

# DRAGONLINK

ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL OF MONTREAL



ÉCOLE ST-GEORGES DE MONTREAL



## STORM CLOUDS ON THE HORIZON

On an otherwise lovely August day, as we were preparing for commencement of school, I opened a letter from le Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (MELS) which confirmed a three-year renewal of our school permit. This was certainly good news particularly as I was preparing to meet and greet faculty, students and parents for another exciting school year.

On closer inspection, however, there was one final paragraph at the end of this three page letter that began with the phrase "par ailleurs". Loosely translated and interpreted as "by the way", the letter went on to advise us that our Government Grant of almost \$900,000 was being suspended for not conforming to Article 93 of the Quebec Education Act in regards to the amounts of tuition that could be charged by a subsidized school.

In the absence of this grant, the school's operating budget would be short to the tune of \$25,000 a week as tuition fees had already been set and teacher contracts issued on the basis that grants would be forthcoming. That there was no forewarning of this action by MELS is beyond shocking.

Upon immediate consultation with other QAIS schools, we learned that there were some schools who were in "permit limbo" as a result of the upcoming provincial election while others had received letters similar to ours threatening to withhold their grants. In the weeks that followed

and with the support of our Finance Committee Treasurer (Lorne Steinberg), our Board President (Louise Anne Poirier) and the engagement of top legal counsel, we were able to challenge this unilateral sanction and by mid-October, our grant was retroactively reinstated. Our defense was that our tuition practices were no different than most other local English independent schools. We did, however, acknowledge that the presentation of our fee schedules needed to be revised.

Although our collective sigh of relief could be heard throughout the city, what remains is a cautionary tale. Our reprieve might well be a temporary one. We have all heard the "drum beats" of Quebec media and provincial politicians speaking of the need to abolish government subsidies to private schools. Quite frankly, the conversation amongst my peers is not "if" they will be abolished but rather "when".

St. George's is in very good shape. Our enrollment numbers are healthy in every grade with waiting lists in several. As mentioned by our Finance Committee Treasurer at Annual General Meeting last October, the school is sitting on comfortable cash reserves. However, as is the case with most other independent schools, tuition fees have never been able to fully cover the cost of the education we provide and if government grants disappear, this gap would become even larger.

Affordability is becoming the greatest challenge to the long term sustainability of independent schools. Tuition fees are reaching price thresholds and there is very little room for increases. While cost cutting may seem to be the obvious solution, when you are in the top quintile compared to other Canadian independent schools in terms of small class sizes and 78% of your fixed costs relate to salary alone, the decision to cut expenses directly

impacts the delivery of our curriculum and programs.

This is why fundraising is so important for us and for every other independent school. Our objective is to become financially secure so that we do not need to rely on government funding and tuition increases. Fundraising permits us to bridge the gap between tuition and cost of services, allowing us to continue to provide the great education you expect from our school.

Please support this year's fundraising campaigns. Many of you generously donated last year and this edition of the Dragonlink serves both to thank our supporters and hopefully inspire others. It is only through successful fundraising efforts and the generous support of our community that we can continue to maintain and enhance the exceptional programs that we are known for.

James A. Officer  
*Head of School*

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David Gameroff

Elizabeth Gomery '93  
(Advisor)

Patricia Klein '88

Patricia Lavoie

Lorne Mayers

James A. Officer

Louise Anne Poirier

L. Cynthia Semenic

Nathalie Shtern

Dorothy Yule

ANNUAL GIVING 2013 CAMPAIGN

Every year, St. George's School relies on parents (both current and past), faculty, staff and alumni to support its Annual Giving Campaign. Annual Giving is a critical source of funding for projects and initiatives that enable us to continue to provide an environment in which our students can excel. Upgrading our physical spaces, enhancing our curriculum and activities in new, exciting and forward-thinking ways, and enabling financial assistance all contribute to providing a unique experience at St. George's.

Two important needs have been identified that require your support this year:

There is no question that our Elementary School has an impressive outdoor play environment. This is not by chance. At St. George's, we have always believed that outdoor play in a natural environment leads to enhanced creativity in children and positive child development. Studies conducted in Sweden, Australia, Canada and the United States have found that schools with outdoor play areas encouraged more creative play and also provided an avenue for boys and girls to play together in egalitarian ways.

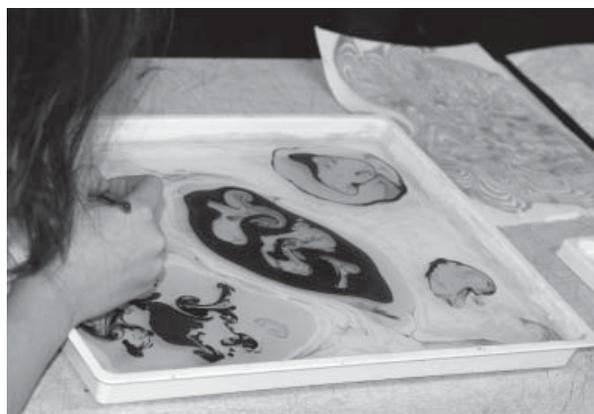
An integral part of this outdoor play area is the soccer field which is often unusable due to drainage and turf issues. Our goal is to replace the field with an environmentally-friendly grass alternative surface which will result in three-season, enriched recreational and co-curriculum

use of the field. While it would appear to be simple to replace the field with artificial grass, the amount of structural work required at the sub-soil level makes this an expensive proposition, albeit a long-lasting solution to our current field issues. The cost has been estimated at approximately \$100,000.

At the High School, our Science labs are in need of expansion and modernization. This includes the acquisition of equipment such as digital microscopes and a 3-D printer to mechanically create parts using computer-assisted technology. The transformation of the Visual Arts classrooms into functional and inspiring studio spaces will create room for life drawing, ceramics, printmaking and better storage of materials. We believe that raising \$50,000 for these two areas would enrich our student's experiences and capabilities in the areas of art and science.

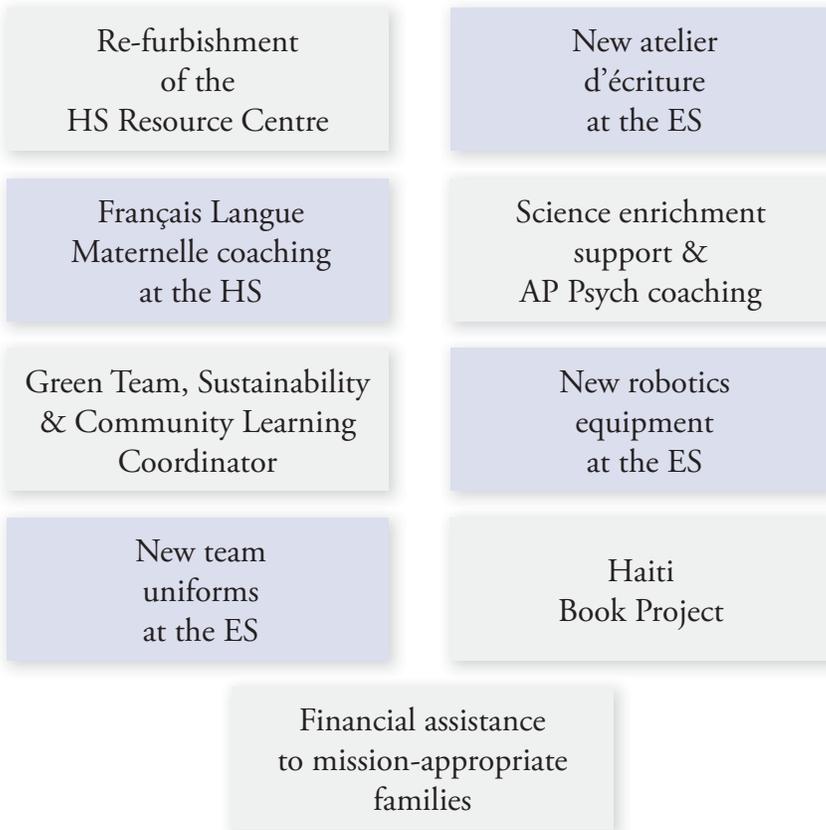
As is the case for most independent schools in Canada, tuition fees alone are not sufficient to fund curriculum enriching initiatives such as these and we are asking all our constituents to donate in any way they can. All donations, regardless of size, are greatly appreciated. Please note that your donation is fully tax-receiptable.

