

JK class visits The Metropolitan Museum



Grade 4 student enjoys weaving at the Living History Museum





St. Luke's School 487 Hudson Street New York, NY 10014-6397 212-924-5960 stlukeschool.org

# he Winaed Tales from St. Luke's School

Summer 2012

As many of us surely did, I recently revisited a lot of Ray Bradbury's works. I came upon this quote in my reading:

"Everyone must leave something behind when he dies," my grandfather said. "A child or a book or a painting or a house or a wall built or a pair of shoes made. Or a garden planted. Something your hand touched some way so your soul has somewhere to go when you die, and when people look at that tree or that flower you planted, you're there."

"It doesn't matter what you do," he said, "so long as you change something from the way it was before you touched it into something that's like you after you take your hands away. The difference between the man who just cuts lawns and a real gardener is in the touching," he said. "The lawn-cutter might just as well not have been there at all; the gardener will be there a lifetime."

St. Luke's School grew and continues to grow because many people have touched it and left something a bit like them when they took their hands away. If you peruse the St. Luke's School Alumni Facebook page (and I particularly commend scrolling through the digital scrapbook created by Victoria Leacock Hoffman '77), you will realize that our legacy of leadership includes legendary heads of school, beloved teachers, dedicated parents, and astonishing students. As we plant the seeds of our vision, it is right and proper to reflect upon and thank all those who tended our garden before us.

In preparing this issue, Susan Harriot, our Director of Admissions, spoke to each of our prior heads of school, and her article is on page 2. Katharine Taylor, who worked at the school

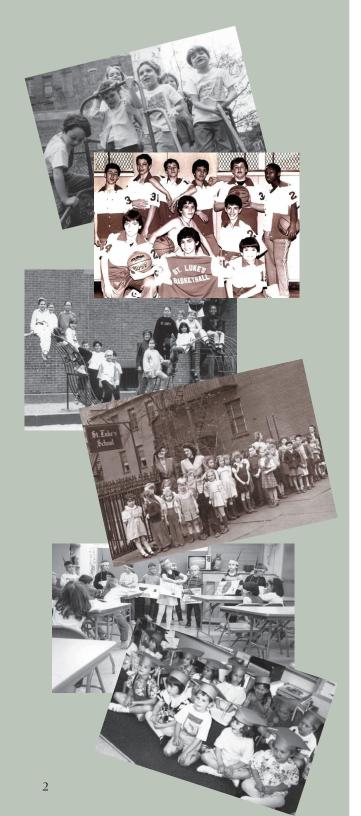
for 35 years and was its principal from 1951 - 1981, is still remembered for the steadiness of her leadership and the fact that she remained beloved by students during the turbulent '60s and '70s. One student fondly recalled that on more than one occasion the stately "Oueen of Mississippi" would pull a cantankerous student aside and warn, "I am totally bored with and thoroughly disgusted by your behavior!"

Barbara Belknap, her successor, served the school nine years. Her focus was on improving salaries and making sure that St. Luke's School was in a position to recruit and retain an excellent faculty. Kiki Johnson, who followed Barbara as an interim head, similarly focused on faculty, both supporting our outstanding faculty and establishing high expectations of professionalism. Jessie-Lea Haves headed St. Luke's School from 1991 - 1995. Under her leadership, the school grew in enrollment and was able to address some of the financial uncertainties associated with small schools. Ann Mellow's twelveyear tenure that followed saw a strengthening of the school's academic program and a determination to honor both the school's belief in a traditional curriculum and its commitment to embracing current educational research and best instructional practices.

Values, faculty, students and their families, academics – these are the seeds of St. Luke's School's success. As we plan for the future it is important to reflect upon and express gratitude for the heads *emeriti* who planted and nurtured them. And so it remains, for fortunately St. Luke's School is still full of gardeners, each committed to growing something wonderful together.

Bart Baldwin, Head of School

NEWS & THE ANNUAL REPORT



# LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP

As St. Luke's School transitions to an independent, Episcopal day school with a mission compatible with The Church of Saint Luke in the Fields and a clear strategic vision, we reflect on the legacy left to us by our previous heads of school. Their leadership and dedication to St. Luke's School laid the foundation for our growth and success from 1951 to the present day.

# Katharine Taylor, 1951-1981

Katharine Taylor was born in Greenwood, Mississippi. As the eldest child in her family, her leadership qualities surfaced early, perhaps paving the way for her career as an educator. After graduating from college, Katharine came to New York to pursue her master's degree from Teachers College at Columbia University. Katharine continued her postgraduate work at Columbia and also attended the University of London, but her enchantment with New York led her to stay on and accept the position as kindergarten teacher at St. Luke's School.

When Father Weed became vicar at Saint Luke's Church and headmaster of the school, the Reverend, Dr. Fredrick Fleming, then rector of Trinity Church, asked Katharine to assist Father Weed, who later appointed her principal in 1951. When Katharine was asked what stood out in her mind about her 35 years at St. Luke's she said, "All the wonderful boys and girls who have been at St. Luke's all these years, and their parents." Over the years, Katharine was most impressed with the students' writing and their love for books and reading. Katharine praised the school librarians Grace Sonne and Ann Thaxter Eaton for contributing so much to the students' joy of reading. One of Katharine's most exciting times at St. Luke's was the planning and construction of the present school building in 1955. Katharine said the worst thing that happened while she was at St. Luke's was, of course, "the burning of the church; but even this horrible event provided a positive opportunity for a reunion with many ex-students who came to lend support. Typical among their comments was, 'I've spent the happiest years of my life here." On October 5, 1956, Bishop Donegan held a service of solemn blessing for St. Luke's School, which expressed the continuing purpose of St. Luke's School under the guidance and love of Father Weed and then under Father Laughlin.

Katharine always had a love for travel and encouraged St. Luke's field trips beyond the city limits. When Katharine was principal she arranged a Grade 6 class trip to Egypt! Katharine said, "I'm never going to forget the crates of chickens that boarded the train with us going from Cairo to Luxor to Aswan." Katharine was a beloved head of school for St. Luke's School from 1951 to 1981. "We are still a wonderful, interesting, and very alive community... that has always been the best thing for St. Luke's." After retiring from her position at St. Luke's, Katharine returned to her family, now located in Florida, where she still resides today.

# Barbara Belknap, 1981 - 1990

Barbara Belknap inherited a wonderful school from Katharine Taylor - one with energetic, creative, committed students, an excellent curriculum and a dedicated, talented faculty. "The best kept secret in New York," those in the know would say. But it was time to put the school on the map. St. Luke's joined the New York State Association of Independent Schools and the Guild of Independent Schools; there, St. Luke's had the dubious distinction of having the lowest salary scale of any Guild member. Barbara was proud that she was able to improve that situation by starting to compensate the faculty with salaries that were commensurate with their efficacy and commitment. At that time, the entire administrative staff consisted of two: Mrs. Masek and one other person handling all things financial. Barbra added an admissions director and initiated annual giving. She proudly raised \$5,000 in one year. Since leaving St. Luke's, Barbara has been the lower school head at Hewitt and Browning in New York City. She also volunteered as a tutor at PS 208, and with the Chapin School archives. Now her volunteer time is devoted primarily to the Blue Hill Troupe, a group performing operettas for local charities. Next year Blue Hill Troupe will perform *The Mikado* and *Grand Hotel* for the benefit of the Go Project. Her love for travel has been a constant throughout her life.

# Katherine Johnson, 1990-1991

Kiki Johnson spent 21 years working in schools, as a teacher, dean, headmistress, and head of school, the latter as interim head at St. Luke's 1990-1991. After her work at St. Luke's she spent the following two decades working with schools in many capacities: in the US Department of Education; in executive work at both the New Jersey and New York Associations for Independent Schools (NJAIS and NAIS), and since 1999 as a vice-president at Carney, Sandoe & Associates consulting to almost 100 schools to date in areas of governance, strategic planning and head of school searches. Kiki's special memory from her year at St. Luke's: the quiet moments in morning chapel with sunlight streaming in before the children did the same. Six very different grandchildren keep her amused and learning in various ways from her home in the Champlain Valley of Vermont. Kiki says that gardening and work with a variety of local nonprofit boards, e.g., museum, ambulance, United Way, and church, combine to remind her that what worked last year may not work this one.

