

THE ACADEMY WAY

Fall-Winter 2019

Volume 4, Issue 1

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HIGH SCHOOL

recent events...

Construction Days

AOTHS had one student from each grade level represented at the Southern Arizona Construction and Engineering Career Day on Thursday, November 7, 2019. The event, which attracted 3,000 Tucson area students over two days, took place at the Tucson Rodeo Grounds. Our students and Ms. Figueroa donned hard hats, attended a safety briefing and rotated through four stations of hands-on activities related to utilities, building construction, mining and engineering. Students enjoyed learning from a variety of trade professionals about educational and career opportunities – some that they hadn't considered before! Favorite activities included welding, creatively building a model water harvesting system, and of course, human foosball!! By the end of the experience, our senior student felt more energized to study architectural engineering, our junior learned more about a possible career in mining, our sophomore student is looking into JTED opportunities and our freshman student felt validated that he has a future in mechanics.



ASU/NAU Tour

Juniors and Seniors attended a college tour to ASU and NAU. At each university, students were given a campus tour as well as information about the application process. Each university was able to illustrate the benefits of their colleges and programs and the unique aspects of their environment. Our students even experienced snow in Flagstaff!



Teacher Spotlight: Mrs. Newsham

I am a native of Tucson; I grew up on the east side of town and attended local schools. My mother is a (now-retired) 4th grade teacher, and I spent many of my after-school hours helping in her class-



room. I also played in the school band, sang in the choir, and was active in 4-H.

When it was time for college, I went to Flagstaff to escape the Tucson weather and attended NAU. I loved it there, and after earning my Bachelor's degree in English, I stayed in town to look for work. I eventually found a home in the financial aid office of NAU. It took 17 years, a family, and a career change before I was willing to leave Flagstaff and brave the heat again, but I finally came home to Tucson. I wanted to be closer to family, and I was tired of shoveling snow.

Growing up loving school and being raised by a family full of teachers, I feel that a career in education was inevitable. Shortly after completing my Masters in Elementary Education from NAU, I began teaching kindergarten at Academy of Tucson Elementary School, where both my daughters were already students. I wanted to teach here for the same reasons that drew me to the school as a parent; I feel very fortunate to have found a small, close-knit community school where excellence in education and character development are emphasized and supported by parents and teachers alike. I've been teaching at the Academy of Tucson for 5 years.

In my spare time, I am a wife and a mom. I keep busy taking my daughters (now in 5th and 6th grade) to school, gymnastics, and after-school clubs. I enjoy taking vacations with my family, knitting, reading, and gardening. I also love animals, music, and drinking tea.



Mark Your Calendars!

Don't miss these **Open House** dates at all of our schools from **4-6 PM!**

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Tuesday, February 4, 2020

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

Tuesday, May 5, 2020



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ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

recent events...

5 reasons
THE ACADEMY OF TUCSON
is the right choice
for your child!

1 SMALL CLASS SIZES
The student-teacher ratio at all Academy schools is 15:1 or less. Classes are capped at 25 students at the middle and high schools!



CARING FACULTY & STAFF

Teachers at The Academy care about the success of every student, and the administration supports the staff in that mission!

2



ENROLL TODAY!
Academy of Tucson Elementary School
9209 E Wrightstown Rd
520.886.6076



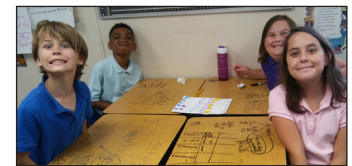
In the Classroom

The elementary school provides a unique and diverse curriculum, as the bottom left photo demonstrates. Feliciana, an explorer on the Anza Trail, came to the fourth grade to share her experiences on the Anza Expedition in the American Southwest in 1775-1776.

Kindergarten students celebrated Grandparents' Day by inviting their loved ones to share books with them in class (top left photos).

Below, fourth grade students practice math skills and number sense using dry erase markers on their desktops for a fun, new way to work out problems.

It is important to The Academy of Tucson to offer its students valuable, engaging opportunities to learn outside of a textbook! It creates a great balance for learning opportunities.



"A"
An A-rated School
Academy of Tucson Elementary School
Educating Tucson Since 1986
Enroll Now!

On Field Trips

Students are able to experience hands-on activities and attend events that are impactful and meaningful. Student learning is enhanced when they are engaged with their school and community. It is the school's philosophy that field trips provide this exposure.

On the right, the annual fourth grade trip to the Grand Canyon. Below, Academy of Tucson third-graders are enjoying the exhibits at Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum.

Students also visited Sabino Canyon, Fry's Grocery Store, and more! Upcoming trips include a visit to Tucson Village Farm!



School Events

The elementary school offers a wide variety of experiences that supports the whole child and its surrounding community.

On the right, one of our families is enjoying the Fall Carnival held at the elementary school in October. The school also hosts biannual book fairs, as well as other educational events.



MIDDLE SCHOOL

recent events...



