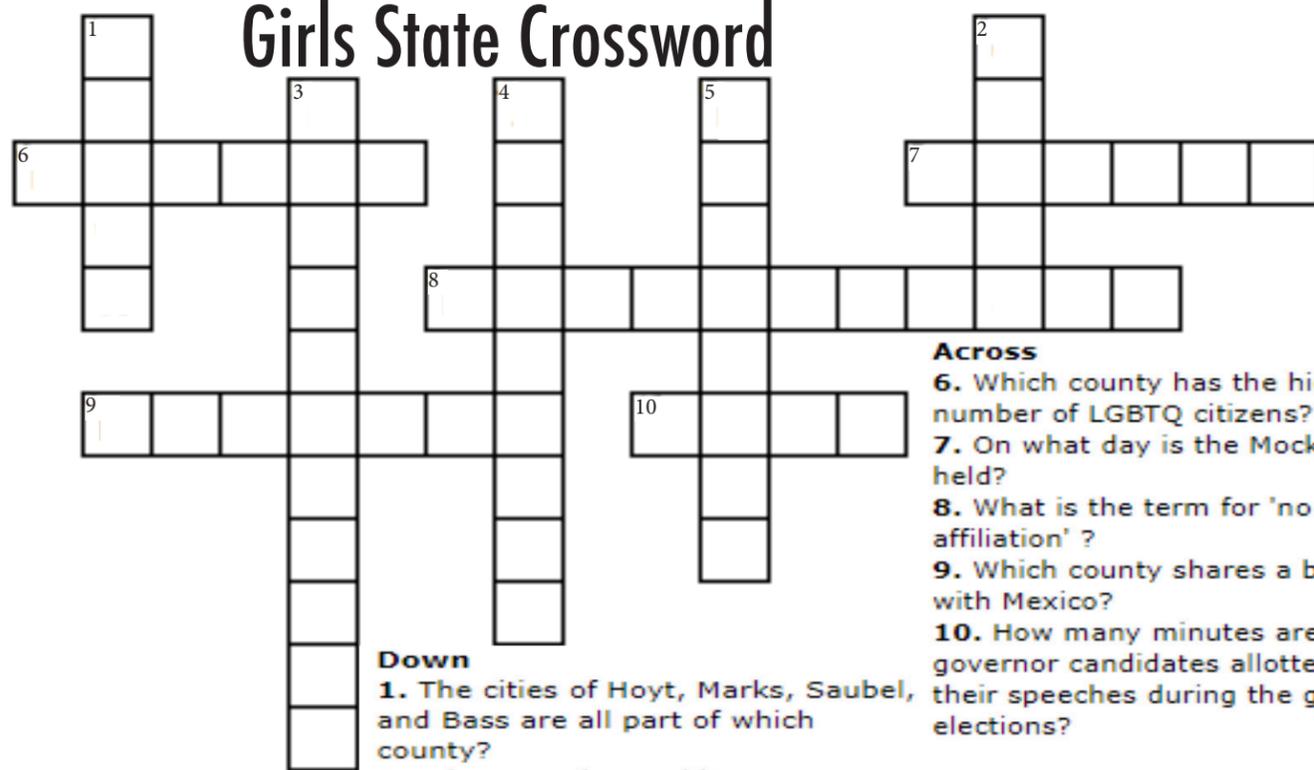


Girls State Crossword



Down

1. The cities of Hoyt, Marks, Saubel, and Bass are all part of which county?
2. Who runs the world?
3. What party has red as their color?
4. Is the jury commissioner an appointed or elected position?
5. Girls State is what?

Across

6. Which county has the highest number of LGBTQ citizens?
7. On what day is the Mock Trial held?
8. What is the term for 'no party affiliation'?
9. Which county shares a border with Mexico?
10. How many minutes are the governor candidates allotted for their speeches during the general elections?

Golden Girls Gazette Staff

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It is our pleasure to present to you the Golden Girls Gazette! We wrote and designed this newspaper with love and respect for every single beautiful girl attending the American Legion Auxiliary California Girls State 76th Session, taking place from June 24 - June 29, 2019. Our newspaper, reflected in the title, is inspired by our lovely Golden State of California and the shining and glittering sisterhood that thrives within it. We hope you enjoy this newspaper as a token of your time spent in Girls State, and cherish the memories that are recorded within these pages.