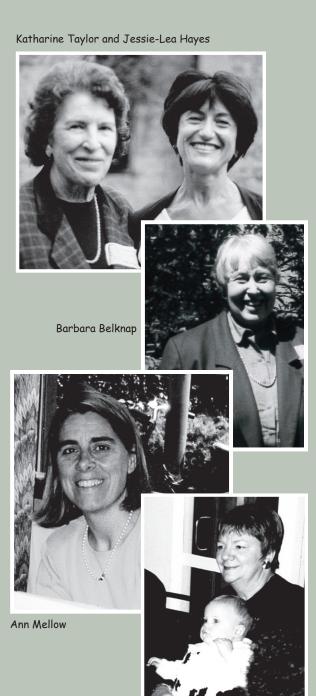
# Jessie-Lea Hayes, 1991 - 1995 Jessie-Lea Hayes came to St. Luke's School in the fall of 1991.

Jessie recently stated, "How fortunate we all have been to be a part of St. Luke's with its pervasive core values, nurture and challenge for individuals, and creative commitment to learning in its highest form. While our lives will twist and turn, I believe that St. Luke's will always remain fixed in the center. Many of my fondest memories come from my years at St. Luke's and the wonderful people, departed and remaining, with whom I worked and played. News from St. Luke's School always sounds enticing and exciting. It is clear that the school remains true to its mission while leaping confidently into the future." Life after St. Luke's has been filled with adventure for Jessie-Lea. Moving to the West Coast (San Francisco) turned out to be a major undertaking. She missed the Episcopal core of St. Luke's but loved the West Coast ethos and had a great time applying what she had learned in New York City schools in a new arena. "After 13 years of heading a rambunctious all-girls school, I retired and began another exciting chapter in my life with my husband in Central Oregon."

# Ann Mellow, 1995-2007

In 1995, Ann Mellow was appointed head of school at St. Luke's when Jessie-Lea Haves relocated to the West Coast. Ann reflects back on her time at St. Luke's School, "There are so many memories and reasons why St. Luke's held me for so long. I remember attending a Thursday Eucharist as a candidate for head of school and being utterly moved by the service and by the community, in particular the petitions from each class and the faculty. It was one of the things that made me know that St. Luke's was the right place for me. I never tired of hearing the children's prayers: giving thanks for hot chocolate or the first snow, asking help for people in need or maybe even for one of Mr. Deepak's notorious science exams. You always knew what was on their minds and what was in their hearts. I never tired of hymn sings with Mr. Hunter, especially singing "Seek Ye First" in rounds, or sitting quietly while the choristers' voices wafted down from above." According to Ann, more than anything. St. Luke's was always alive. "Somewhere something interesting or exciting or wonderful was happening. And somewhere people were working out their differences or having a bad day or maybe kicking up a bit of mischief. But that's real life, and at St. Luke's people never turned away from life but leaned into it. It wasn't always perfect, but it was real". Ann knew that our lives would be different, and better, for having been here. Her perspective is that this is what education is supposed to do: to lead us out of darkness and into the light and more fully into our common humanity. Ann remains proud of the program and the ways in which St. Luke's prepared children for their next academic steps. "But I am most proud of the ways they grew up and into the world. St. Luke's does the same for the grown-ups, too, and I am blessed to have been a part of it."

We all enjoy remembering the past heads of St. Luke's School and how they affected our lives. Their essence, dedication, love, and passion for the school remain a source of inspiration for all of us.



Katherine Johnson

# St. Luke's School Welcomes New Food Service Provider

St. Luke's School is thrilled to partner with Butterbeans as our new caterer for our school lunch program. In addition to a variety of pre-schools, Butterbeans currently provides lunch for Poly Prep Lower School, UNIS, City and Country School, and Gateway School.

Butterbeans is dedicated to providing tasty, child-friendly, nutritious lunches for children. As their CEO, Belinda De Giambatista states: "Your children can eat healthy, delicious, freshly cooked whole foods at school. Not only are our meals designed to achieve a nutritive balance, we also take care to ensure that each meal has something smooth and crunchy, includes protein, whole grains, healthy fats, and colorful vegetables."

St. Luke's School's lunch program will remain voluntary, with families opting in on a daily, monthly, or annual basis. Each lunch service will provide a choice between two entrees (one of which will be vegetarian), two vegetables, a selection of sandwiches, a soup,



and a salad bar. Butterbeans is committed to buying local and organic produce whenever possible. They serve organic milk and hormone and antibiotic free grass fed beef.

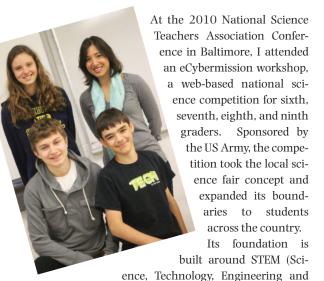
The team that met with and ultimately selected Butterbeans felt that their dedication to children, commitment to en-

vironmentally sustainable practices, and inclusion of a strong educational component with their service were perfect complements to our values.

# LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE:

#### Academic Excellence

by Deniz Beal, upper school science teacher



Mathematics) education, a progressive curriculum that attempts to transform the typical teacher-centered classroom by encouraging students to find solutions to real life problems through problem-solving, discovery, and exploratory learning. I was immediately hooked. When we create opportunities for students to "think outside the box," we're allowing them to connect with challenging concepts while simultaneously forming experiences they will remember.

My first year with St. Luke's has been nothing less than extraordinary because of the students who represent the core of our school. I am surrounded by students with a thirst to learn and to go beyond curriculum standards. Back in October, I mentioned eCybermission to Giancarlo Sabetta, Matthew Boddewyn and Catherine Kerner. Without hesitation, the three committed to the tasks ahead, fully aware of the time and dedication requirements. Our first objective was to identify a real problem. Catherine shared her love of sailing the Hudson River and we began discussing the limitations to recreational uses of the Hudson and East Rivers. The students felt

it was unfair for New Yorkers to have these limitations. Taking the passenger seat, I observed the process of problem-solving evolve: devise an experiment, decide what data to collect, and ultimately find solutions to the problem. They were actively using the steps of the scientific method; a mundane unit all science teachers teach at the beginning of the school year that students unsurprisingly forget!

Over weekends, we collected water samples from different locations along both rivers and used lunch/recess time and after school to run tests and make sense of the data. After concluding the project with real life solutions and recommendations to the current condition of our rivers, the students submitted their final work. Knowing the stakes were high and that we were competing with schools all throughout Manhattan and the state, everyone felt rewarded by simply having completed their hard work. Six weeks after the competition deadline, I received a phone call from eCybermission coordinators. Under the group name The Tree Huggers, Matthew, Catherine, and Giancarlo were awarded second in state for New York. Along with a monetary prize for each student, their names and our school are now listed on the eCybermission website. The best moment came when I shared the news with them; the amazement and pride in their eyes was especially rewarding for me as their teacher.

I believe that when we are able to allow children to use real data and hypothesize solutions, they start to understand and discover their true capabilities. I don't know if Giancarlo, Matthew, and Catherine will go into the sciences, engineering, mathematics, or technology. What I do know is that no challenge is too great when a mind is eager to learn, to solve a problem, or to rectify a situation. And when I see that in my students' eyes, I know I'm doing exactly what I'm meant to do.

'Today, more than ever before, science holds the key to our survival as a planet and our security and prosperity as a nation. It's time we once again put science at the top of our agenda and work to restore America's place as the world leader in science and technology.'

President Barack Obama

# EDUCATION, INNOVATION AND SERVICE

# **Community Service**

by Susan Yao, Grades 7 and 8 social studies teacher

On May 11, 2012, seventh graders stayed after school to help BookMentors, a nonprofit organization that matches donors with classroom teachers who need books. According to the organization, there is only one book for every 300 children in low-income neighborhoods. Ten seventh graders divided booklists compiled by the Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC) and entered them into the BookMentors online database. They catalogued hundreds of titles that teachers could request for donation.

On June 3, 2012, several eighth graders spent their Sunday morning cleaning up Chinatown. Ms. Yao, Dyana Lee, and four students brought garbage bags and gloves with them on the train to pick up trash on the streets and in Columbus Park. Elderly residents stopped their chess games to point out trash for the students to pick up and thanked them as they swept through the park. Afterwards, everyone went out to lunch at Shanghai Cuisine. The students had already visited Chinatown on a social studies field trip and returned this time to give back to the community. In total, six full bags of garbage were collected from the streets.



