

Hagerty youth

AUCTION WEEK HANDS-ON WORKSHOP FOR 5TH GRADERS

Classic car giant Hagerty always brings their magic to Arizona Auction Week in January, and they never forget the next generation. This year, Hagerty Test Garage created a one-of-a-kind learning experience for 120 Tavan Elementary (Phoenix) fifth grade students midweek, on January 16th.

The students participated in a variety of hands-on workshops designed to introduce automotive skills, knowledge and enthusiasm. Hagerty automotive experts in specific subjects led demonstrations and activities including a mock auction where the students could bid on model cars, sessions teaching the kids car restoration basics and such details as pinstriping, an exciting and detailed dive into automotive racing history, and more.

Students worked on an art project leading up to the event, on the theme of “Why I’m Excited to Drive,” which was on display during the sessions.

Hagerty Youth Program coordinator Rachel Ventimiglia says, “Arizona Auction Week attracts enthusiasts from all over the world, which is why it’s the perfect opportunity for Hagerty to engage local students who might not otherwise have a chance to take part in the automotive action.

“We host programs like Hagerty Test Garage so we can provide opportunities for the next generation to get excited about cars and driving.”

Tavan Elementary 5th grade teacher Shelly Rose notes, “Tavan Elementary is thrilled that our fifth-grade students have had the opportunity to participate in Hagerty’s Test Garage for the third consecutive year. Most of our students would never dream of seeing classic cars up close, let alone being able to sit in one. This is the highlight of their year.”

The “Why I’m Excited to Drive” art contest was won by 11-year-old Ashley Melgar, who says, “I am excited to drive because you can go to different places all over the world and do fun road trips. When I hear the word driving, I think of adventure.” ■



Sunnie Schwartz / Hagerty