



2017-2018 School Year

Volume 6 · Issue 1

With great pride we share the achievements of St. Mark's students who have been recognized in academic, fine arts, and athletic competitions during the 2017-2018 school year. These awards are a positive reflection of the strength of the School's educational program, the caring and committed faculty, and the support of the parent community.

Palm Beach County Regional Science & Engineering Fair

All seventh and eighth grade St. Mark's students compete at the school level in our annual science fair, affording students an invaluable opportunity to research, design, test, and draw conclusions in an area of interest. The top projects continue onto the Palm Beach County Regional Science and Engineering Fair. Congratulations to those students who placed at the regional level.

Zoe Arzt	(7 th grade)	3 rd Place, Behavioral and Social Sciences
Sophia Brown	(7 th grade)	3 rd Place, Earth and Environmental Sciences; Special Affiliated Award
Lilly Bedard	(8 th grade)	4 th Place, Physics and Astronomy
Christopher Kemmer	(8 th grade)	4 th Place, Physics and Astronomy
John Sexton	(8 th grade)	4 th Place, Behavioral and Social Sciences

The Duke University Talent Identification Program

The Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP) identifies students in 6th grade who demonstrate a high level of achievement on annual standardized tests. Thirty St. Mark's 6th grade students were identified as high achievers during the 2016-2017 school year, and they were offered the opportunity to take the SAT or ACT in 7th grade. Twelve of the thirty students elected to take one of the tests, and the following students were recognized by Duke for their high scores.

Meghan Heilpern	(7 th grade)	State Recognition: SAT - Evidence-Based Reading & Writing Qualified for the Academy for Summer Studies based on SAT scores
Will Kiely	(7 th grade)	State Recognition: ACT - Reading Qualified for the Center for Summer Studies based on ACT scores
Will LaBanz	(7 th grade)	State Recognition: SAT - Math and Evidence-Based Reading & Writing Qualified for the Academy for Summer Studies based on SAT scores
Cal Pirozzi	(7 th grade)	State Recognition: SAT - Math Qualified for the Academy for Summer Studies based on SAT scores
Sophia Brown	(7 th grade)	Qualified for the Academy for Summer Studies based on ACT scores
Natalie Ryder	(7 th grade)	Qualified for the Academy for Summer Studies based on Test scores

Daughters of the American Revolution Essay Contest

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Essay Contest was established to encourage young people to think creatively about our nation's great history. The topic for the contest was for students to imagine that they were living in 1918 and to discuss the changes in society due to the impact of World War I. St. Mark's students in 5th through 8th grade won 8 out of 16 possible awards in the Seminole Chapter of the DAR Essay Contest.

Liam Guzzanti	(5 th grade)	1st Place and 2nd Place at the State Level
Hannah Rogers	(5 th grade)	2 nd Place
Emma Stewart	(5 th grade)	3 rd Place
Jaxson Bretzlaff	(5 th grade)	4 th Place
Brandon Roos	(6 th grade)	3 rd Place
Natalie Ryder	(7 th grade)	3 rd Place
Lilly Bedard	(8 th grade)	1st Place (competed at state level)
Nika Wolfs	(8 th grade)	2 nd Place

Fellowship of Christians and Jews Essay Contest

The Fellowship seeks to bring people of different faiths and cultures together in an effort to better understand and appreciate one another. The topic for the 2018 competition was "The Road Not Taken," inspired by the Robert Frost poem of the same name.

Sydney Jansen	(8 th grade)	1st Place
Jack Regnery	(8 th grade)	3 rd Place
Nika Wolfs	(8 th grade)	3 rd Place

Scholastic Art Awards

The Scholastic Art Awards is a national competition open to students in 7th through 12th grade. Each year an increasing number of creative students across the United States submit their artwork, which is judged using the following criteria: originality, technical skill, and personal vision or voice. In the Regional Scholastic Art competition for Palm Beach and Martin Counties, St. Mark's students won four awards.

Zoe Arzt	(7 th grade)	Honorable Mention award for Photography
Natalie Ryder	(7 th grade)	Honorable Mention award for Photography
Wilson Goins	(8 th grade)	Silver Key award for Photography
Jacque Uvanile	(8 th grade)	Honorable Mention award for Photography

ArtiGras Youth Art Competition

Students in kindergarten through 12th grade submitted artwork for the ArtiGras Youth Art Competition in mediums ranging from pencil and crayon to chalk and paint. The artwork was judged by local artists and art educators.

