

# DRAGONLINK

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ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL OF MONTREAL



ÉCOLE ST-GEORGES DE MONTREAL

## “ACT LOCAL, THINK GLOBAL”



“Act local, think global” is a mantra often cited by independent schools to describe meaningful community service and community outreach initiatives.

At St. George's,

I believe that we bring real meaning to both sides of this equation.

### ACT LOCAL

The Community Service Learning Program at St. George's is designed to help our students evolve to a new level of consciousness about their place in society. By providing resources and context around authentic social issues, St. George's motivates and empowers students to believe, through their hands-on experiences, that their contributions to the world can make a difference.

Through class projects, individual community service hours or as a member of a parent-led Community Service Learning Pod, St. George's students are invited to grow as responsible world citizens. This active and meaningful involvement in the community is then directly connected to curriculum work in English, Ethics and History.

Now in our third year of bringing parents and students together in Community Service Learning Pods, the program has grown to include over twenty local organizations including *The Old Brewery Mission*, *SPCA*, *MADA*, and *The Friendship Circle* amongst others.

The Community Learning Pods are the brainchild of St. Georges' teacher Megan Webster, who, during the course of the past three years, has worked closely with students, fellow faculty members and parents to bring this amazing initiative to fruition. In fact, in recognition of her inspired efforts and vision, Ms. Webster recently received the Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence, one of only two Montreal-area English teachers to be so recognized.

Community service continues to be a core value of our Grade 6 program as well. Led by teacher Judy Berger, the program continues to inspire our senior elementary students to assume a lifelong passion for participation and giving. This year's Grade 6 Community Service Fair will take place on April 26th, 2012 and is open to the public. I encourage all of you who have never witnessed this special event to pass by.

### THINK GLOBAL

For the past five years, the students of St. George's elementary school have participated in the *Highlands Hope* project (<http://www.highlandshope.com/>) raising funds to support fifteen AIDS orphans from Ramadhani School in Tanzania. Last year, our Grade 5 students initiated “Pennies for Tanzania” specifically intended to raise money to support these fifteen students with school-related expenses. The highlight of the year was a visit by George Sanga, a student teacher from Tanzania, who spent a week in our Grade 5 classroom and ended up teaching them Swahili songs of peace.

During the past 15 years, our high school students have supported the *Sheela Bal Bhavan* (SBB) home for orphaned girls in Jaipur, India through their impressive fundraising initiatives and visits to the home. Our annual “Penny Wars” and walk-a-thons, and other fundraising efforts have collectively raised in excess of \$100,000 to support the annual tuition of the girls of SBB. In addition, clothing and toiletries are collected every other year, to be taken directly to the home by students fondly referred to as “trippers” during their visits to SBB in Jaipur. Approximately 15 senior school students participate in this bi-annual, life-changing event led by Math Department Head, Bill Nevin. Our next group of 16 “trippers” will leave for India on December 26th accompanied by Mr. Nevin and Social Science teacher Leigh-Ann Malcolm.

We are also energized by our new global partnership with the *Silid Aralan (SAI) afterschool program* in Philippines as part of the Iwastology Project. This project, led by *McGill University Sauvé Scholar* Arcie Mallari, and supported by fellow students Alex Pritz and Christian Elliott, aims to raise awareness and support intercultural dialogue on the issue of global waste.

Participating students at St. George's and the Silid Aralan afterschool program are introduced first-hand to the complexity of the worldwide waste crisis. Students understand that together they are building a community of knowledge and action around the belief that in a world of limited resources, one of the most important ways of improving our world is to drastically reduce our material footprint while addressing the problems that our waste creates.

Live interaction between the two schools is done via Skype and the “*Taking it Global*” (TIGweb.org) web platform which enables students from both schools to share amongst themselves the media content of their independent learning processes.

St. George's School is honoured to have been selected to actively participate in this unique school-to-school opportunity distanced by 12 time zones yet connected in “real time” dialogue.

“Act local, think global” is more than a mantra at St. George's. It has become seamlessly embedded in what we do at both the elementary and the high school. “Act local, think global” is one of many ways a St. George's education develops “Broad Minds and Bright Futures”.

James A. Officer  
Head of School

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On May 27th, 2011, the graduating class of St. George's School of Montreal took to the stage at Oscar Peterson Concert Hall. In front of proud families, faculty and staff, they received their diplomas and officially closed out the high school chapter of their life, knowing full well that their time at St. George's will never be forgotten.

### Valedictorian Address - Joshua Ward

Good evening everyone. My name is Josh Ward and as you can guess I am a proud member of the 80th graduating class of St. George's. I have been at St. George's since pre-kindergarten. That's 13 years of my life enrolled at this school. Thirteen years is a long time, no matter how you look at it. And in addition to those 13 years, the 4 previous years of my life was spent on my dad's shoulders at the elementary school almost every day picking my sister up from school. St. George's has defined my life. As I was beginning to think about what I would say tonight, I couldn't think of anything other than a whole slew of thank yous, good experiences and great memories. And not only that, St. George's has really shaped me into the person I am.