While our school may be small, our heart is big and we hope you agree that our students deserve the best we can offer.

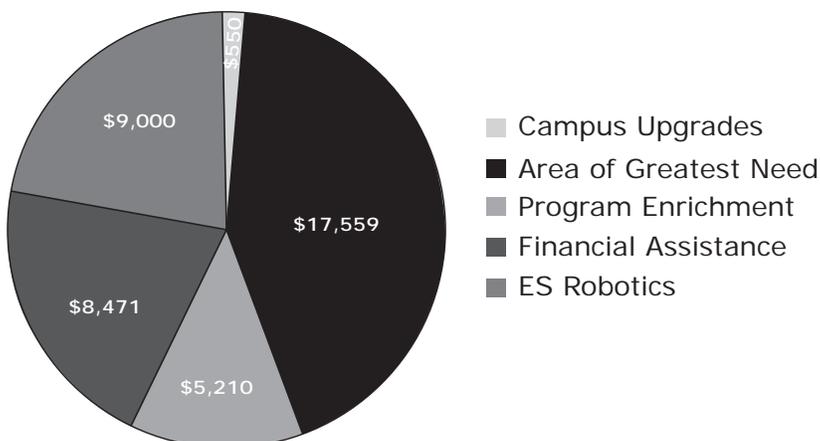


## ANNUAL GIVING 2012 CAMPAIGN

Last year, gifts made to our Annual Giving fund totaled over \$40,000. The proceeds of these funds were specifically used for:



For the first time in memory, we had 100% participation not only from our Board of Directors but from our Elementary and High School Staff members. Faculty contributions at both campuses were also healthy. It is clear that a gradual shift in the culture of giving is afoot!



## THE BOULEVARD FOUNDATION

In 2011 and 2012, a number of St. George's parents subscribed to flow through share offerings which resulted in over \$260,000 being raised for The Boulevard Foundation. The Boulevard Foundation is a legal entity separate from St. George's School of Montreal, the purpose of which is to ensure St. George's long term sustainability, preservation and growth.

With the help of PearTree Financial Services, these donors purchased flow-through shares and then donated them to St. George's. The School subsequently sold the shares to a pre-identified purchaser and received cash. What's in it for the donor? They benefited from the ITC (investment tax credit) and CEE (Canadian Exploration Expense) tax benefits associated with having originally purchased the shares. In addition, they also received a tax credit for having donated the shares to St. George's. Win-win.

The Patrons' Circle is a recognition program based on cumulative giving to The Boulevard Foundation. A plaque will be installed in the High School acknowledging those who have made contributions to The Boulevard Foundation so far:

Ms. Katrin Nakashima & Mr. Doron Altman  
 Dr. Brenda Rosenzweig & Mr. David Gameroff  
 Ms. Janet & Mr. Lee Harrison  
 Ms. Karen Kear & Mr. Claude Jodoin  
 Ms. Jennifer Murray-Lavoie & Mr. Patrick Lavoie  
 Ms. Caroline & Mr. Earl Luger  
 Ms. Louise Anne Poirier & Mr. Connor O'Brien  
 Ms. Nathalie Bossé & Mr. James A. Officer  
 Ms. Colleen & Mr. Miroslav Wicha

If you are interested in supporting The Boulevard Foundation or participating in future flow-through share transaction opportunities, please contact the Advancement Office at [advancement@stgeorges.qc.ca](mailto:advancement@stgeorges.qc.ca)

# THANK YOU TO ANNUAL GIVING 2012 DONORS

PLEASE NOTE THAT A NUMBER OF DONORS CONTRIBUTED ANONYMOUSLY.

## \$1,000.00 +

Renée Lacroix & James Angle  
 Ross & Ciny Christie  
 Maureen Frumkin & Jack Dym  
 Brenda Rosenzweig & David Gameroff  
 Charlotte & Kamryn Goldberg  
 Kim Holden & Gary Shannon  
 Susan Starr '73 & François Prénovost  
 L. Cynthia Semenic

Allan & Sylvie Vosko  
 Robert & Randy Zittler

Douglas Loerick  
 Carmen Losada  
 Risa Lukofsky '82 & Anthony Wolfe '80

## \$0 - \$249.99

Marina Gillis  
 Scott Armstrong  
 Germain Belouin  
 Judith & Allan Berger  
 Lori Deegan & Philip Birdgenaw

Paul Macdougall  
 Michael MacGillivray  
 Leigh-Ann Malcolm  
 Lucy Martin  
 Leigh McCarthy  
 Stéphanie Mireault

## \$500.00-\$999.99

Rune & Hanne Andersen  
 Virginia Anderson & Marc Missonnier  
 Lynn Butler-Kisber  
 Anna Colitto & Emilio Cordileone  
 Patricia Lavoie  
 Heidi Levitsky & Ron Kaminski  
 Natalia Jaramillo-Gomez & Mr. Carlos Obando  
 Nathalie Bossé & Jim Officer  
 Louise McIntyre & Valentino Polidori  
 Stacy Zipkin '82 & Barry Gurman  
 Judith Bronfman-Thau '69  
 Pamela Itzcovitch & Michael Gathercole

Alicia Black  
 Stephanie Blum  
 Harold & Judy Borts  
 Ken Breaker  
 Daniel Bruneau  
 Susan Byck '82 & Stéphane Roy

Monna Moskovitch-Malkinson  
 Diane and Richard Munz  
 Michael O'Connor  
 Laura Officer  
 Sean O'Neill  
 Gary & Leslie Ornstein

Rachel Byck  
 Annie Caputo  
 Kathay Carson  
 Thomas Daly '77

Tim Peters  
 Sharon Picard  
 Francis Plante  
 Penny Bloch & Peter Rohrluck '79

Aidan De Jean  
 Jeff Deeprise  
 Danielle Delhaes  
 Ann Denis '62

Serge Rousseau  
 Anna Sampogna  
 Victor Savulescu  
 Robyn Schreter

## \$250.00-\$499.99

Danielle Cheff & Lorne Bassel  
 In memory of B.C. Bhatla  
 Marla Feldman & Llyod Cooper  
 Valerie Abdoo & Patrick Telio  
 Nancy Rosenfeld  
 Nadia Delli Colli '83  
 Maria Marsillo & Joseph Kholam  
 Lorne Steinberg Wealth Management  
 Andrea Zlotnik & Dean Mendel  
 Cliff Morham '66  
 Sunny & Nini Pal  
 Louise Anne Poirier & Connor O'Brien  
 Elvira Flores & Fernando Respicio  
 Rick & Lynn Sala  
 Sherri Bloom & Jay Stubina

