

NEWS



SAINT MARTIN
DE PORRES *High School*



From left to right, Krystal Ivy '17, Matthew Holmes '18, Justus Harris '17, Cassandra Griffin '17, Tomislav Perkovic '17, Jaide Talmadge '17

FALL 2016
INSIDE

Ricardo Henry '09
supervises student
worker at
AM Higley Co.

PAGE 4

7 Fall Sports Highlights
9 Remembering Faith
Hurley
11 Saint Martin and
Social Justice

13 New CWSP Partner:
MCPc
13 Giving Tuesday
14 Alumni Spotlight



SAINT MARTIN
DE PORRES *High School*

President

Richard F. Clark, ext. 305

Vice President,

Corporate Work Study Program

Ann Davis, ext. 311

Principal

Gary Sardon, Jr., ext. 308

Human Resources Manager

Kerry Capka, ext. 399

Vice President, Mission

Virginia Malloy, ext. 381

Vice President, Advancement

Laura Rayburn, ext. 245

Chief Financial Officer

Martha Solarz, ext. 365

Main Office:

6111 Lausche Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103
Phone: (216) 881-1689
Fax: (216) 881-8303
www.saintmartincleveland.org

MISSION

Inspired by the Gospel, Saint Martin de Porres High School is a Catholic college-preparatory high school that combines innovative academics with a unique work program preparing students of limited economic means to become men and women of faith, purpose and service.

VISION

Saint Martin de Porres High School prepares students for post-secondary success in education and work through a mutually transformative learning experience sustained by 21st century skills (communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking), good work habits and a commitment to justice and peace.

Message from the President



Richard F. Clark

At this year's opening retreat, I asked our faculty and staff to join me in dedicating this school year as The Year of Trust. Our Saint Martin family was heartbroken this summer when our longtime friend and colleague, Faith Hurley, passed away suddenly and at that opening retreat, the first time our adult community was reconvening at the end of a difficult summer, I wanted us to acknowledge how reliant we are on each other and on God. At Saint Martin we are proud that our approach to education, both academically and with regard to workforce development, is rooted in relationships. Through good times and difficult times our students develop relationships with teachers, staff, CWSP supervisors, coaches, and with each other, and those relationships

generate the motivation, support and confidence we all need to pursue our mission. By dedicating this year as The Year of Trust my intention was to relieve our community from feeling bound by our grief and our lack of understanding and to give us a path forward to engage in the work that had attracted Faith, and all of us, to this mission.

A few months into The Year of Trust, I am finding comfort and solace in our community's resilience and in the many blessings I see in the life of our school. The news that 92% of our Class of 2016 directly enrolled in college was a gift and a testament to the work of our students, their families, and our staff, especially our College Counseling Team. The stories of our alumni, including Ricardo Henry who is featured in this publication, who have earned college degrees and who are giving back to the community in ways we never imagined validate our belief that we can "transform urban Cleveland one student at a time." The recent conversation I had with a 9th grade student who went on and on about how loving and caring her math teacher is confirmed, once again, that God's love and grace is present here in our community and in our work. As you will read in Principal Gary Sardon's article, we are committed more than ever before to developing loving relationships with our students and providing enrichment opportunities that will contribute to our students' holistic growth and development.

Thank you for your interest in and support of our community. Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers; we will do the same for you.

Peace,

Richard F. Clark
Founding President

ON THE COVER

Students worked with artists Leila Khoury and Luis Ituarte to create a three-dimensional, multimedia mural sponsored by DayGlo that served as a centerpiece for Ingenuity Fest 2016.

*Photo credit: Kathryn Dike
(Pickled PinUp Photography)*



Message from the Principal



Gary Sardon, Jr.

Two years ago, our faculty and staff had conversations focusing on Eric Jensen's book *Teaching with Poverty in Mind* with the aim of learning more about the deleterious effects of poverty on the physical, social-emotional, and cognitive well-being of our young people. Jensen reported that low socioeconomic status (SES) was associated with an increased risk of cognitive delays, health and safety concerns, suffering from acute and chronic stressors, and emotional and social challenges. If these stressors are present at a young age, their effects can also play out in future relationships. One particular study of low SES high school students reported that "high school students report a sense of alienation from their school. Believing that no one cares or that teachers don't like them or talk down to them, students will often give up on academics." Fortunately, these effects are not insurmountable.

Jensen outlines five key Schoolwide Success Factors that high performing Title I schools employ regularly to combat the effects of poverty on our children. While his research focused on Title I schools, these factors should drive programming and development in any quality school. The factors are as follows:

- Support of the Whole Child
- Hard Data
- Accountability
- Relationship Building
- Enrichment Mind-Set

While we continuously strive to grow in all five of these areas, this year at Saint Martin we have placed particular emphasis on the enrichment component. We believe that it is essential for our students to be exposed to a wide range of experiences in order to stimulate their intellectual curiosity, improve their emotional engagement and social bonding, and provide each young person an opportunity to find their unique "voice" while exploring the world around them. As a result, we have doubled our early college and theater offerings. Our choir class can be heard rehearsing in the chapel during lunch and you can observe our digital photography class and after school photo club students foraging through the building for the perfect inspiration. Students are deepening their understanding of their cultural heritage through our African-American history class while others are pursuing independent academic interests through AP biology, psychology, and economics. Finally, every morning you may notice some of our students arriving to school in athletic attire to begin their day with a workout and learn how to train their bodies for athletic competitions in their sports performance class. This is just a sample of our enrichment opportunities, but it represent the diversity of experiences we endeavor to provide our students.