I'm sure I speak for everyone on this stage when I say that St. George's has done much more for me than teach me the required curriculum. It has also given me the tools I need to learn and grow on my own. We have all confronted challenges and seized opportunities at the most surprising times in our lives. When I look back on it, sometimes I didn't succeed, but the most valuable thing that I have learned from my time at St. George's is that being afraid to fail means not growing or learning. St. George's has given me the confidence, the resources, the relationships and the knowledge to pursue challenges, confront obstacles and learn from them. St. George's really strives to bring out the best in people.

One of the things I love most about St. George's is how strongly it sticks to the founding principle: learning comes from doing. This principle has been emphasized from my first day of pre-kindergarten until now. Learning comes from doing has played a big part in making our classes here so much fun. My earliest memory of having fun while learning at St. George's, happened

in kindergarten. The school organized an overnight fieldtrip to the Biodome where we were exposed to all the wonderful animals that we had never seen before and also got to know each other better. We could have easily learned about these animals by looking at pictures in class, but instead we learned by walking through the Biodome in our pajamas. After eating a snack of milk and cookies, we went to bed next to the Biodome's incredible aquarium. I remember waking up in the middle of the night only to roll over and watch the fish swim around until I fell back asleep. I will never forget the fun that I had on that trip. Learning was made so easy and exciting.

All the outstanding trips that the school offers to its students help us to learn by doing. The school offers trips nearly everywhere: from local art museums, to countries halfway around the world. Everyone that I have spoken to about these experiences has offered the same conclusion. Whether hopping off a 2-hour bus ride from Ottawa or a 15-hour plane ride from India, everyone says the same thing: "I had so much fun!". Not only are all of these trips a blast, but they offer unique, hands on learning experiences.

At the beginning of this year, I was fortunate enough to partake in the Stratford trip. For those of you unfamiliar with this trip, it is a trip hosted by the English Department to the Shakespeare Theatre Festival in Stratford, Ontario. We watched 3 performances put on by world-class actors. Before going on this trip, I wasn't sure whether I would enjoy watching theatre with a school group. Oh was I ever wrong! I loved all three shows that we went to see, and still catch myself with songs from Evita stuck in my head, and scenes from Peter Pan running through my mind. On top of these amazing shows, the trip was an incredible opportunity to

get to know my classmates better. I found myself sitting on the bus with people that I had never had a substantial conversation with prior to the trip. It was amazing to become even closer to my friends and begin new relationships. That is something I never would have expected to happen 5 years into my high school experience.

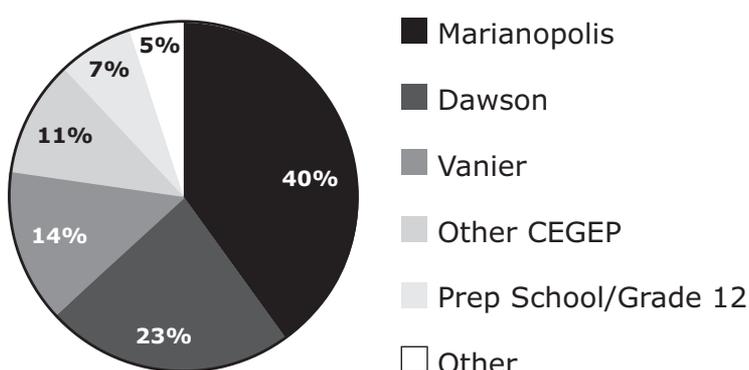
The tradition of "learning comes from doing" hasn't only taken place outside of the classroom. Every teacher at St. George's has been able to captivate us and make our in-class experiences exciting and engaging as well. I realize looking back, that every 75-minute period has given me something to look forward to. At St. George's, fun is synonymous with learning. I won't attempt to mention every quirky, exciting, hysterical moment that I have experienced because I'm sure everyone on stage wants to get their diplomas already. But I will share with you something St. George's has taught me: learning comes from laughing, smiling and being happy, as well as studying and doing.

I want to tell you a little story. Saint George, according to legend, was a man who attempted the impossible. Saint George took on a dragon, a beast that no one else was able to conquer, and he defeated that dragon. The school that we are about to graduate from was named after this man. I believe the name is a perfect fit because St. George's has left us prepared for the many dragons that we'll have to face down the road. Go out there all of you, use what St. George's has given you, and fight that dragon, no matter how overwhelming the task may seem. Fail over and over again because at the end of the day, anyone who is brave enough to take on a dragon will undoubtedly succeed.

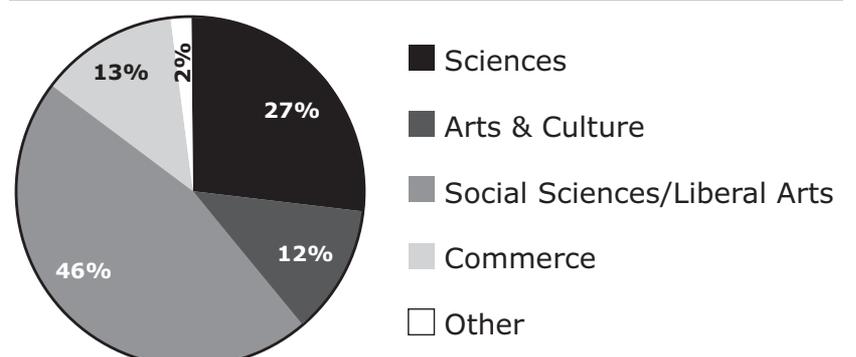
Thank you.

