

Sycamore Canyon Academy *Bulletin*

Fall 2008



Students Lead at the Calabaza Festival

In October, Sycamore Canyon Academy “status” students participated in the Annual Fiesta de Las Calabazas (Harvest and Pumpkin Festival). The event began in 2000 as a way to celebrate the beginning of southern Arizona’s autumn season. The festival promotes eco and heritage tourism, creates awareness for the natural environment, and highlights the artistic and cultural diversity found in southern Arizona’s towns and communities including Oracle, San Manuel, and Mammoth.



The event brought with it live entertainment including performances from musicians, puppet shows, and the Creepy Crawly Zoo, orchestrated by Tony the “bug guy.” It also had book signings by authors, games for kids, and lots of pumpkins, food, and fun.

The SCA students were responsible for coordinating with local volunteers to lead the Pumpkin Corral and Kids Area which offered events for local youth such as face painting, Sonoran desert animals, stamping, and sundial making.

They also participated in activities such as leather tanning, where each one was able to take home the piece of leather they designed, and learning how to rope cattle. “The people didn’t even mind that I was a city boy who didn’t know how to rope!” stated student Eric P.



Although the day presented many fun things for the students to do, by far

the most appreciated experience they had was being able to talk about what they did at Sycamore Canyon Academy.

“The people at the booths were kind and courteous,” stated student Eric P. In an event intended for them to give back to the community, the students at SCA received a great experience in return.