Girls State City Editors



Crossword answers:

1. Brown, 2. Girls, 3. Federalists, 4. Appointed, 5. Dynamite, 6. Dorsey, 7. Friday, 8. Nonpartisan, 9. McMahan, 10. Five



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The Path to Girls State: Traveling

Written by: Elyse Capelli

One of the best parts about Girls State is the fact that nearly 520 girls traveled from all throughout California to be here this week with each other. In some cases, girls came from beyond California, like Ella Luckhardt. Ella travels to Arkansas every year to go on a mission trip with her church, and this year, the event ended the day before the first day of Girls State. She hopped on a flight out of Arkansas, endured a layover in Arizona, and then landed in Ontario. Other girls, however, had a much shorter distance to travel to Girls State at Claremont McKenna College. Caroline Bibbens lives approximately five blocks from the campus and drove less than a mile to attend Girls State. Whether you caravanned here with a City Mom, slept on a long bus ride with fellow citizens, woke up early to take a flight, or even walked to campus, each citizen of Girls State made an important journey to be here with her fellow citizens and sisters.

A salute to those who have served

Written by: Tamara Reed

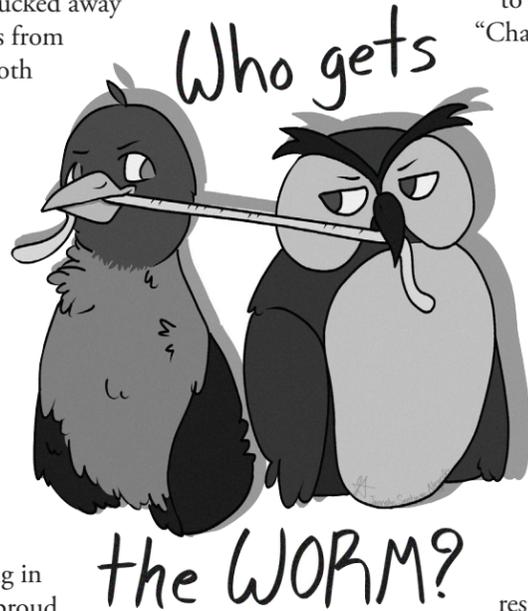
Each morning, the women of Girls State assemble together for the flag raising and a special speech to honor a veteran. In the spirit of recognizing our wonderful veterans, Hailey Dacier wrote a dedication to her father, Henry Dacier:

"As a Marine Corps veteran, California Highway Patrol Officer, avid reader, passionate learner, CrossFit extraordinaire, hardworking leader, caring listener, ambitious intellectual, and a dedicated and understanding mentor, my father has raised me to become the most well-rounded person that I can be. Among all of these qualities and more, my father, Henry Dacier, is the best father that I could have ever asked for. His compassion, wisdom, knowledge, support, and unconditional love has surely gotten me to where I am now. Henry Dacier is inspiringly patriotic, and he has taught me about how incredibly beautiful and strong our country of America is. His love for this country, God, and his family is what makes him an incredible role model for me. My father served in the Marine Corps for 7 years, and the California Highway Patrol for 27 years. His hard work and commitment to his many roles have absolutely touched the lives of many people in such a positive way. His civic duty for this country will not be forgotten. I am so incredibly proud and grateful to have Henry Dacier as my father." - Hailey Dacier

Early Birds vs Night Owls

Written by: Cece Ochoa

Each morning, a group of early risers head to the track at the crack of dawn to run laps, walk, stretch, and meet new friends. One of these girls who chooses to exercise while most of us are still tucked away in bed is Avery Bernard. Avery comes from Vacaville, where she participates in both cross country and track at her high school. The early morning jog helps her maintain her fitness while away from home, and though she might rather be catching up on some much needed sleep, she reasons that her “team and their success is more important than [her] personal comfort.” However, waking up early has lead to some unfortunate circumstances, such as locking herself out of her room while her roommate is still sound asleep. Even she is surprised at how many Girls State citizens are dedicated to running in the morning, and stated that she is “proud of all the dedication these girls have! It’s obvious we are all hard workers and just plain bosses.”