### 2011 GRADUATING CLASS

Where are they going?



What are they studying?



Valedictorian Address - Hailey Krychman

How powerful can change be? What is change?

Change is a strong force. It can be seen, and it can also be a feeling. It is capable of making a homeless person a billionaire. It can create history: it has brought a whole term, and perhaps even another one, for the United States' first black president. Most of all, it's a force powerful enough to bring everyone together in this room tonight. Ladies and gentlemen, you are here tonight because you have made certain changes in your lives. Some parents made the decision to send their child to St. George's School many moons ago. Other parents decided to switch their child into St. George's at some point in the last five years. In the fall of 2006, numerous twelve year olds transitioned from an elementary school they'd grown up with, to a new high school. Some students are even lifers. Whatever the story may be, we are all here to celebrate the beauty of change.

Look at the Class of 2011, a prime example. Not that long ago, a good chunk of the kids sitting on the stage today walked through the student entrance of St. George's as little pipsqueaks with high-pitched voices and braces, not having the slightest clue what the future held. And now, we're all a bit taller; our voices have changed, we've grown, and we're finishing high school.

Change has also affected how we've evolved personally. We've not only changed our hairdos, but many of our personal tastes have transformed as well. Like our tastes in music, our friends, and our worldviews. So yes, we have ALL changed, whether we notice it or not. Now, I can't speak for any other of my classmates, but I can tell you from the bottom of my heart, that I do believe I have been changed for the better. It was a long time coming: five years in the making.

A great deal of the credit goes to St. George's, because it has succeeded in majorly pushing my personal boundaries to bring me to this moment tonight, as the person I am. It all started from the moment I stepped into this school, in the first week of Grade 7, as a lonely girl who only knew two boys from elementary school. Later on I experienced educational trips to Paris and Honduras, where I literally traveled out of my comfort zone, to live in a different setting. And finally, this year, we all embarked on the scariest journey of all: Grade 11.

I believe that St. George's truly succeeds in molding us to become the strong individuals we are because we are encouraged to push our boundaries, resulting in big, positive change in our lives. Have you ever noticed how glorious we feel after we accomplish something amazing? Well, it's because some force motivated us to make that change. For each and every individual in the school, St. George's strives to be that motivator, encouraging students positively to test their limits.

This year, I made a goal for myself to get to know my classmates better. One might think I knew them all really well from seeing them on a daily basis, but I didn't really feel that was true for me. I felt like I wanted to connect with them more on a personal level; after all, they were the people that I was sharing this extraordinary year with. Well, I do feel like I've achieved that goal, whether it was by nagging you about baby photos, or nagging you about grad pages...or maybe just joking around with you. I wanted to thank you. I wanted us to take a moment to really acknowledge the change we've undergone. I congratulate each and every one of you, on our graduation night.

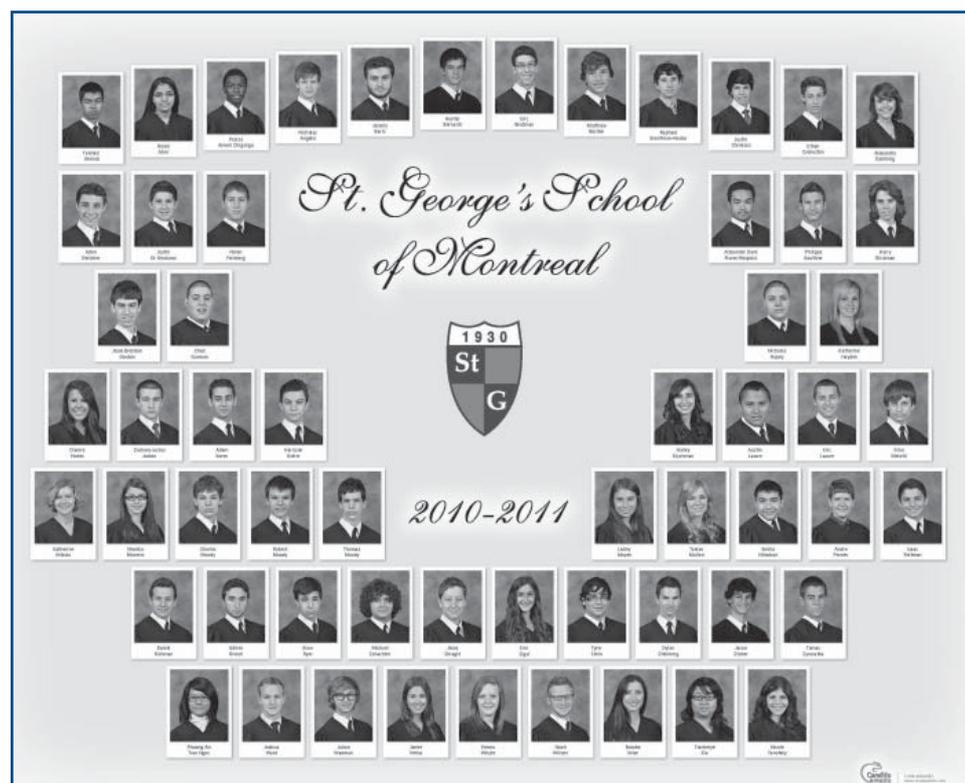
Fun fact: St. George's school is known for not having a uniform...except for gym. As a Grade 7 student, I could never understand why this was so, but now as a graduate of the school, I realize it is for the best reasons. St. George's strives to create strong, confident and unique individuals. They succeed in achieving that goal partly by giving students the freedom to dress as they wish, one of the many personal philosophies this school has.