Mark Driedger  
 Holly Durkee  
 Cindy Entis & Daniel Copnick

Joanie Schwartz & William Grossman  
 Elizabeth Sexton  
 Ann Shivas

Brian Foote  
 Jeanne Gan  
 Louise Girouard  
 Jimmy Greer  
 Michael & Lilianne Grossman

Aaron Stamboulieh  
 Alexander H. Stanton '71  
 Ronny & Lisa Steinberg  
 Maria Szuber  
 Matthew Tegel

Candace Grynol  
 Hannah Hershman  
 Adriana Hirian  
 Dani Jansen  
 Jaime Jeffries

Enda Tobin  
 Sandra Tobman  
 Ann Vieira  
 Emily Watts  
 Samantha A. Welscheid '99

Carol Sanadee Jessop  
 Khursheed Khursigara  
 Lianne Levy & Mitch Deckelbaum  
 Beatrice Lewis

Jo-Ann Wong  
 Dorothy Yule  
 Karen Zajdman

## MILESTONE YEARS

(COMPLETED AS OF JUNE 2012)

### WITH 10 YEARS OF SERVICE:

- David Baker
- Leigh-Ann Malcolm
- Enda Tobin
- Sharon Picard
- Patti Payne

### WITH 15 YEARS OF SERVICE:

- Jeff Deeprise
- Khursheed Khurshigara
- Doug Loerick
- Nathalie Roy
- Ann Vieira

### WITH 20 YEARS OF SERVICE:

- Tori Cattell
- Hannah Hershman
- Josee Lacombe
- Caterina Trotto

### WITH 25 YEARS OF SERVICE:

- Judy Berger
- Tom Daly
- Marie Hade

### PARENTAL LEAVES

- Lindsay Gallimore
- Helen Normandeau
- Cameron Folkerson

### SABBATICAL

- Bill Nevin

### RETIREMENT

- Jimmy Greer (20 years)  
*(Retired in June 2012)*
- Marie Hade (32 years)  
*(Retired in June 2012)*
- Vivianne Cameron (35 years)  
*(Retired in December 2012)*

## 2012-2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eleanore Ballentine  
*Member-at-Large*

Madeleine Bonnard  
*Member-at-Large*

Lynn Butler-Kisber  
*Outside Educator*

Brian Foote  
*HS Faculty Representative*

Hannah Hershman  
*ES Faculty Representative*

Kim Holden  
*Member-at-Large*

Pamela Itzcovitch  
*Secretary and Chairperson  
Marketing Committee*

Patricia Klein '88  
*Alumni Representative*

Tamara Elias Liebmann  
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Risa Lukofsky '82  
*Chairperson Advancement Committee*

Carlos Obando  
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*Member-at-Large*

James A. Officer  
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Louise Anne Poirier  
*President*

Laurie Shapiro  
*Chairperson PAC  
(Parent Activity Committee)*

Lorne Steinberg  
*Treasurer and Chairperson  
Finance Committee*

## RETIREMENT FAREWELLS

### MARIE HADE

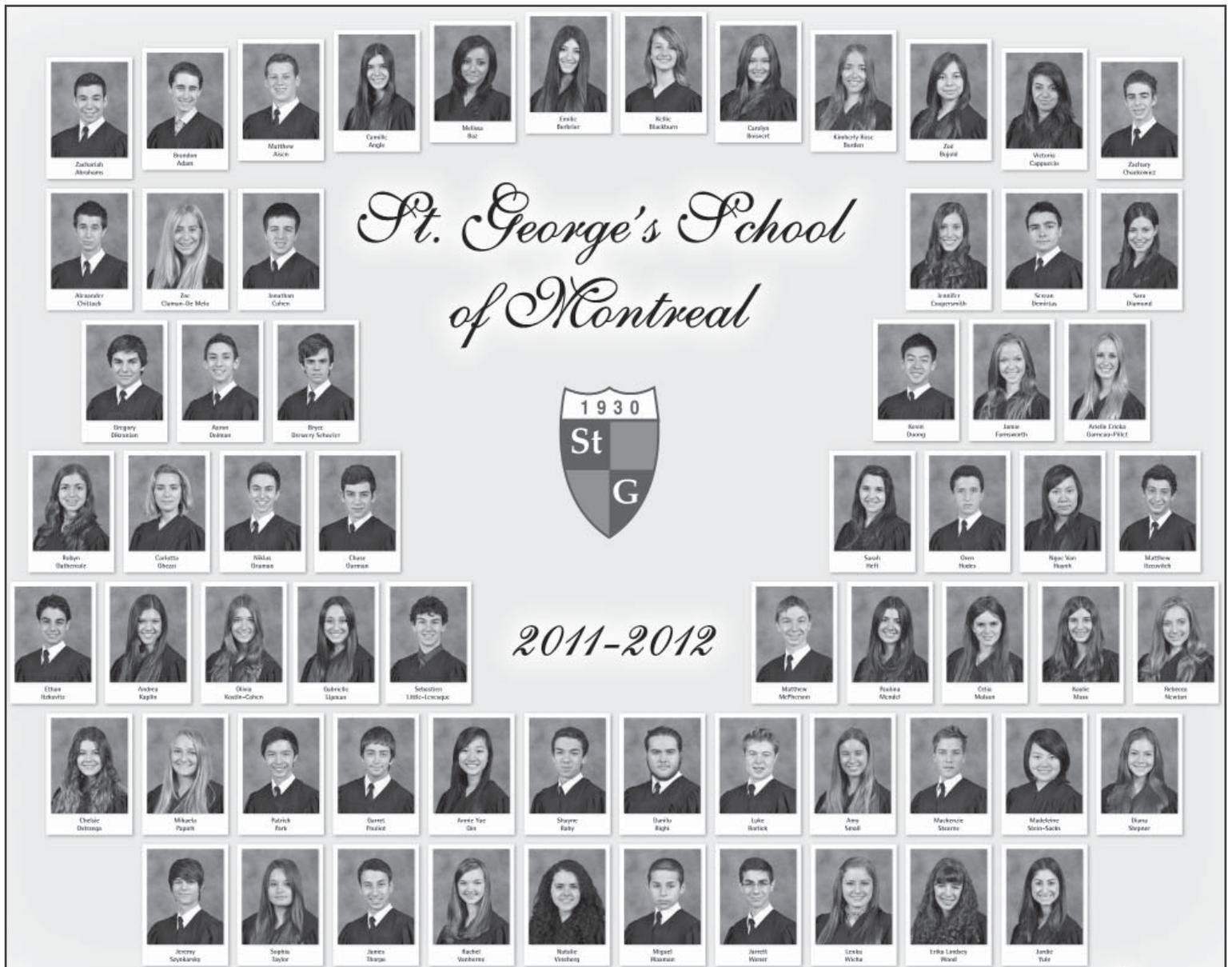
Retired with 32 years of service.