While many schools who serve our demographic are narrowing their offerings in this era of high-stakes testing, educational fads and budget crunches, our take is that good education is still comprehensive, holistic, rooted in the experiences of our students, and relational. While we cannot ascribe a specific quantitative value that enrichment experiences (or any of the other Success Factors) have on our students, we are certain they are having an impact. This past year our annual retention was 92%, which was our highest in five years! While this is only one measure, it does provide evidence that our students are engaged in the program and believe that it is providing them the tools and relational experiences to reach their goals. There is still much work to be done, but we are very proud of what we have accomplished and excited for future growth.

Gary Sardon, Jr.
Principal

MASS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

On Friday, August 19, we commissioned over 120 new students, board, and staff members at the Mass of the Holy Spirit. A tradition for many Catholic schools, the entire Saint Martin community joined in prayer and gratitude for a new year. Thank you to Fr. Bob Marva for presiding!



Building on a Saint Martin Education

Saint Martin alum Ricardo Henry '09 supervises a Corporate Work Study Program student helping to build our new school.

When students enroll at Saint Martin at age fourteen, it's impossible for us to know how they will contribute to our work of "transforming urban Cleveland one student at a time." Our mission is to form young women and men of faith, purpose and service, and we understand how privileged we are to participate in this process. Our students come to us as bright, capable adolescents who are full of potential, and when they graduate they are confident, competent scholars and professionals, ready to make valuable contributions to our community and to the world. Recently we spoke to Ricardo Henry (Saint Martin '09, Bowling Green State University '14) who shared how he is transforming urban Cleveland and how Saint Martin played a role in helping him discover his vocation.

As a young student, Ricky was drawn to Saint Martin because it offered a high quality education that was affordable. His mother had made sacrifices to send him to private school from K-8, and she was determined for him to receive a high quality high school education, but they needed an option that was more affordable than a traditional,

tuition-driven model. Looking back, Ricky reflects that "everyone has heard that 'you get what you pay for.' At Saint Martin, you get what you work for." Saint Martin's Corporate Work Study Program allowed Ricky to work his way through high school. He gained professional experience in law firms and a court reporting agency surrounded by professionals who mentored him, charged him with important responsibilities and helped him imagine the kind of lifestyle he wanted for himself. Upon high school graduation Ricky was prepared to directly enroll at Bowling Green State University to major in Construction Management. The efforts of Saint Martin's Alumni Support Advisor kept him engaged with our school community and ultimately Ricky learned of a job lead while speaking with one of our board members at an Alumni Networking Event. He pursued the lead and after college graduation was hired by The Albert M. Higley Co., a construction management firm based in Cleveland.

When Ricky enrolled at Saint Martin in 2005 as a 9th grader we had no idea what his future would look like. Saint Martin had been open



for one year; we didn't even know what our future would look like! Today, eleven years after joining our community, seven years after

**YOU'RE INVITED TO COME SEE
OUR PROGRESS ANYTIME!**

Call Teresa Alto, Assistant to the President, to schedule a hard hat tour at 216-881-1689 ext 213.





Ricardo Henry '09 and Brian Ward '18 stand in front of Phase I construction of our new school.

earning his high school diploma and two years after earning his college degree, Ricky, now professionally known as Ricardo, is already making his mark in Cleveland and giving back to his alma mater. Through his work at AM Higley, the firm currently building our new school building, Ricardo is contributing to a school that will facilitate 21st century learning, that will more closely resemble the universities and professional environments where our students will find themselves after high school, and that will serve as a visible sign of our deep commitment to the Saint Clair-Superior Neighborhood. Ricardo is proud to use his education and expertise on a project that will enhance learning experiences for generations of future Saint Martin students and that will reinvigorate our local urban landscape, but his contributions are greater than that. “I get

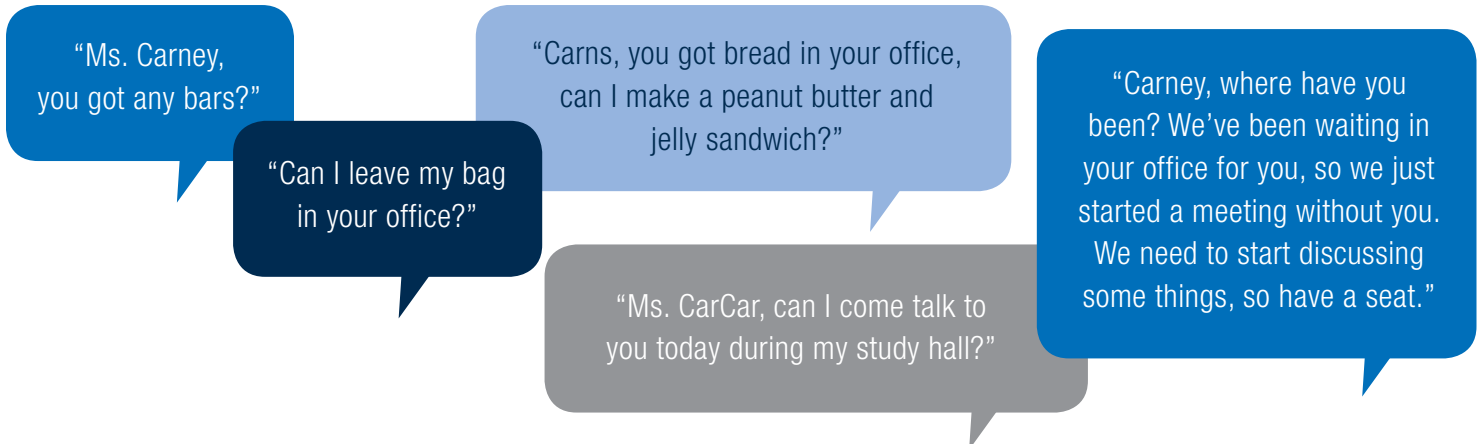
to work with a student intern going through the same exact program I went through over seven years ago and the formula still works. Having a hand in this future expansion is something that I will put in my portfolio as I move forward, but more importantly something I will cherish forever.” When asked how he is transforming urban Cleveland, Ricardo replied, “I’m building institutions that will nurture the next generation of doctors, engineers, lawyers, builders and entrepreneurs.” We are grateful for the work Ricardo is doing in Cleveland, and specifically on our building project.