So, ladies and gentlemen, I ask again: "what is change, and how powerful can it be?" It is something Stevie Nicks is afraid of, and that Michael Jackson encouraged, making the world a better place. Change is powerful enough to make a bold impact on the world! No wonder we become scared of it! But we should also embrace it when it comes. If I've learned one important fact this year, it's that we have the power within us to make the boldest changes. Yes, St. George's may have played a crucial role in the process, but really, it's us who actually live the tale of our personal evolution. We are the creators of our future, of the change that has yet to happen.

How can we make the change? Well, we must recognize how it works! We know that change is alive, because we are the change, we live with it throughout our entire lives. If you don't believe me, just look around the room, at the class of 2011, at yourselves: you are all human proof of the power of change.

High school may be finished, but the biggest changes are only starting to arise. Be prepared: they're coming faster than you can ever imagine.

Thank you.



Top Row: Tamid Ahmed, Reem Ahrir, Pascal Amani Chigangu, Nicholas Angelis, Jeremy Barrs, Hunter Bernardi, Eric Bindman, Matthew Borden, Raphael Bronfman-Nadas, Justin Chimisso, Ethan Crelinsten & Alexandra Dahlberg.

2nd Row: Aden Deitcher, Justin Di Girolamo, Nolan Feinberg, Alexander Dave Flores-Respicio, Philippe Gauthier & Harry Glickman.

3rd Row: Jesse Brendan Gordon, Chad Gurman, Nicholas Hajaly & Katherine Hayden.

4th Row: Dianne Hodes, Zachary-Lukas Jodoin, Adam Koren, Harrison Kotler, Hailey Krychman, Austin Lazare, Eric Lazure & Gino Melatti.

5th Row: Katharine Mikula, Monika Mocevic, Charles Moody, Robert Moody, Thomas Moody, Lesley Moyse, Taelan Mullan, Emilio Nilooban, Andre Pevnev & Isaac Reitman.

6th Row: Daniel Richman, Adrien Rivest, Evan Ryer, Michael Schachter, Jesse Shragie, Erin Sigal, Tyler Stein, Dylan Steinberg, Jason Stober & Tomas Syrovatka.

Last Row: Phuong An Tran Ngoc, Joshua Ward, Julian Waxman, Jamie Weisz, Emma Whyte, Noah Witzer, Brooke Wise, Tianbeiye Xia & Nicole Yanofsky.

## Letter from Alumni Board Representative

Dear Alumni,

It is a privilege to serve as your Alumni Representative to the St. George's Board of Directors for 2011-2012.

As a "lifer" at St. George's, the school holds a very special place in my heart since graduating from the Class of 1988. This sentiment is shared by many alumni as the bonds and memories which tie us to the school remain so strong.

For many alumni, this deep sense of community is apparent by their continued involvement with the St. George's family. Opportunities to connect to the school are abundant whether it is by volunteering at career days, job fairs, speaking at the alumni guest speaker series, participating in the annual golf tournament or attending class reunions.

Many alumni give the gift of a St. George's education to students who otherwise couldn't experience it by contributing to the school's financial assistance fund.

Similarly, many alumni are compelled by the unforgettable teachers who have had an impact on them and touched their lives. Contributing to the teacher appreciation and/or department-specific funds honours the legacy of these amazing educators. Please visit the giving page at [www.stgeorges.qc.ca/giving](http://www.stgeorges.qc.ca/giving) to see the many ways your generosity can be directed.

I encourage all of you to reach out and stay connected. Remain a part of St. George's either by dropping the school a line for the next issue of the Dragonlink with news about yourself or getting involved in one of the many alumni programs and activities held throughout the year. Any and all levels of support and involvement are welcome and greatly appreciated by the St. George's community.