Around Campus

Academy of Tucson Middle School offers a variety of school activities to motivate students and enrich learning. During our end of first quarter pep rally assembly, Mrs. Cmiel led the band as they played "We Will Rock You" while a cheer squad encouraged the crowd to sing along (above).

During Spirit Week (right), Mrs. Henke, dressed as Piglet, celebrated with a group of students she found in the 100 Acre Woods. Other students just wanted a smile and a Coke. Makayla G. dressed up as her favorite teacher, Ms. Mosely, and Mrs. White dressed up as the Principal, Mrs. Goodson. There is also a Chess Club hosted by Ms. Arnette (bottom right).



Wright Flight

Mrs. Rhoades, a teacher at the middle school, hosts Wright Flight. Wright Flight is an organization specializing in "helping kids reach new heights." The nine-week program introduces elementary through high school students to the basics of aviation. Reid Fallin and Bailey Morris were among the students who participated in the program.



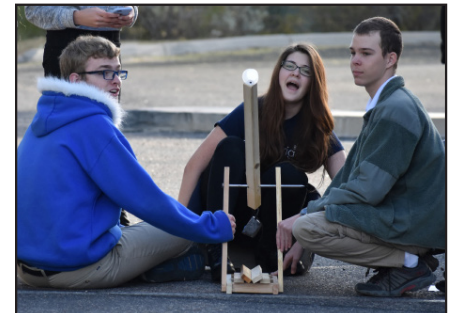
In the Classroom

Cougars excel in the classroom! Ms. Moseley's Collaborative Art Class created several stepping stones to add to our Butterfly Garden (top left). Our Drama Department, led by Mrs. Cmiel, performed several short skits at the middle school.

5 reasons
THE ACADEMY OF TUCSON
is the right choice
for your child!

3 **ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES**

Students at The Academy get the education they need to become members of the global community, while also being offered opportunities to learn outside the classroom, whether it's through field trips, science fairs, athletics, and more!



STUDENT DRIVEN

Small class sizes allow for teachers to forge relationships with their students, which in turn helps them make the best decisions about instruction for each student at an individual level.

4

5 **IT'S FREE!**
We are tuition free, public charter schools that offers a rigorous traditional learning environment.

ENROLL TODAY!
Academy of Tucson Middle School

7310 E 22nd St
520.749.1413



Summer in Ecuador

Five adventurous high school students and two fearless teacher chaperones are forever changed after their two-week expedition to the Amazon rainforest in Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands in June 2019. From surveying birds, mammals and reptiles in the Amazon to cataloging plants and observing marine life in the Galápagos, the group experienced biodiversity in some of the most unique environments in the world! The trip showed what it means to be global citizens. The group made lasting memories through their experiences traveling with students and teachers from Portugal, meeting the native Kichwa people in the Amazon and learning from the native conservationists of the Galápagos Islands. The Academy Adventurers are still carefully unpacking their experiences from this trip of a lifetime. Next summer, they are taking on a European adventure. Stay tuned!

HIGH SCHOOL

recent events...



School of Art

Students visited the student and professional gallery spaces and talked with the curator about how art students can take advantage of these facilities. She discussed the process of applying for gallery space and all the skills to be learned by planning the events, including self-editing, lighting effects, drafting press releases, etc. The curator quoted a recent Forbes article praising creativity as the “skill of the future.” The School of Art tour definitely demonstrated to students that their courses offer a gamut of creative venues! We toured the photography spaces including “the cage,” where students can rent camera equipment and laptops for school and personal projects

Town Hall

Students were invited to attend a Town Hall with a variety of community members. Superintendents, area district representatives, local politicians, and even the newly elected mayor was present. Students chose from 20 different topics and were grouped by interest with other teens and community members. Topics included Youth Mental Health, Internet Safety, and College Preparedness. Community leaders asked questions, and students were able to identify issues and brainstorm solutions. Students have also been invited to attend a State Town Hall Forum in Phoenix.



Emergency Services Fair

The Pima County Emergency Services Career Fair took place on Friday, October 25, 2019 at Kino Sports Complex in Tucson. Fire departments, police and sheriff’s departments, corrections officers, border patrol, emergency medical services and JTED were represented at the career fair. Favorite moments included trying on riot gear with corrections officers, handling rescue equipment like the “jaws of life” with firefighters, peering into the police helicopter and fire engines and spending time inside the emergency broadcast communications van. We also talked to some line workers with Tucson Electric Power who gave a power-line demonstration using hot dogs and grapefruits as conductors! An overarching message from all the professions represented: take care of yourself and continue to learn and grow within your field.



Theater

Theater students have the opportunity to attend a variety of community shows for fun and learning. Unscrewed Theater welcomed our students and even had them participate in the show! The picture above is with the cast of *Tilly the Trickster* at their dress rehearsal. Check out our own Theater Production in April!



ENROLL TODAY!
Academy of Tucson
High School
 10720 E 22nd St
 520.733.0096



“A”

Arizona State Board of Education
 A-F School Accountability Plan



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