#### Innovation

by Lauren Thomas, lower school science teacher



On June 5th, the first annual Curb the Carbon day went off without a hitch! The school community banded together to put energy conservation into action by coming to school either by walking, biking, or by taking public transportation and by doing other simple things to save energy. Students arrived at school that Tuesday morning eager to share the ways in which

they had saved energy at home. Not only did many students walk to school, but they also turned off their lights and took five-minute showers. Many even abstained from watching TV, using their iPods, and playing their video games for a day! Even more important, some students reported that they would try to continue to use some of these energy-saving strategies after Curb the Carbon Day ended. Sustainable energy conservation is, after all, the goal of any energy awareness event because it's the little changes when done by many that can make the difference in being responsible toward our environment. "With so many students making an effort to be more environmentally responsible, the St. Luke's School community is well on its way to being a better steward of the Earth's resources."

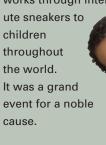
"With so many students making an effort to be more environmentally responsible, the St. Luke's School community is well on its way to being a better steward of the Earth's resources."



Acolytes

# **Hoops for Help**

Our Hoops for Help fundraising extravaganza was also a spectacular success. Under the valiant leadership of Stacey Spencer and Joelle Duffy, our Parent Outreach Committee invited all children and children at heart to participate in a basketball "shoot out." Through entry fees, raffle sales, a bake sale and general donations, \$3,775 was raised to be donated to a local organization, SAVES by B, which works through international agencies to distrib-





impoverished

## **Class of 2012 High Schools**

The Berkeley Carroll School (2)

The Brearley School

The Bronx High School of Science

The Calhoun School

Collegiate School

**Dominican Academy** 

Grace Church High School (4)

Millbrook School

The Nightingale-Bamford School

The Packer Collegiate Institute (3)

Poly Prep Country Day School

Riverdale Country School (2)

Rye High School (2)

The Spence School

Trinity School (2)

## Class of 2008 Colleges

**Bard College** 

**Bowdoin College** 

**Brandeis University** 

**Brown University** 

Cornell University

Georgetown University

Georgia State University

**Gettysburg College** 

Lafayette College

McGill University

New York University (3)

Occidental College

Pitzer College (2)

Providence College

Rice University

Trinity College

**Tufts University** 

University of Redlands

Villanova University

Yale University

# LIVING LEGACY:

Each year at Recognition Chapel, St. Luke's School alumni welcome our Grade 8 class into the alumni association. This year Amanda Raboy shared a few reflections. Amanda currently is an associate at a New York law firm and is leaving her position to work on behalf of voter registration this fall. Her remarks follow:

My name is Amanda Raboy and I'm an alumna of St. Luke's class of 1992. It's hard to believe that it's been 20 years since graduating from St. Luke's because I remember so clearly sitting in the same pews where you are sitting today. I remember feeling excited about graduating but also feeling sad and nostalgic about leaving my friends and the comfort of St. Luke's, a school I attended for eight years.

I know you are all moving on to different high schools but one thing these schools undoubtedly share in common is that they all will be a lot bigger than St. Luke's. You will be new and unknown to your teachers and classmates and they will be new and unknown to you. You have a blank slate. Think about what you will do with this opportunity. What kind of high school student do you want to be?

My one piece of advice, from one St. Luke's alum to another, is this: Be bold. Take chances. Try out for the team that looks fun but you're not sure you'll make. Take up an instrument just because you love the sound it makes. Ask questions in class even if you think everyone else knows the answer. Talk to the girl you admire from afar. You might strike out. You will certainly face disappointment. You will make mistakes. But you will also learn, and grow and form lifelong friendships and become a meaningful part of a new community. And you will do all these things with the confidence and security you've de-



Amanda Raboy '92

veloped at St. Luke's. St. Luke's is uniquely tight knit and the bonds that you have formed here will last forever. You will celebrate each other's successes and you will support each other through difficult times. You are family. You have grown up together and you share a very special West Village reference point that you will appreciate even more as you have new experiences and your world broadens. So you can be bold, and take chances, knowing that your St. Luke's family will always be your champion. Congratulations on this important milestone and welcome to the alumni association.











# CELEBRATING OUR ALUMNI

The keynote speaker at our commencement ceremony is always a current Grade 8 student. Students submit speeches that are reviewed by faculty and administrators. This year we are pleased to share Chelsea Alexandre's remarks.

Although I have only been in St. Luke's School for two years, it feels like I have been here for a lifetime. When I walked into the seventh grade homeroom, I knew that my life would change drastically. The smiles and laughter lightened my mood, and I knew I belonged. In no other school had I been so easily accepted by peers and teachers alike. I felt as if I'd always been here. Stories were being shared, new memories were being made each day, and I made my own history and place in the St. Luke's School timeline. These last two years have been the best two years of my life.

To describe the friendships I have made in St. Luke's School seems almost impossible because the words in the dictionary are so dreary in comparison to the actual experiences. I noticed that in my other schools, when I've made friends, I rarely spoke to them after I left. However, I know that after being here, the story will not be the same. The bonds that have been created are unbreakable; there is no force strong enough to sever them. Who knew it would take only two years to create friendships that will last a lifetime? I certainly didn't. The people I come to school with are not merely my classmates and friends; the bonds go deeper than that. They all represent my family. They're not only part of my "St. Luke's" family, they're my family.

Am I learning every time I come to St. Luke's? This thought really surprises me because of the amount of fun and excitement that is embedded in the classes I go to each and every day. I do notice that I know more things than I had known the day before. I can express my thoughts so easily, and since coming to St. Luke's, I have become a better speaker and a deeper thinker. My teachers at SLS don't treat me like a student; instead, I am a person who has valid thoughts and ideas. I listen to my teachers, but I am also listened to. I know that I am being heard and that my ideas are actually being considered. Teachers and stu-

dents share a friendship that I've never had before at any other school. I am able to talk to teachers about last night's television show just as I am able to discuss an essay. Teachers may teach and entertain with excited voices, with rulers for pets, and with ringing a bell at the start of classes.

The retreat was one very special event, and although I can't delve too deeply into what happened, I can say that it was one of the most memorable moments that I think I will ever have. Who knew sitting in the middle of Nowhere, New York would bring people closer together? The advice I would give to the younger classes is to treat every moment like your last and don't hold back. Your peers are the people who you are probably going to keep close to you for a long time. Your eyes will be opened with everything you do as you look at your classmates through new eyes. Tears will be spilled, so I suggest bringing tissues, just in case.

Being a St. Luke's student is just that. That title explains it all. It explains the joy of spending time with your friends and teachers and the excitement that fills every day. St. Luke's has helped me define myself. I have found myself to be a shining, considerate, helpful, diligent, hardworking, caring, and responsible person, and I am surrounded by people who share the same attributes and more. Teams have shaped us as a community. Hard work and dedication are prominent in both the athletics and schoolwork. It has been such a pleasure to go to school here with my wonderful classmates.

Walking into the St. Luke's building every day means starting a new adventure. New experiences will be made with each step leading up to Mother Mary. Friendships will become more defined, and new friendships will also be made, either with the younger grades or with your own classmates. I learned from the very beginning, even from the very first day when I was greeted by everyone in the class, that I had to treasure my days at St. Luke's. The memories that I have accumulated since starting will, indeed, last a lifetime. It is an honor to say that I am graduating with St. Luke's School's Class of 2012.



Chelsea Alexandre, Keynote Speaker



Choristers



Grade 8 Acolytes

On April 27th, St. Luke's School hosted its annual Grandparents and Special Visitors Day. The gardens were in full bloom and the weather was extraordinary.

The day started off with our guests being entertained by students in junior kindergarten through fourth grade. They sang, danced, played a variety of instruments, and even drew pictures, each in an effort to show their beloved guests that "I'll Do Anything for You," which was their finale.

After the performance, the students and guests returned to classrooms where they read and shared stories, worked on math projects, and conducted scavenger hunts.

