

American Legion Auxilliary
Oklahoma Girls State

THE GIRLS STATER

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The Amazing Show and Sing, by Evalyn Wolfe, Demke City

Creativity and city spirit took the spotlight during tonight's show and sing at Girls State, as each city took the stage to perform skits they had spent the past night planning, practicing, and bringing to life. From humorous performances to clever storytelling and energetic songs, every act reflected the personality and teamwork of the girls performing.

The auditorium was filled with laughter, applause, and excitement as cities cheered one another on throughout the night. While each performance was unique, they all shared the same goal: bringing people together through creativity, confidence, and fun. By the end of the night, the show and song had become more than just performances; it was a night full of unforgettable memories, shared laughter, and stronger bonds between delegates.

For many girls, show and sing became a highlight, allowing delegates to step outside their comfort zone and work together in a completely different way. The night was filled with spirit, endless laughter, and moments that brought cities closer together





A Day in the Life of a Delegate

by Royanna Berry, Reed City and Savanna Wyatt, Harvey City

We asked Ashley what her favorite part of girls state was today and she responded, “My favorite part of that day was when I was soaked from the rain and my school made me take a group pic while still being soaked, I hope I looked good!”

Written by Royanna Berry

As we reach the halfway point, delegates have been able to grow their skills, hear from amazing speakers, and create relationships. Inara, Parker City, was one candidate who came into Girls State with the goal of learning how to be a better leader and politician. “I was looking forward to Girls State, so I could learn in a positive and encouraging environment. My favorite part of this week, but especially today, is my city meeting at the end of the day. I’ve been able to hear from girls my age with such a proud passion for things I don’t know. I’ve never learned more from somewhere than I have here at Girls State during my city meetings.”

Written by Savanna Wyatt

The Experience

by Lexi Acuff, Akin City

Today, we received the pleasure of listening to a different type of panel than I expected to see, a panel of Native American women. I am a Native American who is part of the great Cherokee Nation, and take great pride in my culture. These wonderful women are just like I am, proud of who they are. They left us with a few inspirational messages, and I would love to share with you as a reader what it was like hearing this message, and what it was like to experience it in a place like Girls State.

The first thing the panel discussed was tribal sovereignty. The panel explained that tribal sovereignty is the right that was given to tribes to run their own government. I live at the heart of the Cherokee Nation, and attend a school directly funded by the tribe. There are many things in life I would not have if not for the tribe, and many of my peers at home feel similar. The tribe's ability to self-govern has given me as a Native American student more opportunities during my high school career, including attending Girls State.

Another important point made was to be proud of yourself, no matter your skin color. One member of the panel explained the importance of refraining from code switching. They explained that code switching is not necessary, and that it's not okay for girls to have to change their personality to fit in.

The chance I was given today, as well as every other girl at Girls State, gave me a sense of pride to know that I am who I am. They told us that it doesn't matter if someone is white, black, Native, Asian, we're all the same in the end. The last message the panel left with us was that it's those who are different that change the future, and we are those different. So be proud of who you are, always.

Year After Year, a poem

by Lilli Moore, Green City

Year after year, we come together
To sing our songs, and unite
We pave our ways no matter the
weather
Here at Girls State, we are the fight.
For generations, we've celebrated
And honored our state for years
And no matter how much we feel
obligated
We can't help but shed tears.
We are girls, we are one
Through day and night, we campaign
We are brave, we are fun
Together we will reign.
To continue the legacy
For we show our ecstasy.

"I've been going to Girls State for years"
- Jari Askins.

L.M.

THE DAILIES!

