

And special thanks go to . . .

Everyone who made this year's Silent Auction so much fun and such a success, especially Lisa Watmore

Marielena and the Spanish students, who helped us celebrate Cinco de Mayo with a Mexican food feast.

The whole Huerta family, who cleaned out their closets and donated piles of great games, which everyone has been enjoying!

Al, who has carried on the Kino student-teacher tradition of doing so much more than required and truly becoming a part of Kino. Al has especially gone above and beyond while Jennifer and Heather are on the Pacific Northwest trip.

Dottie Kelly, who finished the year of teaching primary students about their bodies with a talk about body awareness.

Patti Downs, who has borne the very important job of coordinating playground monitors for us for a whole nother year.

And all of the great, more numerous to mention, volunteers who are so important to Kino. All of you are invited to the **Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast Monday, May 11, from 8 am to 9 am.**

A small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

-- Margaret Mead

Mark, Zoe, Janna, and Heather were participating poets in the **9th Annual Valencia Teen Poetry Festival**. Heather's poem was awarded best poem in the Heartfelt category. All of their poems will be included in a book of the festival's poets!

It's yearbook time again

The yearbooks should be arriving by May 18. If you would like to pre-order your yearbook, it will cost \$30. If you want to wait and purchase one after they arrive, it will cost \$35.

To pre-order, forms are available at the front desk or you can get one from Ashley or Ariel.

Checks should be made out to Kino School.

Where are the Pacific Northwest trippers? They spent the night last night in Lassen Volcanic National Park. Their destination tonight: Crater Lake!



Celebrating Cinco de Mayo

Diego on Stage

Diego has been performing in the production of *The King and I* at the Red Barn Theater downtown! He plays the part of Louis, Anna's son.

To get the part, Diego had to audition. "It was kind of a last minute decision. My mom heard about it and so I just went and tried it out."

The role of Louis includes lots of singing. Diego says he sings "I Whistle a Happy Tune," a duet with the prince, "Getting to Know You," and "The Royal Bangkok Academy."

Johnny, Austen, and Jocelyn went to see him last week-end. Johnny says, "Diego came on stage early in the first scene. Really quickly, we felt like he was his character and he wasn't Diego any more. When he sang, he hit every note and it seemed like it was easy for him. He is a natural actor."

Diego has already given three performances, and there are six more shows before the end of the run: Friday and Saturday at 8 pm and Sunday at 2 pm, this weekend and next weekend. You can get more information at 520-622-6973.

When I asked him what the hardest part of being in *The King and I* has been, Diego said, "The late nights."

Senior Profiles

This year we not only have an unusually large class graduating from high school, most of the students in the senior class have been a part of Kino for a long, long time. We figure the ten graduates represent 85 years worth of collective Kino memories.



Cool Jamie

Senior Profile: Jamie Cera-Griffith

While Kino has had a fair number of students who have attended Kino for as many years as Jamie--she started here when she was four-- probably no student has been at Kino for as many hours. Because she's Mary Jane's daughter, she was here with Mary Jane by 7:30 every morning until she got old enough to arrange other ways to get to school. One of her strongest memories of being little here is waiting on the front porch for friends to show up.

About twelve years ago, we wrote in the Kino Connection, "Can you believe that Jamie is now a Primary student?" That was back when we had an Early Childhood program for three and four year olds, and it was hard to believe that she had gotten so old. Jamie still has many of the traits she had as a primary student: she is still full of energy and determination, and she still has an absorbing interest in the well-being of her friends.

Jamie says she has a billion special memories -- "the day I married David Zeng" (they were about 5 years old); "after going to every graduation and seeing others graduate, the day I graduated from junior high;" "all the writing classes."

Writing is very important to Jamie. For her senior project, she is compiling a book of poetry that she has written over the past five years. She says, "My writing has changed a lot over those years. In the older poems, I was just getting my heart out there. This year I have been writing with more extended metaphors. My poems are getting more experimental and more complex."

Jamie says that soccer has also been one of the most important aspects of her life. This is the first year she hasn't played since she started as a four year old.

This summer Jamie plans to get another job (she worked at Jack in the Box for 6 months) and save as much money as possible. In the fall, she plans to move to Flagstaff and get her EMT license.

I asked Jamie if she had ever thought about going to a different school. She said, "I pondered going somewhere else my freshman year. I considered it my sophomore year. I wanted to my junior year, and now I hate the idea of leaving."

Senior Profile: Stefani Paisley

Stefani has been a Kino student for six years. Her story of how she decided to come to Kino is a pretty familiar one: "We used to drive past Kino and we assumed it was a day care center. Then when my mother was looking for another school for me, she visited Kino and knew right away it would be a good school for me." Stefani agrees: "I like the fact that you need to be self-driven and that you can choose what you want to do."

Stefani has a warmth and empathy and level headedness that make her especially suited for her long range goal of working with younger children. Jamie says, "Stefani is one of the most kind hearted people I've ever met. She doesn't have a mean bone in her body. She's always there when anyone needs her. And she can keep a dang good secret."

This year she has been working in the Primary center and studying child development with Mary Jane. For her senior project, she is creating a book for and about the younger students. It will include pictures and interviews and a paragraph she has written about each one. In addition to one large book, she is making individual books so each student in the book will have a copy for him or herself. She has completed all of the material for the book and now only needs to compile and bind it.

When I asked her what she will miss about Kino, she said, "I will miss being in homeroom and then hearing 'The goats are loose!' and then everyone having to go catch them. It happened this morning, but I don't think it happens much in other schools."



Glamorous Stefani