The morning closed with a gathering in the Church where children shared poems and one final song. At the concluding event on Grandparents and Special Visitors Day, the chapel was filled with grandparents whose foundation of values guide us still, with caring adult mentors whose love and commitment to the children we cherish motivate us, with teachers whose passion and creativity inspire us, and with children whose wonder and enthusiasm give hope to all our lives.



Grade 1 performance in the Grade 5 musical The Wizard of Oz

# Grandparents and





# Special Visitors Day



#### HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2011 - 12 SCHOOL YEAR

**Junior kindergarten** class performed *The Mitten* and received a standing ovation.

**Kindergarten** students produced a wide range of art and then hosted an art show for the school.

**Grade 1** students explored cultures and their ancestry, a theme that is woven throughout the Grade 1 curriculum.

**Grade 2** students performed William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet.* Also, the class enjoyed their vibrant, healthy outdoor garden - growing lettuce and radishes!

**Grade 3** students performed their annual *PowWow* with new dances celebrating a variety of Native American tribes throughout our nation, an institutional event since introduced by music instructor, Charles Hunter.

**Grade 4** students celebrated poetry and set up a coffee house right out of the "beat" generation.

**Grade 5** students performed the *Wizard of Oz* with guest appearances by Grade 1 munchkins and including additional songs from *The Wiz* and *Wicked*.

**Grade 6** students performed and wrote the third part of a trilogy of passion plays, a performance genre from the Middle Ages. Throughout the play, students wrestled with the idea of right versus wrong.

**Grade 7** students produced *Macbeth* and found the humanity in fierce and flawed characters.

**Grade 8** students produced an amazing film festival and St. Luke's School experienced its first flash mob dance encounter by the entire Grade 8 class.

# Recognizing our board members of the 2011/12 school year

St. Luke's School honors its board members and their commitment. The board is composed of persons who are highly qualified to help govern St. Luke's School, by virtue of their religious, legal, financial, professional, or educational expertise, or such other abilities and qualities as the board determines. The primary function of the board is to articulate a vision for the school and move the school toward it, while remaining mission-consistent. Their tireless devotion and love for St. Luke's School will forever be honored.

Elena Addomine, Board Elected At Large
Bart Baldwin, Jr., Head of School
Brian Belliveau, Board Elected at Large
Kazuko Benedict, Parent Representative
Marc Boddewyn, Vice-Chair Parish Representative
Evan Carzis, Board Elected Parent Representative
Ulrika Ekman, Treasurer
Doug Ellis, Board Elected At Large
Pilar Esperon, Current Parents Association
President

Tony Irwin, Board Elected Vestry Member Lindy Judge, Vice-Chair, Board Elected at Large Sara Laughren, Incumbent Parents Association President

Sean Mahoney, Board Elected At Large
Nisha McGreevy, Chair
Barry Rice, Vice-Chair
Sean Scheller, Board Elected Vestry Member
Paul Smith, Board Elected Parish
The Reverend Caroline Stacey, Rector (ex-officio)
Eden Stewart-Eisman, Faculty Elected
Representative

## **Honorary School Board Members**

Kathleen G. Johnson William J. Kealy The Rev. Ledlie Laughlin, Jr. Katharine M. Taylor

# LEGACY OF GOODWILL

# **Fundraising Efforts**

# **Spring Benefit**

Parents, alumni, faculty and friends gathered on May 2nd for the annual Spring Benefit at the beautiful Angel Orensanz Center on the Lower East Side. During cocktails, guests previewed items up for bid in the auction, signed up to pur-



chase items on classroom wish lists, and took turns in the

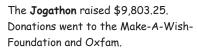
photo booth. Michael Nelson, our auctioneer for the evening, led a spirited live auction that included teacher play dates, class projects, and visits to fantastic vacation homes. At the conclusion of the auction, parents danced into the night to the amazing band comprised of St. Luke's dads EG Fisher, Don Harding, Luke

Janklow, Sam Kimball, and Rob Steininger. Over \$200,000 was raised for St. Luke's School with portions of the proceeds specifically designated for the financial aid program. Special thanks go to Liz Ehrlich and Katharine Harding for planning a wonderful and fun event!



### **Book Fair**

Thank you to all those who supported the book fair this year by purchasing books or gift certificates for school programs and GO Project. Special thanks to our 25 parent volunteers, especially co-chairs, Dorothy Wholihan and Katy Kapetan. Also thanks to Bianca Jebbia for her work on decorations. The book fair raised \$9,023.79, of which \$1,566.39 will be dedicated to support the library.





# Sports Update

### The Boys Junior Varsity Basketball Team

By Lucas and Max, Grade 6



What makes being on the jv basketball team so great? Well, we think it is a great experience, and we're pretty sure our other teammates would agree. First, the fact that you get to run around

and have fun while learning the game is pretty special. Plus, we got to get better at our favorite sport. The real heart of the team though, was to have support for each other, trust one another, and develop friendships and teamwork. Those things are what St. Luke's is all about.

Getting better at basketball was easy for us, because our coach, Mr. Wood, put aside his time to help schedule morning practices. That gave us a reason to get out of bed... VOLUNTARILY! But what really pushed our limits and stretched our ability was our own dedication and persistence. We can honestly say every player improved noticeably! And just the adrenaline of being out there, performing in front of people, our success on the court - that was more than enough to get our blood flowing and get us excited! That is why it was so meaningful to be on the team, and we all wish it lasted longer.

#### **Boys Varsity Basketball Team**

by: Jack and Andrew, Grade 8

This year the boys varsity basket-ball team went 11-3. The eighth graders showed great leadership, and finished second in the VCS tournament. Each player contributed to the team's overall success. The team's chemistry was unimaginable, and their work ethic was admirable: a norm at St. Luke's.



Win - Loss
Boys Varsity Basketball: 11 - 3
Girls Varsity Basketball: 8 - 4
Boys JV Basketball: 4 - 2
Girls JV Basketball: 6 - 0
Volleyball: 6 - 3
Softball: 4 - 1

Whether it was early morning practice, or in the warm-ups before a game, the team showed great passion in what they do, and they did it all with a smile on their faces.

Moreover, sports are essential in the everyday life at St. Luke's. However, the most important thing is that at St. Luke's everyone follows the Five Community Standards: Excellence, Dignity, Compassion, Honesty, and Respect even when we are on the basketball court. The St. Luke's athletic program is great because everyone gets to play and learn some life lessons.

### Girls Junior Varsity Basketball Update

By Natalie and Nicole, Grade 6

This year was exciting, fun, and we were undefeated!
Our team was incredibly cooperative and kind to each other from the practices to the hardest of



games. The fifth grade had an amazing start and finish for first timers. The sixth grade would give the fifth grade tips as would the fifth grade to us. Ms. Rapp was a great coach and helped us even more and was extremely supportive. She worked her magic on the new fifth graders and they turned out to be completely outstanding basketball players and even better teammates. We hope that the next basketball team will be even better!

## **Basketball Fever**

By Kimora and Maria, Grade 7

This year for the first time we both joined the varsity basketball team. We feel that being on a sports team creates a good community. It allowed us to work together with others and get to know kids in fellow grades as well. We both felt that the

eighth graders helped by being role models for us by helping us when we have a problem. They were always willing to play one on one with us to strengthen our skills in offense and defense. The helping community we had between us made



us a stronger team. Also it helped us work together better in games to do our best.

Under Ms. Rapp's guidance we made it through all the games and managed to have fun while playing our best. The basketball team, throughout the whole season, tried our best to be triumphant but fair during games. We are both looking forward to playing next year.



# **CLASS OF 2012 REFLECTIONS**

I will never forget the lessons that I have learned here, and I will carry out the core values of St. Luke's for the rest of my life wherever I go.

## Joseph

Three years at St. Luke's School sounded like a long time the day I entered St. Luke's for the first day of sixth grade. However, it has flown by faster than the metamorphosis of a butterfly because that is how it feels. When I entered into St. Luke's, I was just a caterpillar, searching for something, yet I had no idea what it was. As I continued on my journey at St. Luke's, I evolved into a butterfly. **Kevin** 

There were times I felt overwhelmed by the work, and I sometimes went overboard with my note taking and work, but I never felt alone. There were always teachers who were there to support me, and I always had my friends to talk to about things that were scary or funny.