Written by: Jannelys Santiago

Staying up late: it happens every once in a while, right? Being a night owl has its downfalls, such as sleep deprivation; so why do some Girls State citizens choose to stay awake past the lights out time of 10:30? “Chatting with my roommate helps me feel more comfortable when I am so far from home,” explained Aisha Saeed, from Marks City in Brown County. Roommates can often help each other feel comfortable enough to fall asleep, but endless conversations can also keep both girls up, and leading dorm mates to fight the battle of exhaustion together the next day. Though we may not have homework at the moment, taking on positions provides a lot of work for us Girls Staters to focus on. The schedule at Girls State is packed every day, so it is tough on the girls who put aside their rest. This can include writing and practicing speeches, creating campaigns, and more. While this sacrifice is highly respectable, busy citizens should strive to find a balance between putting their best work forward and getting a good night’s sleep.

Gazette Glam: an eye on fashion

Written by: Arden Napoli

Photos by: Angelica Childs and Nathaly Castrejon



Ashley Garcia, Project Planner from Earhart, looked especially stunning as she flaunted her purple pants and sleek white boots.



Claire Beckwith, mayor of Marks, rocks a floral jumpsuit paired with brown sandals perfectly in tune with the nature surrounding her.



Claire Bennett, City Bulletin Board Supervisor, lights up the room, or courtyard, with her bold yellow dress and purple accent heels.



Grace Garrabrants, City Judge from Temple, looks gorgeous in a white dress with flowing sleeves and a pair of earrings that tie the look together.

Hardy says *yes* to the Future

Written by: Tamara Reed and Jennifer Ramirez

“We truly are a sisterhood that takes care of each other.” - Valerie Hardy

Ever since our arrival at Girls State, Valerie Hardy, the Chief Counselor of California Girls State, has been providing us with expert instructions and advice. While in high school, she was her school’s mascot, so we know where she gets her energetic spirit from! At every assembly, Hardy never fails to inspire and invigorate the audience, even after long, tiring days.

With all stories, we must start at the beginning, when Hardy first became involved with ALA as a high school student, as a delegate at Girls State. Later, she became a counselor, then Chief Counselor, then Director, and eventually the Chief Counselor of California Girls State for a second time. These positions helped her earn the opportunity to contribute her ideas, and to lead the citizens of California Girls State. Most girls arrive without knowing anyone, and as Hardy stated, “You’re in a group of people that don’t know you, so you can be you.” This gives girls the courage to try new things and explore outside of their comfort zone. She says that her favorite part of her job is having the privilege of

seeing the change within the girls from day one to day six; she watches the citizens form bonds with strangers from all across California, with relationships that develop to become sisterhoods that will last a lifetime. When asked to recall her craziest memory, Hardy said that when Girls State used to be less concerned about campus security, the counselors would go on stake-outs to catch girls escaping from dorm rooms. No details were given, but when women are mixed with extreme sleep deprivation, some crazy events are bound to occur!

On a more serious note, as Hardy passes her position over to her successor, she hopes to leave a legacy that encourages California Girls State to move forward to a relevant world of inclusiveness and acceptance while still honoring the past generations of Girls State citizens. In the future, Hardy plans to become the “shenanigator” (a new role of her own making), who will come back to Girls State to help here and there, and... maybe cause a few shenanigans!

Hardy’s work in California Girls State has impacted thousands of young women. Every year, over 500 young women leave



Valerie Hardy poses for a photo at her last inauguration as Chief Counselor.

Claremont McKenna College having made amazing memories and lifelong friends. A sincere thank you to Valerie Hardy for her contributions to the American Legion Auxiliary and this program throughout all these years; your service and your legacy will not be forgotten! From everyone at 2019 California Girls State: we wish you the best of luck in all future endeavors, both within and outside of the ALA, and remember that you will always have a sisterhood supporting you!

The woman behind the buttons

Written by: Desiree Ramos

Trish Ward is on the ALA Leadership Committee as 2018-19 National Chairman. To add on, she is an amazing woman who made buttons for every single California Girls State citizen. She put so much work and countless hours into these buttons, so here is Trish’s story and why she decided to be a part of the ALA. Trish’s father was a veteran who served in WW2. When he passed, she wanted to find an avenue to connect with veterans and their loved ones to honor their sacrifices. When Trish makes these buttons for the amazing, brilliant, and courageous young women at Girls State, she is able to connect with them through their stories of the loved veterans they choose to honor. Trish said she wanted to give back, make a difference in the community, and that honoring veterans would make her father proud. She has truly done that, and much more!



Trish Ward proudly displays her button that she made, honoring her dad, a US Veteran.

An Election Gone Wrong?