Warm regards,  
Patty Klein '88  
*Alumni Representative,  
Board of Directors*

### ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL OF MONTREAL ALUMNI CLASS REPS

1956	Marilyn Hayes	1987	Paul Graif
1959	John Sichel	1988	Patricia Klein
1961	Harriet P. Smith	1989	Deborah Wolfe Bienstock
1962	David Star	1990	Jacqueline Ulrich
1963	Stacy (Gibson-Goddard) Goddard	1992	Sandra Dias / Darren Yaphe
1964	Kenneth Salomon	1993	Riel Lazarus / Jessica Wolfe
1965	Michael Morrow	1994	Amanda Wolfe
1967	Sharon Pines	1995	Renee Figlarz
1968	Gary Shaffran	1996	Jacquelyn Abramovitch / Jessica Barcessat / Robert Blatt / Matthew Zaidan
1969	Glen Cram	1997	Eugenia Cukier Sala / Jay Sala
1970	Susan Glickman	1998	Samuel Malkinson
1971	J. Peter Segall	1999	Matthew Smiley / Samantha Welscheid
1972	Dana Wolfe	2000	Adrienne Rubenstein / Tanya Skamene
1973	Laurence Glickman	2001	Adam Cohen-Aslatei
1975	Gregory Dudek	2002	Jason Prizant / Jeremy Shaki
1976	Jeffrey Dubney	2003	Ashley Levitt
1978	Richard Bercuvitz	2004	Bryan Greenberg
1979	Judy Byck / Christopher Coolidge	2005	Adam Sand
1980	Davina Jerassy Isackson / Steven Lippman / Anthony Wolfe	2006	Jason Freder
1981	Pierre Gratton	2007	Jamie Tajfel / Marley Sniatowsky
1982	Susan Byck / Claire Desjardins / Robert Goldenberg / Risa Lukofsky Wolfe	2008	Jake Greenberg
1983	Imogen Brian / Daniel Dorsey	2009	Daniel Freder
1985	Elan Packer	2010	Pending
1986	Jennifer Golfman / Sean Zikman	2011	TBD

### SEND IN YOUR NEWS!

Our next edition of Dragonlink will include all the news that's fit to print about what our alums are up to now!  
Send an email and a photo if you like to [advancement@stgeorges.qc.ca](mailto:advancement@stgeorges.qc.ca).

## RECENT REUNIONS

### 1985 REUNION



held September 2011

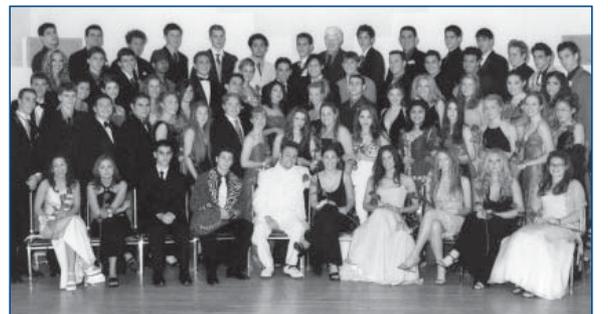


### 1981 REUNION



held June 2011

### 2001 REUNION



held August 2011

## SAVE THE DATE!!

### HOMECOMING MAY 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**All graduating classes welcomed!**  
Special celebration of milestone reunions for the Class of 1962 (50 year), Class of 1972 (40 year), Class of 1977 (35 year), Class of 1987 (25 year) and Class of 2002 (10 year).

**Stay tuned for more details!**

**NEW FACES AT ST. GEORGE'S**



**Annie Caputo**  
is our new High School Receptionist.



**Victoria Dobbins**  
is our in-house Photographer, Graphic Artist and Webmaster.

**BHATLA TRIBUTE**

St. George's School of Montreal offers condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of Bahadur Bhatla, Principal Emeritus, who passed away peacefully on September 2nd, in the presence of gathered family and friends.

Mr. Bhatla began his distinguished teaching career at St. George's in 1962 (Physics and Chemistry) having completed a Fulbright Scholarship in the United States. During the 1980s, Mr. Bhatla assumed various administrative roles, eventually becoming the school's ninth Principal in 1990.

Mr. Bhatla was known for his humane and ecumenical approach to life, his intelligence and thoughtfulness, his unwavering commitment to the child-centred philosophy of St. George's, and his dedication and support of the Sheela Bal Bhavan home for orphaned girls in Jaipur, India. As part of his legacy, St. George's continues to support Sheela Bal Bhavan through fundraising activities and senior student bi-annual visits to the home.



A devout family man, married for 56 years to his wife Sudarshan, he was justly proud of the accomplishments of his three children, all of whom graduated from St. George's with honours and distinction: Rajiv '77, Sanjeev '80 and Sarita '83.

James A. Officer  
*Head of School*

**CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

**The Jaclyn Linetsky Performing Arts Program presents:**

• **MUSICAL**

**APRIL 2nd - 5th, 2012**  
Bahadur Bhatla Studio,  
St. George's High School

• **ST. GEORGE'S GLEE!**

**MAY 10th & 11th, 2012**  
Oscar Peterson Hall,  
Concordia University

• **ONLINE AUCTION**

**APRIL 16th-26th, 2012**

• **HOMECOMING**

**MAY 12th, 2012**

St. George's High School

• **2nd ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**MAY 17th, 2012**

Club de Golf Saint-Raphaël,  
Île-Bizard, Quebec

**St. George's School of Montreal  
Board of Directors - School Session 2011-2012**

Ms. Penny Bloch	Member at Large
Ms. Madeleine Bonnard	Member At Large
Dr. Lynn Butler-Kisber	Outside Educator
Ms. Lianne Deckelbaum	Member at Large
Mr. Brian Foote	H.S. Faculty Representative
Ms. Hannah Hershman	E.S. Faculty Representative
Ms. Kimberly Holden	Member At Large
Ms. Pam Itzcovitch	Chairperson Marketing
Ms. Patty Klein	Alumni Representative
Mr. James A. Officer	Head of School
Ms. Louise Anne Poirier	President
Ms. Karen Poulsen	Chairperson Parent Activity Committee
Ms. Joanie Schwartz	Chairperson Education Committee
Ms. Lorne Steinberg	Member At Large
Mr. Kenneth W. Thorpe	Chairperson, Board Governance Committee, Secretary
Mr. Mirko Wicha	Member at Large
Ms. Karen Zajdman-Borden	Treasurer