**JIMMY GREER**  
Retired with 20  
years of service.



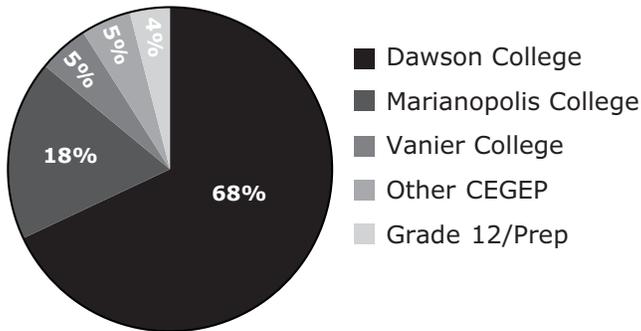
**VIVIANNE CAMERON**  
Retired with 35  
years of service.



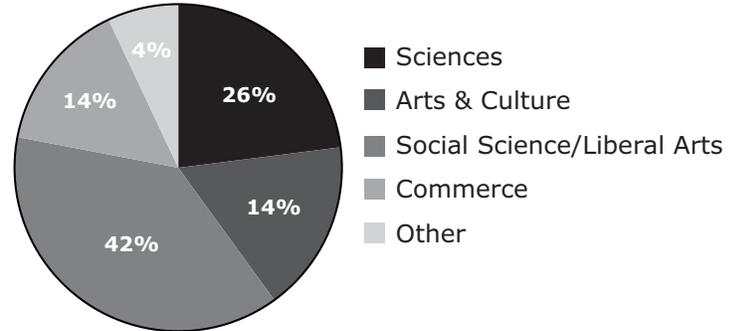
- Top Row:* Zachariah Abrahams, Brandon Adams, Matthew Aisen, Camille Angle, Melissa Baz, Emilie Berbrier, Kellie Blackburn, Carolyn Boisvert, Kimberly Rose Borden, Zoë Bujold, Victoria Cappuccio & Zachary Chackowicz.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Row:* Alexander Chittock, Zoe Claman-De Melo, Jonathan Cohen, Jennifer Coopersmith, Sercan Demirtas & Sara Diamond.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Row:* Gregory Dikranian, Aaron Dolman, Bryce Drewery Schoeler, Kevin Duong, Jamie Farnsworth & Arielle Garneau-Pillet.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Row:* Robyn Gathercole, Carlotta Ghezzi, Niklas Gruman, Chase Gurman, Sarah Heft, Oren Hodes, Ngoc Van Huynh & Matthew Itzcovitch.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Row:* Ethan Itzkovitz, Andrea Kaplin, Olivia Kostin-Cohen, Gabrielle Lipman, Sebastien Little-Levesque, Matthew McPherson, Paulina Mendel, Celia Molson, Kaylie Moss & Rebecca Newton.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Row:* Chelsie Ostrzega, Mikaela Papich, Patrick Park, Garret Pouliot, Annie Yue Qin, Shayne Raby, Danilo Righi, Luke Rorlick, Amy Small, Mackenzie Stearns, Madeline Stein-Sacks & Diana Stepner.
- Bottom Row:* Jeremy Szykarsky, Sophia Taylor, James Thorpe, Rachel Vanhorne, Natalie Vineberg, Miguel Waxman, Jarrett Wener, Lenka Wicha, Erika Lindsey Wood & Jordie Yule.

## ABOUT OUR GRADUATES

### Where are they going?



### What are they studying?



“Everyone always says that CEGEP is a big adjustment. I was surprised how well prepared I was both academically & emotionally for this new experience. Many of my St. George’s classmates feel the same way.” – *St. George’s 2012 Grad.*

## GOVERNOR’S GENERAL AWARD & BIRKS’ SILVER MEDAL

A special assembly on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 was held to present the Governor’s General Award to Olivia Kostin-Cohen ’12 & the Birks’ Silver Medal to Andrea Kaplin ’12 for having achieved the highest and 2<sup>nd</sup> highest GPA amongst their graduating class.



## ST. GEORGE’S 2012 SCHOLARS

The St. George’s Scholar award is St. George’s most prestigious internal academic award. Students must:

- maintain an overall average of 85% in Grades 10 & 11
- have no course grade lower than 75%
- be recommended by each of the relevant academic departments

Brandon Adam

Camille Angle

Emilie Berbrier

Zachary Chackowicz

Jennifer Coopersmith

Sercan Demirtas

Sara Diamond

Aaron Dolman

Bryce Drewery Schoeler

Kevin Duong

Carlotta Ghezzi

Niklas Gruman

Oren Hodes

Andrea Kaplin

Olivia Kostin-Cohen

Sebastien Little-Levesque

Matthew McPherson

Kaylie Moss

Rebecca Newton

Chelsie Ostrzega

Mikaela Papich

Annie Qin

Amy Small

Diana Stepner

James Thorpe

Rachel Vanhorne

Natalie Vineberg

Jarrett Wener

Erika Wood

# PARENT GRAD GIFT 2012

Over the years, it has become a tradition for the parents of the Graduating Class to offer a gift of appreciation to the school – their way of saying “thank you”.

Each day, our students seek out an oasis. The Student Lounge on the lower level of the high school has historically been that place...a space where friendships are born, grown and forged, where community becomes more than just a word. It has become the heart of the school. Contributions from the parents of the Class of 2012 were used towards Phase I of the Student Lounge revitalization. A computer bar extending fully along the sunny window space was installed and was being used by students immediately upon completion. It is expected that the next three graduating class families will contribute to the remaining phases this project.



## THANK YOU TO 2012 PARENT GRAD GIFT DONORS

PLEASE NOTE THAT A NUMBER OF DONORS CONTRIBUTED ANONYMOUSLY.

Alon Adam & Cynthia Garber-Adam '83

Renée Lacroix and James Angle

Douglas & Betsy Blackburn

Clifford Borden

Michel & Nelly Bujold

Deborah Cohen & Nissen Chackowicz

Lina & Michel Cohen

Haig & Anna-Marie Dikranian

Shirley Herskovits & Howard Dolman

Kim Phung Vuong & Cokham Duong

Pamela Itzcovitch & Michael Gathercole

Helen & Chris Gillespie

Peter & Sandra McPherson

Stig-Erik Gruman & Giannina Lapolla

Marvin & Lisa Gurman

Hodes Family

Richard Kaplin

Marjorie Kirsch & Andrew Heft

Andrea & Dean Mendel

Michael Newton & Christine Kostecki

Papich Family

Karen Poulsen

Xuemei Liu & Zhaohui Qin

Doreen Rubin Stein-Sacks

Mark & Marla Small

Syd Stepner

Ken Thorpe & Janice Linder

Vineberg Family

Stephen & Aviva Wener

Wicha Family

Wood Family

Linda Zlatkin

# WELCOME FROM ST. GEORGE'S ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVE



To my fellow St. Georgians,

It is a privilege to serve as your Alumni Representative again this year on the St. George's Board of Directors for 2012-2013.

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 friendships and memories which date back to our St. George's days remain so strong to this day.

Our Alumni share a unique connection and strong sense of community which is apparent by their continued involvement with the St. George's family. In order to maintain the special ties that date

back to our St. George's years, we are currently engaged in an ongoing effort to improve and upgrade contact and communication amongst ourselves and with the school. To that end, one of our biggest projects this year is dedicated to the verification of all of our Alumni contact information.

To facilitate this task we have created a direct link in the Alumni area on our website: [www.stgeorges.qc.ca/alumnidirectory](http://www.stgeorges.qc.ca/alumnidirectory). This allows for quick and easy access to the Alumni database so contact information can be verified and updated quickly.