Often, the work of a college preparatory high school is viewed as getting students to and through college. This is a big part of what we do, and 92% of our most recent graduates directly enrolled in college, compared to 64%

of our students’ socioeconomic peer group. If this is where our work ended we would still be proud. However, our mission isn’t complete after college. We relish the opportunity to support our graduates’ efforts to network and build relationships in the community, and we are thrilled to call many of our alumni colleagues in education and in community development. Our work goes beyond forming future professionals. We form women and men of faith, purpose and service—young women and men who teach us all that you don’t just get what you pay for, “you get what you work for.”

A Day in the Life

A look at the rarely seen happenings of Athletic Director, Mary Carney's office



Those are just a handful of the requests and the statements I hear on a day-to-day basis. This modestly-sized, square, light green office attached to the gym is not just my office or the office shared between me and our physical education/health teacher, Kim Hansen, it has become a locker room of sorts for our Saint Martin students. It is a space to keep their uniforms, grab snacks, talk with one another, and tell stories: their stories, and their teams' stories.

At the fridge in the corner, students are usually rummaging around looking for granola bars, pretzels, almonds, or a knife to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. While they make their sandwiches or grab their snacks, I get to ask about their days, their classes, their work, and their frustrations and joys about their seasons. I also get to listen. I witness the conversations between athletes of different teams talking about their upcoming games. I hear the friendly gossip and students from different grade levels discussing classes they are struggling with or classes they are enjoying, while an upperclassman chimes in with advice or congratulations.

I get to hear what goes on in practices, especially our volleyball team whose major focus has been teambuilding for success. I hear our coaches, Caitlin Flikkema and April Robertson, tell our athletes, “These are your sisters, work hard for your sisters, encourage

your sisters.” I hear the “AYYYYYEEEE” exclaimed during scrimmages in practice, as the girls come together between each point to refocus, energize, forgive and celebrate. And I have seen their successes, as they are a team that does not give up. Just recently at the Andrews Osborne Academy tournament, after losing in the first round, the volleyball team came back the next day and won both of their matches to take the consolation bracket, including a match against a very tough Cleveland Heights High School team. With each practice they work on passing, setting and serving, but they also work on their communication, building trust and acknowledging that they need one another to succeed. Individual ‘stars’ can’t win on their own, no matter the effort.

After practices and games, players and coaches talk about their accomplishments and areas for growth as they sit in the office. After a great game that ended in a loss of 2-1 for our soccer team, I spoke with a freshman player and a senior player about their game. As I spoke with the senior, he mentioned how they have so many younger players joining the team, seven freshmen this year. He talked about how from game to game they are improving, and how freshman goalie, Elijah Middlebrooks, continues to make great saves with the support of his defenders. But we also talked about the struggles they face in building the trust within a team that just began playing together in the middle of August.

And as students take their bags after a practice or a game, there are a few more pieces of information shared. Freshman cross country runner, Princesse Thompson, shared the excitement of completing her race three minutes faster than the previous week. I heard from coaches, Brittany Kirby and Brenna Davis, about sophomore Emareion Trotter, who trusted in his coaches' advice and ran a full two minutes faster than last year, continuing to put forth strong effort at practice and seeing results at meets. Finally, I heard a mixture of awe and pride in their voices as they talked about how their team rallied behind a new cross country runner, sophomore Javier Marks, as he finished his first race ever; the team ran along beside him in the final meters, encouraging and congratulating him the entire time.

This athletics office is a shared space for our students, coaches and community members. While it may look like total chaos, filled with bags, food, people and furniture, it continues to be a place of shared experience. Students and staff come in to satisfy not only their basic needs for food and a place to store their belongings, but find in addition a place where they can build community, work through questions and struggles, and celebrate hard-won victories. As with all things Saint Martin, what looks like random energy and craziness is really just love in perpetual motion.

FALL SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

We had 74 students participate in cross country, soccer, and volleyball this season.

VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball won the consolation bracket at the Andrews Osborne Academy Volleyball Invitational, beating Cleveland Heights High School in the final set. They also won the 2nd Annual Ohio Cristo Rey Tri-Match and placed third in the Lake Effect Conference, with **Kamarri Hall '19** and **Delcina Robertson '17** receiving 2nd Team Honors. Coaches **April Robertson** and **Caitlin Flikkema** were named coaches of the year in the Lake Effect Conference.



