

**Upper School  
Interim Quest  
2012**

**May 21<sup>st</sup> - May 25<sup>th</sup>**

## Mission Statement

The mission of Interim Quest is to enhance and enrich the experience of Saint Stephen's Upper School students by promoting learning and growth beyond the classroom. In keeping with Saint Stephen's mission statement and incorporating established school programs, the Upper School Interim Quest curriculum seeks to provide an immersive and interactive environment which values:

- Intellectual curiosity
- Creativity
- Independence and self-worth
- Responsible citizenship
- Teamwork
- Ethical decision-making
- Global awareness
- Appreciation of the environment
- Experiential learning

## Program

Interim Quest will be a one week program at the end of the second semester. Students will have the opportunity to sign up for one intensive, full day course or up to three, focused two-hour courses, exploring areas of interest and curiosity. The courses will fit broadly into the curriculum categories listed below.

## Curriculum Categories

1. Externship (*11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade; open to 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> upon appeal process*)
  - provides the opportunity to explore various interests, passions and curiosities and to gain greater knowledge about a career they might be interested in pursuing through a focused, hands-on, week-long externship
2. Global Education / International Study
  - provides opportunity to serve as an ambassador and forge connections with citizens throughout the world
  - creates an immersion experience through a signed pledge that commits students to using only the target language with both fellow travelers and native speakers
  - provides the opportunity to study a civilization's history, art, literature or other major cultural achievements in depth on location
3. Service Learning
  - emphasizes community/global awareness and teamwork skills through service opportunities both at home and abroad
  - promotes an active respect for all members of the school and greater community and a fundamental sense of our calling to serve others
  - hours earned during IQ may be applied to the Community Service graduation requirement
4. Outdoor Adventure / Experiential Learning
  - builds leadership and individual initiative skills
  - provides hands-on activities to solve problems, connect to nature, and take personal responsibility

5. Interdisciplinary / Focused Study and Life Skills

- explores academic topics of interest outside the scope of the school’s curriculum, taking advantage of specialized interests of faculty or other members of the larger community
- provides students with abilities for adaptive and positive behavior to deal effectively with the demands and challenges of everyday life
- prepares students for the college application and search process

## Graduation Requirement

In order to graduate from Saint Stephen’s, a student must complete the Interim Quest curriculum for each year that he/she is a student at the school and receive a passing grade in the courses taken.

In order to maximize the breadth of a student’s experience, during their four years in the Upper School, a student must complete courses in several of the five different categories according to how many years they are a student in the Upper School.

Year started in the Upper School	Number of Different Categories Required
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	3
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	2
11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	2
12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	1

## Grading

Although the IQ format differs from the traditional curriculum, the expectations of Saint Stephen’s are the same. Grading for courses should be based upon thoughtful engagement and participation in classes, journal responses created to produce personal introspection and to stimulate ideas about how to apply their new knowledge to their lives, and completion of all assignments related to the course.

Grades of pass, marginal pass, or fail are given for all classes and will be recorded on a student’s final report card. Each year of IQ counts for ¼ of a credit; if a student begins at Saint Stephen’s in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, their sum total of IQ would be 1 full credit. Students who do not pass their IQ courses will be expected to complete an alternative assignment during the summer, at the discretion of the Upper School Director.

## Course Selection

Students will make their course selections during advisory, indicating a first, second, and third preference. We make every effort to match students with their first choice of IQ selection. However, students may be assigned to their alternate choices as well. Priority is given to upperclassmen.

## IQ Course Offerings 2012

### Travel Opportunities

\*Trips will only run if minimum student enrollment is met. Cost could vary based on enrollment.

<i>China Trip</i>	Boyd
<p>STUDY IN CHINA - Visit the Forbidden City, The Great Wall, and world famous sites in Beijing. Attend classes at our sister school in Guilin, The Guilin Dezhi Foreign Language School. Enjoy out-of-this world scenery (used as a backdrop in "Star Wars") while cruising down the Li River.</p>	
<u>Category</u>	Global Education / International Study
<u>Pre-Requisites</u>	Recommended for 8th and 9th grade students, but students from 7th through 12th grade will be considered.
<u>Cost</u>	\$3500

<i>Colleges, Cultah, and Chowdah</i>	Ellis / Lord
<p>Students will have the opportunity to travel to the higher education capital of the country, Boston, and southern New England to visit 6-8 distinct colleges and universities. They will meet with college admission representatives, sit in on information sessions and take campus tours. While in New England, students will re-live American history by traveling the freedom trail in Boston, explore the Gilded Age through the mansions in Newport, RI, and partake in the ultimate American pastime at a Red Sox game.</p>	
<u>Category</u>	Interdisciplinary / Focused Study
<u>Pre-Requisites</u>	Open to Sophomores and Juniors only
<u>Cost</u>	\$1800