We are also seeking up to four Class Coordinators for each grade. Greater representation from each grade will reach more Alumni. Class Coordinators play a special role acting as a liaison between their graduating classmates and the school. They are a critical link in preserving the cohesiveness of a class and maintaining communication with the school. If you are interested in becoming a Class Coordinator for your grade please contact [alumni@stgeorges.qc.ca](mailto:alumni@stgeorges.qc.ca).

Any and all levels of support and involvement are welcome and greatly appreciated by the St. George's community. Give the gift of a St. George's education to a student who otherwise couldn't experience it by contributing to Financial Assistance. Honor an amazing and unforgettable teacher that touched your life through the teacher appreciation or department-specific fund which honors 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.

We want to hear from you! Reach out and drop us a line for the next issue of the Dragonlink at [alumni@stgeorges.qc.ca](mailto:alumni@stgeorges.qc.ca) telling us where you are and what you are up to! Come back and see us! Join our Alumni Speaker Series, a great way to share with and inspire current students.

Thanks for staying in touch,

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

## ALUMNI CLASS COORDINATOR FAQ's

### 1. WHAT IS A CLASS COORDINATOR?

Class Coordinators act as ambassadors for their graduating class on a going forward basis. They are representatives of their student body for their grade. These graduates are individuals who continue to be enthusiastic about the school and appreciate the importance of maintaining close ties with the St. George's community.

### 2. WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES?

Class Coordinators act as a liaison between their grade and the school. They assist with class reunions and help verify and maintain their classmates' current contact information.

### 3. WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT?

The time commitment is quite nominal since there is more than one Class Coordinator per grade. Two to four people work together in each grade making it a great way to reconnect with your classmates and mitigate any large work burden.

### 4. HOW DO I BECOME A CLASS COORDINATOR?

Each class has between two-four Class Coordinators. If you are interested in becoming a Class Coordinator for your graduating year please contact us at [alumni@stgeorges.qc.ca](mailto:alumni@stgeorges.qc.ca).

### 5. WHAT DO I DO IF I CAN NO LONGER ACT AS A CLASS COORDINATOR?

We appreciate your commitment to the school and your classmates. If you are unable to continue in your role as Class Coordinator please contact us at [alumni@stgeorges.qc.ca](mailto:alumni@stgeorges.qc.ca).

# HOMECOMING 2012



On May 12, 2012, alumni were treated to a trip down memory lane as classrooms were transformed into decade rooms. A great time was had by all who attended. Bette Clark '72 offered the following: "How incredible! I have not set foot in St. George's since I graduated 40 years ago and yet coming back has brought back memories that I thought I had forgotten. What a great idea of setting up rooms by decades. It was wonderful to see familiar faces in those photos. Next time I hope more familiar faces will be here to see in person." Alex Gatti '02 also added "One decade later, here we are... A mere few of us gathered to catch a glimpse of who we once were and who we have now become. However brief, this trip down the proverbial memory lane was most definitely a worthwhile experience. Learning things today, just as we did throughout our five year stay at this most enriching of academic institutions. Thank you St. George's, thank you to all those who make this school what it is."

# 1967 45 years



Here are a few photos from the reunion which was held in Toronto in early June 2012.

This reunion was attended by graduates and non-graduates from that class. We understand that it was a lot of fun and a good time was had by all who attended the weekend festivities hosted by Barbara Goldbloom Hughes, Susan Goldbloom Restler, Harriet Sachs and Angela Spiliotopoulos Hould.



Photos compliments of Carol B. Brettell '67

# 1982

30 years



Photo Gallery  
by Robin Quon '82

They came from near and far to attend; some from California, Hong Kong, Massachusetts and Ontario to join their local alums at their 30<sup>th</sup> year reunion. You could hear the laughter throughout the building when this group got together. An interesting fact about this group is that many of them are also current parents.

# 1987

25 years



One after the other they came! Shaking each other's hands, patting each other on the back, kissing each other on the cheeks, hugging and laughing! It was unbelievable and wonderful.

So many years had passed and so much had happened in each of our lives and yet so many came back and mixed so well, with everyone appreciating everyone else just for who they were. It was even better than the old days!

Thank you so much to the Class of 1987 and St. G staff for an unforgettable reunion! It was totally worth it!

– Julian Hung '87

# 2002

10 years

At a wine and cheese reception in their honour, smiles and hugs were everywhere as these students caught up with each other and their former teachers.

A lovely toast was made in memory of the late Adam Tkatch.



# 2013

Milestone Years

2008 – 5 years

1983 – 30 years

2003 – 10 years

1973 – 40 years

1993 – 20 years

1963 – 50 years

1988 – 25 years

Interested in getting together with your old classmates? Curious as to what St. George's High School looks like now? The Alumni Office can help coordinate a wine and cheese reception or weekend brunch at the school for you and your classmates. For more information, contact Patricia Lavoie at [alumni@stgeorges.qc.ca](mailto:alumni@stgeorges.qc.ca).

1961  
- 1964

**ROBERT BALLANTYNE '61**

I would love to hear from any of the folks who shared my time at St. George's. I've been a producer of planetarium shows in Montreal and Toronto for 10 years, and 10 years as a director of the Planetarium in Winnipeg, a director of communications for a museum, one year as an Interim CEO of the Marmot Recovery Fdn. I am now a consultant mainly to non-profit organizations. See my website at ballantyne.com. When I can, I hike or telemark ski in BC's spectacular backcountry.

**HARRIET PEMBERTON SMITH '61**

I began my career as a French-to-English translator for the Federal Government's Translation Bureau in Ottawa. For the past 40 years I have worked doing simultaneous translation/interpretation as a Parliamentary Interpreter for the House of Commons Question Period, the Senate and other government committees and meetings.

**MELINDA TIPTON-MARSDEN '63**

My interests include history, genealogy and needlework. I serve on the boards of our local breast cancer support organization, the centre for abused women and our Women's Giving Circle.

**JOHN DIXON '64**

After many years in various administrative posts at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario (Head of the Department of Geological Sciences from 1986 to 1993, Associate Dean in the Faculty of Arts and Science from 1993 to 2000, Associate Vice-Principal (Academic & International) from 2000 to 2010, and Vice-Procost (International) from 2010 to 2012), I have returned to my academic position as a Professor in the Department of Geological Sciences and Geological Engineering. I am currently enjoying an administrative leave and I'm focusing on getting my research program in structural geology re-established.

Following graduation from St. George's in 1964, I did a B.Sc. in Geological Sciences at McGill. My wife Heather (Hilchey) and I were married in 1970 and moved to the USA where I pursued grad studies at the University of Connecticut (MS '72, PhD '74). We had the privilege of spending most of 1973 in Sweden while I was a visiting doctoral student at Uppsala University. We moved to Kingston when I joined Queen's in 1974. We have also lived in California and New Zealand while I had sabbatical leaves at Stanford University (1980-81) and the University of Otago (1991-92).

Heather and I have been thrilled by the arrival of two new grandchildren this past summer. Our daughter Erin and son-in-law Gordon McCance welcomed their son William (a brother for daughter

Kate), and our daughter Katharine and son-in-law Matthew Benson celebrated the arrival of their first child, Owen. Both families live in Toronto and, not surprisingly, we visit them frequently.

Best wishes to all in the St. George's community and especially my classmates from '64. I look forward to a 50-year reunion get-together of some kind in 2014!

