

How does the Annual Fund support SMA students?

Help SMA students make their mark on the world
by making your mark on SMA today.

"Robotics has taught me many valuable life skills such as teamwork, in addition to coding, autoCAD, shop work, and electrical wiring skills. The accomplishment in what our robots are able to do after all of our hard work makes robotics tremendously fulfilling. I have been connected to a wonderful community and am now planning on pursuing a STEM field."

- Jenna Ceraso, Class of 2020



"I really enjoy the Middle School Robotics class because it requires ingenuity, creativity, and confidence. Lots of problem-solving exists everywhere in the class and all of the students push each other to the limit as they compete in different challenges. I am so glad SMA has given me this opportunity."

- Liam Pilarowski, Class of 2024

"I think [the Inspiration Lab] is great. It's brand new with the TV and the clock and whiteboards and new floors. It's just amazing. We do Tinker Club there where you get problems and you make prototypes of things that can solve it. We also do robotics in there where you get to make fun little Lego robots with motors so they can move. There's also a 3D printer, so that's really cool."

[From the design thinking process,] I've learned that you need to think things through. You need to know how this will work, what materials I will use and what will solve the problem."

- Shamus Kim, Class of 2027



"Ariana Hodlewsky is a member of the SMA HS Orchestra and has participated in our fine arts program since 2nd grade. She also has studied privately with our SMA teachers for 8 years on both piano and cello. As a result of her above and beyond approach to music, she has been a member of the Arapahoe Philharmonic Youth Orchestra and is now performing with the Denver Young Artists Orchestra. Ariana's life has been greatly enriched, due to her pursuit of music. We are very proud of her!"

- Cherie Swisher, Cross-Divisional Music Teacher

"I love the Inspiration Lab because it's way more expanded. We have a back door, we have a hot glue station, and we have tables to build our prototypes and such."

For the design thinking process, we have to think of a problem and find a way to solve it and we have to figure out how to make it even better. We built prototypes and one person can test it out. Then we give feedback and give improvements like we did with the filter experiment.

It's really my most favorite place."

- Shruti Kachaliya, Class of 2027

The SMA Annual Fund Supports:

9th Grade Spirit Packs
Student One to One Device Program
Apple TVs in Classrooms
Clubs and Speakers

Athletics
Robotics
Visual Arts
Performing Arts

Teacher Appreciation Gifts
Academy Parents
Community Events
Field Trips and International Trips

Give today at stmarys.academy/donate



"I can't thank St. Mary's Academy enough for introducing me to new things. I had never imagined lacrosse would become my favorite sport or that I would start playing the bass for the schools orchestra. Being able to participate in all of these activities has really given me skills, leadership roles and helped me meet new people. Being able to develop those skills has been a great help to me when we go out in the MS trips. Leadership and even meeting new people on these trips help contribute to all the activities I do. Everyone I've met has become part of my SMA family."

- Tiffany Hernandez, Class of 2025

"Sports at SMA has helped me to develop relationships with my coaches, friends and teammates. Through sports, I have been able to try new things, and I have been able to do (it) without any judgement about my skill level".

- Alex Gonzales, Class of 2024



"Being a part of the incredible cross country and basketball team has really helped me gain my confidence and become a strong leader. Those leadership qualities I gained from sports have not only helped me on the basketball court and on the cross country course but also translate into the classroom. The lifelong relationships I have made with my teammates and coaches have made my experience at St. Mary's Academy amazing and I will forever be thankful for being a part of the SMA sports teams!"

- Areeba Nauman, Class of 2020

"I'm so grateful to play field hockey and soccer at SMA because being part of these incredible teams helps build my confidence and leadership skills, and every season means new friendships. Competing in these sports has really shown me the strength of the unique community at SMA. My teams become my family and I never want the season to be over!"

- Kate Seneshen, Class of 2022

"I have been taking art classes at SMA since I was in middle school. I've been involved for so long because I have always been encouraged by teachers and peers to pursue what I enjoy. I'm thankful because it has helped me develop my art skills, my confidence, and my self-expression!"

- Jaqui Jaramillo, Class of 2020



"Photography has taught me to appreciate and look around at what surrounds me. Through my camera lens, I am able to express and share with others the beauty of art and this world. Being in photography 2 has also nurtured my creative mind and appreciation for the arts."

- Yelena Montesinos, Class of 2021

"The art program through St. Mary's Academy has been one of the greatest outlets for me. I have not only been able to grow confident in my art pieces but in myself as well. From my watercolors to my own illustrated book, I have been able to grow as a person and strengthen my sense of being, something that I could not have done without the art teachers and resources made possible to me!"

- Haylee Vasquez, Class of 2020