## *Coral in the Caymans*

Misiewicz / Springstead

This trip will allow students to experience marine science first hand while submerged in an unforgettable water world. Students will travel to Grand Cayman Island where they will spend 8 days monitoring Coral Reef health while scuba diving! Participants will monitor coral reef health alongside scientists from Ocean Matters. Ocean Matters is a non-profit organization whose mission is to support young people and educators in developing the skills, knowledge, and convictions to be better stewards for the marine ecosystem. Students will also discover the impacts that divers are having on the local reef systems and report their results to the Cayman Department of the Environment (DOE). This ongoing research project will help monitor and protect the reefs around the Cayman Islands for years to come. In addition, students will have the opportunity to learn the basics of underwater photography, visit Stingray city and participate in other local activities.

Category Focused Study / Outdoor Adventure / Experiential Learning

Pre-Requisites Students need to be **SCUBA** certified and comfortable in the water. SCUBA certification is not part of this course, though students may get certified in the months preceding trip.

Cost \$2,400

## *Dominican Republic Service and Immersion Trip*

Hambrick /  
Wolcott

In this trip to the Dominican Republic, students will have the opportunity to practice their Spanish in an immersive environment as well as engage in meaningful service-learning. Students will spend five days working with children at a community center and one day touring the countryside and experiencing the culture. This trip is coordinated in conjunction with Outreach 360, a world class provider of international service-learning opportunities.

Category

- Global Education / International Study
- Service Learning

Pre-Requisites 1 year of Spanish or the equivalent knowledge

Cost \$1200

## *Italy: From Rome to the Renaissance*

Revard / Bolotin

Begin in Venice on a journey through Italy and time itself as we walk the streets where Marco Polo, Dante, Galileo and Caesar walked before us. Study art, architecture, history and science from its roots in the Classical age through its changes and developments in the Renaissance and beyond. Visit Pisa, where Galileo performed his famous science experiment. See for yourself what a real Roman atrium looks like (even at Caecilius' house). After spending the day in the Vatican Museum, the Roman Forum and the Colosseum see the Trevi Fountains by night. All this and of course, pizza as it was meant to be... in every region of Italy.

Category                      Global Education

Cost                              \$3000

## *Wall Street Week*

Yanelli / Pommer

Students will receive an overview of basic economic theory, U.S. economic history, and basic accounting and investing concepts. Students will also experience a two-day tour of Wall Street that will include visits to the New Stock Exchange, Citibank, (Goldman Sachs or another investment bank), and, of course, the gravesite of Alexander Hamilton in the cemetery of Trinity Church. Lastly, students will read articles from *The Wall Street Journal* and *Economist* as well as watch films relevant to the themes being covered in this course.

Category                      • Interdisciplinary / Focused Study  
   • Experiential Learning

Cost                              \$1250

## Triple Block Courses (All Day)

### *Body, Mind, and Spirit*

Watts, N.

This personalized, hands-on IQ course will help teach Senior girls how to balance their lives as they move toward graduation and college. The course will include intensive exercise with a personal trainer, a self-defense course, meditation and yoga instruction, a course in proper nutrition, a fashion make-over and a day at a spa.

Category Interdisciplinary / Focused Study and Life Skills

Pre-Requisites Senior girls only

Cost \$400

### *Externships*

Whelan

Externships provide students with the opportunity to explore their interests and to gain greater knowledge about careers that they might be interested in pursuing. This focused, hands-on experience is particularly suited for students who demonstrate initiative, responsibility, and resourcefulness. Students may serve as externs in a government, non-profit, or private workplace. The externships will occur during the week of IQ and must include at least 34 hours of work. A student should not pursue an externship at a site where a relative works, and the student cannot be paid for the externship. Students will need to seek out the externship opportunities themselves and communicate with the work site and the school before, during, and after the experience.

Category Externships

Pre-Requisites Juniors and Seniors; Freshmen and Sophomores must apply for a waiver to participate in the Externship program

Cost No Fee

## *Textiles Around the World*

Johnson / Klein

Investigate how fabrics are dyed and decorated while making your own samples of these techniques. Students will make their own natural dyes and test them on different types of fabric. The importance of mordants will also be investigated. Options for enhancing your own items of clothing will be available along with practice working on fabrics supplied to the class. Natural dyes and environmental/safety issues will be included in discussions.

Category                      • Interdisciplinary / Focused Study and Life Skills  
   • Atlas Initiative

Cost                              \$50

## **Double Block Courses (Four Hours / Day)**

### *Art/Music*

Gerren

Explore the comparisons between art and music and how they influence each other. Experiment with mixed media art and different types of music together. After this course, students will understand the connection between art and music, have an increased awareness and appreciation of art and music, and be able to demonstrate multiple art techniques and some basic music Techniques.