Varsity volleyball team

SOCCER

Soccer's **Ivan Tello '18** received 2nd Team Honors in the Lake Effect Conference.

CROSS COUNTRY

Boys cross country was runner up at Lawrence Cross Country Invitational and was runner up in the Lake Effect Conference Championship.

Tony Hughes '17 received 1st Team Honors in the Lake Effect Conference.

Justus Harris '17 set another school record, running 18:37 at the Andrews Osborne Academy Cross Country Invitational.

Nautica Jefferson '17 and **Princesse Thompson '20** received 2nd Team Honors in the Lake Effect Conference.

Nautica Jefferson '17 set the girls cross country school record at 24:22.



Men's cross country team at the Woodridge Invitational



Justus Harris '17



Women's cross country team at the Cardinal Invitational



Jaide Talmadge '17



Saint Martin soccer faced Cardinal High School early in the season

WELCOME NEW STAFF

In August, we welcomed new faculty and staff members to Saint Martin. They were commissioned at our Mass of the Holy Spirit and are already making exciting contributions to our community.



Faculty and staff members commissioned at the Mass of the Holy Spirit.

SEAN CAHILL



Sean is a recent graduate of John Carroll University and is teaching Sophomore Theology at Saint Martin de Porres. Sean is an avid golfer but equally enjoys acting and singing in plays around the

Cleveland area. He can also be seen on stage performing anything from Christmas carols to 18th century classical works alongside the Cleveland Orchestra. In addition to teaching Theology, Sean co-directed our fall play, **12 Angry Jurors**. Sean is delighted to be a part of the Saint Martin family. He recently noted, "The moment I trusted my decision to join Saint Martin really came at our retreat at the beginning of the year. As soon as I met members of the faculty, staff and administration, I knew that I made the right choice."

KIM HANSEN



Kim Hansen received her undergraduate degree from Grand Valley State University in Michigan and her master's degree from Lamar University in Texas. Prior to coming to Saint Martin de Porres, Kim coached

the girls' basketball team and taught Health and Physical Education at Cleveland Heights High School and at Beaumont High School. Kim is currently teaching Sports Performance, Physical Education, and Health at Saint Martin and says she feels blessed to have this opportunity. "Before I committed to the job, I had to give several concerns to God. Once I did that I felt at peace to commit to the job. I let go of my worries and put my trust and faith that Saint Martin was going to be the next and best place for me."

EMILY TENNANT



Emily is so excited to join the Saint Martin family as a 9th grade English teacher. She grew up in Lakewood and attended The Ohio State University graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English.

After her time at Ohio State, Emily joined the Teach for America corps and taught English in Greenwood, Mississippi. When she isn't teaching, Emily loves painting and spending time with her dog, Ruby. Emily has only fond memories of Greenwood but is happy to be back home in Cleveland and teaching at Saint Martin. "I've trusted my decision to come to Saint Martin because I have felt nothing but warmth and support from the Saint Martin community. I feel safe at Saint Martin, and I'm incredibly blessed to be in such a loving space."

KATHERINE WOZNIAK



Katherine studied Political Science and Spanish at John Carroll University. Upon graduation, she continued her studies at Cleveland State University and earned a master's degree in Urban Secondary

Teaching. Katherine believes that education is the key to self-fulfillment. She feels lucky to be doing what she loves for a living. Katherine recently mentioned "Often times, it is not what you teach but how you teach that can stick with students for the rest of their lives." Katherine is teaching Spanish 1 and Heritage Spanish, and is excited to be part of the Saint Martin community. Katherine said she felt an instant connection to the staff and mission of the school. She trusted in Saint Martin de Porres' genuine intention to transform the lives of urban students.

JULIA FISHER



Julia graduated from John Carroll University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. She has served as a Saint Martin Volunteer Corps member for the past two years and now is thrilled to

continue as a full-time member of the faculty. This year Julia is teaching two theatre classes and working with students in the Academic Resource Center. One of the pillars of belief at Saint Martin is the scripture verse, “Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do” (Acts 9:6). During her time at Saint Martin, Julia says she has been strengthened by this message. “Even when I’m not sure exactly why I’m here or what I’m doing, I know that if I trust God and love my students, we’ll learn how to live out this mission together.”

TYLER FLYNN



While Tyler has enjoyed his last two years working with students as a Saint Martin de Porres volunteer, he is very excited to join the faculty and staff as a full time teacher.

Before joining the Volunteer Corps, Tyler attended John Carroll University where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature and had the unique opportunity of studying abroad in Galway, Ireland. Tyler and his wife, Jenny, were married last spring. Noting Saint Martin was the right choice for him, Tyler said, “I think I know I made the right decision to stay because, despite the difficulty which can come with the position, I trust the community here for any support I need.”

CHAD BERRY



Chad is a 2009 graduate of Kent State University and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management. Chad continued his education at Cleveland State University and

graduated in 2016 with a Master of Education degree. Prior to joining Saint Martin, Chad was a sheet metal design project manager and taught English as a Second Language at Kent State University for three years. Chad is originally from a rural town in southeastern Ohio, but currently lives in Cleveland Heights with his wife, Melanie, who is a professor at Cleveland State. Chad mentioned that “teacher talk” is the norm around their household. He is extremely excited to serve the Cleveland community and prepare Saint Martin students for college.

