

News from GREEN ACRES

Alumni Newsletter

October 2023

St. Martin's *Celebrates* our Tenth Head of School

On October 5, 2023, the entire St. Martin's community came together to participate in a student-centered, all-school chapel officially installing Whitney Samuel Drennan '94 as the tenth Head of St. Martin's Episcopal School. Students presented her with gifts representing our ideals of Faith, Scholarship, and Service. On behalf of the Upper School student body, **the Choir bestowed a blessing** on Mrs. Drennan during the service.



Saints Making Headlines

Three St. Martin's Students Among 15 Finalists in STEM Signing Day, Hosted by Saints and Pelicans

St. Martin's students BoFan Hua '24, Cole LaCoste '25 and Jeremy Hua '25 were among just 15 finalists in the New Orleans Saints and Pelicans STEM Signing Day at STEM Fest on Saturday, October 14. St. Martin's was the only school to have more than one student participate in STEM Signing Day, where

students were honored for their current accomplishments and asked to declare their college of choice. [Read more on our new website.](#)



Harlem Berry Named Top September Athlete for New Orleans

Harlem Berry '25, St. Martin's running back and one of the top-rated high school football players in the nation, has been selected as the Greater New Orleans Amateur Athlete of the Month for September. Monthly award-winners are selected by the Greater New Orleans Sports Awards Committee, sponsored by the Allstate Sugar Bowl. [Read more.](#)

Senior Morgan Guepet recognized by USA Today

Congratulations to senior Morgan Guepet! She was recently named to **USA TODAY's watchlist for HSSA Girls' Golfer of Year**, and was the only Louisiana athlete on the list!



Varsity Volleyball Heads to Playoffs

Volleyball is headed to the playoffs! Saints fans: join us in cheering on our varsity volleyball team as they take on the St. Edmund Blue Jays tomorrow, October 31, at 6:00 p.m. at St. Edmund Catholic School in Eunice. Tickets are \$10. The game will also be live-streamed on the NFHS Network. **Watch the livestream.**



Cast and Crew Shines (and Splashes!) While Singin' in the Rain

Earlier this month, St. Martin's Performing Arts took the stage of the Solomon Theater for two splashy and impressive shows of "Singin' in the Rain, Jr.," led by Theatre Director Lynne Bordelon and Technical Director Emma Massengale.

In just six short weeks, St. Martin's Performing Arts faculty, staff, students, and volunteers were able to pull off an incredible show, complete with real rain on the Solomon Theater stage. When the rain started to pour, audible gasps turned into enthusiastic applause as the audience realized the rain wasn't simply a special effect. The Tech Crew, led by Ms. Emma Massengale and assisted by Mr. Robby Stanley and Mr. Patrick Comer, outdid themselves with the impressive mechanisms to create the rain shower on the stage, as well as a well-appointed set. [View more photos](#) from the splashy performance!

Alumni Spotlight - *Jennifer Adams '92*

Continuing the St. Martin's Legacy



Family: Mother Judy Fremaux Adams '64, sister Leigh Adams Deutchsh '94, son Miles Adams, class of 2034.

Time as a Student: "13-Year Club Member" (Kindergarten through 12th Grade)

After StM: B.A. in Journalism, University of Alabama; J.D., Loyola University New Orleans College of Law.

Today: Partner at Deutsch Kerrigan Law Firm where she serves as the Chair of Toxic Tort and Environmental Practice Group and is a member of the management committee.

What originally drew your family to St. Martin's?

My mother graduated from St. Martin's and loved her time here. When my parents needed to choose a school for me and my sister, my family was interested in a school with strong academics, and a faith-based community. Of course, the legacy, following my mother, was also an important factor. I actually remember my first visit to St. Martin's and testing with Mrs. Conatser and seeing friends I already knew. It was not a hard decision for my parents to make.

How does it feel to share that legacy with your son?

I love reliving some of the same traditions that I enjoyed as a student. Recently Miles (Second Grade) has been learning about who Martin de Tours was and meeting his buddies for St. Martin's Day, and I can remember doing that in Lower School. I love when Miles comes home singing a song from Chapel, because it makes me that feeling of sitting in the Chapel with other students, which was so special. And I actually still remember the words!

We are all excited about our new leadership. What are your hopes for Miles and his future at St. Martin's?

I am thankful that Miles will have the same opportunities that I had as a student. St. Martin's allows students to explore who they want to be, and offers an environment that can support them in whichever path they choose. Beyond just strong academics and a foundation of faith, St. Martin's understands and appreciates how important athletics and extracurriculars can be for development. The school offers a wealth of programs and opportunities that tie together to build the whole person.

How did your student experience prepare you for where you are today?

I felt extremely well-prepared for college after graduating from St. Martin's, and I attribute my professional success today to my experience as a Saint. True to its motto, St. Martin's prepared me for life. The school offers multiple ways to build a student's confidence. I was always an active reader, and English and Language Arts were my favorite subjects. Teachers like Jane Henson and André Herrington in Middle School and Eileen Beckman in Upper School taught me how to be an analytical thinker, which has helped me as a lawyer. Their classes really had an impact on me and were true confidence and skill builders.