**2ND ANNUAL ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL OF MONTREAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Join us on **Thursday, May 17th, 2012** at Club de Golf Saint-Raphaël for our 2nd Annual Golf Tournament. Proceeds from this tournament will go towards providing financial assistance to eligible and mission-appropriate students who would otherwise not be able to afford and benefit from a St. George's School education.

To register, visit [www.stgeorges.qc.ca/events/2ndannualgolftournament](http://www.stgeorges.qc.ca/events/2ndannualgolftournament)

You can help make this event a success by sponsoring a recognition opportunity while promoting your business at the same time. Please contact Patricia Lavoie, Advancement Coordinator at [advancement@stgeorges.qc.ca](mailto:advancement@stgeorges.qc.ca) to reserve your golf tournament sponsorship today!

Our 80th Anniversary Gala held last May 17th at l'Astral was a resounding success and an impressive evening of entertainment and talent. For those who were unable to join us, you can use your mobile device to scan the codes on this page and link directly to video clip highlights of the evening. Alternatively, check out our YouTube channel by clicking the YouTube icon on St. George's home page to either re-live the event or see what you missed!



Many thanks to past parent and Master of Ceremonies Andy Nulman and celebrity photographer and alum, Heidi Hollinger '85 for contributing their time and talent to make this evening extra special.

More on Heidi Hollinger: [www.heidihollinger.com](http://www.heidihollinger.com)

More on Andy Nulman: [www.andynulman.com](http://www.andynulman.com)



Photos courtesy of Heidi Hollinger

## Online Auction

Last year in conjunction with our 80th Anniversary celebration, we held an online auction which raised just under \$30,000. The popularity and success of our first-time ever auction has prompted us to make this a new annual tradition. This year's event will take place between **April 16th and April 26th, 2012**, with the proceeds going towards supporting our Athletics program which benefits every student in both the elementary and high schools.

This year, the auction's theme is "**Dining, Getaways and Other Pleasures of the Soul**". Think heavy discounts at popular restaurants, pampering deals at local spas and unbelievable stay packages at fabulous resorts. We also want to offer one-of-a-kind opportunities such as having a local chef prepare a dinner party chez vous or even the opportunity to co-host a radio show!!

We are asking our parents, alums and other friends of St. George's to help make this auction a success not only by participating in the fun, but also by providing us with as many possible auction items. If you frequent a particular restaurant or are someone's loyal customer, please ask them if they would donate a gift certificate for our auction. It is an excellent way for local businesses to advertise and promote their services and most are happy to participate when asked.

Auction items can be dropped off at either campus or mailed directly to the attention of Patricia Lavoie, Advancement Coordinator, 3100 The Boulevard, Montreal, Quebec H3Y 1R9.

## Be A Hero!

Want to know how you and / or your company can be a hero to St. George's and at the same time reduce your income tax payable?

Find out how a \$12,500 Flow-Through share donation to the school can cost you a little as \$600 net after tax!

## Flow-Through Share Donations FAQ

### What exactly is a Flow-Through share?

Flow-through shares are generally used by junior natural resource companies to transfer certain expenses associated with their exploration activities to an investor given that the mining companies are usually not taxable and therefore cannot use the expense as a deduction against their own income. The tax benefit is therefore "flowed" through to the investor.

### How does a Flow-Through share donation transaction work?

A donor purchases flow-through shares which are in turn donated to St. George's and subsequently sold by the school to a pre-identified purchaser within a day or two following the donation. The school gets the cash from the sale of shares and the donor benefits from ITC (Investment Tax Credit) and CEE (Canadian Exploration Expense) tax benefits associated with the share purchase. In addition to these tax benefits, the donor also receives a tax credit for having donated the shares to St. George's. This results in a very low after-tax cost to the donor. In fact, the after tax cost of donating \$12,500 to St. George's is as low as \$600!!

### How do I know if I qualify to make a Flow-Through share donation?

Donors should consult their own tax advisors for their AMT (Alternative Minimum Tax) limit to determine whether they can benefit from the tax benefits resulting from a Flow-through donation transaction. In general, donors should have taxable income of roughly 4 to 4.5 times the flow-through subscription amount for full access in the current year to the tax savings under this structure.