Remembering Our Friend, Teacher and Colleague

On July 18, many Saint Martin community members stood in stunned silence as they learned the news that Faith Hurley had passed away unexpectedly. She was just 33 years old.



Faith was a vital member of our Saint Martin de Porres High School community where, for 10 years, she served tirelessly as an English teacher and more recently as the Dean of Curriculum and Instruction. Through her teaching, mentoring and coaching, Faith touched countless lives and as one parent noted “was a blessing to our community.” Faith is remembered by her students and peers as enthusiastic, engaged, intelligent, witty, and passionate. In her spare time, she enjoyed reading, cooking, and communing with nature, especially at Linwood Park in Vermilion. But most of all, Faith loved spending time with her two young sons and husband. Faith was a devoted and loving mother to Simon and Gus. She and her husband, Jamie, who continues to serve the Saint Martin community as the Director of Counseling, worked side by side, dedicating their careers to positively impacting urban education and the well-being of all Saint Martin students.

One of her fellow teachers and friend, Christie Baker, recalls that Faith always signed her email correspondence with the closing ‘Truly’ – the meaning of which is apropos when describing Faith. Christie went on to say, “Words and stories, though helpful, are surely inadequate to capture what Faith meant to all of us. Her love of reading and writing, her dedication to the ‘job well done,’ her intentionality of thought, word and deed – these are the irreplaceable hallmarks of her time and her presence with students and colleagues alike. She was truly a human, truly a teacher, truly a sincere and faithful member of our Saint Martin family.”

We offer our prayers for Faith, her family and anyone touched by Faith as they continue to mourn her loss but also celebrate her life! She will be greatly missed.

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS



THOMAS SIMMONS

Tom Simmons is currently a partner at one of our Corporate Work Study partners, Tucker Ellis, LLP. His practice focuses on employment law and complex employment and commercial litigation. He has defended employers in a wide variety of employment lawsuits and is a regular speaker, trainer, and writer on employment law and litigation topics. Tom

received his undergraduate degree at Case Western Reserve University in 1989 and went on to graduate magna cum laude in 1993 from Case Western Reserve University's School of Law. When asked why he chose to join the Saint Martin de Porres Board of Directors, Tom said "I have been involved in providing pro bono legal work for St. Martin de Porres since the school was founded, and I am honored to have the opportunity to join the Board. I can't imagine a better cause to volunteer my time than helping to provide students with a better education and better life."



GENE KILLEEN

Gene Killeen is also a partner at Tucker Ellis, LLP and provides business and transactional counsel to a variety of businesses and with emphasis on complex public and structured finance transactions. Over the past twenty-five years, he has represented state and local governments, private borrowers, banks, investment banks, securities underwriters and venture

capitalists in a wide array of commercial finance, public finance, project finance, economic development and private equity finance transactions ranging in size from \$1,000,000 to \$1,100,000,000. He also serves as the primary outside corporate counsel for a variety of businesses, governmental bodies and nonprofit organizations, including healthcare organizations, museums, schools and universities, manufacturers and information technology companies.

"It is impossible to see what Saint Martin is doing for its students and not be drawn to the mission. It is inspiring to see even one person's life profoundly changed because a group of people took it upon themselves to reach out to offer these students an opportunity they otherwise would not have had. Saint Martin is profoundly changing a lot of lives for the better, which is why people are passionate about supporting the school. When I hear some of the stories of these kids, often told by the kids themselves at events like the Birthday Bash, I am almost brought to tears sometimes – they are almost always moving stories full of courage and compassion and caring. There may be a perception these days that there is a lot wrong with the world, but Saint Martin is a shining example of the fact that there are still a lot of wonderful, caring and courageous people in the world who are willing to sacrifice to quietly make things better for their fellow human beings without seeking credit or recognition or acclaim. They do it just because it's the right thing to do. I consider myself lucky to have a chance to work with such people, to learn from them and to try to make a small difference myself. This is the stuff that really matters in life."

– Gene Killeen



MICHAEL HOWLEY

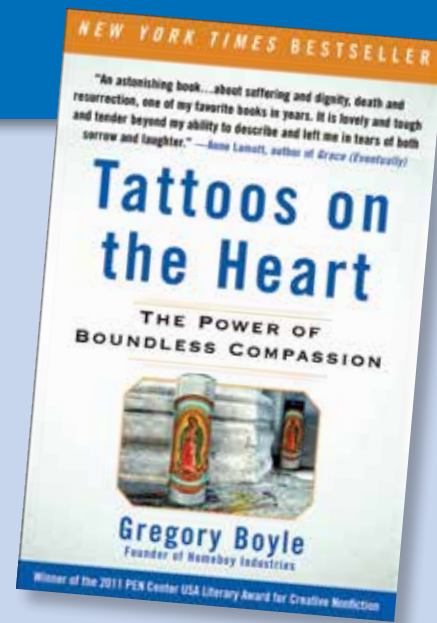
Michael C. Howley is the Managing Partner of Bratenahl Capital Partners. Prior to Bratenahl Capital Partners, Mike worked in the private equity and investment banking industries for several years involved in restructurings, financings, and mergers & acquisitions for both corporate and financial sponsors. Mike graduated from Washington and

Jefferson College with a Bachelor of Science in accounting and began his career in Finance at National City Bank (now PNC), in the Capital Markets and Equity Sponsor areas. Mike and his wife, Kendra, currently live in Gates Mills, OH with their three children. "My entire family has been involved in supporting education for many years. We believe SMDP is a truly unique urban educational model that focuses on providing students with both an education, moral values and a work ethic. I was drawn to the mission because I saw a unique opportunity to make an impact on students' lives."

