

Today we get to brag on Sabino High School. Sabino is a 2013 National Blue Ribbon school and an A school! 255 students are graduating Thursday night, and we're proud of each of them! Could principal Matt Munger come up here?

Tonight we have Nick Juhasz and Jessica Stelmach here.. come on up. Nick and Jessica are AIA Scholar-athlete finalists for the State of Arizona!

Nick has a 4.28 GPA with seven AP classes, is an AP scholar, played four sports, including baseball, track, cross-country and wrestling, is an Eagle Scout and is a member of the National Honor Society. He will be attending the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Jessica has 4.12 GPA with six AP classes, is a cheerleader and is a coach at Old Pueblo Gym. She will be attending the University of Arizona Honors College.

Great job!

Also from Sabino High School, Emery Herbert! Can you please come up?

Emery won a \$20,000 scholarship from H & R Block for her participation in the company's national budget competition!

The H&R Block Budget Challenge is a financial literacy program that rewards students and classes for mastering real-world budgeting and personal finance decision-making. Emery is one of 66 winners nationwide! Great job Emery!

And one more brag from Sabino. Could Mr. Sly Lewis please come up?

Mr. Lewis is an exceptional education teacher-assistant. He was recently presented with the Legacy of Excellence award by the African American Student Services department. Mr. Lewis has dedicated his career to student excellence and gives his best every single day. Thank you Mr. Lewis!

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Up next: Pueblo Magnet High School. 200 students will get their diplomas at Pueblo on Thursday. Congratulations to each student!

Tonight we'd like to recognize Julianna Merino. Can you please come up with Principal Dr. Romero?

Julianna is a 2015 Gates Millennium Scholar, one of only 1,000 students in the nation to earn this scholarship. Gates Millennium Scholars receive "good through graduation" scholarships that can be used at any accredited college in the nation.

Julianna has chosen Barnard College in New York. Congratulations, Julianna!

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Next up, exciting news to share from Gridley Middle School.

A team of teachers from the school has been chosen to be part of the first-ever group of Trustey STEM Teaching Fellows at the University of Notre Dame Center for STEM Education.

STEM stands for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and has become a critical education focus in preparing students for careers in industry.

Join me in congratulating Connie Eisenman, Peggy Herron, Lisa Kist, April Knippen, Peggy Wilmore. Could you please come up---along with Principal Davies.

Just 35 teachers from across the country were selected and five of them are from Tucson Unified! Way to go team Gridley!

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Next we'd like to ask our Lineweaver Elementary school 5<sup>th</sup> graders to come up along with teacher Ms. Heather Matchett.

You are looking at the 2015 Arizona State Project Citizen Portfolio winners and the Overall Oral Hearing Winners.

They ranked SUPERIOR at the Arizona Project Citizen State Showcase on May 8<sup>th</sup> held at Grand Canyon University.

Project Citizen teaches civic responsibility and involvement through researching important issues and laws in the community, portfolio development, and showcasing before a judges panel.

Their project Taste Trumps Color – Food Dyes will move on to the National Project Citizen Showcase this summer.

This is the 9th straight year, that Lineweaver 5th graders were the State Portfolio Winners and the second straight year they have won the Overall Oral Hearing Award! Great Job!

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Next up: Tucson High Magnet School. 625 students will graduate Thursday night. We are so proud of each of you!

Craig Johnson, could you please come up with Principal Karyle Green?

Craig is one of just 21 seniors state-wide to be named a Flinn Scholar! We also have a Flinn Scholar from UHS, Ruby Kerwin, who couldn't be here tonight.

Here are just some of the requirements to become a Flinn Scholar:

Score a minimum 29 on the ACT or 1300 on the SAT.

3.5 G-P-A

Rank in the top 5 percent of their class.

And.. take on leadership roles in extracurricular activities.

The payoff is big---Craig receives a full scholarship to any of the three Arizona Universities plus \$58,000 in additional support.

So Craig---which school did you choose?

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Now to Roskruge K-8. Could Ruben Castro please come up?

Ruben recently won fourth place in the citywide—"Celebrate America" writing contest through the Tucson Public Library.

The contest inspires educators to bring U.S. Immigration history and lessons into their classrooms and gives fifth graders the opportunity to explore America as a nation of immigrants.

Let me tell you, Ruben certainly packed his essay with great information about how immigrants shape our lives. He talked about the importance of language and understanding how people in different places live. He mentioned some of the great athletes who have immigrated—Jose Canseco and Patrick Ewing to name two.

Most importantly, Ruben reminds us that we are a nation of immigrants, and people from other places can help us understand not just ourselves, but the whole world.

Ruben ends his essay with this line: "In conclusion, I hope I influenced your opinion on immigrants in this nation."

I, too, hope Ruben inspires you to learn more about people from other places and that he helps you appreciate how important differences can be.

Also from Roskruge---Janessa Saldivar. Can you come up with your family please?

Janessa's a 7<sup>th</sup> grader who's artwork was recently selected out of 155 entries from 26 schools to be on the side of a city truck in the "Do More Tucson" contest!

Janessa was very surprised to see the Mayor and a giant truck with her poster on the side a few weeks ago. Way to go Janessa! Can you show us your work?

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Finally, we have a group of students from University High School. UHS has about 220 seniors graduating on Thursday night at Centennial Hall at the U of A. I hope that figure is right, because this group with us tonight is pretty good at numbers. I'd like to invite the members of the math team to come on up, along with their coach, Barry Callesen.

Members of the UHS Math Club were the state champions of Mathleague.org and earned second place in the Mathleague.org League Championship. And that is not all. Check out these other accomplishments:

- Rocket City Team: Third place in the nation.
- LOG1: Second place in the Western Region; Fifth in the nation
- AATM State Math Contest: Winners in three of five categories and got 13 of the top 50 scores.
- Interstellar: Eighth in the top division
- Purple Comet: Top 7 percent in the world
- ASMA Contest: 15<sup>th</sup> in the world

Not only are they great at math, they are working to inspire other students, too. The team also helped host five math contests that involved nearly 1,000 students in grades three through 12.

Congratulations and thank you, Math Club!