Empowered By Our Outfits

by Adyson Pfleider, Bonham City, and Zoye Gossen, Keene City

Girls can do both... politics and fashion! These past few days at Girls State have highlighted some amazing vintage items...I just can't help but feel motivated by both our freedom to express ourselves through fashion and our freedom as modern women to have opinions and a voice in the world of politics. Equality in the workforce, in government, and in life continues to advance with each passing year. But it wasn't that long ago that women were not afforded these basic rights and freedoms. So, today, as I see all these beautiful blouses, cardigans, shoes, trousers, and outfits that have been individually hand-picked by each girl here, I'm thankful for those who have paved the way for us to get to express ourselves through fashion while being a part of important change-making opportunities. It's interesting how fashion seems to cycle over time. I can't help, but feel that the vintage styles coming back to the forefront are a silent nod to those women who did the work that put us in these positions. Thank you for opening the doors for our generation, and thank you for your awesome fashion that has inspired a whole new generation! Today's featured outfit was worn yesterday by the Green City Junior Counselor. Taylor chose one of the most fun color schemes we've seen all week. This look is completed with a green undershirt, cardigan with bright pinks, greens, and yellows. Then she even topped it off with a trendy scarf. This outfit truly pays tribute to the style and vibrancy of the women who went before us. Thank you, Taylor, for giving us a 70s vibe that just makes us want to groove!



Tomorrow, the weather is having a full-on identity crisis. We're expecting a high of 81 degrees, but it drops to 64 degrees, so it's warm and confusing all in one day. On top of that, there's a 95% chance of rain. Mother Nature is basically begging you to bring an umbrella. Everyone will want to bring some sunglasses, a hoodie, and rain gear all at the same time. Dress like you're prepared for every emotion and season, just another normal day in Oklahoma.