Saint Martin and Social Justice

Recently, students in 12th grade theology read the book *Tattoos on the Heart* by Fr. Greg Boyle, founder of Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles. Homeboy Industries serves high-risk young men and women who were formerly gang members and provides them with a continuum of free services and programs. As part of the final assessment for the unit, students were asked to write a letter to Fr. Greg sharing with him the elements of his book that will be forever tattooed on their hearts. The attached letter was written by Chase Perez and shows the power of a curriculum that pushes students to stand in solidarity with people from all backgrounds.

“Sometimes we strike the high moral distance of judgement – moving our protected jurisdictions far from each other.” (130)



Dear Father Greg,

Tell me how you did it? How does one person start something that ends up impacting so many people, including 81 high school seniors that live on the other side of the country? How do you create something like Homeboy Industries that does so much good in the world, and all you ask in return is that these men and women try. *Try*. Try to do good, not try to be good because they already are, they just don't know it yet. Your stories allow us to see the basics of humanity. These people, just like everyone, want to know they are loved; they want to know that they are worth something and they want to know that they have a place in the world. I do not know a single person that does not relate to at least one of those feelings. Maybe that is why *Tattoos on the Heart* is so compelling. Whether the reader is religious or not, they can connect to what, in my opinion, is the message of this book: Love.

Love is powerful. Love makes former enemies friends, love prevents violence, and love creates families. Love allowed us to rally behind Orlando, love brings a city like Cleveland to a National Basketball Championship, love is why this book, these stories, are so resounding. Love allows us, as you put it, to allow people into our jurisdiction. Of course, not everyone is as accepting, but if we all attempted to be, less hate would occur. Love would be the main motivation behind action. *Tattoos on the Heart* is the start of this. In chapter 6, "Jurisdiction" you

discuss the story of Flaco and Gato. Flaco and Gato are rivals, and they couldn't care less what happens to the other, and when something does happen to Flaco, Gato actually expresses happiness about it. He is happy until you make him realize that he shouldn't be. Flaco is a person that lives a very similar life to Gato, so why shouldn't they get along? You make him aware of his own humanity as well as Gato's.

This story stood out to me because too often we hate people, or at least separate ourselves from them because of our differences. I transferred to my current school my sophomore year of high school, and for that whole year I kept mostly to myself because I felt that most of the kids in my class were too different from me. I didn't want to try to get to know them. I learned that if I kept acting that way, the rest of my high school life would not be a good one. I now try to get to know people, open myself up to them, and I am happy to say that there are currently a lot of people in my jurisdiction. I love these people because I know them, and that has made a big impact on my life, just like Homeboy has on yours. Thank you for writing this book. Words hold a lot of power and they can linger in people's minds if they hold something with meaning. I hope you know that this is a book full of words with the greatest meaning: Love.

Chase Perez

STUDENT SENATE

Recently, the Student Senate met and prepared a list of goals for the 2016-17 school year. These goals include increasing the student voice when planning school events and creating policies by having executive members participate in regular staff meetings. They also hope to implement "Town Hall" style meetings with school administrators and grade levels thus developing a stronger relationship within and between grade levels.

THE 2016-17 SAINT MARTIN STUDENT SENATE

EXECUTIVE:



President
Nautica Jefferson
Class of 2017



Vice President
India Henderson
Class of 2017



Secretary
Chase Perez
Class of 2017



Treasurer
Francisca Bastidas
Class of 2019

CLASS SENATORS:

Class of 2017:

Mersadies Hunter
Chayla Johnson
Tierra Jones-Benning
Jar' Migyong Rembert-Norman

Class of 2018:

Breanay Clemons
Malik Seaton
Josh Ruminski
Terese McElrath

Class of 2019:

Kolleen Oliver
Mekdes Shiferaw
Dwane Warr

Empowering Students for a Lifetime of Professional Success



Principal Gary Sardon and Matrice Bantum '20 practice elevator speeches and networking skills.

The Corporate Work Study Program is dedicated to preparing new students for their very first jobs and providing ongoing support during their 4 years at Saint Martin. Weeks before classes start, the freshman class completes New Student Orientation to develop interpersonal skills and build relationships within the school community. This year, the freshman class also completed additional training where they learned what it means to be a Saint Martin Student Worker. CWSP staff also meets with students on a monthly basis to refine skills such as filing, data entry, the operation of office machines, customer service, note taking, networking, and public speaking.



VP of CWSP Ann Davis presents Alaysia Dupree '20 with a diploma upon her completion of New Student Orientation in August.

New students learned the importance of good customer service skills in the workplace.



New CWSP Partner: MCPc

In today's highly competitive world, organizations cannot function without access to their information at all times. If computer networks go down, productivity is stalled and money is lost. It's as simple as that. Organizations need a company they can rely on to keep them connected, a company like MCPc. Headquartered in Cleveland, MCPc is a trusted technology products and solutions provider that has worked closely with Saint Martin since 2012 offering a high-quality approach to the planning, design and execution of our technology needs.

