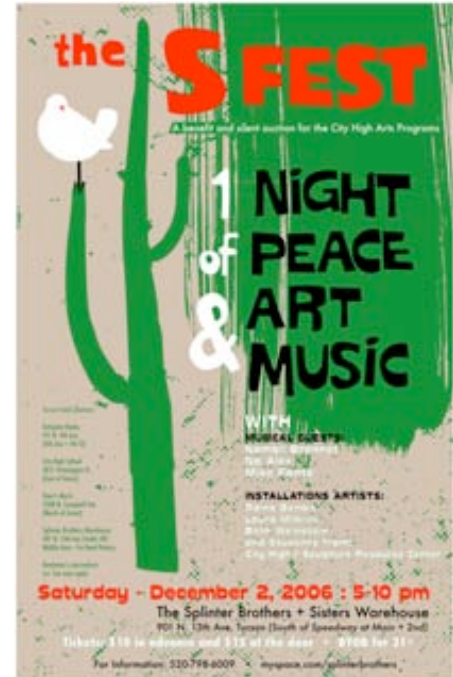
Earlier this fall, Carrie Brennan was honored as one of Tucson's up-and-coming business and nonprofit leaders as part of the 40-Under-40 Awards. Sponsored by two local newspapers, Tucson's Business Edge and Tucson Citizen, the annual contest highlights a cadre of forty leaders under the age of 40 for their active roles and significant contributions in the Tucson community. To read more about the award contest and other recipients, visit [www.tucsoncitizen.com/tbe/40under40](http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/tbe/40under40). -**Jennifer Rosenthal, Grants & Development Coordinator**

**JOIN US ...****The S FEST — Saturday, December 2**

Join in Saturday evening, December 2, from 5-10 p.m. for “One Night of Peace, Music and Art.” The event celebrates the inauguration of “The S,” a new outdoor habitat dedicated to the creation and exhibition of performance art and experimental happenings at the historic Splinter Brothers and Sisters Warehouse. Proceeds from the S Fest and silent auction will benefit arts programs at City High School. Tickets are \$10 in advance; \$15 at the door.

Enjoy live music by Tucson-based recording artist, Namoli Brennet, and Los Angeles musicians, No Alex and Mike Fonte. Check out installations by established and emerging artists Raina Benoit, Laura Milkins and Beth Weinstein, and work by City High students studying with Sculptor Randy Young this semester.

*Location: 901 N. 13th Ave, south of Speedway @ Main and 2nd Street. For more information: contact Jennifer Rosenthal, 623-7223 x301 or [jrosenthal@cityhighschool.org](mailto:jrosenthal@cityhighschool.org).*

**VISITING TUESDAYS & UPCOMING INFORMATION SESSIONS**

Prospective students and other interested community members are invited to visit City High School on “Visiting Tuesdays” to learn more about our program. Tours are given by the principal each week; contact Carrie Brennan, [carrie@cityhighschool.org](mailto:carrie@cityhighschool.org) to schedule a visit. The next information session for eighth graders will take place Thursday, Nov. 30 at 5:30 p.m. at Paulo Freire Freedom School, a charter school serving grades 6-8, located in the Historic Y at the corner of North 5<sup>th</sup> and University Avenues.

**ARIZONA SCHOOL TAX CREDIT DONATION**

It's that time of year again ... School tax credit donations for 2006 can be made any time before December 31. Donations of up to \$400 per couple and \$200 per individual can be made to any public school of your choice and claimed as a dollar-for-dollar credit on your Arizona tax returns. School tax credit donations make the world a richer place for Arizona's students. At City High School, the funds go toward art supplies, transportation for field trips, City Works projects, and many other extracurricular programs.

We hope you will choose City High School for all or part of your tax credit giving again this year. The students have so much to gain, and there's no cost to the taxpayer. It's a win-win contribution. For more information or to make a contribution on-line, visit [www.cityhighschool.org](http://www.cityhighschool.org) or contact Development Coordinator Jennifer Rosenthal at 623-7223 x301 or [jrosenthal@cityhighschool.org](mailto:jrosenthal@cityhighschool.org).



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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS ...**

**November**

11/2 5:30-7:00 TSSP Board Meeting  
11/8 6:00-7:00 Community Advisory Council  
11/14 6:00-7:00 "City High Parents" PTO Meeting  
11/18 Bike Team in El Tour de Tucson  
11/22-26 Thanksgiving Holiday  
11/30 5:30 City High School Information Session  
@ Paulo Freire Freedom School, University & 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.

**December**

12/2 5:00-10:00 "S Fest" Fundraiser  
12/6 11:00 African Drum & Dance Performance  
12/7 5:30-7:00 TSSP Board Meeting  
12/9 9-noon Volunteer Work Day  
12/12 6:00-7:00 "City High Parents" PTO Meeting  
12/22/06-1/8/07 Winter Holiday

**January**

1/4 5:30-7:00 TSSP Board Meeting  
1/8-1/12 Intersession Week & Roundtable  
Conferences (on Thursday and Friday, 1/11-12)  
1/9 6:00-7:00 "City High Parents" PTO Meeting  
1/15 Martin Luther King Day – No School  
1/24 6:00-7:00 Community Advisory Council

**Check out the school website for updated event info:**

[www.cityhighschool.org](http://www.cityhighschool.org)