Written by: Juliana Martinez

During General Elections, before the two qualified government candidates walked to the podium to present their speeches, absolute chaos broke out. Beginning with a chant coming from the back of the room, then progressing into an audible rumble of the words “flower power,” the room was overcome with city moms and counselors. The self declared “naturalist party” dominated the stage in their naturalist outfits, while their chosen governor candidate took to the podium, promising free college tuition, and much more for those who voted for their party. At first the blur of chanting gardeners, and costumed flower watering cans appeared as pure , it became clear that it was an honest attempt for needed comedic relief in the midst of one of the stressful events at Girls

State. As counselors Brooke Nawrocki from Saubel, and Kelly Wisneski from Temple explained in an interview, their stunt is actually a long-time running tradition amongst the counselors. As inside secret, counselors have been planning this stage take-over in an effort to “have fun and break the tension” between the two governor candidates. Although the events that occur at Girls State are meant to be professional, remember that Girls State also encourages its citizens to have fun, with organizers willing to show off their goofiness to encourage girls to enjoy their time here. Furthermore, even though Girls State encourages its citizens to run for office, this week is in no way defined by the competitive aspects of elections, or driven by the notion of

winning. Instead, Girls State is defined by “saying yes” to new opportunities and by the empowerment that ensues from women supporting women. In effect, the naturalist party take-over is a reminder to not get caught up in the politics or the winning.

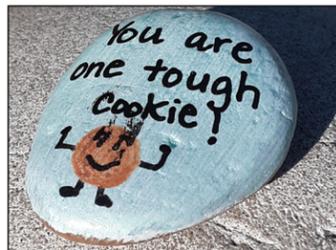


Naturalist Governor Candidate Cynthia Mayfield addresses her constituents.

Rock on!

Written by: Juliana Wullenjohn

While walking from building to building, you may have noticed the peculiar sight of a painted rock. These rocks weren't accidentally left there; they were carefully made by Angie Balius, Assistant to the Chief. Balius became involved with the organization through her friendship with Chief Counselor Valerie Hardy, and has since been a counselor, city mom, and more. The idea to bring these rocks to Girls State came to Balius just before last year's session: “I found an organization online called ‘Kindness Rocks.’ It was a way to hide rocks for people to find to inspire people to do kind things!” Balius began painting the rocks during Spring Break, and has made around 350 of these hand-painted creations. Though many of the quotes painted on the rocks are inspired by people in her life, Balius admits that Pinterest has also helped her come up with the messages. “There's a whole section on kindness rocks. Some of them are funny, some of them are inspirational. I tried to find as many different inspirations because you never know what someone needs at the time,” she said. Many Girl Staters will be taking a piece of this project home, and will be reminded to pay this kindness forward.



Over 350 Kindness Rocks were placed all over the Claremont McKenna campus.

We Asked You!

Written by: Nathaly Castrejon

Would you sacrifice yourself for a stranger?
Yes: 29% No: 71%

Would you rather be crazy rich or deeply in love?
Crazy Rich: 37% Deeply in Love: 63%

Which is more important: what you say or how you say it?
What you say: 34% How you say it: 66%

Do you believe in true love?
Yes: 90% No: 10%

Do you consider yourself an introvert or an extrovert?
Introvert: 53% Extrovert: 48%

Is intelligence or wisdom more useful?
Intelligence: 13% Wisdom: 87%

Is it worse to fail or never try at all?
Fail: 8% Never try at all: 92%

Do you plan to attend college?
Yes: 100%

Do you plan to enlist in the military?
Yes: 13% No: 87%

Total number of people surveyed: 38

A new era is announced

Written by: Meenah Chioino

American Legion Auxiliary Girls State Inauguration Day took place on June 27th, 2019. Leading up to this historical event, candidates discussed various issues such as animal rights, health care, and environmental concerns in their speeches. Despite the fact that not all candidates could be elected into office, all girls learned from the campaign experience and made lifelong friends in the process.

State office candidates showed off their ability to think on their feet during whistle stops, where each candidate answered questions posed by Girls State citizens. After voting in their cities, citizens dressed up and got ready for the Inauguration Ceremony. After Girls Staters proceeded to their designated seats, the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshall escorted our state elected officials, as well as Valerie Hardy, Elissa Kirkland, and Tammy Solazo. Also escorted were Junior Counselors Amber Afzali, Olivia Boles, Shelby Endgall, and Naomi Watson, as well as a special

guest Blanca Rubio. Rubio acted as the Inauguration Official, and also inspired the citizens of California Girls State with an amazing speech. “Each and every one of you here just makes me know that what I am trying to accomplish at the capital is going to be worth it, because I hope someday you take my seat, and my sisters seat, and hopefully 120 seats up in Sacramento,” Rubio said, and the girls responded with thunderous applause.

