

# The Art of the Matter

FINE ARTS AT ST. MARK'S

At St. Mark's, we seek to inspire creativity, curiosity, and playfulness in a child-centered environment. Our fine arts experiences are filled with joy, where students can express themselves in various forms. We caught up with our Fine Arts teachers to highlight some of the 2023-2024 school year arts achievements.



Sara Brannon  
Primary and  
Lower School  
Music Teacher



Leti Hernandez  
Middle School Music  
and Performing  
Arts Teacher



Margaret Alvarez  
Art Teacher



Lower School Spring Concert

## The Sounds of Music

The 2023-2024 school year was a great year for choir at St. Mark's. We had a total of 51 students participate in choir this year, which is a school record! Eight of our singers participated in the Texas Private School Music Educators Association (TPSMEA) children's and youth honor choirs in the fall, rehearsing and performing with students from other independent schools in our area. Five choir students auditioned for and were accepted into the Organization of American Kodaly Educators (OAKE) national children's and youth honor choirs and spent most of their spring break in Chicago rehearsing and performing with singers from around the country.

Our 3rd and 4th grade choir, the St. Mark's Singers, took a field trip in the fall to sing for the residents of Belmont Village, an assisted living facility in our area. In the spring, they were invited to play an ensemble role in *Finding Nemo, Jr.*, our middle school musical.

The Middle School Choir participated in PartnerSchools, a local nonprofit connecting diverse communities through the arts. We enjoyed our second year of partnership with Alexander Middle School in Pearland ISD, traveling to their campus in the fall for a visit and collaborating with them on a holiday performance at Methodist Hospital and a spring concert at the McGovern-Stella Link Neighborhood Library.

The Middle School Choir also collaborated with the adult choir at St. Mark's Episcopal Church on a choral evensong for the feast day of St. Mark back in April. This was a wonderful opportunity for our young singers to experience performing with an adult choir. We also put on our first annual Middle School Choir Pop Concert, performing popular music from the Beatles to Disney to Rihanna.

It is such a joy to watch our choral program continue to grow, and I look forward to what the 2024-2025 school year will bring!