

INSIDE SI

VOLUME 72, ISSUE 1

THE NEWSPAPER OF ST. IGNATIUS COLLEGE PREPARATORY

AUGUST 23, 2023

WELCOME TO VOLUME 72!

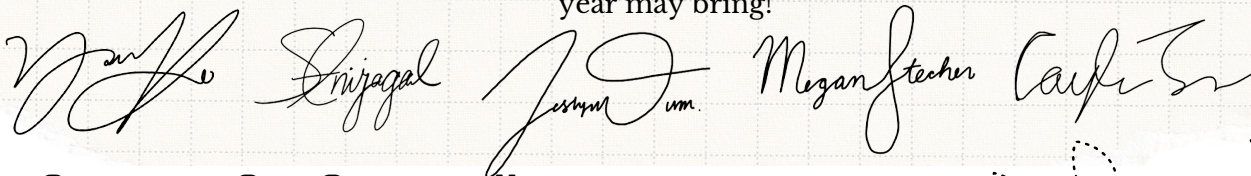
Naomi Ko '24, Senna Nijagal '24, Jeslyn Oum '24, Megan Stecher '24, Cayden Tu '24

Editors-in-Chief

As SI opens its doors up once again for the beginning of a new school year, we also welcome a brand new year for 2023's *Inside SI* and its leadership team! Each year *Inside SI* is shaped by the hopes, dreams, and visions of the Editors-in-Chief. While each leadership team puts its own unique spins on the newspaper every year, what always stays constant is a dedication to telling stories that highlight every individual's experience, pursuing the truth, and writing the facts. Our newspaper serves as an opportunity to bring SI together by making sure all voices are heard. By prioritizing inclusivity and being a welcome space for all, *Inside SI* aims to take upon any challenges that we may encounter.

We hope to leave our legacy at SI through the newspapers we publish, the voices we amplify, and the stories we tell. This year, especially, we will be focusing on shedding light on areas of our school and community that are often overlooked. We have some fantastic features and issues planned for Volume 72, and we are so excited to cover both the big stories and the hidden treasures at SI and outside school.

We can't wait to kick off the year, and we are thrilled to do it with the best moderators in the business, Ms. Nickolai and Ms. Boland. Writing can be a powerful tool to highlight challenges, positivity, or need for change in a community. We hope that *Inside SI* provides comfort, joy, and creativity throughout the stresses and events this new school year may bring!



CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

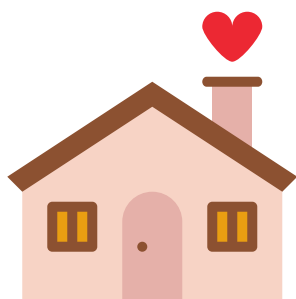
Senna Nijagal '24

Editor-in-Chief



Ms. Pryor Lorentz introduces the 2023-24 theme during Senior Convocation.

In a time where we need environmental awareness and unity in loving our Earth, SI's administration has decided that our theme for the 2023-2024 school year will be "Care for Our Common Home." This theme invites us to embark on a journey to reshape the way that we deal with waste. This year, we want to make sure we are putting all of our waste in the proper bins, assisted by student council members, InSignis leaders, and staff. The backbone of the theme comes from Pope Francis' letter to the world, titled "Laudato Si." He writes, "Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs." We now live in an era following centuries of mistreating Mother Earth and causing her harm, and the SI community is being called to care for our common home in a more responsible and respectful manner.



SEE INSIDE!

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The transition from middle school to high school is always a challenge, but luckily, SI's class of 2027 has the Big Cat program to help make it a little bit easier. Last spring, the Big Cat Leadership Team dedicated their time to planning fun activities for the incoming freshmen class and assigning each freshman to a senior mentor, otherwise known as a Big Cat.

Numerous events have helped the class of 2027 begin to integrate themselves into the SI community. Back in April, they attended the Welcome BBQ and had their first chance to meet some of their fellow classmates and Big Cats. In July, the incoming freshmen also had the opportunity to participate in Cat Camp—a two-day experience full of field games, Commons food, and other activities. Most recently, many freshmen also attended the Little Cat/Big Cat Giants Game on August 15th, where they had yet another chance to get to know one another.

The Big Cat program is a fantastic opportunity for freshmen to branch out and try to make new friends in an unfamiliar environment. Freshman Clara Todd explained, "The Big Cat program helped me gain my confidence to meet friends and learn more about SI. My favorite part was Cat Camp in the summer because I built fun relationships with people who I didn't know very well yet."