**PETER J. YEARWOOD '64**

I'm in California at the start of a round-the-world trip which will take me to Barbados, where my family came from, to England, and to Australia, where I shall meet Walter McVitty, who was my Grade 6 teacher back in 1958-9.

I am still lecturing in History at the University of Papua New Guinea, where I have been since 2000. I was made Assistant Professor at the beginning of the year. I am Joint Editor of South Pacific Journal of Philosophy and Culture, and am about halfway through writing my second major book, provisionally titled "Palm Nuts and Prime Ministers; The Nigeria Trade and the Death of Liberal England, 1914-1916".

With best wishes for the future of St G.'s!

1970  
- 1983

**SUSAN GLICKMAN '70**

In 2012, I published the third instalment of the Lunch Bunch trilogy of middle-grade readers, Bernadette to the Rescue, my sixth volume of poetry, The Smooth Yarrow, and my second novel for adults, The Tale-Teller. One of the advantages of publishing new books is that I was able to visit former classmate Teresa Watts in Vancouver and Julie Parker in Edmonton.

**RAYMOND BROW '72**

A former Arctic navigator, oil & gas industry professional now involved in long term care and pharmacy. My volunteer interests include assisting emerging artists in the music industry. Formerly on the Board of Directors of Music, PEI & the East Coast Music Association (ECMA). Currently the Chair of the Festival of Small Halls.

**BETTE CLARK '72**

I now live in New York which has been my base for about 25 years. When I graduated from St. George's I went to college in the U.S. and stayed in the States ever since. I moved to California after college and went to Stanford for graduate school in anthropology, did field work in Australia and moved to NYC. I then went back to school in clinical psychology. I have a small practice on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, where I work mostly with children. I have two children who recently graduated from Cornell and live in

San Francisco. I run marathons for fun, travel and enjoy life as much as possible. I'd love to hear from my classmates!!

**LYNN KOLBER-HALLIDAY '75**

Lynn has recently performed in the Fringe NYC production of Vacuum and My Heart Belongs to Mary.

**RICHARD BELL '78**

Richard is married to Naomi Faraj '82. They live in Montreal. Richard works in discretionary portfolio management with Industrial Alliance Securities. He is the father of 3 high school age children – youngest at St. George's. He is also an active member of various committees and boards of his children's school. After graduating from St. George's, Richard attended Vanier College, then University of Western Ontario (class of '83). He is an avid skier & biker (road and mountain).

**CLAIRE DESJARDINS '82**

Claire Desjardins is passionate about contemporary abstract art – in particular, the relationship between colour and form. Her work can be found in both private and corporate collections around the world. She is represented in Toronto by Muse Gallery, and Saatchi Online promotes her work regularly. Anthropologie (the US retailer owned by Urban Outfitters) sells her work in their stores (Montreal, 5th Ave, Soho, and Chicago, for now), as well as on their North American and

European web sites. They have also reproduced some of her works on merchandise.

Claire comes from a long line of artists in her family, and embraces the multi-cultural experience, traveling whenever she is able to. Much of her art-oriented family is spread out across Europe and in Quebec. She grew up speaking both English and French. Her personal mantra is that each of us is the maker of our own destiny. Her bold, colourful work exudes this energy. She was awarded a grant to attend the Vermont Studio Center (Johnson, Vermont, USA), in 2011 and again in 2012/13. Claire's art studio is located in Montreal, at 4710 St-Ambroise Street. [www.clairedesjardins.com](http://www.clairedesjardins.com).



**TED BALTUCH '83**

Ted is living in Westmount and married to Renée Feldman. He is the father of Philip and Max. He likes working, training and enjoys every day. He will be skiing at Tremblant this winter.

1983  
- 1995

### JOHN LAIDLEY '83

I am still as wild and crazy as before!! I currently run my own electrical contracting company specializing in high end custom houses, alternative energy and utility consulting. 2012 marked our first year of expansion from St Vincent up to Jamaica! All those years in Africa, South and Central America have finally paid off.

### JULIE SOSSANPOUR '86

I am a very proud mom! My son Emanuel '17 has begun his St. George's experience.

### HOWARD BILERMAN '87

Howard is a Grammy nominated musician and record producer, living (still) in Montreal. He has recorded over 350 records including those by Wolfe Parade, Godspeed You Black Emperor, Vic Chesnutt, Coeur de Pirate and Arcade Fire (a band he also played drums with). In addition, Howard has appeared in numerous films and TV shows, since leaving Mr. Meyer's drama class in 1987. His daughter, Svetlana likes The Clash. He approves. Apparently, Howard also writes in the 3rd person.

### PAUL GRAIF '87

I am a morning radio co-host on K103 .7 FM in Kahnawake. I also

anchor the sports on CTV News Montreal. I am the father of a beautiful 5 year old girl.

### JULIAN HUNG '87

After leaving St. George's, I went to Brebeuf and then on to McGill and Carleton to study economics. I then had an opportunity to join the shipping industry in Singapore which turned out to be an adventure of a lifetime. I ended up spending 17 years out there and got married and had two children. I just moved back with my family to Montreal and I am very happy to be back.

It was great to visit St. George's for Homecoming this past May 2012 and for our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary reunion on November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

### KAREN WISE '90

Karen is a photographer specializing in wedding and food photography. She was voted "One of the Top 10 Wedding Photographers in the World" by American Photo Magazine. Her photographs have been in Vogue India, PDN, Town & Country, New York Magazine Weddings, Style Me Pretty and more.

### BEV MITELMAN '93

Bev works for the Government of Canada as the Assistant Director of Virtual Learning and Research at the Canada School of Public Service. She returned home to Montreal in 2002 after living in Ottawa and Waterloo for seven years. She recently celebrated 10

years of marriage to her husband, Joe Lyman from Ottawa, and is a super-busy Mom raising her two sons, Ethan (8) and Jake (6).

### ALLYSON KASSIE GOLDBERG '94

Allyson is an entrepreneur in the fashion field. She started as a private label designer for mass market (Sears, The Bay, Walmart, etc.) then started her own business – Bloom Maternity, a retail store specializing in high end maternity clothing. Since selling her business two years ago, she has been a consultant in fashion, retail and wholesale. Her latest credits include costume design for TV and movies, Reitman's and ZIPZ shoes.

### ROBIN LATOUR '94

I am an archaeologist, so I love anything to do with other people's rubbish from pretty much all countries and periods. I bet M. Binette never saw that coming. I don't think I liked History that much in 1991.

### MIKA GOODFRIEND '95

In July 2012, I was selected as the National Winner for the BMO 1<sup>st</sup> Art! Competition. The work selected was part of my Snowbirds series, a project I worked on during my final year at Concordia's BFA Photography program which I graduated from in May with great distinction. The winning pieces were exhibited at the MOCCA in Toronto and were purchased by the BMO Corporate Art Collection.

1996  
- 2002

**LAUREN ALCORN '96**

Is the Special Project Manager at India for ONE DROP working on poverty alleviation through access to water and sanitation in rural Orissa, India. She was previously the Project Manager for the United Nations Association in Canada's (UNA-Canada) Ripple Effect, a National water and sanitation program aiming to raise awareness and influence habits and perceptions around water. Prior to joining UNA-Canada, she worked at Schools Without Borders where she managed their internship, youth and volunteer programs. She has lived, studied and worked in India, Canada, Denmark, Cuba, Ghana and Central America.