#### Matthew

I still remember my first day at St. Luke's in jk. I was quiet and shy, and was terrified of what my new school would be like. I was sitting on the bench on the playground with my dad, too nervous to go and play with my new classmates. In many ways, the girl on the playground is still very much here, but in many other ways she has changed. She is more poised, self-confident, and assured. She is ready to move ahead into high school.

#### **Catherine K**

St. Luke's is more than just a school. It is a home. **Lucille** 

After spending nine years at a welcoming school, you come to love the little things. I love fire drills, I don't know why, but I always have. I love them because the whole school comes together. Every school day I stroll past the alluring Mother Mary statue with the vibrant flowers in the springtime. The flowers are all so pretty and colorful, but one has to stop to actually appreciate their beauty.

#### Andrew

I will never forget St. Luke's. The number of friends I have made is uncountable, the amount of support I have been given is unimaginable, and the memories I have made will be imprinted in my mind for the rest of my life. Life without St. Luke's will never be the same.

Jack M.

In kindergarten, after befriending Electra and Elias, I moved on to the drama area. It was here that I had met Lucy and Lucille playing "Family" and pouring metaphysical tea into plastic tea cups.

#### Jeremy

The thing that I feel sets St. Luke's apart is the fact that I am not just learning math and English, I have learned how to work with people, how to problem solve. I am learning skills that will help me through life.

#### Electra

Each morning, when the alarm goes off at 6:15, the thought of going to the one place I could see everyone I loved and place where I just loved spending time made me jump up and greet the day with a smile.

#### Sharon

When I walked into the friendly kindergarten classroom, I was surprised to find everyone welcoming me with open arms. They fought over showing me everything, and by the end of the day I found myself with people I wanted to be with, and people who wanted to be with me.

Honor



The student-teacher relationship is like a plant and water. Without the water, the plant will not grow. St. Luke's has given me the self-confidence to strive to achieve all of my dreams.

#### Madison

This year the Spanish group learned the expression 'No hay mal que cien anos dure', which means 'nothing lasts forever'. At first, I thought that this was something horrible to say, but it's true, with one exception - friendship. **Lucy** 

I actually look forward to school. I can say that school is a place where I feel safe and welcome. School is a place where I can be myself, and not care what people think of me.

#### Julia

St. Luke's opened many opportunities for me. The teachers acknowledge every individual student's uniqueness. I have really bonded with teachers, and I feel very comfortable in the classroom.

## Sophie

When we were the little partners, we had so much fun doing activities with people who we thought of as adults. Then when we became partners in third grade I felt like I was becoming such an adult.

# Liam

What if I don't like my new school? Or what if I can't make any new friends? What do I do then? But when I really think about the answers to these questions, I know in my heart that I can answer them because I went to St. Luke's.

# Sophia H

Every morning, I run to school. Not because I am late, and not because I am seeking a little exercise. I run because I am so excited to come to the place that has been my second home for nine years. I run because I just can't wait to see all the people that have made my experience here at St. Luke's so special. I run to embrace another day during which my love for learning grows as new ideas and concepts fill my mind. I run because of all the special things that I love about being here at St. Luke's.

#### Annie

Each and every year at St. Luke's School has something special in store. Whether it be the Egyptian project in fifth grade, or the film project in eighth grade there is always one moment that every student finds him/herself looking forward to.

Elias

Although being polite and responsible are very important skills to know, the most important life lesson I have ever learned was from my classmates. They taught me how to be myself.

#### Cate P.

To be honest, my expectations of this 'St. Luke's' were pretty low before I got here. I thought that it would be just like my old school and that I would learn absolutely nothing from it. Boy was I wrong!





Chelsea Alexandre and Madison Forde were presented with the 2012 Leadership Award.



Matthew Boddewyn and Annie Abruzzo receive the 2012 Ledlie Laughlin Award.



The Donnie Hillenbrand Award for 2012 was presented to Joseph Baker.

# Freyda Rapp

retired from St. Luke's School in June 2012. Freyda has been an integral member of our community for the past 27 years. Her love of the school, passion for its mission, and commitment to its children and their

families is unparalleled. As our director of athletics, she made certain our classes and teams focused on participation, effort, and sportsmanship. As an instructor and coach, she demanded excellence, facilitated improvement, and celebrated effort. While these are the hallmarks of the program she helped craft, she has also led many volleyball and basketball teams to tournament victories and championship seasons. As a result, we have a rig-

orous physical education and athletics program that children love, in which children fully participate, and through which children experience great success.

Freyda has truly been dedicated to the athletics program at St. Luke's School, but that does not define the limits of her work here. She has been a long-time leader and passionate advocate for issues of diversity, challenging herself, our faculty, and our community to live this aspect of our mission. She has also worked with students as they faced the social, emotional, and physical changes that occur during middle school and helped develop a curriculum that enables children to develop a strong self-image and a framework for responsible decision-making.

Passion, energy, and lifelong learning are three of Freyda's outstanding qualities. In addition to her manifest commitment to St. Luke's School, Freyda is an expansive reader, a dedicated golfer, and an avid sports fan. She will pursue all of these interests, and undoubtedly discover many more, as she transitions into a well-deserved retirement.

# **FACULTY NEWS & UPDATES**

# **COMINGS:**



We are thrilled to welcome physical education instructor Nicole Bernadette. She will join Joe Wood, our athletic director, and teach and coach a variety of grades and sports. A passionate athlete herself, Nicole has completed two Ironman triathlons and races in ultra-marathons. For the past eight years she has worked in the fitness indus-

try as a trainer, program director, and wellness coordinator. She has also worked in the area of adaptive physical education supporting those with developmental disabilities. She is a graduate of Skidmore College and received her master's in physical education from Manhattanville College. Most recently she completed her student teaching at the Ethical Culture Fieldston School, where she worked with all grades. She received particular praise for her yoga unit with younger children, and her basketball, floor hockey, and handball units with older children.



It is our great good fortune that talented **Ron Nahass** will join us as our **music teacher**. Having begun his career as a performer both on and off Broadway, Ron has found that his real passion is teaching. A graduate of Boston College with a major in music, Ron also received a master's in music education from Columbia University. He student-taught grades K - 5 at Bronx Char-

ter and grades 5 - 8 at Berkley Carroll, where his cooperating teacher commented that "Ron is the finest student teacher I have ever had the pleasure of supervising." In addition, Ron has designed and implemented the early childhood afterschool music program for Beit Rabban in Manhattan and was the music director for the 2011 World Scholar Athlete Games. Ron also brings a "unique to New York" bit of experience. Since 2006, he has been one of the "piano dancers" at FAO Schwarz both arranging the music for and performing the music on the Big Piano. Ron combines the performer's heart with the musician's discipline and is perfectly poised to build upon our strong music program.



**Sujean Park** will work with lead teacher David Recht as the **second grade associate teacher**. Currently, Sujean is a third grade teacher at Academic Leadership Charter School, where she also served as a second grade associate. While very dedicated to the children she is serving, Sujean is excited to transition to independent schools. Prior

to that, she was a bike safety instructor of Bike New York and a language arts and history teacher in Seoul, Korea. Sujean is also a passionate writer and spent three years as a Barnard Writing Fellow. She is a graduate of Barnard College and received her master's from Bank Street College of Education.



Amena Zavery will join lead teacher Sage Leonard as the third grade associate teacher. A graduate of Mount Carmel College in Bagalore, India, Amena completed post-graduate work at Somani Memorial Polytechnic in Mumbai. Most recently, she received her master's in education from Teachers College at Columbia University.

While there, Amena student-taught in kindergarten and first grade classrooms at Central Park Early Learning Center and The School at Columbia. Prior to immigrating to the United States, Amena was the instructional design team leader for Educomp Solutions, an India-based company that developed multi-media science modules to support interactive education.



**Bobby Gomez** will join lead teacher Bonnie Soha in one of our kindergarten classrooms as a **kindergarten associate teacher**. For the past two years, Bobby has co-taught a kindergarten class at the Achievement First Bushwick Elementary Charter School in Brooklyn. Prior to that, he taught fourth grade through the Teach for America pro-

gram. A dynamic and enthusiastic teacher, Bobby graduated from Kansas State University with a degree in education and a focus in mathematics. He received his master's degree in education from Hunter College. Bobby is an avid soccer player and hopes to work with Joe Wood and Nicole Bernadette in supporting our soccer clubs.



