

Portrait of a *Graduate*



Lydia Ford '21

Junior, St. Mary's Episcopal School

- Junior Committee Chair, St. Mary's Community Fund
- Co-Chair, THRIVE Memphis Fashion Show Committee
- Board Member, Girls on the Run 5K



8th Grade, GSL

The study skills I learned at GSL helped a ton with the transition to St. Mary's. The change from co-ed to all girls was definitely a bit of a culture shock at first, but I am so glad I ended up where I did. I am eternally grateful for the experience writing and editing my eighth grade research paper, as the process was a huge help writing my AP History term paper earlier this year.

Currently I'm on the staff of the St. Mary's yearbook, the Carillon. It's so much fun being able to create and produce a book each year highlighting student life at St. Mary's. I love being able to harness my creativity in such a special way.

At GSL, the tight bond between our class was special, and activities like the eighth grade class trip strengthened our close connection. I loved having the experience of bonding with everyone through activities outside of the classroom, and our trip to Nantahala was truly the perfect way to wrap up our crazy, COVID-filled eighth grade year. Mrs. White was undoubtedly the best teacher I've ever had. The grammar rules, writing tips, and life advice I learned from her class have been applicable to almost every class I've taken at St. Mary's, and I am forever grateful for her guidance. I'm not sure yet what I want to do next, but definitely something with art and relating to English.

GRACE-ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Memphis, Tennessee