**ROBERT BLATT '96**

Robert is working in his family business called Acces Communications, a radio communications and wireless technology company and married Robyn Schreter on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012...the hottest day of the summer! They enjoyed every second of the day and felt the love from family and friends.



**EUGENIA CUKIER '97 & JAY SALA '97**

Congratulations on the birth of their third child, Lincoln Sala.

**PHANI PAPACHRISTOU '98**

Phani received her Master's in Counseling Psychology.

**ADAM BLANSHAY '98**

Adam lives in NYC, and has produced the Broadway productions of Evita (starring Ricky Martin), How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying (starring Nick Jonas), and Jesus Christ Superstar, which is a transfer from the acclaimed sold-out run at the Stratford Festival. He has also been nominated for a Grammy Award for producing the cast album of How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying.



**JAMIE SHAPIRO '99**

Jamie and his wife Michelle Brott just had their first baby – a little girl, Joey Reese.

**PEDRO AVELLA CARRILLO '02**

It has been quite an incredible 10 years of growing up. I do feel pretty accomplished and proud

to be part of the St. George's family. After graduating from McGill University in Business and getting a Comm/PR diploma, I now am working in the non-profit NGO international organization world. Today I work for the United Nations and I plan to have a career there. I may need to travel and move but I'm ready for it. I will do a Masters eventually; there's still time. Apart from that, I train for the competitive triathlons with friends after work and will do my first Ironman I love dancing Argentinian tango with my girlfriend on Fridays – now Level VI and spend quality time with friends and family on weekends. I am also involved in my community raising money for cancer research. I guess all the community service at St. George's did justice. Overall, I am happy and enjoy every day of life, seizing opportunities and looking to grow wiser and stronger. Thanks St. George's for teaching me English! El Colombiano.

**OMAR BENALI '02**

I have graduated with a Bachelor of Industrial Engineering. I am currently working as an Industrial Engineering Officer at Canada Post Corporation.

**LEE HABERKORN '02**

Lee is currently producing musical theatre for young audiences and is the Director, Academy and Educational Outreach at the Segal Centre for Performing Arts.

# 2002 - 2009

## JOSEPH KHOURY '02

I am currently working at an engineering firm. I work in the bridges department with a team that works on plans and documents for various new structures that are built in Quebec and elsewhere in Canada. My job keeps me pretty busy. I also play a lot of sports and am taking courses to specialize in my field.

## AMY STEINMAN '02

Amy recently graduated from Columbia University's MFA Stage Management program. Since living in New York City, she has worked at the Metropolitan Opera, on Broadway's *Wicked*, *Bring It On!*, *The Musical*, and *Death of A Salesman* starring Philip Seymour Hoffman and Andrew Garfield. This summer she worked at the Montreal Just For Laughs Festival where she had the opportunity to work with Bob Saget, Howie Mandel and *The Muppets*, among others. She looks forward to being the Production Assistant on the upcoming production of *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*, opening on Broadway in February 2013. Amy would like to thank the St. George's Drama department for helping her find her true passion and for starting her on the path of this incredible, exciting career!



## SARAH LEBLANC '03

After a brief but rewarding career as a Financial Consultant with Investors, Sarah decided to combine both her true passions, running a business and playing video games. She then founded an independent game studio. The studio's first game: *Mathtronaut.com* will launch in 2013.

## JONATHAN SILVER '04

After graduation, Jonathan pursued his DEC at Dawson College in Arts and Culture, during which time he landed several jobs recording voice for animation. After Dawson, He received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Concordia University in Theatre Performance. Upon graduation from Concordia, Jonathan pursued a graduate degree in acting from Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. He can now be found living and working in the Montreal area. His most recent acting jobs include a television commercial for Videotron and a small role in an upcoming episode of the supernatural TV drama "Being Human". In addition to working as an actor, Jonathan teaches workshops in acting, specifically in Michael Chekhov and Meisner technique. Though Jonathan is still at the beginning stages of his career, he attributes much of his success to the wonderful drama program and faculty at St. George's.

## JASON FREDER '06

Jason is in the MBA/MDCM program at McGill.

## MICHAEL WEXLER '06

Michael's band, Inlet Sound recently returned from a tour in the Maritimes. Keep your eyes open for their shows at [www.inletsound.com](http://www.inletsound.com).

## ANTHONY BROHAN '07

Anthony started a PhD program in Linguistics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology this fall, 2012.

## JEREMY CUTTLER '07

Having recently graduated from Université de Montréal's Civil Law Program 2012, he recently passed the Quebec Bar exam and is now articling at the law firm of Kugler Kandestin in Montreal. He sends his regards to all!

## JESSICA ZIMMERMAN '07

Jessica has been accepted to Reinwadt Academy in Amsterdam. She will be in their most prestigious Master's program for Museology (or Museum Studies). They only accept 20 students a year in this programme. Way to go!

## FELIPE VAZQUEZ '09

Felipe recently wrote that after he joined the St. George's robotics club, his life was complete.

## ALUMNI UPDATES FROM THE CLASS OF 2012

(BASED ON INFORMATION RECEIVED SEPTEMBER 2012)

2012

**BRANDON ADAM '12**

Brandon is studying Liberal Arts at Marianopolis College and was selected to receive a Marianopolis Millennium Foundation Academic Award in recognition of his outstanding achievement at the high school level'. This is awarded 'to students attending a Québec high school who achieve the highest academic averages among newly admitted candidates'.

In addition, Brandon Adam was selected to receive a Marianopolis Millennium Foundation Entrance Scholarship Award 'in recognition of his outstanding achievement at the high school level and for having achieved the highest overall academic average among students in his program sector'. This is awarded 'to first-year Canadian students attending Marianopolis who have graduated from a Québec high school'.

**CAMILLE ANGLE '12**

Camille is now at Dawson College studying Health Sciences. She has been awarded an entrance award and a cash prize along with two other grads, Olivia and Andrea.

**EMILIE BERBRIER '12**

Emilie is attending Dawson College and is in the C.A.L.L. program in the Visual Arts profile. Emilie received the Scholar Award as a result of her achievements at St. George's School.

**CAROLYN BOISVERT '12**

Carolyn is currently at Dawson studying Law and Society. She loves

the school and is not sure where she will go from there. Big change from St. George's School.

**KIMMY BORDEN '12**

Kimmy is in the Visual Arts program at Dawson College.

**ZOE BUJOLD '12**

Zoe is currently enrolled in the Creative Arts Language and Literature Program at Dawson College.

**ZACHARY CHACKOWICZ '12**

Zach is studying at Marianopolis in International Studies. He was awarded a Marianopolis Millennium Foundation Academic Award for 2012-2013.

**JONATHAN COHEN '12**

Jonathan is presently attending Dawson College in the Social Science/Commerce Profile.

**SARA DIAMOND '12**

Sara is in the Commerce program at Dawson College.

**GREGORY DIKRANIAN '12**

Gregory is currently pursuing studies in Social Science at Vanier College.

**AARON DOLMAN '12**

Aaron is having a tremendous experience at Marianopolis. He's doing a double DEC in Music (he's the drummer in the jazz program) and Creative Arts Language and Literature.

**JAMIE FARNSWORTH '12**

Jamie is in the Law and Society program in the Social Sciences profile at Dawson College.