Kate Jaffe is a familiar face to many. She worked for St. Luke's part-time as an associate in first grade this year. We are very glad she will join us full time next year as the kindergarten associate teacher working with Lauren Lazarin. Kate received her undergraduate degree from Manhattanville College and her master's degree from Fordham

University. She student-taught at Rippowam Cisqua School in second and fourth grades before joining St. Luke's last year.



We are expanding the **school nurse** position to fulltime, and we are happy that **Karen Magee** is able to fill it. A registered nurse since 1992, Karen has served as a pediatric care nurse, a school and camp nurse, a psychiatric nurse, a hospital floor nurse, and a nurse supervisor for a retirement community. She is well-positioned to address

all health concerns and, apparently, at all stages of our lives! She is a graduate of St. Joseph's School of Nursing and Eastern New Mexico University and has completed graduate work at a variety of schools.



Amanda Goodwin will serve as our long term substitute for Alicia Howard while she is home due to the birth of her second child. Amanda will be with us from the beginning of the year until the end of January. Alicia plans to return in mid-January, and we have arranged to have some overlap during their transition period. In addition, Amanda

spent several days with Alicia this spring to become familiar with our students and curriculum. Most recently Amanda has spent time at home with her own young children. Prior to that, she spent a year at City and Country School as the fifth grade humanities teacher and the assistant to the high school placement director. The bulk of Amanda's career, though, has been at the Berkeley Carroll School where she spent ten years teaching humanities to fifth and sixth grades and serving as the associate director of admissions.



**Peggy Chen** will join us as our interim director of after school next year while Jessica Soo takes a year off to spend time at home with her new son, Zachary. As the director of operations for the Geneva School of Manhattan, Peggy oversaw their after school program, mentored faculty, ran their business office, and managed parent/

school communications. She has a degree in economics from the University of Texas in Austin.



We are extraordinarily fortunate that **Jessica Welt**, who has spent two years as the third grade associate teacher, is able to join Vanessa Rosado as a **co-teacher in junior kindergarten**. After graduating from the University of Michigan, Jessica taught in Japan for two years before going to work at Deutsche Bank. Realizing that she was

called to teaching, she enrolled in the Childhood Education program at New York University, from which she received her master's degree. While at St. Luke's, Jessica proved herself to be a master teacher, a consummate professional, and a joyous co-worker. She and Vanessa will make a dynamic team serving our youngest St. Lukers.



Linda Maxwell, joined us in January as our Director of Finance and Operations. A certified public accountant with extensive experience, Linda has been the director of finance for Long Island Lutheran Middle and High School in Brookville, New York for the past

ten years where a reference commented, "Linda did everything ever asked of her with great grace and good humor." She currently serves on the Business Officers Council for the New York State Association of Independent Schools and is a dedicated community servant. We are fortunate to have her as our new business officer at St. Luke's.

#### **GOINGS:**

**Jessica Soo**, our after school director, has delivered a healthy boy, Zachary Matthew Soo (aka Popcorn). She, her husband, Dan, and their son Caleb welcomed their newest family member in June. Jessica will take family leave next year and return to her position in the fall of 2013.

Our associate teacher program allows us to work with some of the best and brightest recent graduates. Associate teachers work at the school for a maximum of two years in first, second, or third grade. For two years, we have been fortunate to have **Emily Lees** work with us in second grade. She brought enthusiasm, joy, kindness, and great ability to St. Luke's School. Emily will work at a charter school in Brooklyn next year.

**Ava Dawson** joined us two years ago as our first school nurse. Already a registered nurse, Ava was then enrolled in the nurse practitioner program in NYU, which she has recently completed. She will be leaving St. Luke's School to become a nurse practitioner with a pediatric practice. We are all grateful to Ava for providing such diligent and capable care to our students.

**Paul Russell** has only been with us a year, but he had a significant impact on our music program. Since his ultimate goal is to live in the United States full-time, immigration attorneys have advised him that he needs to return to England for at least a year so that he can re-enter the United States on a visa that will more easily lead to a green card. We are saddened by his leaving, but fully understand that this near-term plan best supports his long-term goals.

Upper school language arts and history teacher, **Alicia Howard**, and second grade lead teacher, David Recht, are expecting their second child in the fall. They and their son, Atticus, are looking forward to welcoming this new addition to their family. Alicia will return after family leave in January of 2013.

Junior kindergarten teacher, **Audrey Shea**, decided to pursue other career opportunities and will not be returning to St. Luke's School in the fall.

# **Groundbreaking Construction!**

This fall we are able to increase enrollment to two sections of kindergarten. Our expansion for this year's kindergarten class is an opportunity that allows St. Luke's School to honor three of its deep commitments: a commitment to families enrolling sibling children when possible, a commitment to sustaining and growing diversity in our school, and a commitment to welcoming new families into our community. We are thrilled with the educational opportunities two sections allow. As a side note, ultimately St. Luke's School's strategic long-range vision is to implement two sections throughout all grades.

With the blessing of the Church of St. Luke in the Fields and the approval of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, we will be adding two additional classrooms to our school building. The addition will add two classrooms and total about 1500 square feet. It will be accessed through what were the playground doors and extend to the big tree across from the Path station. One of our new classrooms will house our junior kindergarten class. The other will be used for our lower school foreign language program and the after school program. The rest of the playground will be resurfaced over the summer and the children will return to a wonderfully large, ground level play space.

## AFTER SCHOOL NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

The St. Luke's School after school program has always been about two things: the enrichment classes that it offers and the staff that creates the environment in which the program runs.

Every semester we attempt to create a program that includes classes that appeal to both students who have been participating in the program for years and students who are trying the program for the first time. Over the last few years, we have made several changes including adding *Experimental Sculpture, Graphic Novel*, and *The Great Wizard*, among many other interesting classes. Along with these new offerings, many of our long-standing classes have continued to be hallmarks of our program and gain popularity with each new year. Classes like *All the World's a Stage* and *Jam Session* have continued to attract a steady group of students, allow-

ing parents and audiences to see the growth and development of those students who choose to enroll in these classes every semester. In fact, these classes have grown so much that there have been semesters where we had to create additional sections to accommodate the number of students who enroll.

The staff is as essential to the success of our after school program as our class offerings. We have a team of gifted teachers that run our program each day. They are part of our school community, familiar with our students beyond the after

school program, and have the talent and experience to teach interesting classes in a variety of subjects. The commitment of long-standing teachers like Mr. Byrnes and Mr. Goldman are a testament to the stability that our program offers. More recent additions to our staff like Mr. Mason, Ms. Brantley, Ms. Crowell (SLS alumna), Mr. Hutchinson, and Ms. Miller have also become integral to the program. Just this year we added two new teachers,



Ms. Williams and Ms. Theodoro, both of whom are St. Luke's School alumnae, and so have a personal connection to the after school program.

Recently, I overheard an upper school student who had once been a regular participant in the after school program state that next year when she is in eighth grade, she planned to return to participate in the *All the World's a Stage* class during her last year at our school. There's a reason why students often stop by the snack cart to chat with the after school program staff and grab a pretzel rod and cup of juice. The after school program is more than just childcare and classes. It's a place of familiarity, a place to explore different interests, and an enduring part of the St. Luke's School community.

By Jessica Soo



# Alumni Corner

# Alumnae working at St. Luke's School after school program

Carrie Crowell '03: After graduating from a ten-year run at St. Luke's, Carrie attended Rudolph Steiner for a year, but moved to Nashville, Tennessee for the remainder of high school. In 2007, she began her first year of college at O'More, a fashion design school in Tennessee, but moved back to New York to finish at The New School. In 2009, Carrie began working in the after school program at St. Luke's School as a cooking teacher. Carrie graduated in May 2012 with a concentration in gender studies, and is currently living in Brooklyn. Along with some friends, she filmed a cooking show called Big City Grits in her home kitchen. Since then she has appeared as a guest on the Food Network and is currently in the processing of creating her own cooking show for the network. She hopes to move back to Nashville soon.

