



A Giant Corn Costume and the Ithaca School Fair



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When I opened the box of “goodies” from AmeriCorps at the beginning of my service I was surprised to see an adult corn costume amongst the t-shirts and posters. “What will I do with this,” I thought? Little did I know how much fun I was going to have with the costume.....



The Ithaca school fair is a very big deal in Ithaca and the communities surrounding it. This year was the one-hundred-year celebration. The fair includes food, flower, art, photography and live animal entries. Every student at Ithaca participates in the fair in some capacity. All teachers, admins, custodians, food service workers, principals, secretaries and the superintendent are involved in the planning and execution of the fair. Folks come from all around the area to peruse the entries and watch live judging of the animals. There is a parade down main street and a pulled pork and baked potato luncheon. It is truly a spectacular event for a “town” the size of Ithaca.

I knew I needed to be a part of this extravaganza. So, I made an F2S logo for my corn costume and asked if I could walk in the parade - a resounding “yes!”. I asked if I could judge the fruit and vegetable entries - a resounding “yes!” I asked if I could run in the mascot race at the beginning of the football game - a resounding “yes!” I was able to be a part of this magical day at Ithaca (and got some great exposure for the F2S program). I will never forget it.