Weather Or Not

by Macy Brown, Smith City
and Braylee Gramer, O'Leary

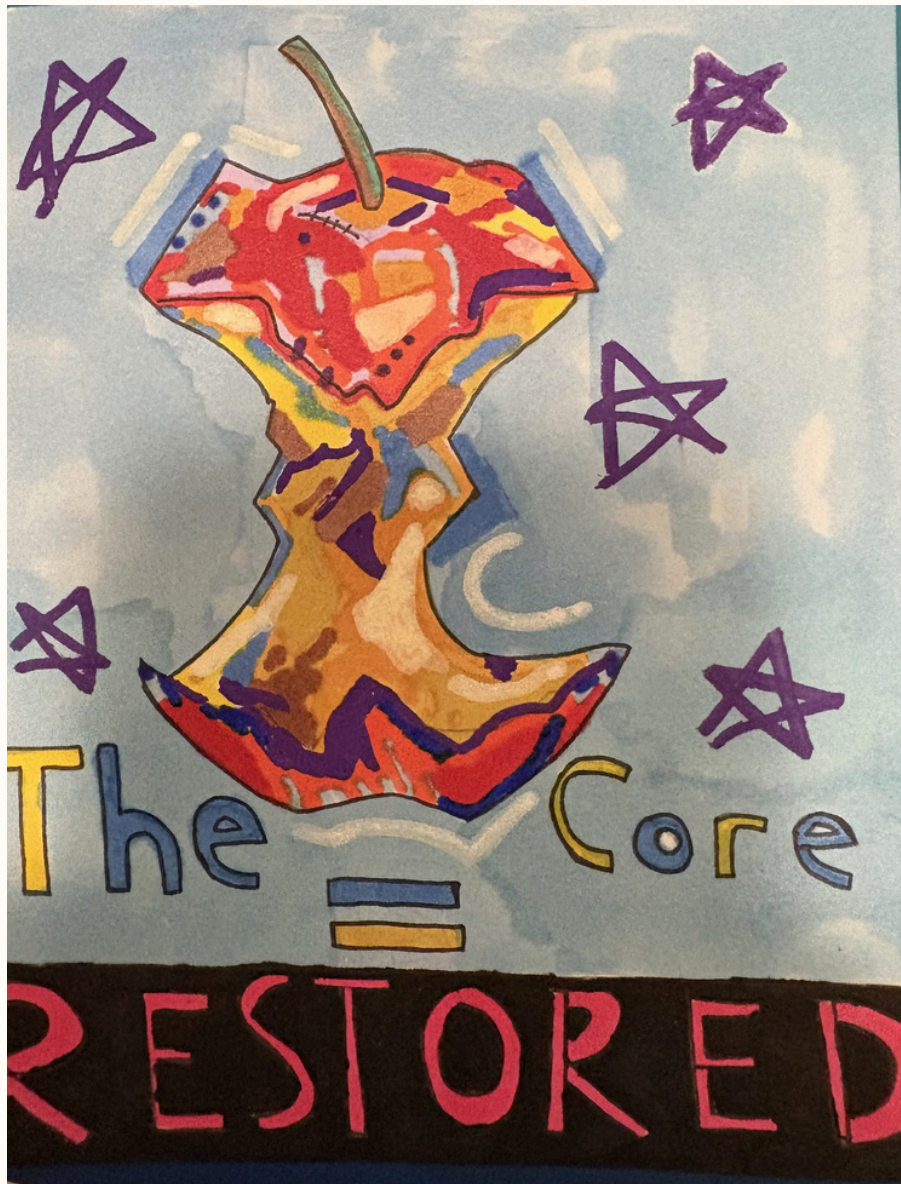
The Pillars of the Road

by Amy Puentes, Parker City



On Wednesday, May 27th, the Honorable Jari Askins came and spoke to the delegates. Ms. Askins has served the state of Oklahoma for over 40 years in many different ways. With roles ranging from judge to legislator to lieutenant governor, Ms. Askins holds the rare privilege of previously holding positions in all three branches of state government. Ms. Askins is a Girls State alumna and made sure delegates knew the true meaning of being a Girls Stater. Coming to Girls State means coming to learn to be part of a team and learning the true meaning of teamwork. Teamwork will lead to success, whether it be for an individual or the entire team as a whole. But success doesn't always come easy. "A bend in the road is not the end of the road, unless you fail to make the turn," is a quote that Ms. Askins left delegates today. Making sure they knew losing didn't mean it was the end. Being able to get up and move on after a loss says a lot about one's character and self-confidence. I believe that this was an important message to share on the biggest election day here at Girls State. Though there were so many happy wins, there were also devastating losses. I want to remind delegates to take in what Ms. Atkins said and implicate it into your life and into the rest of the girl's state. It is all or nothing here at Girls State, and I encourage you all to give your all to take in every ounce of information. This is one of the opportunities that Ms. Atkins was talking about. This is an opportunity where it doesn't matter your background, you have a clean slate and are able to do anything you want.

Speaking of doing anything you want, remember that Ms. Atkins reminds us that leadership is the ability to turn dreams into actions. Using the three pillars of leadership – Kindness, dedication, and confidence. And lastly with my favorite quote and a quote that I believe every delegate should remember, "Stand for something or you will fall for everything."



Artwork by Cora Harvey, Chisolm City



The Adventures of the Apple

by KatyAnn Fuerst, Engstrom City

There's been a significant development in the case of the Apple. The perpetrator, in the early hours of the morning, snuck into Engstrom and slid a ransom letter under The Keeper of the Apple's door. The demand? Find the "Queen who Cursed It." As if that alone isn't shocking, it seems that Appleina isn't doing well. She's imploring that we find her, as she is not being fed properly and is not content. The question on everyone's mind is "Will they find Appleina in time?" Additionally, who is this "Queen who Cursed It" and what are their intentions behind this cruel scheme?

WAIT!!!!!! Something even more monumental happened this evening at the Show and Sing. Engstrom's sister city threw the apple into the crowd, revealing it was none other than Engstrom's very own counselor who stole it in the first place! After the betrayal set in, the Police Chief bravely dove into the crowd to take their apple back, receiving a few battle scars in the process. Fast forward to the joint city meeting between Engstrom and Demke, Demke charged Engstrom's counselor with treason. The counselor, fearing for her life, dashed down the hall, pursued by Demke and The Keeper of the Apple. In a moment that can only be described as heroic, the Keeper of the Apple bravely defended Engstrom's counselor on behalf of Engstrom. This demonstrates the true meaning of Girls State: empowering and uniting women. At the end of this hectic night, Appleina rests happily in Engstrom City.