**ROBYN GATHERCOLE '12**

Robyn is enrolled in the Commerce Program at Dawson College.

**ANDREA KAPLIN '12**

Andrea is enrolled in the "first choice" Science program at Dawson College and has won an entrance award to McGill University's Science program.

**OLIVIA KOSTIN-COHEN '12**

Olivia is in the Dawson College's First Choice Health Science program. She also applied to Marianopolis in Health Science and received an Academic Award sponsored by the Marianopolis Millennium Foundation in the amount of \$500 (in the form of a tuition credit). The scholarship is awarded to Quebec high school students with the highest academic averages among newly admitted candidates. She decided to forego the scholarship and chose to enter the First Choice program at Dawson.

# ALUMNI UPDATES FROM THE CLASS OF 2012

(BASED ON INFORMATION RECEIVED SEPTEMBER 2012)

## 2012

### SEBASTIEN LITTLE LEVESQUE '12

Sebastien is currently enrolled in the Eureka profile of the Science Program at Jean de Brebeuf in Montreal.

### KAYLIE MOSS '12

Kaylie is studying Commerce at Dawson College.

### CHELSIE OSTRZEGA '12

Chelsie is now enrolled in the Psychology program at Dawson College.

### MIKAELA PAPICH '12

Mikaela is studying Health Sciences at Dawson College.

### SHAYNE RABY '12

Shayne is in the Psychology program at Dawson College.

### LUKE ROHRLICK '12

Luke is in the Psychology Program at Dawson College.

### MADDIE STEIN-SACKS '12

Maddie is attending the C.A.L.L. program in Visual Arts at Dawson College. She was extremely successful in her A.P. Art submission. She is currently looking for part-time employment where her photography and art passions can be utilized.

### JEREMY SZYNKARSKY '12

Jeremy is presently at Dawson College in the C.A.L.L. program/ cinema, video and communication.

### JAMES THORPE '12

James is in the Health Sciences program at Dawson College. His hope is to play rugby, basketball and other sports for Dawson.

### RACHEL VAN HORNE '12

Rachel is attending 12<sup>th</sup> Grade at her previous high school in Seattle. She will graduate in June 2013 with her 2<sup>nd</sup> HS Diploma! She will be applying to universities and receive acceptance letters in May 2013. She will then attend her choice of university in the fall of 2013, studying Marketing and Journalism.

### NATALIE VINEBERG '12

Natalie is enjoying the Liberal Arts program at Dawson, but misses St. George's and especially Glee!

### JARRETT WENER '12

Jarrett is attending Vanier College's two year pre-university Computer Science and Math program. They only accept 35 students per year.



# PAST PARENT & PAST FACULTY UPDATES

**A LETTER FROM JOHN PLANT,  
RETIRED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MUSIC  
TEACHER, DATED JANUARY 2012.**

We've been living by the sea in Nova Scotia for almost four years now. My wife Jocelyne and I retired from Concordia in May 2008.

Within months after our arrival, our friend, jazz singer Jeri Brown, introduced us to a wonderful local cellist, who introduced us to a very fine violinist; and the upshot was our first Halifax concert. Since then we've been very gratifyingly busy releasing a new CD and then doing a second concert, just us this time. My setting of 'Sandpiper' for voice, string quartet, clarinet and piano was performed at the 2011 Scotia Festival with soprano Suzie LeBlanc. For the final gala closing concert in Bishop's 'hometown' of Great Village, I composed a setting of 'Sunday, 4 A.M. for voice and string quartet, and also a version of her translation of a Brazilian poem, 'In the middle of the road', for two voices- Suzie and Jocelyne - and piano.

I've also been busy with a concert opera on the Robert Dzielanski tragedy, to a moving libretto by Halifax writer J. A. Wainwright. It is now finished, and will be performed at this year's Scotia Festival on May 31. My next project is a work for saxophone and piano, commissioned by Peter Kovner to honour the memory of his late sister; it will be performed in the Boston area by saxophonist Jennifer Bill.

This summer we were part of a community battle with a multinational consortium that wanted to implant a huge industrial wind farm on our small peninsula - 10 to 20 500-foot towers, each one emitting over 100 decibels at the hub. We organized petitions, met with politicians, and made

presentations at City Hall, resulting in an increase of the minimum setback (distance from homes) from 550m to a kilometer, which meant that the project probably couldn't happen. My naive assumptions about the benevolence of the wind industry were shattered, but my faith in the power of community spirit was strengthened. I remember St. George's with intense fondness. I thought I would suffer severe withdrawal from teaching, but I seem to have made the transition painlessly. The ability to work on composition projects with some continuity seems to provide compensation!

May you all have a marvelous year of wonder and renewal, good health and inspiration!

All best wishes from both of us to everyone at St. George's.

**PAST PARENTS, HAROLD BORTS  
& JUDI BORTS (PAST BOARD  
PRESIDENT) VISITED SHEELA BAL  
BHAVAN IN FEBRUARY 2012.**

How wonderful it is that past parents continue to keep in touch with the school in so many unique ways.



**FROM MATH TEACHER TO THAI  
YOGA MASSAGE. YUP, THAT'S RIGHT.  
THAT IS WHAT MIKE MORROW '65 IS  
CURRENTLY DOING.**

After I retired, there was the usual sense of 'What now?' that I went through for a while. I did come back and teach part-time for a year and a half, but then my wife and I took up yoga with a vengeance, 4 to 6 classes per week, and I felt young again! Then I discovered Lotus Palm, centre for Thai Yoga Massage, here in Montreal. I am now a certified Thai Yoga Massage practitioner, working from my house or on the roster at the Wellness Centre of Happytree Yoga studio on St. Catherine street near Atwater. Along the way, I've had two surgeries and totalled my car, but recovered remarkably well because of my level of fitness. In the meantime, my two sons are both living in Toronto. My older son Matt, and his wife Kaisa, are expecting their first child in February. My younger son James will be completing his PhD at U of T in the spring.

### Into the Woods (*Musical*)

April 11-13, 2013, 7:30 pm  
Bahadur Bhatla Studio (*Theatre*)  
Tickets: [www.stgeorges.qc.ca/tickets](http://www.stgeorges.qc.ca/tickets)

### Glee G Major

May 9-10, 2013, 7:30 pm  
Oscar Peterson Concert Hall  
(*Concordia University*)  
Tickets: [www.stgeorges.qc.ca/tickets](http://www.stgeorges.qc.ca/tickets)

### Visual Arts Festival

May 16, 2013, 5:00 pm  
DHC/ART  
451 St. Jean Street, Montreal

### Class of 2012 & 2013 Grad BBQ

May 17, 2013, 12:30 pm

### 2013 HS Grad Ceremonies

May 31, 2013, 5:00 pm  
Oscar Peterson Concert Hall  
(*Concordia University*)  
Tickets: [www.stgeorges.qc.ca/tickets](http://www.stgeorges.qc.ca/tickets)

### Grade 6

### Community Learning Fair

April 25, 2013, 1:00 pm  
ES Gym

### Sumo Robotics

May 17, 2013, 3:30 pm  
HS Gym

### HS Awards Ceremony

May 24, 2013, 8:30 am  
HS Gym

### Online Auction

May 23-28, 2013

### 2013 ES Grad Ceremonies

June 14, 2013, 1:00 pm  
ES Gym

For more information, visit [www.stgeorges.qc.ca](http://www.stgeorges.qc.ca).

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