Category                      Interdisciplinary / Focused Study

Cost                              Approximately \$40

### *Card Sharks*

Moore

Partner card games offer a lifetime of enjoyment. Emphasizing camaraderie, friendly competition, and mental acuity, games such as Spades, Canasta, Biriba, Euchre, and/or Bridge can enrich relationships and provide hours of pleasure. Students will learn the history of cards through viewing a documentary, learn how to play four different partner card games, and play in a mini-tournament.

Category                      Interdisciplinary / Focused Study

Cost                              No Fee

## *Law and Order*

Murphy

Students will engage in various aspects of a trial. They will tour the courthouse, sit in on different types of trials, meet court personnel, work with an attorney, and present a court case in a real courtroom.

Category Interdisciplinary / Focused Study

Cost No Fee

## *Learn to Cook with the Pros*

O'Neil / Price

Cooking is an essential life skill. This course will involve meal planning, ingredient purchasing, and food preparation with various local professional chefs and will include courses at Apron Cooking School. Budgeting and healthy eating will be stressed in creating a meal to be shared each day.

Category Interdisciplinary / Focused Study and Life Skills

Cost \$200

## *The Amazing Race!*

Flanigan

Discover what *really* is around us in Bradenton and Sarasota. Using the hit television show "The Amazing Race" students will compete in teams during a week long adventure to discover certain sights and sounds of the local area, as well as complete some community service.

Category

- Outdoor Adventure / Experiential Learning
- Service Learning

Cost \$200

## *The Art of the Murder Mystery*

Southerland / Southerland

Read and analyze period mystery stories (from Holmes to Hard-Boiled), write a mystery story, and participate in a two-day campus-wide murder mystery, complete with corpse(s) and clues. Students will become the detectives and/or suspects (perhaps revising the roles and styles of the characters we have studied) and will ferret out the killer, who may be one of the detectives himself/herself.

Category Interdisciplinary / Focused Study

Cost No Fee

## **Single Block Courses (Two Hours / Day)**

### *CSI: Saint Stephen's*

Clough / Ndambuki

During this course, students will use forensic science to solve crimes around the Saint Stephen's campus. Students will learn introductory forensic science as we focus on practices and analysis of physical evidence found at crime scenes.

Category Interdisciplinary / Focused Study and Life Skills

Cost \$50

### *From The Dance Floor To The Booth: How To DJ Right*

Kennen Price

This course will explain the basics of playing live music as a Disc Jockey for weddings, club events, and private parties. Students will gain an understanding of how to go from being in the audience to performing for an audience. This includes, but is not limited to, how and where to purchase (which is not always as easy as it sounds), how to set up for an event, how to cue, fade and beatmatch, reading your audience, proper attire, forming and writing contracts, and how to get gigs that could possibly lead one to start a legitimate business.

Category Interdisciplinary / Focused Study and Life Skills

Cost \$75

## *Game On*

Game On Staff

Through a series of active, fast-paced improvisation and role playing games, this course helps students increase self-confidence, build creative muscles, improve interaction with peers and adults, while developing invaluable life-skills and a sense of humor. This program takes place on campus.

Category Interdisciplinary / Focused Study and Life Skills

Cost \$75

## *Icons of Fashion*

Archibald

This IQ course will examine famous people, past and present, and their choice of apparel. We will discuss fashion in its cultural, psychological, and historical concepts, and focus on the role of fashion designers, editors, and magazines. We will watch videos of runway shows and learn the vocabulary of fashion. Our final goal is to understand what personal style means and how fashion trends influence people.

Category Interdisciplinary / Focused Study and Life Skills

Cost No Fee

## *Krav Maga Self Defense*

John Brockoff

Krav Maga is the official self defense system of the Israeli Defense Forces, and has been taught to hundreds of law enforcement agencies and thousands of civilians in the United States. This simple, effective self defense system emphasizes instinctive movements, practical techniques, and realistic training scenarios. In this course, you will learn the basics of Krav Maga and get a great workout at the same time.

Category Experiential Learning

Cost \$75

## *Optical Perception: The Art of Seeing*

Moore / Hertrick

Students will learn to “read” visual art forms, including paintings, graphic novels, television, and film. Students will become familiar with the visual vocabulary of each of these mediums and will emerge better prepared to see the world.

Category Interdisciplinary / Focused Study

Cost No Fee

## *Toning and Yoga*

Lerner

Students will use workout videos to engage in a body shaping and refining session and then relax and stretch with yoga. The first half of the block will be spent toning and shaping through sit-ups, lunges, and light weight lifting. The second half will be dedicated to different yoga poses and stretching. The class will end with a healthy snack.

Category

- Interdisciplinary / Focused Study and Life Skills
- Experiential Learning

Cost No Fee