

STEAM Connections



Magnet Academies

SEPTEMBER 2024

WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE MAGNET COORDINATOR

Dear STEAM Families,

September has been a month of exciting developments and milestones for our STEAM Magnet Academies! As we continue to build a strong foundation for our students, we've been thrilled to see so much growth in both the academic and extracurricular areas.

From the excitement surrounding our first STEAM newsletter, STEAM Connections, to the launch of our STEAM afterschool enrichment clubs, we are off to a great start for the 2024-2025 school year. It's wonderful to witness our students fully embrace the hands-on, engaging activities that make our STEAM program so special.

Thank you for being part of our journey as we work to ignite creativity, foster critical thinking, and inspire collaboration in every student.

Warmly,
Dr. Jon Downs



DECEMBER EVENTS

Ribbon-Cutting Celebrations – October 24

Join us for the official ribbon-cutting ceremonies at St. Martin Early STEAM Academy and St. Martin STEAM Academy as we celebrate the opening of our schools.

Family STEAM Night – October 24

Families of St. Martin Early STEAM Academy are invited to participate in hands-on STEAM activities and learn more about the exciting projects their students are working on!

Louisiana A+ Schools Visit

We are excited to welcome Louisiana A+ Schools this month to observe and support our teachers as they integrate the arts into the classroom.

Questions, Comments,
Suggestions?

Contact Azi, Magnet Academies
Marketing Coordinator!

(337) 944-9269

magnet@saintmartinschools.org

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

After-School STEAM Enrichment Clubs

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our STEAM enrichment clubs, offering exciting after-school programs in LEGO League, C-STEAM, and other innovative tracks like E-Sports, Culinary Arts, and Podcasting. These clubs are already a big hit and give our students the opportunity to dive deeper into their favorite areas of STEAM. Our C-STEAM club at St. Martin STEAM Academy kicked off with an incredible start! Students are already getting hands-on with coding, engineering, and design thinking, developing critical skills that will serve them well in the future.

STEAM Club Photos:

Check out some photos of students engaging in after-school clubs

Science Olympiad Club: Nose Cone Designs in Action

The Science Olympiad Club has kicked off their latest project: designing and building nose cones for water bottle rockets! This hands-on activity challenges students to apply engineering principles while exploring aerodynamics and physics. It's one of many exciting after-school STEAM enrichment clubs that foster innovation, teamwork, and a love for science.



C-STEAM in the Kitchen: After-School Cooking Club

The C-STEAM-inspired Cooking Club at St. Martin STEAM Academy, led by Mrs. Pitre, is cooking up excitement! This popular after-school enrichment club combines culinary arts and science, allowing students to explore the science behind cooking while developing creativity, precision, and teamwork. From measuring ingredients to understanding chemical reactions in food, students experience how STEAM concepts come alive in the kitchen. This hands-on club is just one of the many innovative learning opportunities offered through our magnet program.



DREAM: After-School STEAM Enrichment Club

The DREAM Club—Dance/Drama infused through Relevant and Authentic Experiences in Art and Music—offers students at both St. Martin Early STEAM Academy and St. Martin STEAM Academy a dynamic after-school experience. For the first time, students have access to visual arts, music, dance, and drama through art-infused programming designed to enhance creativity and self-expression. This program is a collaborative effort between teachers and artists in residence, providing students with hands-on, real-world experiences that merge arts and STEAM learning. DREAM exemplifies how our magnet schools offer unique, interdisciplinary opportunities that inspire and engage students beyond the classroom.



SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Drama Meets Core Learning: Skits on Central Messages

At St. Martin STEAM Academy, Mrs. Benoit and Mrs. Bertrand's class brought literature to life by creating props and scripts for skits focused on the central messages of stories. Through this arts-centric approach, students deepened their understanding of core ELA concepts while enhancing their creativity, teamwork, and presentation skills. This is a great example of how STEAM integrates the arts into core learning, making lessons more engaging and impactful!



Magnet School Open House: Showcasing STEAM in Action

In September, both St. Martin Early STEAM Academy and St. Martin STEAM Academy hosted their Magnet School Open House for current students and their families. This event gave students the opportunity to share the exciting STEAM projects they've been working on, from interactive experiments to creative arts integration. Teachers highlighted how the STEAM curriculum goes beyond traditional core subjects and state standards by offering theme-based, hands-on learning experiences that make education both engaging and meaningful. Families left with a deeper appreciation for how our magnet program transforms learning into an innovative and interactive journey.

Coffee and Conversations – September 2024

The St. Martin Early STEAM Academy hosted their first Coffee and Conversations event for parents and families this month. This monthly gathering is a great opportunity for families to join us for casual discussions, participate in family engagement activities, and learn about the latest updates at St. Martin Early STEAM Academy. It's a wonderful way for parents to connect with school leadership and get involved in the exciting initiatives happening in our STEAM classrooms. We look forward to many more of these engaging conversations throughout the school year!

Interested in joining these events? Follow the school's Facebook page or contact the school's office to get on the calendar list for these cool meetings!

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

St. Martin Early STEAM Academy Updates

🍏 Grandparents Day Breakfast – September 2024

We celebrated Grandparents Day at St. Martin Early STEAM Academy with a special breakfast for our students' grandparents. It was a heartwarming event where grandparents had the chance to visit their grandchildren's classrooms, enjoy breakfast together, and see firsthand the amazing STEAM activities happening at our school. It was a beautiful way to honor our families and foster stronger connections between generations!

📸 **Photos of the Day:**
Check out some photos of our cool grandparents and our STEAM magnet students!



🌱 STEAM Students Green Thumbs in Action! – September 2024

A huge shout out goes to Ms. Nikki Viator and her Pre-K class, along with Ms. Tiffany Thibodeaux, our STEM Teacher, for their amazing gardening efforts! The students planted kale, cucumbers, cabbage, and zucchini in our large planter pots outside. They also contributed to the pollinator bed near our car rider area, adding a couple of plants to help attract and support local wildlife. We can't wait to watch these plants grow and see the incredible learning experiences these students will gain through this hands-on STEAM activity! 🌿 #goSTEAMgo

📸 **Photos of the Month:**
Check out fun gardening photos!



STEAM Tips & Resources

 **STEAM at Home:** Have your child design and build their own marble run! This simple engineering challenge can be done with household items like paper towel tubes, tape, and marbles. It encourages critical thinking and problem-solving! Check out the how-to by Minnesota Children's Museum:

www.mcm.org/diy-marble-run

Recommended Read:

"The Most Magnificent Thing" by Ashley Spires

A great story for young readers about persistence and the process of creation.



Explore STEAM Online: Check out Khan Academy for a wide variety of free, interactive lessons on subjects like math, science, and engineering!

Visit Khan Academy:

www.khanacademy.org

Share the Great Benefits of Being a STEAM Student!

-  **UNIQUE, ENGAGING STEAM CURRICULUM**
-  **SMALL CLASS SIZES**
-  **FREE DOOR-TO-DOOR TRANSPORTATION**
-  **FREE AFTER-SCHOOL STEAM CLUBS & AFTERCARE**
-  **FREE SUMMER ENRICHMENT CAMP**

Contact Us

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Magnet Academies

 337-944-9269

 www.stmartinmagnet.org

 Email us to schedule a tour or learn more:
magnet@saintmartinschools.org

 Schedule a Tour:
<https://forms.gle/oE3YbTa58eppxDJB8>