### What, if any, is the risk associated with a Flow-Through share transaction?

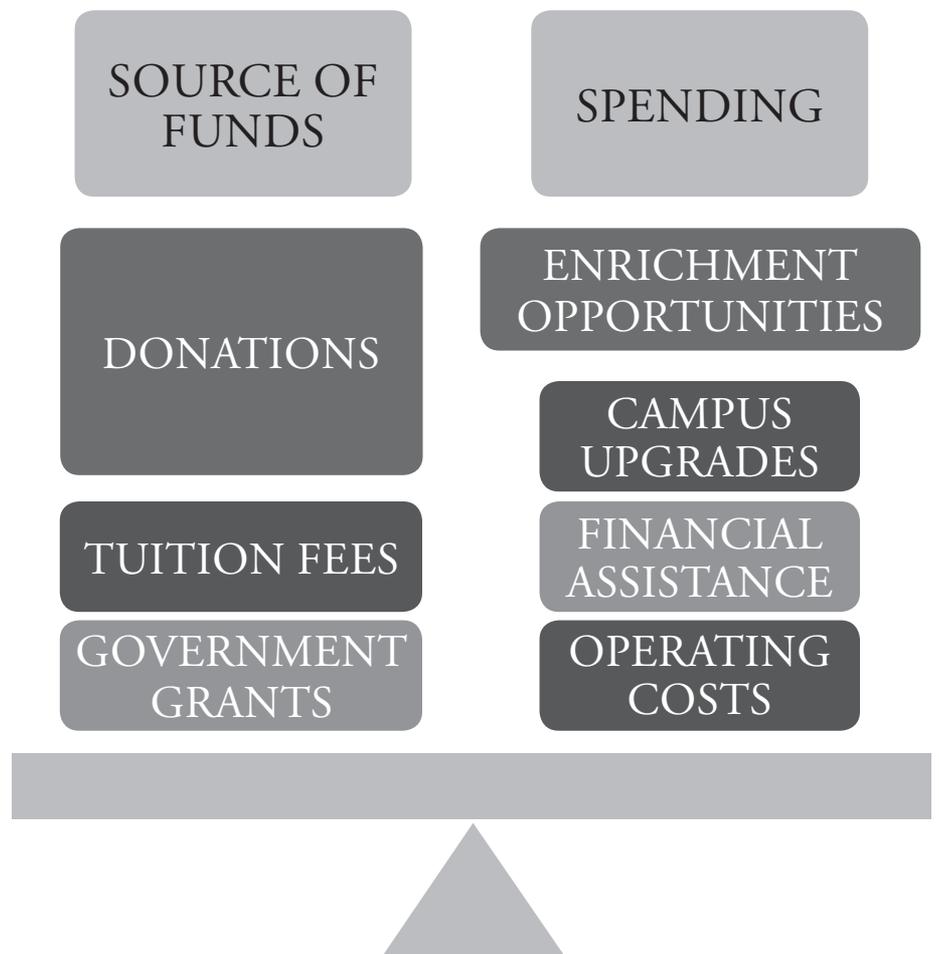
The mining companies that receive funds through the sale of flow-through shares are obliged to use said funds for exploration within a specific time frame. The risk to the donor is if the mining company does not comply, the government may reclaim the amount of the tax benefit received by the donor. The school works with PearTree Financial and in their experience, this is a very rare occurrence and this risk is minimized through due diligence conducted by or on behalf of PearTree.

### How can I find out more about making a Flow-Through share donation to St. George's?

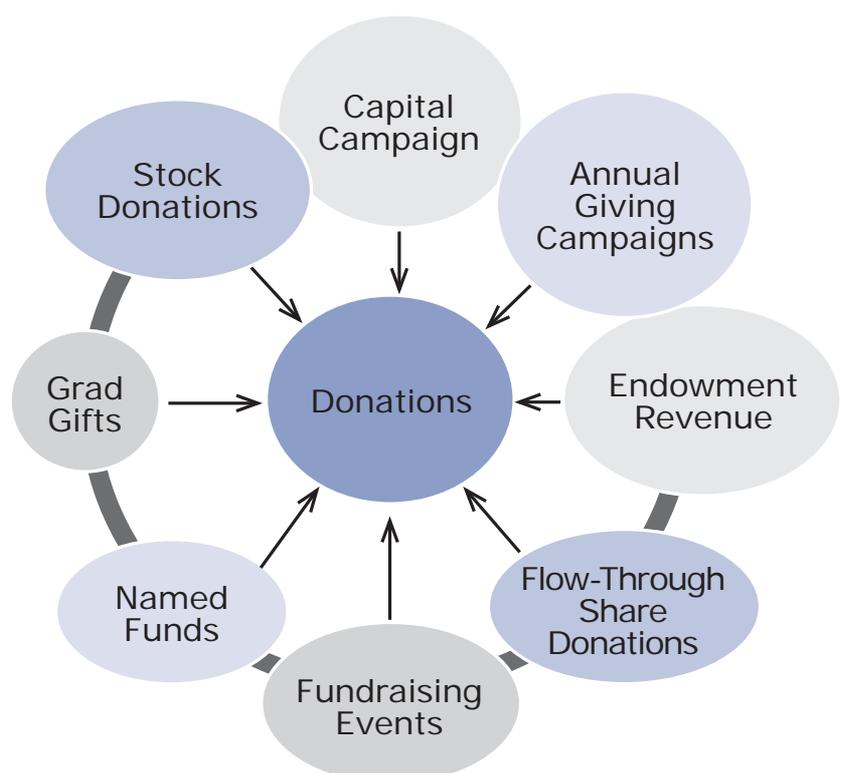
Please contact Patricia Lavoie at [advancement@stgeorges.qc.ca](mailto:advancement@stgeorges.qc.ca) so that she may send you supplementary information about this opportunity.

