

STEAM Connections

Magnet Academies

DECEMBER 2024

WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE MAGNET COORDINATOR

Dear STEAM Families,



As we approach the new year, it's a perfect time to reflect on the incredible journey we've had since launching our STEAM Magnet Academies. The first half of the school year has been filled with innovation, creativity, and exciting opportunities for our students and families.

From the very first day, our schools have been buzzing with hands-on STEAM learning, daily aftercare, and engaging after-school STEAM enrichment clubs. Students have explored new ideas, showcased their talents through performances, and expanded their horizons with field trips—including a special visit to the Louisiana State Capitol, where our program was honored as a recipient of the Governor's GUMBO 2.0 broadband grant.

Looking ahead, the second half of the year promises even more opportunities! We are excited to host our Magnet Showcase, where families can experience firsthand the unique learning environment our STEAM academies offer. We encourage everyone to spread the word—applications for the 2025-2026 school year are now open! If you know a family looking for an engaging, future-focused education, now is the time to apply.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Your support and enthusiasm make all the difference, and we can't wait to see what the new year brings!

Warmly,
Dr. Jon Downs

JANUARY EVENTS

📢 **STEAM Magnet Information Sessions** – Various Dates
Learn how your child can join our STEAM Magnet Academies! Attend an Information Session at schools across the district to explore program opportunities, ask questions, and start your application. Magnet Program team members will share details and guide families through the process.

🎉 **100 Days of STEAM Learning!** - January 31
On January 31, we will celebrate a huge milestone! Our students have spent the past 100 days exploring, creating, and growing through hands-on STEAM experiences. From exciting classroom projects to after-school enrichment, every day has been filled with discovery and innovation. Here's to 100 more days of learning, curiosity, and fun! 🚀🔬✨

📢 School Closed for MLK Day – January 15
On Monday, January 15, all schools will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Did you know Dr. King's work has a connection to STEAM? His vision opportunity inspired advancements in education and technology that paved the way for many in STEM fields.

Questions, Comments, Suggestions?

Contact Azi, Magnet Academies Marketing Coordinator!

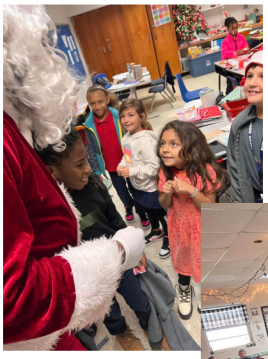
magnet@saintmartinschools.org

(337) 944-9269

DECEMBER EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

🎅✨ Santa Visits St. Martin STEAM Academy! ✨🎅

In December, our students received a special holiday surprise—a visit from Santa himself! 🎄🎁 Santa spread joy and delivered gifts to our students, making the season even more magical. Enjoy these heartwarming photos of Santa and our St. Martin STEAM Academy students celebrating the holiday spirit! 📸🎉









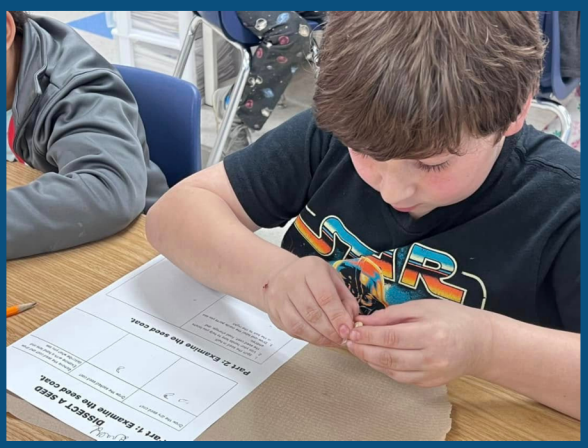


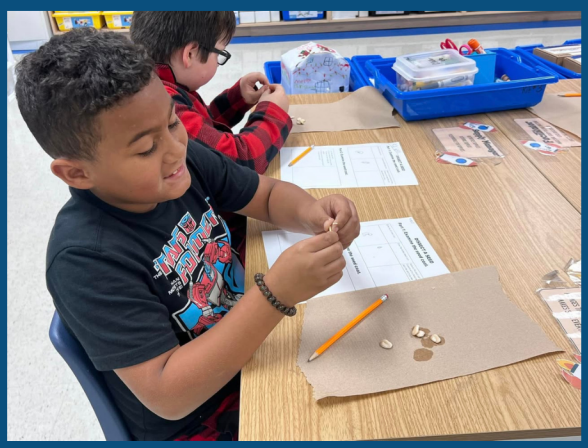
🤖✨ Creative Coding in STEM! ✨🎨

Mrs. Gautreaux's and Ms. Cormier's classes at St. Martin Early STEAM Academy did an amazing job creating and coding designs on their Tech A Sketch in STEM! 💻🔢 Students combined creativity and technology to bring their designs to life, building essential coding and problem-solving skills along the way.
Great job, young innovators! 🚀💡 #STEAMinAction #FutureCoders