The school offered teachers with such a depth of experience and backgrounds. Speech and Debate with Jimmy Cox helped me hone my skills to become a strong public speaker, and encouraged me pursue the field I'm in today by helping me gain confidence and become comfortable with public speaking. I also owe a lot to Chuck Rivet's class. Having a lawyer as a Civics teacher in high school was amazing! My first "arguments" were in a mock trial competition that we entered as Sophomores in high school.

I was also a member of cheerleading, volleyball and basketball teams from 7th grade through high school, and being a part of those teams helped me develop my patience and ability to work as a team. It gave me tools for self-improvement and leadership skills, which I definitely have used in my professional life.



Each November, the Episcopal Church celebrates the feast day of Saint Martin de Tours. This year, St. Martin's Day will be celebrated on November 10. In one of the school's most cherished traditions, dating back decades, the entire student body celebrates our school's namesake with a school-wide community day, including an all-school chapel, scavenger hunt, games and lunch.

Leading up to St. Martin's Day, students, faculty, and staff gather for a Snack Day, traditionally held in the Lower School Quad. This year students were introduced to a new concept: **St. Martin's Families**. Instead of pairing one older grade with one younger grade, families are made up of about 20 students, ranging from PK to 12th grade. This move is a natural progression toward reclaiming the strong sense of community and inter-divisional ties that for decades have been the hallmark of the StM experience.



Support Annual Giving!

Annual Giving touches every student, every program, and virtually every part of our school life. Your investment in St. Martin's enables the school to continue to honor its commitment to Faith, Scholarship, and Service by integrating innovation and technology into our relevant and revered traditions.

Support your Alma Mater

Upcoming Events



ST. MARTIN'S

GOLF
TOURNAMENT

M
ST

BENEFITTING
ATHLETICS

Friday, November 3
Chateau Golf and Country Club

Registration & Brunch begins at 7:30 a.m.
Shotgun start at 9:00 a.m.

Join us on the course!



George Cottage &
Lower School
Open House
November 4
ages 8 weeks - 4th grade

Inquire today

Tuesday, November 21

Grandfriends' Day

Saturday, March 16, 2024

StM Annual Gala, "Havana Nights" on the Van Slate Lawn

Saturday, March 23, 2024

Alumni Easter Egg Hunt on the Lower School Playground

Friday, May 10 - Saturday, May 11, 2024

Alumni Spirits Weekend

Alumni Resources

- Contribute to our Scattered Saints section in [*The Bell*](#).
- Please submit your nominations for our [Alumni and Community Awards](#).
- Can't get to campus? [View photos from StM events on our Flickr site](#)



Treasured Traditions

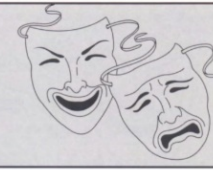
Performing Arts at St. Martin's

Whether performed in the Gym, the Dan & Frances White Chapel or the Solomon Theater, plays and musicals have been a rich part of the St. Martin's student experience for decades. Performing Arts provide an environment where students develop creative intuition, find their voice and gain confidence. Whether you were center stage, behind the scenes or in the audience, you probably have fond memories of student performances at StM. Here are some theater flashbacks from several performances, including "Harvey," (2002), "The Good Doctor" (1995), "A Funny Thing Happened...on the Way to the Forum" (1983), and "Godspell" (1975). What plays do you remember from your time at St. Martin's? **Email our Alumni Office** to share your memories and photos!

Harvey



The Good Doctor



Mr. Cox added to his directorial triumph with the Middle School production of *The Good Doctor* by Neil Simon. Consisting of separate scenes tied together by a narrator, the short scenes all have a great deal of humor. Costumes disguised many identities, causing audience members to have difficulty recognizing their own class-

mates and friends. The large cast enjoyed seeing themselves transformed into nineteenth century Russian characters facing life's frustrations and joys, and discovering that things are not necessarily that much different today! Many long time observers of MS productions declared *The Good Doctor* to be the best ever!



Top: The Cast of *The Good Doctor*. Above Left: Justin Goldblatt and Jose Carlos Mendez discuss the good old days. Above right: Jonathan Campo as the narrator.



Top Left: Malain McCormick and Katherine Bologna. Top Right: Seth Duplantis, Grant Melius and Allison Johnson at the theater. Left Nicole Bernstein, Jason Brown and Scott Felter. Center: Bill Maurer with his dentist Justin Svec. Above: Jessica Carvin and Donald D'Aunoy.

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

"... Something that's gaudy, something that's bawdy, something for Everybawdy, COMEDY TONIGHT!" Something for everyone it was. A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum was the highlight of Fine Arts Week. The musical drew in crowds of people. The show released some talents that were hidden, and some that should have stayed hidden! (the courtesans that is.)



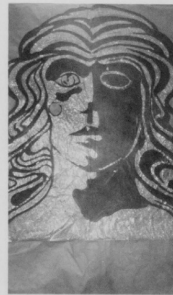
Theatrically speaking, this year was a big success at STM. The cast size of shows continues to increase, as do the number of people trying out for the shows. From *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, the first Faculty production, to *GODSPELL*, the first Student directed production, we have discovered talents and learned from the contents of the shows.



Godspell



Loel Watts



Byron Hammer



Byron Hammer and Beth Augustine



Susan Kantor

"Long live our dear St. Martin's that we cherish and we love."

ALUMNI



ST. MARTIN'S
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

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