Jordan McNally	(5 th grade)	2 nd Place
Ruth Busse	(1 st grade)	Honorable Mention
Kayla Gengler	(2 nd grade)	Honorable Mention

Florida Bandmasters Association Solo and Ensemble

Over 1,200 students from public and private schools in Palm Beach and Broward Counties participated in the 2017-2018 District 14 Solo and Ensemble Music Performance Assessment. The brass, woodwind, and percussion students represented St. Mark's School with skill and poise. Each performance was rated by a judge to earn a superior, excellent, good, fair, or poor rating.

Dylan Clarke	(6 th grade)	Baritone Solo, Superior	Madelyn Popilek	(7 th grade)	Clarinet Solo, Superior
Hannah Hoffner	(6 th grade)	Flute Solo, Superior	Scythe Shephard	(7 th grade)	Clarinet Solo, Superior
Aiden Miller	(6 th grade)	Trumpet Solo, Superior	Ben Whitfield	(7 th grade)	Trumpet Solo, Superior
Marleigh Nichols	(6 th grade)	Trombone Solo, Superior	Ren Kelleher Ben Whitfield	(7 th grade)	Trumpet Duet, Superior
Christina Polidori Breanna Spohn	(6 th grade)	Clarinet Duet, Superior	Maximo Zappani	(7 th grade)	Alto Sax Solo, Superior
Breanna Spohn	(6 th grade)	Clarinet Solo, Superior	Matthew Light Maximo Zappani	(7 th grade)	Alto Sax Duet, Superior
Brandon Spohn	(7 th grade)	Alto Sax Solo, Superior	Matthew Berube	(8 th grade)	Baritone Sax Solo, Superior
Owen Gruner	(7 th grade)	Clarinet Solo, Excellent	Parker Fite	(8 th grade)	Tenor Sax Solo, Superior
Ren Kelleher	(7 th grade)	Trumpet Solo, Superior	Todd Giol	(8 th grade)	Snare Drum Solo, Superior
Will Kiely	(7 th grade)	Trombone Solo, Superior	Shannon Little	(8 th grade)	Clarinet Solo, Excellent
Will LaBanz	(7 th grade)	Trombone Solo, Superior	Bailee Lizza	(8 th grade)	Flute, Alto Sax, Snare Drum Solos; 3 Superiors
Liya Osiyemi	(7 th grade)	Flute Solo, Superior	Mitchell Fahey John Sexton	(8 th grade)	Trumpet Duet, Excellent
Cal Pirozzi	(7 th grade)	Trombone Solo, Superior	Angelina Agrillo Sydney Jansen	(8 th grade)	Clarinet Duet, Superior



Ren Kelleher's rehearses for his trumpet solo.



Congratulations to *Scythe Shephard* for being selected by audition for the **All-State Honor Band**.

Florida Bandmasters Association MPA Symphonic Band

The Florida Bandmasters Association sponsors a formal assessment every year for middle school bands. Schools are ranked according to size, and the adjudicators listen to every performance and give ratings based on the level of the performance. St. Mark’s Middle School Symphonic Band received an Excellent rating for their performances and an Excellent rating for sight-reading; St. Mark’s student conductor received a Superior rating. Congratulations to the members of the Symphonic MPA Band listed below:

Flutes: *Darin Harvey, Anna George, Liya Osiyemi	French Horn: *Ben Lubeck, Jake Stevens
Clarinets: *Sydney Jansen, Scythe Shephard, Madelyn Popilek, Owen Gunner, Shannon Little, and Angelina Agrillo	Trumpets: *John Sexton, Mitchell Fahey, Ren Kelleher, and Ben Whitfield
Bass Clarinet: Meghan Heilpern	Baritones: *Dylan Clarke
Alto Saxophones: Bailee Lizza, *Brandon Spohn, Maximo Zappani, and Matthew Light	Trombones: *Cal Pirozzi , Caleb Miller, Will LaBanz, and Will Kiely
Tenor Saxophone: *Parker Fite	Tuba: *James Young, Ryan Hendi
Baritone Saxophone: *Matthew Berube	Percussion: *Todd Giol, Zoe Arzt, and Jacob Heilpern
* Denotes Section Leader	Congratulations to Bailee Lizza who earned a superior rating as a student conductor for the MPA band.



Kimberlee Aliapoulios, St. Mark's band teacher, conducting a performance by the MPA Symphonic Band.

Lighthouse ArtCenter Museum Students’ Exhibition

The 48th Annual Community Students’ Exhibition showcased work created by kindergarten through 12th grade art students from Palm Beach and Martin Counties. The exhibition featured several hundred pieces of dynamic artwork from our community’s talented young artists and offered students the opportunity to prepare for and experience a professional gallery experience. Congratulations to each of these art winners.

