



May 23, 2017

Thank you AGS corporate and individual sponsors, community partners, and family donors for your support this year. Whether you sponsored us through the Gala or Community Partners, or attended the Gala, or contributed to the AGS program fee, we would like for you to know that...

Because of you, AGS provided almost \$68,000 in travel scholarships to send students on learning expeditions.

Because of you, 21% of our students, who would have otherwise been unable to travel, expanded their horizons outside the four walls of the classroom.

Because of you, more than 90 students across four grades received travel scholarships:

- 145 freshmen traveled to the Heifer Ranch in Arkansas. They lived in their Global Village simulations, experienced some of the challenges of hunger and poverty, and gained a better understanding of inequity around the world.
- 130 sophomores traveled to Costa Rica to learn about sustainable agriculture and waste management at EARTH University. They explored the Costa Rican rain forest and engaged in service learning with the Bri-Bri, an indigenous people in Costa Rica.
- 107 juniors went to New Mexico to enhance their year-long studies about Native Americans. They visited the Acoma Sky Pueblo, established in 1150, the oldest continuously inhabited community in North America, as well as the Anasazi ruins at Bandelier National Monument. They engaged in service learning with the To'hajilee Navajo people, and they floated down the Rio Grande with Pueblo guides.
- 81 seniors, bringing their AGS experience full circle, traveled to China to explore what it means to be a global citizen. They visited Beijing, Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, the Great Wall, and the Ming Tombs. They also participated in a cultural exchange with Chinese students at two local schools.

Because of you, the AGS community as a whole is stronger. For that, we are so grateful.

With warm thanks,

Nicole Griffith, AGS Director
Lee Norman, Outgoing AGS President
Debbie Collins, Incoming AGS President
Erin Finney, AGS Treasurer

Lisa Kerber, Scholarship Chair
Tamara Carlisle, Community Partners
Holly Norman, Communications

"I want to say thank you *SO* incredibly much for the scholarship. It means the world to our daughter, and I couldn't be more appreciative of the kind and generous help. With love and gratitude."



Freshman trip to Heifer



Senior trip to China

"We are so, so grateful for the very generous scholarship for our daughter! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for making this trip possible for her."

"Thank you so much scholarship committee! You've taken a huge worry off our shoulders and so happy that our son will join his class on this trip."



Sophomore trip to Costa Rica

"I received [your message]. It was a pretty huge surprise. Kindness makes me cry...so I wept. I thank everyone- you and the scholarship committee for this incredible generosity."

"What's so neat about receiving generosity, is the ability to pay it forward when funds allow. Even after our son graduates from Austin High, we will remember the scholarship gift, and contribute to the Boosters so others may travel with the AGS group too. The Boosters' generosity has affected and touched us deeply, and we are grateful."



Junior trip to the Southwest