Last year, Beth Stec, VP for Corporate Communications and Human Resources for MCPc, attended one of our Meet and Greet luncheons to learn a little more about Saint Martin. She walked away from the meeting feeling inspired about our mission and also noticed, after taking a look at our prestigious list of partners, that many of the names were also MCPc clients and vendors. Beth said "The list contained some of the best companies in Cleveland. How is it that we aren't on this list too?" She immediately picked up the phone. "Many of the people I spoke to told me they have had a fantastic Corporate Work Study program experience and I knew I wanted to jump on the band wagon."



Tajinae Stockwell '20



Sean Walker '19

In August, the Saint Martin staff welcomed MCPc to our Corporate Works Study family. Freshman Tajinae Stockwell and sophomore Sean Walker share a position at MCPc where they work in various departments in order to broaden their business exposure and experience different responsibilities. Beth is amazed at how well-prepared our students are for their corporate positions. "They know how to greet adults and carry themselves professionally. They are respectful, eager to help and open to new experiences."



Become a Corporate Work Study Program Partner!

We invite you to **join over 100 companies** that are making a positive impact on education in urban Cleveland.

Please contact Ann Davis, Vice President, Corporate Work Study Program, at **216-881-1689 ext 311** or **adavis@stmdphs.org** to get involved.

ADVANCEMENT NEWS

Giving Tuesday

We are thrilled to partner with the Catholic Community Foundation during its inaugural #WeGiveCatholic campaign on November 29, 2016, also known as "Giving Tuesday."

Consider making a donation on that day by going to www.wegivecatholic.org, searching for "St. Martin de Porres High School," and clicking "Donate Now." The organization that receives the greatest number of donations from unique donors will win bonus prize money from the Catholic Community Foundation. Please help us win!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

ZADARIUS VARNER '14

“I want future Saint Martin students and current underclassmen to know that Saint Martin builds a bridge for inner city students to go to college. There is no way I would be in college without them.” This was the answer Zadarius Varner gave, without hesitation, when asked how he felt about Saint Martin. During his four years there, Zadarius held a Corporate Work Study position with Reminger Attorneys at Law and continued working there until the spring of 2016. Looking back on his high school career, Zadarius remembered many reasons why he felt secure in his decision to attend Saint Martin. “I liked the community. The teachers took the time to get to know and understand the students. We were able to get to know our peers well and the staff at my CWSP job actually cared about me and didn’t just see my job as a chance to earn a paycheck.” Prior to attending the University of Akron in the fall of 2014, Zadarius was awarded a four-year scholarship from Precision Castparts where he has been employed since May of 2016. He is currently a junior at the University of Akron and on pace to graduate with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science in the spring of 2018. Directly upon graduation, Zadarius plans to attend law school.

SABRINA JACKSON '09



“Throughout my childhood, the principal from my elementary school, St. Vitus, (which is the current site of Saint Martin) always had my best interest at heart. Therefore when she suggested I attend

Saint Martin, I trusted that this school would be beneficial to me and my future. And needless to say, it was! And without my CWSP job at the Cleveland Municipal Court, I would not be where I am today.

“Teachers and administrators built a community within the school. It was a

community that ultimately turned into family. Therefore, it was easy for me to trust them with my future. They took the time to get to know me and gave me the tools to succeed as a student and a young professional.”

Sabrina graduated from Saint Martin in 2009 and from Notre Dame College in 2013. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science with a concentration in Criminal Justice. Sabrina is currently working as a probation officer for the city of Cleveland.

SHANELLE CANADY-MITCHELL '14



Prior to the end of her sophomore year of high school, Shanelle decided to trust her instincts to leave her current high school and enroll in Saint Martin de Porres. As she looks back on that decision, she is

prompted to say thank you to the faculty and staff of Saint Martin. “I want to tell them thank you! Before I went to Saint Martin, I struggled a lot. I never dreamed I would be a PCC (Precision Castparts Corporation) scholar and get a full ride to college. I didn’t even think I would pass the OGT. But I trusted the education they gave me and everything they did for me and I prevailed.” Shanelle also credited BakerHostetler Law for her success. “They were my Corporate Work Study employer and I worked for them from my junior year of high school until this summer. I loved working there. They taught me a lot.” Shanelle is currently in her junior year at the University of Akron and is looking forward to graduation in the fall of 2018. She is pursuing a degree in Early Childhood Education with a concentration in Special Education. When she graduates, Shanelle hopes to teach special education in either a second or third grade classroom setting. She said she always knew she would be a teacher and chose special education because she could challenge herself and make more of an impact.

CARLOS JOHNSON '10



In 2006, just two years after Saint Martin de Porres opened its doors, Carlos Johnson’s mother approached him with the idea of attending a new and quite frankly unproven high school. Carlos said he was open to the idea and thankfully he was. As a young boy of 14, Carlos had no way of knowing that he would eventually graduate from this college preparatory high school, attend Miami University and receive his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. Fast forward to today and Carlos is making preparations to graduate from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in the spring of 2017 while finishing up his third year as a law clerk with the Prosecutor’s Office for the city of Cleveland. Carlos says he knew Saint Martin was a good move for him after he started attending classes his freshman year. “I was sold because of the teachers and the subject matter. I could tell they knew what they were doing by keeping us on track and showing us that they cared.” Carlos went on to say, “There is something common among Saint Martin grads that I didn’t see with my college friends. I think a big reason is because others outgrow their high school friends. But at Saint Martin we grow with our friends.”