Charlotte Gomez	(Kindergarten)	Karolina Swan	(4 th grade)
Zander Hughes	(1 st grade)	Grace Favole	(5 th grade)
Preston Kakuk	(3 rd grade)	Meghan Helipern	(7 th grade)

Middle School Athletics

St. Mark's is well known in the community for its robust sports and athletic program. Our skilled coaching staff has high school and collegiate coaching experience. Skill development, strategy, and sportsmanship characterize the middle school interscholastic program that is provided in a state-of-the-art facility.

Middle school students may compete in the following interscholastic sports: flag football, girls' volleyball, cheerleading, basketball, soccer, lacrosse, tennis, and golf. St. Mark's competes in the Palm Beach Independent Schools Athletic Conference with the following schools: Atlantic Christian, The Benjamin School, Berean Christian, Jupiter Christian School, The King's Academy, Palm Beach Day Academy, Rosarian Academy, and Trinity Christian. Go Lions!

League Championships and Playoff Victories

The **boys soccer** team won the conference championship for the first time!

The **girls' volleyball** team played in the championship game and came in second place in the conference.

The **flag football** team played in the championship game and came in second place in the conference.

The **girls' soccer** team played in the championship game and came in second place in the conference.



Palm Beach Independent Schools Athletic Conference Champs and first ever boys soccer championship for St. Mark's!

STEM Inventor's Challenge

St. Mark's Middle School students participated in the STEM Inventor's Challenge on Saturday, April 21, 2018, sponsored by the South Florida Science Center. Through funding from the Stiles-Nicholson Foundation, schools were given a 3D printer and challenged their students to invent a solution to solve a problem within their schools or communities. Ten schools competed in the Stiles-Nicholson STEM Inventor's Challenge at the South Florida Science Center with a submission of 30 inventions. Out of a total of seven awards, in the Main Challenge Competition, which awarded three places, St. Mark's won the 1st and 2nd place awards; St. Mark's also won 1st place for the Best Presentation Board.



Back row (l-r): Melanie Perkins (Educational Technology Specialist), Amanda Jasper (Computer Teacher), Natalie Ryder, Ben Whitfield, Ben Lubeck, Wesley Wheat, Carson Krul, Madelyn Popilek, Will LaBanz, and Spencer Miller

Front row (l-r): Andrew D'Souza, Dylan Clarke, Scythe Shephard, Jacob Heilpern, Zoe Arzt, Sebastian Mastin, and Sally Lubeck (Science Teacher)

Not pictured: Michael Milanesi (Director of Technology)

Congratulations to the following students who participated in the challenge and received an award: Award for **Best Display Board** for "Drone Pollinator" - Ben Lubeck, Andrew D'Souza, and Dylan Clarke; **1st Place Main Challenge Award** for "Hurricane Proof Privacy Fence" - Wesley Wheat, Will LaBanz, Spencer Miller, and Carson Krul; and **2nd Place Main Challenge Award** for "DeKleat" - Madelyn Popilek, Zoe Arzt, and Jacob Heilpern. We also recognize Sebastian Mastin, Natalie Ryder, Scythe Shephard, and Ben Whitfield for their contributions to the Inventor's Challenge.

President's Volunteer Service Awards

The President's Volunteer Service Award (December 1, 2016 through November 30, 2017) was presented to fifty-eight middle school students who served more than 50 hours within a year for more than 5,858 combined hours. Through their volunteer efforts, the students demonstrate values that make our community strong, and they help to build a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility.

GOLD (100+ hours served within a year): **6th grade** – Dylan Clarke, Jacob Heilpern, Alexandra Honeycutt, Ben Lubeck, Grace Merrill, and Breanna Spohn; **7th grade** – Zoe Arzt, Meghan Heilpern, Will Kiely, Cal Pirozzi, Natalie Ryder, Nathaniel Samarias, and Brandon Spohn; and **8th grade** – Abbie Alvarez, Lilly Bedard, Chiara Bell, Ella Cameron, Bianca Dunham, Anna George, Todd Giol, Wilson Goins, Christopher Kemmer, McKenna Kirvin, Annie Matot, Zack Rotta, John Sexton, Grace Toal, and Jacque Uvanile

SILVER (75-99 hours served within a year): **6th grade** – Sarah Brodner, Presley Case, Andrew D'Souza, and Juliette Patterson; **7th grade** – Brooke Barboni, Alex George, Christopher Hurd, Matthew Light, and Wesley Wheat; and **8th grade** – Angelina Agrillo, Cooper Dunkin, Max Gelinias, Bailee Lizza, and Hannah Udovich