## Why Donate to St. George's?

St. George's receives a government grant for every student enrolled in the high school. This nominal amount, however, is insufficient to cover the cost of delivering a progressive, independent school education. While tuition fees help cover the shortfall between our operating costs and grant monies, our desire to offer financial assistance, provide deeper curriculum and program enrichment and enhance our facilities requires additional funds. This is where your donation can make a difference to the school and its students.



There are many ways to financially support St. George's:



# THE DRAGONLINK ANNUAL GIVING

## Annual Giving Campaign

Donations to St. George's School play a vital role in three key areas: campus upgrades, program enhancements (CLE) and financial assistance.

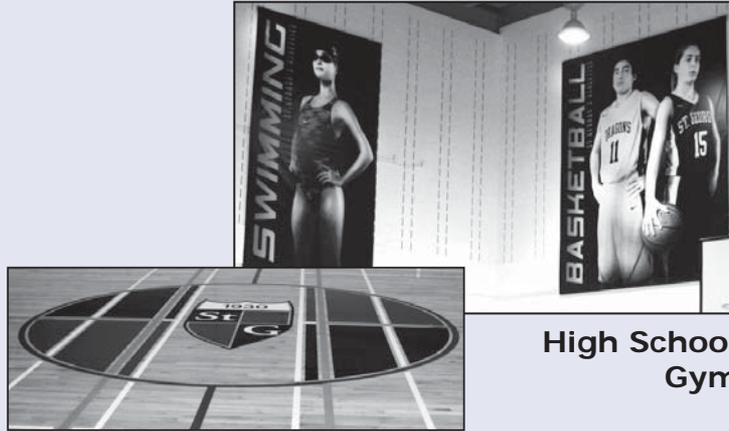
Our Annual Giving campaign this year will run from January 23rd to March 2nd, 2012. Our target is \$60,000 to support all three of these areas. While the average donation over the past 5 years has been just over \$310, no contribution is too small. Our goal is 100% participation from faculty, staff and current parents! Please find enclosed your personalized donation form. Your contribution can also be made online at [www.stgeorges.qc.ca/giving](http://www.stgeorges.qc.ca/giving).

As we prepare to launch the 2012 Annual Giving campaign, the following provides a recap as to where your donations went last year.

## Campus Upgrades

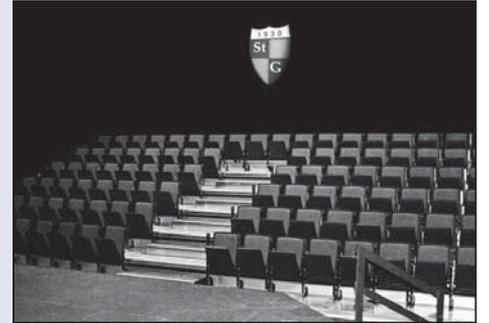
Funds raised last year helped complete these three beautification projects:

### High School Vestibule



High School Gym

### Retractable Theatre Seats in Bahadur Bhatla Studio



## Program Enhancements / Centre for Learning Enrichment (CLE)

- Twice a year consultation with world-renowned Math and Science consultant to shape our curriculum. Language Arts, Second Language and Social Studies and specialist teachers have also benefited from experts in the field of pedagogy.

- The recent purchase and implementation of Atlas Rubicon, an electronic curriculum mapping software which allows our teachers to fine tune our entire school curriculum map to avoid gaps and repetition.

- A yearly commitment to send a group of 3 to 4 teachers to The Summer Institute for Academic Diversity in Virginia. This program is one of the most respected, challenging and cohesive professional development opportunities available to teachers today.

- The hosting of a two-day St. George's Summer Institute for new and recently-hired teachers to build up their knowledge of our pedagogical approach and teaching practices.

## Financial Assistance

The Financial Assistance program at St. George's School has historically been a very important part of our school's philosophy and ethos. In addition to providing mission-appropriate students with the opportunity to experience a St. George's education, our financial assistance program serves to:

- diversify both the student and parent populations of the school;
- enhance our curriculum programming as associated costs of enriched delivery can be spread over a larger student base;
- keep us competitive in the marketplace as all of our competitor schools offer financial assistance, and
- offer short-term assistance to current families who may have fallen on hard times due to business reversals or other untoward events.

In 2011, a total of 35 students, (representing 8% of our student population) and 29 families from both the elementary and high school campuses benefited from our financial assistance program. Requests for assistance are based solely on financial need and are only considered once the student has been accepted through our regular admissions process. A highly confidential procedure, including an independent third party assessment, matches the needs of the school with the needs of applying families.

Over the past 5 years, close to 200 bursaries and a total of \$1,400,000 has been disbursed to worthy students and their families. Your continued support of our Financial Assistance program ensures that we can continue to provide deserving students and families with all of the advantages and benefits a St. George's education has to offer. On behalf of the many families who are truly grateful for your support, we thank you.

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