



FRESHMAN YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL

WINNER

WHY ADRIAN LOVES ARIZONA

WRITTEN BY ADRIAN, A FRESHMAN AT BROPHY COLLEGE PREPARATORY

I love Arizona because It has given my immigrant parents a safe place to raise a family. I love the fact that Arizona has such a diverse population, It makes everyone feel welcomed. Arizona is beautiful, it has deserts, mountains, rivers, lakes, it can be hot, in some places cold, It even has a world wonder. Arizona is a gem disguised as stone, It's not a random state, It has everything to offer.

In the late 1900s, my parents made the decision to move to the United States where they later on met. Arizona was the place they gave life to my siblings and me. Not only was It ten times safer here than back in Mexico, but they brought us to a place where we can thrive. I have an opportunity here, an opportunity my parents couldn't have. Although Mexico has my love, Arizona is the place I want to be. Arizona has given me a comfortable home and I am grateful for what It has given my family.

Arizona in the past years has become a place where people of all walks of life can come together. Being in a diverse city like Phoenix has helped me not feel so different, It's nice knowing you're not the only person that feels out of place even though you aren't, It helps opening up. People with different ethnic backgrounds can learn to appreciate each other's cultures, the world is a better place when people no matter the race can happily coexist. Arizona has allowed me to make friendships with people that are different from me, the best friendships are the ones that allow you to learn from each other.

Arizona's beauty is underappreciated, outsider's see it as a burning oven, although that is true in some places, it is more than just that. We have beautiful cities like Sedona, we have wonderful parks like The Grand Canyon National park, and we have crazy creations like the Hoover Dam. Camping has become something my family loves to do and being able to camp in beautiful places like Sedona is something we don't take for granted. Although my parents aren't able to travel much I am grateful for the beautiful places Arizona has to offer.

It's no surprise Arizona is one of the fastest-growing states, Arizona has given millions of people home with opportunities. Arizona has changed over the past decades, It has given people in and outside of the country opportunity. The state has evolved to a place where people no matter the background can thrive and push a state up. Arizona is a beautiful place, and I am happy many many more are getting to experience It.