🔬🌱 STEM Seed Dissection with Ms. Angelle's Class! 🌱🔬

Ms. Angelle's class at St. Martin Early STEAM Academy took a deep dive into the world of plants by dissecting seedsin STEM! Students explored the inner workings of seeds, learning about the different parts and how they grow. It was a hands-on experience that sparked curiosity and helped them understand the science behind plant life! Great work, future botanists! 🌿🧬





DECEMBER EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

🎄✨ **Christmas Ornaments with Mrs. Gautreaux's Class!** ✨🎄
Mrs. Gautreaux's class at St. Martin Early STEAM Academy got into the holiday spirit by creating beautiful Christmas ornaments! 🎨🎀 Students used their creativity and craftsmanship to design and decorate their own festive pieces, making this holiday season extra special. Wonderful job, artists! 🌟🎄





📸 Photos of the Month:
Check out photos of students creating their own ornaments using lessons learned in art class!



🎶 **A Zydeco Surprise with Horace Trahan!** 🎤

Mrs. Bertrand's class had the incredible opportunity to pose for a picture with Horace Trahan and the Ossun Express! Special thanks to Mr. Trahan and his talented band for treating our students to some lively Zydeco music. It was a fun and memorable experience that brought the rhythm of Louisiana's culture right into the classroom! 🎵✨

🎭✨ **Kindergarten Performance at St. Martin Early STEAM Academy!** ✨🎶

Our Kindergarten students did an incredible job performing "How the Crayons Saved Christmas!" This delightful show was their very first performance, and they brought their creativity and energy to the stage. We are so proud of their hard work and can't wait to share their joy and holiday spirit with their families!





DECEMBER EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

🎉 Academic Pep Rally Celebration! 🎉

At our Academic Pep Rally, we celebrated students for their achievements in Perfect Attendance, A-B Honor Roll, and A-Team! 🏆 We were also joined by the Pep Squad and Dance Team from SMSA, who added extra excitement to the event. What a fun and memorable day for everyone!





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🎭🎶 Christmas Variety Show – A Night of Talent and Holiday Cheer! 🎄🌟

Our Christmas Variety Show was a huge success, featuring performances from talented students at both St. Martin Early STEAM Academy and St. Martin STEAM Academy! Students showcased their lessons from drama, dance, and music, putting together a fun and entertaining program that delighted the audience. One of the highlights was a heartwarming play based on the Cajun Night Before Christmas, bringing the holiday spirit to life in a truly unique way. 🎭🎅 It was a joy to have parents, guardians, grandparents, community members, and district staff join us for this special evening of talent and togetherness. Thank you to everyone who came out to support our students! 🌟🎁 To check out more photos and enjoy videos of the performances, visit the Facebook pages for the two schools!







🎶✨ TMM Project at St. Martin STEAM Academy! 🎶

The TMM Project, led by Terrance Michael Morgan, visited St. Martin STEAM Academy for an exciting day filled with creativity and fun! Students participated in engaging performances that encouraged self-expression, confidence, and artistic exploration. It was an unforgettable experience for everyone involved! Learn more about the TMM Project at www.terrancemichaelmorgan.com. 🌟





🎨 SMESA Student Art on Display! 🎨

On Sunday, December 1, SMESA students' artwork was proudly showcased at the Duchamp Opera House during the Tour of Homes event! 🖼️ It was an exciting opportunity for our students to share their creativity with the community. We are so proud of their artistic talents and the recognition they received for their hard work!



DECEMBER EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

🏛️ Third-Grade Trip to the State Capitol! 🏛️

SMSA's third-grade students had the opportunity to visit the State Capitol, where they met with lawmakers to learn about the legislative process. It was an engaging experience that sparked curiosity about how laws are created and how government works. Our students are becoming informed citizens!











STEAM Tips & Resources

STEAM at Home: Try a DIY Lava Lamp in your favorite winter colors! Here's an easy recipe from Science Buddies:

www.sciencebuddies.org/stem-activities/make-a-lava-lamp



Recommended Read:

"The Girl Who Thought in Pictures: The Story of Dr. Temple Grandin" by Julia Finley Mosca

This picture book tells the true story of Dr. Temple Grandin, a brilliant scientist and inventor with autism, who revolutionized animal science with her innovative designs.



Explore STEAM Online:

A great website to explore STEAM online is Exploratorium. You can find hands-on projects, virtual exhibits, and experiments related to STEAM topics.

Visit Exploratorium:

wwww.exploratorium.edu

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
St. Martin Parish School System
Magnet Academies

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Email us to schedule a tour or learn more:
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Schedule a Tour:
https://forms.gle/oE3YbTa58eppxDJB8