Christina Theodoro '01: Christina graduated from The University of the Arts, in Philadelphia, with a BFA in theater and acting in 2009. She stayed in Philadelphia for one and a half years pursuing a career in theater and started a non-profit theater company with a group of friends. Upon moving back to New York in 2010, she continued auditioning, playwriting, and performing with a few small theater companies and studios in Manhattan. "I have always been interested in working with children and teaching and I approached coming back to St. Luke's as a very first step towards a future in art education (and I could not be more thankful for the experience). Over the next year, I will apply to MFA programs, and I aim to eventually receive a master's in theater art education. In the fall I will be teaching a very beginner level drama class for the K-2nd graders in the after school program, among other things, and I am so excited to jump into my second school year at St. Luke's! St Luke's has been such a special place to me and my family. I consider it a second home and a contributor to some of my greatest childhood memories! I can only hope to help contribute to some of those memories for future and present students."

Rosina Williams '03: "After graduating from Bard College in May of 2011 with a BA in music, I became just one more 21-22 year old faced with the question, 'Okay, now that's done, what do you want to do for the rest of your life?' The answer was, 'I have absolutely no idea.' I considered opera singing briefly. Since I had studied it for four years, it felt wrong just leaving it. However, I soon realized it was neither a practical occupation nor one that would make me truly happy. So I went home to St. Luke's. I had always wanted to work with children and had often toyed with the idea of teaching, but I faced the same problem most people do: one cannot get hired without experience, yet one cannot gain experience without being hired. Luckily, St. Luke's was willing to take that chance on me, trusting the person whom they had helped thrive during the nine years I spent roaming the halls as a student. Working in after school this past year has been amazing. I love being back, and I look forward to the years to come. I now plan to pursue a master's degree in education with the hopes of becoming a teacher who can help mold children into wonderful members of society, which I witness the teachers at St. Luke's doing everv dav."

# More Alumni news/ history of school:

Our school library is named in honor of Grace Sawyer, a dynamic teacher who shepherded first graders here in the 1970s. Among the many innovations she initiated is the partners program (involving third graders working with first graders), which continues to this day, and which she began with Arthur Alexander, the fifth grade teacher at that time. Ms. Sawyer's two children graduated from St. Luke's: Michele ('76) and Stephanie ('81). We recently heard from Michele, who now continues the legacy, teaching first grade in Houston, Texas.

Michele and her husband, Tom, have been married for 24 years, and they have three children: Jackson, 20, who is finishing his sophomore year and playing soccer at a small college in Alabama, Gracie, 18, who is finishing her freshman year in Texas, and Klay who is 13 and in seventh grade. Michele

writes, "My thoughts have been redirected to my years at St. Luke's, and I realize what a huge part of my life "the block" played. Like many of you I went to school there for 10 years. My family lived for a while on the block, and I worked with Jessica Ross as her assistant in kindergarten." Her memories include Priz (Prisoner's Base) at recess, translating *Tintin* for Madam Fymat, being in Macbeth, the Strawberry Festival, and the Christmas Fair. Michele sent us a photo of her three children. Who knows, there might be another first grade teacher among them!

Everybody knows that Freyda Rapp helped many young girls begin their basketball careers when they played on the jv or varsity teams at St. Luke's, but she tells us she can't take the credit for instilling a love of basketball in Abby Dugan '08. "She came to St. Luke's already playing," Ms. Rapp informed us. That doesn't mean that she didn't get a few tips along the way during her time here. We remember Abby Dugan working one-to-one with Ms. Rapp early mornings before school began. Abby went on to Marymount, but it was training sessions with Ross Burns and his Pro Hoops Organization that helped her refine her game. "He's helped with so many things, not just basketball skills, but he's been a good mentor to me," Abby told the *New York Post*.

Now a six-foot-one forward and about to graduate, Abby will play college basketball at Gettysburg next year, picking the school over Trinity College, Bowdoin, Connecticut College, Salve Regina University, and Roger Williams University. *The Post* reported, "Dugan liked Gettysburg for its balance of athletics and academics, particularly its organization management studies major. She wants to work for the Knicks or in the NBA in general down the road. When she visited in January, she found the coaching staff welcoming and the girls excited for the future of the program. She was trying to stay somewhat close to home anyway."

Abby was named Marymount's captain for her final season, and led the team in scoring. She was twice named to the AAIS All-League team. We're sure to hear more about her as she begins playing for Gettysburg.

# St. Luke's School Sponsors Alumni Facebook Page

St. Luke's School is now hosting a Facebook page for its alumni. Once you sign onto Facebook. Search for St. Luke's School Alumni and look for our winged ox logo. The page is a great way for alumni to reconnect and post updates on their lives. In addition, it contains pictures of our graduating classes since 1949. We would love to hear from our alumni. Please contact the school either through Facebook, the alumni page of our website, or by emailing Rob Snyder, our Coordinator of Alumni Relations (rsnyder@stlukeschool.org).



On Line





St. Luke's has launched its Facebook and Twitter accounts, offering another way for parents and friends of St. Luke's School to keep in touch.



# Gift of the Class of 2012

It has been a tradition at St. Luke's for the parents of the graduating class to give a special gift that honors their children and the School. The Class of 2012 gift will be used to support upgrades to the playground. Specifically, the gift will be used to purchase five new teak benches as well as to fund additional playground enhancements.

# 100% Participation

Jan Abruzzo

Williane and Chenet Alexandre

Kathleen and Paul Atkins

Bridget and Lindon Baker

Julia and Marc Boddewyn

Brigitte and Evan Carzis

Xiao Juan Chen

John Contrubis

Scarlet and Siad Crayton

Sheila and Anthony Davidson

Winsome Wilson and David Forde Marian Baldwin and Roland Fuerst

Saradjine Goin-Cloird

Toni Allocca and Nicholas Hartman Paulette Bogan-Johnston and Charles Johnston

Lindy Judge

Katy Kapetan

Martha Gallo and Charles Kerner

Nisha and John McGreevy

Valerie Pels and Richard Pasquarelli

Dyana Lee and John Sabetta Deborah and Paul Sankey

Shara Cheung and Brandon Tso

Hong Cao and Fusen Wang

Jack Wang '12



# **Philosophy of Philanthropy**

As current members of the St. Luke's community, we treasure the school's excellence and culture. We share the responsibility to preserve and improve St. Luke's School so that we can pass it along to the next generation of students, parents and faculty in a better state than we found it. As a small school, we count and depend on each family to take an active role in exercising this responsibility in a manner consistent with the principles of the St. Luke's Way.

In order to maintain our standards of excellence without raising tuition to a level that would undermine our competitive position and the rich diversity of our student body, it is imperative that tuition and fee income be supplemented in a consistent and robust manner. All of us must play our part, small or large, privately or publicly, in giving to the annual fund, building our endowment and participating in capital campaigns. We must accept this responsibility in the knowledge that developing a culture of giving at St. Luke's will only enhance and secure everything we treasure about the school.



# Gifts of Time & Talent

St. Luke's School wishes to thank all those who gave so generously of their time and talent throughout the year.

We especially want to recognize those who accepted leadership positions for various events.

#### Parents Association

Pilar Esperon, Co-Chair Joëlle Duffy, Co-Chair Darcy McCulloch, Secretary Elena Addomine, Treasurer Kazuko Benedict, Diversity Committee Misa Butkiewicz, Library Committee Lewis Flinn, Diversity Committee Jacqueline Goldsby, Diversity Committee Katharine Harding, Welcome Reception Kristina Hou, Christmas Fair Katy Kapetan, Book Fair Alexandra Kimball, School Store Jane Lacher, Christmas Fair Lana Ogilvie, Halloween Dance Susan Petrie-Badertscher, Halloween Dance Regina Silitch, Parents League Rep Stacey Spencer, Outreach Committee Stella Um, Christmas Fair Dorothy Wholihan, Book Fair



The entire family enjoyed the Christmas Fair!

#### **Parents Association Class Representatives**

Sudie Anning, Junior Kindergarten Carrie Shumway, Junior Kindergarten Jeannine Kiely, Kindergarten Claire Mosley, Kindergarten Elizabeth Ehrlich, Grade 1 Lisa Seccia, Grade 1 Daniela Brady, Grade 2 Carol Faber-Adams, Grade 2 Lana Ogilvie, Grade 2 Katharine Harding, Grade 3 Anh Steininger, Grade 3 Mary Bing, Grade 4 Regina Silitch, Grade 4 Sara Stone Laughren, Grade 5 Robin Mead, Grade 5 Darcy McCulloch, Grade 6 Carolina Nitsch-von Graffenried, Grade 6 Carrie Coakley, Grade 7 Kathleen Atkins, Grade 8 Valerie Pels, Grade 8 Winsome Wilson, Grade 8

# **Spring Benefit Chairs**

Elizabeth Ehrlich Katharine Harding



Oh, what a night!
The Diversity Committee was thrilled to see such a wonderful turn out at the Family Dance.