Governor elect Amber Xu shared a selfie with Rubio before beginning her speech, in which she expressed her hope to “extend the passion within Girls State to every single girl we come into contact with.” This speech was followed by a beautiful performance by the Girls State Choir of The Climb led by Guang Ming Whitley.

Special appearances were also made by Margaret Marshall and Carol McMahon, both of whom have made significant contributions to the American Legion

Auxiliary and have had California Girls State counties named after them. Girls cheered for the accomplishments of the namesakes of their counties, and the night was wrapped up with a sing-along, ending with the song “God Bless the USA.” The Inauguration Ceremony was truly a memorable event, not only for the elected officials, but for all participants who were able to witness so many beautiful, inspired women stand in unity as members of California Girls State.



California State Assemblywoman Blanca Rubio swears in Governor Amber Xu.

Thank you Blue Star Banner Girls

Written by: Desiree Ramos

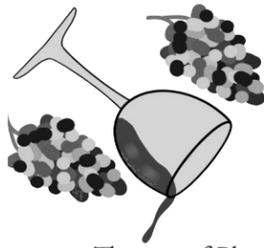
It is a simple but straightforward mission: for nearly 100 years the American Legion Auxiliary has supported America's veterans and their families. When a family member is deployed, it is the entire family who feels the strain, not just the service member themselves. The Blue Star Banner service flag is a banner that family members of those serving in the United States Armed Forces can display, and is officially defined as the flag held by immediate family members--parents, siblings, or children--of those serving in the Armed Forces. A gold star

with a blue edge represents a family member who died during military operations, encompassing those who lost their lives during any period of armed hostilities in which the United States was engaged. Today we recognize our Girl State citizens who represent blue star families (from left to right): Kassandra Hardin, Desiree Ramos, Ashlynn Wolkenhauer, Kathryn Enriquez, Aaliyah Gallegos, Addison Cummings, Mackenzie Wiesner, Gracie O'Dell. Not Pictured: Sarah Bergendahl, Lydia Dixon, Grace Bell, Haley Dacier, Hannah Carter.



The Counties of Girls State

Written by: Anastasia Lin, Kimberley Van Meter, Rukan Saif, and Jazmin Vasquez



Marshall

Pleasant

The city of Pleasant is bursting at the seams with talent, and throughout the week the girls graced each other with their unique abilities. “One of our friends, Brooklyn, did a toe touch and it was impeccable!” said Pleasant citizen Lana Mai. Along with testing Brooklyn’s cheerleading jumps, the Pleasant girls have plenty of fun with other activities like playing card games and having dance offs! No matter the event, the Pleasant girls have lots of love and support for one another as they embrace what makes each other special.

Temple

From battling over shower time to an abundance of sarcastic comments and uproaring laughter that fills the room, the ladies of Temple are high energy, ambitious, and outgoing young women. Despite this, the girls’ supportive nature, selflessness, and devotion to their city’s projects and citizens are what defines the ladies of Temple. The spirited women also recognize their city mom, Jan, whose laid back personality--and not to mention bags of snacks--captured the hearts of all of the Temple girls, earning her the title of best city mom ever!

Asawa

At Asawa, the citizens ensure their prompt and timely arrival to all events and activities with the assistance of their two town criers. Charging down the halls, these ladies blast “I don’t get no sleep cause of y’all” on speakers and bang on doors to abruptly awaken all of the lady night owls who barely got a few winks of sleep--quite the effective wake up call.

Foltz

The ladies of Foltz gathered at the end of the night, snuggled up in their PJs while snacking on candy, and began their Friendship Time of fun and games. Assemblywoman and Spirit Commissioner Alexis Votran introduced a new city game for the day: Soulmate. Through searching for the perfect partner for their “bachelorette” city sisters with a series of fun questions, the girls were able to bond and share laughs at the end of their long day.

Dorsey

Connolly

If you are one of the lovely ladies serenading us in the Girls State Choir, you are familiar with the first floor of Crown Hall, also known as the city of Connolly. Though they have a quieter exterior, do not be fooled; their love for each other speaks louder than any chant. Resident Isabella Fusano recalled when “one of [their] girls didn’t get enough signatures for a state position, everyone dropped everything to help her get more. That’s the Girls State experience. Everyone’s individually unique but we make up something wonderful.” It looks like the Connolly girls have divulged the secret behind Girls State: unity in uniqueness.

