

The Kino Connection

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Trips!

"I decided that adventure was the best way to learn."

-- Lloyd Alexander

Extended field trips -- that is, those that last more than one day -- are a very special part of Kino. They often provide a student's most vivid and valued memories. Some trips are simple over-nighters -- camping out on Mount Lemmon or at Catalina State Park, for example-- while some can last as long as two weeks and go half-way across the country, like the trip to Tennessee year before last.

Sometimes trips are organized by a particular class or homeroom. For others, teachers will have a meeting to find out who is interested. (If you aren't there for morning announcements, you can miss out!)

Chris and Jennifer are planning a trip to the Four Corners region this spring, from April 18 through April 28. They will visit magnificent ruins from several different cultures, as well as have the chance to camp and hike in some spectacular places at the best time of the year. The trip is not completely planned, but Chris says they have reservations at the Spider Rock campground on the Canyon de Chelly rim, so they'll go there for sure. They'll be able to compare the traditional hogans at that campground with the concrete wigwams in Holbrook. Other for-sures on their itinerary are Mesa Verde, Arches, and Canyonlands National Parks.

The rough estimate of the cost of the trip is \$320, but this is just approximate. A big factors affecting the final cost is the number of people who commit to going.

Heather is organizing a long trip to the Pacific Northwest, her old stomping grounds, the first two weeks of May. Anna will be another teacher on this trip. The overarching theme of the trip may be trees, says Heather. Their route will take them through bristlecones, sequoias, spruce and redwoods, culminating in camping in the rainforest of the Olympic peninsula. What else they do will depend on the interests of the students on the trip, as the trip lends itself to lots of other themes, for example Native Americans, marine biology, or history.

In addition to these long trips, this spring there will doubtless also be camping trips and trips to the Davis's place in the Chiricahuas (Vanessa's Creative Writing class is already planning a writing retreat).



A Kino student writes in her trip journal at Arches, many years ago.

Congratulations Jenny!

Our piano teacher, Jenny Soderholm, had her baby last Friday, on January 30 ! His name is Jackson. Jenny and Jackson are home and both of them are doing well. Michael has visited and reports, "He is a very sleepy baby." If you would like to send them a card, the address is: 3110 E. Linden, Tucson, Arizona, 85716.

All About Kino's Scholarship Program for Extended Field Trips

Travel and change of place impart new vigor to the mind. -- Seneca

We have just this year started a special fund specifically to help students who otherwise would not be able to afford to go on a long trip. We've been raising money for this trip scholarship fund by inviting parents to make a donation when paying for their child's field trip. There's a box to check on the field trip form if

you would like to send in some extra money. Or, you can make a donation to the field trip scholarship fund any time. Many have already done so--
THANK YOU !!!

Trip scholarships will only be available for trips that cost more than \$100.

Here's how to apply:

1. Check with the trip teacher to be sure the student is eligible to go;
2. The student should write an essay on his or her reason for wanting to go;
3. Indicate on the permission slip the amount requested and give the slip and essay to the trip teacher;
4. After approving the essay, the request will be passed to Linda;
5. Linda will let you know the amount of scholarship awarded.

Awards will depend on the amount of donations we've received and the number of requests. No more than 50% of the trip cost will be awarded in any case.

Man cannot discover new oceans unless he has the courage to lose sight of the shore.

--- Andre Gide

Welcome Al !

Al Reynolds is a new student teacher who is working at Kino on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays this semester. She is already a very experienced teacher: she has taught kids from pre-kindergarten through high school over the years and is currently working at Tucson Community School. But she's decided to go back to school and get her Master's degree from Prescott College because she is interested in museum education and informal education.

The questions that interest her are "How do you get kids excited about learning? How do you learn outside the traditional school setting? How do people decide what to learn and make it meaningful?" She's been interested in Kino ever since the late 80s, when she was working at St. Mark's Preschool here in Tucson, so she knew that this would provide the environment to help her explore these questions.

While she is at Kino this year, Al is a member of Jennifer's homeroom and is working with primary students.

Mary Jane says, "Al has endless energy and relates really well with the younger kids. She wants to be a museum instructor, but if there don't happen to be any openings, there will be a very lucky kindergarten class with her as their teacher. We are fortunate to have her with us this semester."



Al and Luka study crystals

IMPORTANT

Next week -- February 9 - 13 - is Love of Reading Week. That means next Friday is **Pajama Day!** Wear your pajamas, bring your favorite books, and have a snuggly day reading.

Alumni News: Mike Pollack

Second only to playground monitors, Mike Pollack has probably received the most delighted welcomes at Kino when he walks in the door. His appearance has meant that it won't be long before the internet or the computers would get running again.

Mike was a long time Kino student, attending Kino from 1990 to 1995 as a junior high and high school student. He messed around with the computers even then, and even helped us do fund raising to buy new computers. He was the one who thought up the Road Kill Dinner, which you didn't have to attend if you made a donation. He says, "Kino helped me learn to become a self-starter and an independent worker."



As the owner of Mighty Mouse Computer Consulting, Mike has been a tremendous help to us over the years. In addition to hosting our website and giving us a big discount on his services, he arranged for us to get a deal as a non profit from Cox Cable way back when we first got a cable connection for the internet. And he's had the patience and intelligence to figure out just about any problem.

Mike sold Mighty Mouse last year -- and is now focussing on his real estate business. He began buying homes in Tucson and fixing them up for resale about ten years ago. He's had his real estate license since 2007. He specializes in helping low income and first time buyers, sellers (even in the slow markets!), as well as investors who are looking to expand their real estate portfolios. He can also help with commercial leases and commercial sales.

If you happen to be looking for a realtor, why not give a former Kino student and a great guy a try ? Mike's website is www.mikesellstucsonhomes.com and his phone number is 272-6959.

Adventures In Physics

Anna persuaded five of the physics students (Griffin, Andrew, Ethan, Mark W, and Jamie) to meet her at school at 6 am so they could see the Go Fast jet pack pilot in

flight. Luckily, she brought bagels and cream cheese too, because the promised 6:45 flight didn't happen until 8:45. Anna says the flight lasted about five seconds and was the loudest thing any of them had ever heard. Griffin wrote that they learned about "the principles of pressure, sound, and lift; the principles of sponsorship and advertising . . . and the principle of heat loss, as it was very cold."