But the Big Cat program is not only a great experience for the incoming freshmen. Many



The Class of 2027 after a fun few days of Cat Camp this summer!

seniors also enjoyed the opportunity to participate in the fun activities they missed out on due to COVID their freshman year, while also helping the freshmen enjoy it. Senior Caroline McFadden said, "it was great to see so many freshmen showing up to Cat Camp and start to come together as a class and just have fun."

The Big Cat program fosters relationships between freshmen and seniors that continue into the school year, while also urging freshmen out of their comfort zones and into new relationships with people they might not have met otherwise. After a fun-filled summer of blossoming friendships and exploring different parts of the SI community, it is the perfect stepping-stone to ensure every incoming freshman is able to make the most of their first year at SI.



Freshmen at the Big Cat/Little Cat Giants Game on August 15th!



IMMERSION

Naomi Ko '24, Jeslyn Oum '24, Megan Stecher '24

Editors-in-Chief

This summer, nearly ninety members of the Class of 2024 embarked on nine immersion trips across the world. Groups of students and their adult leaders traveled to L'Arche Tacoma; Agua Prieta, Mexico; Wheeling, West Virginia; El Salvador; Las Cruces, New Mexico; Jerusalem Farm, Kansas City; the Tenderloin; and to Chicago.

These trips gave students the chance to think more deeply about their positions in the world. Senior Anthony Jin, who attended the Tenderloin immersion, explained that for him, "Immersion was a chance for me to be honest about parts of [San Francisco] that I hardly ever see. From that place of recognition, I was able to think more critically about the systems that perpetuate injustice."

Within each of these trips, students not only traveled to new parts of the globe, but experienced daily life in areas much different from the Bay Area. On the immersion to Wheeling, West Virginia, the group of twelve spent time in the Appalachian region and worked alongside community members on various farms, gardens, and explored the tri-state area's nature to its fullest.

Jeslyn Oum '24, who attended the West Virginia immersion, shared, "The trip was a great way for me to gain an understanding on how different life in America can be just a six hour plane ride away. A main focus of our time there was ecological justice, and Wheeling has been deeply impacted by the coal industry with a large percentage of its residents being miners. It was eye opening to see mining sites just feet away from the homes of families."

Abby Reed '24, who traveled to Tacoma, Washington, said, "Working in an environment where the community focused primarily on the L'Arche core members and disability justice widened my view on how life looks like outside of such a fast moving pace."

The Immersion program continues to encourage students to step out of their comfort zones and immerse themselves in unfamiliar environments. It is sure to be an unforgettable experience for any person that decides to attend.

CHECK OUT PICTURES FROM EACH IMMERSION FROM THIS SUMMER!



La Roche, Tacoma



Las Cruces, New Mexico



Wheeling, West Virginia



El Salvador



Chicago 1



Tenderloin



Agua Prieta, Mexico



Jerusalem Farm, Kansas City




Chicago 2



Jeslyn Oum '24

MAGIS BOOTCAMP: A JUMPSTART FOR ALL

Editor-in-Chief



During the week of August 7th, the B.E.E, formerly known as the Magis Center, hosted a five day long bootcamp catered towards all its college-bound members. Students from all grade levels were invited to participate and learn about the college admissions process in its entirety. This included the UC application, the Common App, scholarships, financial aid, and much more. Throughout the week-long boot camp, a record number of over 100 students attended at least two days and worked towards their academic goals and future!

Ms. Vaccaro, the Magis College Advisor that led this retreat, states: "Considering they had to take in not only new information for them, but in my 30 plus years, absorb the many changes ever in my career with affirmative action, various SCOTUS decisions, political decisions that impact admissions and financial aid. That is why they can't stop, won't stop, and they prove that every day by moving upward and forward together."

Although the Magis students have a long road ahead of them academically, with the help and support of the staff in this community, their goals become more attainable each day.



Cayden Tu '24

MEET THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF SI FACULTY!

Editor-in-Chief

For the 2023-2024 school year, SI welcomes 17 new faculty members. When you see them on the SI campus, make sure to welcome them to SI!