Ride

“R-I-D-E, ride or die!” Named after astronaut Sally Ride, these girls really have gone infinity and beyond...with amazing nighttime treats. “Our city mom has the best snacks,” says one resident. “She has SkinnyPop, Red Vines, a whole box of Nature Valley bars, and almonds for health.”

Somerville

Clap, thump, stomp: sound familiar? You may have heard Somerville’s percussive chant around Girls State, but contrary to their aggressive exterior, this city is brimming with love and support. Resident Makayla Mosley came into this program certain she wouldn’t run for anything, but on the first day, a few of her city sisters began encouraging her “to at least run for something,” she recalls. Before she knew it, she was elected County

Public Defender, shocked, grateful, and proud. Another resident, Claire Bennett, said she “[couldn’t] wait to find out which of these girls ends up being [her] bridesmaid.” Somerville has truly embodied the magic that tethers Girls State girls together.

Tape

The city of Tape definitely sticks together. Resident Juliana Wullenjohn commented that “all of the girls are quick to be supportive and automatically accepted everyone” without hesitation. She said the phrase that encapsulates Tape’s essence: “duct tape.” Why? “Our name is Tape, and we really embody the qualities of tape, the object, as we are strong, supportive, and we hold each other up. Every time one of us is nervous, all of us rush into calm them down and give advice,” said Wullenjohn. Many forget that an important part of being a good leader is being a good supporter, but the girls of Tape hold this value near to their hearts.

McMahon

Mason

Mason is a very small city of only 26 girls, meaning that Mason citizens really have the opportunity to learn more about each other and become closer as a group. Typically, their Friendship Time begins with talking about their days, playing bonding games, and sharing snacks!

Earhart

Every girl in Earhart city has been able to formulate wonderful and close bonds in just a few days, demonstrating how friendly and sociable the city is as a whole. Each girl has an individual spirit, and they certainly aren’t afraid to show it. During Friendship Time, their amazing city mom provides candy and cookies as the girls enjoy conversing, laughing and sharing their thoughts on the day.



Gilbreth

The girls of Gilbreth quickly clicked with each other, perhaps over their love of dogs, which is exemplified by their city mascot--a toy dog named Freedom who sparkles, flaps his ears and sings! One citizen even acts as the city’s dog photographer, who sends photos to the group chat of any dog she sees on the Girl State campus. The city’s Mayor/Fire Chief is also particularly spirited, with a fire escape plan posted on her dorm room door, and often creating spontaneous city chants during general assemblies to show Girls State which city is the best!

Soto

Soto is a city made up of extremely intelligent and driven girls. This is evident through the positions that Soto citizens have been elected for, made possible by their strong support of each other. During Friendship Time, Soto girls love making city chants and learning interesting facts about each other.

Brown

Hoyt

The amazing women of Hoyt have made it a tradition to always end the day with good music, positive energy, and most importantly- pretzels. Their town crier, Angel Alvarrado, wakens all the girls of Hoyt with a knock and the song “Jellyfish Jam” from Spongebob, an unparalleled way to start the day. The citizens consider themselves a family, expressing their gratitude for everyone in their city. On behalf of the city of Hoyt, they would like to share that all future Girls State citizens are going to be flamin’ “hojt.”

Marks

The wonderful city of Marks consists of so many spirited and intelligent young women. Their daily endeavors include getting to know each other on a deeper level and eating lots of snacks, even beginning to make friendship bracelets and astrology signs for their dorm doors! Not only are they super creative with their own city, but they even extended an invitation to the city of Hoyt to a dance party. Catch Hoyt and Marks dancing until the sun rises!

Saubel

No trouble in Saubel! This is the motto that the citizens of Saubel City stand by. The girls love to engage in their city gatherings, and most importantly, spread positive vibes around the entire city. There were special shoutouts to their town-crier, Victoria Johnson, who writes positive affirmations and gives them to her entire city in the morning.

Bass

Music seems to follow the citizens of Bass wherever they go. After bonding over their shared love singing and listening to music, the citizens from Bass have created a strong bond; their Friendship Time is often spent creating fun Tik Toks and sharing lots of laughs. Over the course of just a week, amazing relationships were established and this learning experience means the world to the girls of Bass.