KHALIL BROWN '12



“Saint Martin gave me a good foundation. I learned how to speak to someone, trust

someone and seek guidance from someone.” Khalil Brown took those gifts and parlayed them into his future. After graduating from Saint Martin in 2012, Khalil pursued his dream of helping others by attending Xavier University and graduating in 2016 with a Bachelor of Social Work degree. He knew his journey wasn't complete so upon graduation he enrolled in the Case Western Reserve Master of Science in Social Administration program. Khalil has enjoyed his time participating in case studies throughout the school year and working at his Corporate Work Study job, Faye Sharp LLP, during winter and summer breaks. Khalil is looking forward to his spring 2017 graduation and looks back on his time at Saint Martin fondly. “I feel like I fit in quickly. I was involved with the community and with teachers. Their connection to students, expert advice and willingness to care for every student made me trust them. They were there for me every step of the way.”

JULIUS CLARK '08



Julius Clark wanted to be a trailblazer. He wanted to create history. And he did just that when he enrolled in Saint Martin in 2004. Julius said, “Being the first class at Saint Martin was important to me.

I knew I needed to get a good education and not just focus on athletics.” Julius said the strong guidance he received from his parents and their trust in Saint Martin made him believe it was the place for him. “Saint Martin is a close knit family. Each individual student gets the exact same treatment. They know they are important.” Upon graduation from Saint Martin, Julius attended John Carroll University but later transferred to Cleveland State University. He graduated in 2015 with a Bachelor of Business Administration with a focus in Operations and Supply Chain Management. He is currently a production planner for Sherwin-Williams and lives in Baltimore, Maryland. Julius acknowledges his experiences at Saint Martin and his Corporate Work Study position at Baird Investments made him the man he is today.

IT TRULY TAKES A VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD AND WE'RE FOREVER GRATEFUL THAT WE TRUSTED THE SAINT MARTIN'S COMMUNITY!

We are an African American middle class family that resides in Cleveland's Hough area. My son, Jalen, is the youngest of our three sons and currently a student at Saint Martin de Porres High School.

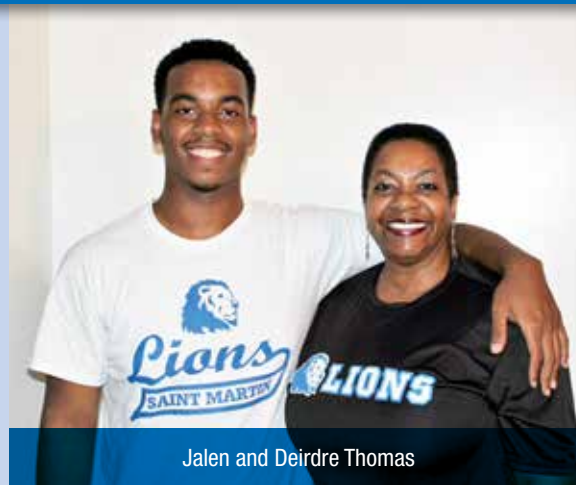
Before high school, Jalen and I visited several high school open houses and Jalen wanted to attend one of the other schools that he was accepted to. After a heart-to-heart conversation about what the cost of his high school education and transportation would cost at that school in addition to having a brother in college, he trusted my decision and agreed to attend Saint Martin.

Saint Martin was always first on my list. When we visited the school during open house, it felt like home. The staff and students assisting that night were full of an energy and excitement that I wanted Jalen to be a part of. I believe in the Work, Study, Serve, Lead, and Pray values and feel that it is an important aspect in my son's development. I was excited about the work study program component which not only benefits the students but also the parents in offsetting the cost of tuition.

After the first month of Jalen's freshman year, he always stayed after school because he was involved in different school activities or to watch an event. Saint Martin has become his second home. Jalen is now a senior and looking at colleges! After he graduates, I'm planning to continue to be involved with Saint Martin in one way or another as we are part of the school family.

Although it hasn't always been easy and we've had our share of calls from teachers and several conferences over the years, I am reminded how much the administration and teachers care. They are dedicated to the students, wanting each one to succeed and be accepted to a college of their choice.

As a Saint Martin parent, I'd like to thank Richard Clark for his vision, the Board of Directors for keeping the vision and mission alive, the Corporate Work Study partners for their financial support, and all other financial supporters. It's because of each one of you that my son, Jalen Thomas, is receiving a top-notch education which will allow him to be prepared for college and corporate life. I'll have peace of mind as Jalen starts his new chapter in college that he'll have the Saint Martin community to support him along the way and beyond. It truly takes a village to raise a child and we're forever grateful that we trusted the Saint Martin's Community!



Jalen and Deirdre Thomas



SAINT MARTIN DE PORRES *High School*

A Cristo Rey Network School

Transforming urban Cleveland one student at a time

6111 Lausche Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103

Events to Attend

DECEMBER 15

Christmas Family Night and Concert

DECEMBER 17

Mobile Pantry with Cleveland Foodbank
9:30am

VISIT US AND TOUR OUR CONSTRUCTION SITE!

Call Teresa Alto at 216-881-1689 ext 213 to schedule.

My Lord God,

I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always, though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

-Thomas Merton

*Saint Martin de Porres High School 2016-2017
The Year of Trust*

FOLLOW US ONLINE AT SAINTMARTINCLEVELAND.ORG