Back left to right: Dan McDonnell (Social Science), Andrew Toney (Engineering), Mike Deneui (Language), Jenna McNicholas (English), Patrick Moy (Math), Adam Guenther (Math)

Front left to right: Mauricio Diaz de Leon (Community Service), Tonya Addo (FSA), Selene Zander (Language), Linh Gee (English), Gaea Salazar (Athletics)

Not pictured: Susan Mohun (FSA), Eileen O'Kane (Social Science)

FSA Social Science: Tonya Addo
Religion: Alex Macmillan
Language: Michael Deneui
Science: Andrew Toney
Language: Selene Zander
English: Linh Gee
English: Jenna McNicholas
FSA: Susan Mohun
Math: Patrick Moy

Community Service: Mauricio Diaz de Leon Lopez
Social Science: Eileen O'Kane
Multimedia/Film: Roberto Borja
Counseling: Robby Lucchesi
Athletics: Kimberly Matthews
Social Science: Dan McDonnell
Math: Adam Guenther
Athletics: Gaea Salazar

Kate Quach '25

THE SENIOR '23 AWARD WINNERS

Associate Editor-in-Chief

The Class of 2023 commemorated their high school experience on May 27, 2023 at the University of San Francisco. Before a flurry of caps and cheers filled the air, the graduating class gathered to celebrate the SI award winners of the year.



Inside SI former Editor-in-Chief Jack Quach '23 was honored with the Ignatian Award, the "highest award [SI] can offer."



Raven Shaw '23 shared her moving and hopeful Valedictorian speech before her classmates.

2023



Winston Zapet '23, former *Inside SI* Managing Editor received the Loyalty Award for his "extraordinary dedication" to SI.



Tyler Hawthorne '23 was presented with the Loyalty Award in recognition of her "conspicuous service" to the school community.



Salutatorian Sean McKeon '23 delivered a spirited speech in McCullough Gymnasium.



For his "excellence in conduct," Tristan Ghosh '23 received the Fr. Sauer General Excellence Award.



Ann Anish '23 earned the Fr. Sauer General Excellence Award for her "outstanding devotion" to school affairs.



Naomi Ko '24

PERFORMING ARTS KICKOFF

Editor-in-Chief

As students swarm into Bannan Theater, talking excitedly and predicting what shows and trips will be revealed, the fine arts teachers line up on the stage to unveil the curtain for their respective areas. This year's first day of school housed one of SI's most annually anticipated events: the Performing Arts Kickoff. Mr. Green (jazz band) and Dr. Clements (orchestra) announced the Winter Concert, with repertoire including selections from *Harry Potter* and *Coldplay*, and a trip "possibly to LA." Ms. Calalo Berry, the dance teacher, shared details about the spring Senior Showcase and Dance Workshop, while Mr. Lam encouraged students to help out with stage crew - "no audition necessary."

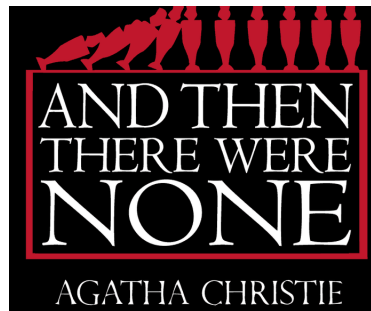
Ms. Gomes, the choral director, introduced the winter theme for the choir concert - "Comfort and Joy" - and revealed that there will also be a treble choir this year, in addition to mixed chorus and chamber choir.

Finally, Mr. Curry announced the shows this year: Agatha Christie's *And Then There Were None* as the fall play, a murder mystery; and *Working: A Musical*, which features people of many occupations and how they truly feel about their jobs.

All auditions for the performing arts will be held the week of August 21!



The performing arts teachers reveal this year's shows, themes, and trips.

**FALL SPORTS MEDIA DAY**

Jeslyn Oum '24 & Kate Quach '25

Editor-in-Chief & Associate Editor-in-Chief

As classes start up for the 2023-2024 school year, so do sports! Wildcats have an exciting season ahead and are ready to fill the courts and compete. Here are some excitements and goals from our fall sport athletes:

"Media Day is really exciting because it's the first opportunity you get to bond as a team and show how excited you are for this season."

-Sadie O' Leary '25



This season, I really want to build a healthy and fun team culture... I hope this will be the best season we've ever had just because we love each other so much."

-Logan Stern '24

"I'm very excited for the coming season. I think it's going to be a great season because we have a bigger community this year."

-Marycora Pattison '24



"Great team chemistry will help us support each other to achieve [our] goals. If we're there to support each other through those tough challenges, we're able to achieve those goals."

-Suraya Newman '24



"Media Day is a great environment. There's lots of support for all of the student athletes here. It's a great way to celebrate all of the athletes."

-Evelyn Conboy '26



"I'm feeling super excited to be on a team at SI. I'm a little nervous but I think that's normal."