# From the Chair

The start to the summer is an opportunity to reflect on all that has transpired over the course of the academic year - the efforts, the accomplishments, and the generosity of all - and thank everyone in the community for the many ways that each of you contributes to the school's continued academic excellence. The successes of St. Luke's School have undoubtedly been based on a shared understanding and commitment to our mission, a dedicated and giving community, and a spirited team effort in tackling all before us. This effort is the legacy we will hand down to the future students of St. Luke's. Your gifts of volunteerism, leadership, collaboration, sponsorship and financial support are making a difference in many lives, one at a time. The legacy we leave comes also in honoring the traditions of which we are so fond, while sustaining and building the reputation of this fine institution.

St. Luke's School has always thrived due to a commitment to excellence driven by superb and caring faculty, exceptional students, and supportive families. This report recognizes and honors those individuals and families whose financial assistance helps support our programs. Donors to the School provided gifts that were put to work immediately. Our goals remain ambitious and unchanged through this time of growth for the School:

- Ensure that our students and faculty have the resources necessary for success
- Innovate in our programs and curriculum while staying true to our educational philosophy
- Support the richness that comes with economic diversity by ensuring that all students have access to an outstanding education
- Seek sustainable solutions to the financial circumstances with which we are faced

And not to be forgotten, I must also thank you for having a voice. I look forward to another year of your valuable engagement in the School, and to your input and support. The School has a strong foundation built on its people, and I know that we will excel as we embark on independence. I love this School, and like you want it to remain one of the best in this city and beyond. Thank you very much for everything!

Nisha G. McGreevy Chair, St. Luke's School Board

Misa Butkiewicz

# Ways of Giving

# **DONOR PROFILES**

Misca Bulk-lewic 2 is a quiet and steady force whose contributions are as bountiful and precise as the scones she bakes for monthly library volunteer gatherings. She has amassed a steady team of volunteers who regularly come together maintaining our library, and is a methodical and diligent cataloger who adds new materials to our collection every day. Her dedication and good nature are admirable and truly embody the spirit of giving at St. Luke's. Why I give: "We already gain so much from St. Luke's School as a family, it is an honor to have been given the chance to participate in the community. I look forward to my time in the library. Not only is it an oasis, Ms. Eisman is such a pleasure to work for. And as a perk, I get a peek at my son's day at school!"

Brigite Carzie has been a diligent volunteer in the Prop and Costume room for many years. On any given day, you will find her measuring, cutting, sewing, gluing and fixing our extensive costume collection. With over 180 costumes to make, fit and prepare over the course of a year, the show might not go on without this vital volunteer support. Why I give: "I love theatre and stage craft, but mostly I love the kids. I'm enormously grateful to have a part in helping this great bunch of students create a little bit of magic."

Grade 2 terrace garden off the ground. Kris donated her time and energy in countless ways; from selecting seeds to lugging bags of soil up the stairs. Her enthusiasm for the project was infectious. The students eagerly worked alongside Kris and their teachers to transform the terrace into an outdoor classroom. **Why I give**: "It's my small way to give back to a community that has become our extended family. It feels very gratifying to share my passion and skills with our children, hopefully enriching St. Luke's in the process."

Lisa Arongino donates in-kind gifts to each Christmas Fair and Spring Benefit auction. As the auction committees organize solicitations every fall and spring, she launches a campaign of her own at her office to gather tickets to tapings of shows like David Letterman and Live with Kelly. During the seven years that she has been part of the St. Luke's community, Lisa has raised well over \$7,500 through these gifts. Why I give: "St. Luke's means so much to me and my family. The funds raised through the auction are just another way I can give to the school."

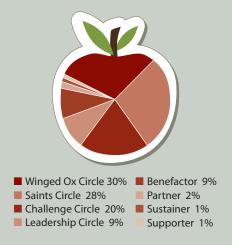
Joseph R. Valinofi (Class of 1954) has contributed to the Annual Fund for the past16 years. Although his days as a student at St. Luke's are far behind him and he now lives far from New York City, Joe sends in his gift like clockwork. Enhancing the program in every area by supporting academics, athletics, art, drama, operations, and financial aid, the Annual Fund is St. Luke's first giving priority and the most critical ongoing fundraising effort. Why I give: "I've always felt that St. Luke's was the best thing that happened to a young boy from the working class poor who lived in a cold water flat. The reason I donate to the scholarship fund is that it made it possible for me to attend back in the 40's and 50's."

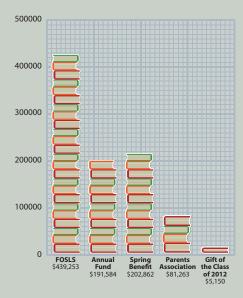
"It's my small way to give back to a community that has become our extended family."

Kristina Hou



Joseph Valinoti





The financial data presented above represents Development Office unaudited results for the annual period ending June 30, 2012.

#### SPRING BENEFIT

Misa and Peter Butkiewicz

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Anh and Robert Steininger

#### **DONORS OF GOODS AND SERVICES**

Generous donations of time, talent, and in-kind gifts were provided by the following supporters. St. Luke's School gratefully acknowledges their contributions.

Sudie Anning Lisa Arongino Daniela Brady Betsy Cary Elizabeth Ehrlich E.G. Fisher Sherry Froman

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Carrie Shumway Bonnie Soha

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Lisa Barry and Todd Steinberg

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Christina Kruse and Karl Templer

Nancy Tompkins '74 Alycea Ungaro Jessica Welt Joe Wood Susan Yao



This report gratefully acknowledges gifts received between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012. Care was taken to ensure the accuracy and completeness of this information; however, should you find any discrepancies, please accept our apologies and notify Clint Rataczak at 212-924-5960 or crataczak@stlukeschool.org.

# Annual Fund Donors

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<sup>▲</sup> Gift to Friends of SLS, Inc. (FOSLS)

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### WHAT IS FOSLS?

Friends of SLS, Inc. (FOSLS) is an IRS designated tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization formed to support fundraising for St. Luke's School. FOSLS, whose Board is composed of parents of children currently enrolled at St. Luke's School, provides a bridge between our current structure as a mission and division of the Church and our anticipated incorporation as an independent organization working in partnership with the Church. FOSLS' sole purpose is to support and raise funds for St. Luke's School during this time of planning and transition.

FOSLS has committed to transferring Annual Giving gifts raised through their organization to the school until we reach our Annual Giving budget. Any funds donated above that will be used as seed money supporting the long-term needs of St. Luke's School.

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Jason Isaly '87

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Jonathan Kern '94

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Leslie Mason '75

Cvnthia R. Palmer '67

Drew Roberts '08

Charles P. Roth '65

William Sanders '81

Frederick Schroeder '73

Nancy Tompkins '74

Katherine Towler '70

Joseph R. Valinoti '54

Charles Verral '60

Emma Price Vizzini '64

Mark H. Wolff '61

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Christine and Cromwell Coulson

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Lela Rose and Brandon Jones

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Sudie Anning and Kevin Raidy

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Anh and Robert Steininger

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Paulette Bogan-Johnston and Charles Johnston

Lindy Judge

Katy Kapetan

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Ava Dawson

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Lara Laurence

Lauren Lazarin

**Emily Lees** 

Sage Leonard

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Jon Pelegano

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i ieyua napp

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#### The Easton Library Fund

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#### The Roger Ferlo Fund for Faculty Enrichment

Supports the Grade 8 Retreat and professional enrichment experiences for teachers.

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Provides award-winning children's books to the Grace Sawyer Library.

### The Library Enhancement Fund

Supports the purchase of books, technology, and other resources that enhance the Grace Sawyer Library's programs, above and beyond the library's annual budget.

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Each English/language arts class from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 selects two books during the Book Fair to be placed in classroom libraries for the incoming classes.

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# The Wingéd Ox

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