



MICHAEL CHOW/THE REPUBLIC

Audrey Costello, 3, poses with dancers from Coronado High School before their performance during dedication ceremonies for the SkySong shade structure.

SkySong holds dedication

By Jane Larson

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SkySong, the ASU Scottsdale Innovation Center, dedicated its soaring shade structure and plaza this week with music, dance and encouraging words from community leaders.

About 350 people attended Wednesday evening's dedication, said Michele Irwin, spokeswoman for co-developer Plaza Cos. They included employees of Arizona State University and tenant companies, architects and contractors who built the development, and neighbors who have watched the corner at Scotts-

dale and McDowell roads transition, though not always smoothly, from Los Arcos Mall to today's budding high-tech center.

Scottsdale Mayor Jim Lane was among those who dedicated SkySong and emphasized the project's role in redeveloping the McDowell Road corridor.

Future innovators also got a financial boost at the ceremony. Plaza Cos., Higgins Development Partners, USAA Real Estate Co. and the ASU Foundation donated \$5,000 to nearby Supai Middle School for its "Mars to Zoo" science and technology program led by eighth-grade science teacher Bill Gardner.