BRONZE (50-74 hours served within a year): **6th grade** - Hannah Hoffner, Kate Keller, Beckett Papa, Kaden Renna, and Jake Stevens; **7th grade** - Davis Crall, Will LaBanz, Madelyn Popilek, and Anna Smithy; and **8th grade** - Mitchell Fahey, Ally Hurd, Sydney Jansen, Michael Mascitelli, George Menedis, Danny Simon, and Nika Wolfs

St. Mark's Episcopal School

Lower and Middle School - Service Learning and Community Service

Service Learning Projects

1. The Mama Ada Foundation

The Mama Ada Foundation helps people living in the Rift Valley in Kenya by providing tuition funds for students, creating entrepreneurship opportunities, and providing funds for farmers to purchase seeds and fertilizer.

- Coins for Kenya are collected by the Lower School to support the Mama Ada Foundation.
- Student Government raises money by selling snacks during morning break.
- Students prepare a presentation detailing three different options for spending the funds collected. Students vote on the options and then the funds are presented to the Rev. Jim Cook, St. Mark's rector.

2. Hospice Blankets for Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center

Service League students calculate the amount of material needed to make the blankets and allocate the funds for purchasing the material. Both Lower and Middle School students make the blankets for patients in the Hospice unit.

3. Costa Rica Mission Trip

Students collect and donate school supplies to Costa Rican children. While in Costa Rica, students help with different projects, teach Vacation Bible School, and interact with children while speaking Spanish.

Community Service

1. **Help for Hope** - (formerly known as Dimes for Disney) Lower School students collect money for Hope Rural School to provide students a chance to participate in an experiential, educational field trip.
2. **St. George's Soup Kitchen** - The Middle School Service League serves food once a month to those in need in the Riviera Beach community.
3. **Canned Food Drive** - The National Junior Honor Society organizes a canned food drive as part of the Thanksgiving Food for Families food drive. St. Mark's Lower School and Middle School students and families donated more than 2,000 cans of food.
4. **Adopt-A-Family** - St. Mark's raises more than \$5,000 each school year to donate to Palm Beach County families during the holiday season.
5. **Toy Drive** - During the holiday season, the National Junior Honor Society collects toys that are donated to the Children's Home Society of Florida.
6. **Christmas Caroling** - Service League members raise funds to buy Christmas decorations and gifts for families in need in the community. Students help decorate homes and participate in caroling.
7. **Cookies for Kids with Cancer** - Service League members bake and sell cookies to raise money for children with cancer at St. Mary's Hospital.
8. **Food Packing for Haiti** - Students of all ages and their families participate in the annual Food Packing for Haiti outreach, where over 50,000 rice and bean fortified meals are packed and shipped to undernourished school children in Haiti.
9. **Little Smiles** - This charitable organization donates toys, games, event tickets, and more to children in local hospitals, hospices, and shelters. This year, Little Smiles donated toys to support St. Mark's Christmas Caroling.
10. **Lower School Helpers** - During their lunch break, middle school students assist lower school teachers and work one-on-one with lower school students on reading and other academic assignments and projects.

Costa Rica Mission Trip

On Sunday, January 28, 2018, St. Mark's middle school students and teachers were commissioned for their trip to Costa Rica for a cultural immersion and service learning experience. Selected for their scholastic achievement, leadership qualities, and outstanding character traits, the following students participated in the mission trip: Lilly Bedard, Chiara Bell, Will Diaz, Bianca Dunham, Cooper Dunkin, Max Gelinas, Todd Giol, Ally Hurd, Christopher Kemmer, McKenna Kirvin, Annie Matot, Ben Murphy, Mia Senzatimore, Nika Wolfs, and teachers Todd Isham, Sally Lubeck, and Kate McCoy.



From February 11-16, 2018, St. Mark's students traveled to San Ramón, Costa Rica, where they learned about life in a world much different from what they know in Palm Beach County. Pura Vida Missions, based in North Palm Beach, provided lodging and meals and facilitated the program. During the mission trip, the students led a vacation Bible school for local Costa Rican children, and they helped build bunk beds. They grew in their spiritual lives through inspirational, faith-building, and fun evening programs.

As they worked in the barrios of the San Ramón community, the students' positive energy and heartfelt sentiments empowered them to make a difference in the lives of the children and families they served.



Pura Vida Missions hosted St. Mark's students and teachers and provided lodging and meals during their stay in Costa Rica.



(top) Students put the final touches on a new bunk bed for the children.
(bottom): Students entertain the children with street art.