-Asha Krpata '27

"We have a really good squad this year with many returners and we have a very good chance of repeating as champs."

-Jack Rodoni '24



CATCH SOME PHOTOS FROM MEDIA DAY ON SLICKPIC!!

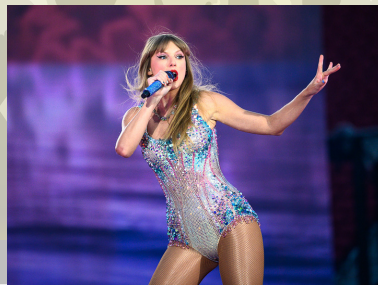
Alongside Summer camps, internships, and vacations, many Wildcats have found time to indulge in the variety of live music visiting the Bay Area this Summer! In mid-July, American country singer Luke Bryan came by Shoreline Amphitheater in Mountain View, CA and performed many of his classics during a fun night full of cowboy boots and hats galore.

It is no secret that musician and icon Taylor Swift has taken America by a storm as she began her "Eras Tour" this year. The sold out stadium tour has visited all over the country and recently spent a weekend in Santa Clara, with Swift performing two nights in Levi's Stadium. The "Eras Tour" covers the entirety of Taylor Swift's diverse discography which includes 10 albums in a three and a half hour set with 44 individual songs—one of them being 10 minutes long! With extravagant production, multiple costume changes, and stadiums packed with dedicated swifties, it is no surprise that this tour has become one of the highest grossing tours in history.

As a fun way to close out an action-packed Summer, many students also attended San Francisco's Outside Lands Music Festival in Golden Gate Park the weekend of August 11th. Celebrating its 15th annual year, the festival featured many headliners including Kendrick Lamar, Lana Del Rey, Megan Thee Stallion, Zedd, and Noah Kahan. With three full days of live music, the weekend was also a great opportunity for small businesses in the city as Outside Lands also featured over 95 restaurants all over the Bay Area! This experience was an exciting way to create memories with friends before gearing up for the start of this upcoming school year.



Luke Bryan headlines Shoreline Amphitheatre



Taylor Swift opens up the Eras Tour!



Outside Lands celebrates 15 years in SF

Photos: c/o Creative Commons

SAVE THE DATE!

Editors-in-Chief

*SI VARSITY FOOTBALL VS.
SAN RAMON VALLEY*

August 25, 2023

JB Murphy Field @ 7 PM

Tailgate: 5:30 PM

Theme: White out



CLUB FAIR

SEPTEMBER 8, 5-6:30

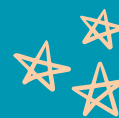


**SI VARSITY FOOTBALL VS.
CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC**

September 8, 2023

Location: JB Murphy Field @ 7 PM

Tailgate: 5 pm Theme: USA



*SENIORS VS JUNIOR
POWDER PUFF GAME*

September 15, 2023

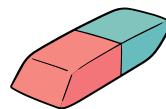
Location: JB Murphy Field
@ 7 pm



PSAT/SAT SCHOOL DAY

OCTOBER 12

MAKE SURE TO SIGN UP!

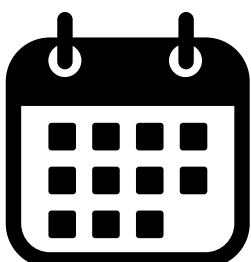


BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

SEPTEMBER 7

7-9 PM

TELL YOUR PARENTS!



BACK TO SCHOOL MEMES

Editors-in-Chief

When the teacher hands out the summer reading test and you remember you still haven't read the books



Hi SI! Welcome Back
to a new school year.
We hope you spend
this year Paw-
Trolling the Pages of
Inside SI and making
this year paw-sitively
amazing!



Editors In Chief, assuming their duties as this year's newspaper patrol.

INTERESTED IN JOINING **INSIDE SI** THIS YEAR?

COME TO OUR FIRST ALL-STAFF MEETING ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 24 AT 2:55 IN ROOM 119!!

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Naomi Ko '24, Senna Nijagal '24, Jeslyn Oum '24, Megan Stecher '24, Cayden Tu '24 - *Editors-in-Chief*

Kate Quach '25 - *Associate Editor-in-Chief*; Camille Pyo - *Contributing Editor*

LAYOUT:

Naomi Ko '24, Senna Nijagal '24, Jeslyn Oum '24, Megan Stecher '24, Cayden Tu '24, Kate Quach '25

BENEVOLENT

CENSORS:

Ms. Carole Nickolai
Ms. Jacqueline Boland