

# A New Home for the Arts

**“The arts feed our mind, our body, our soul, our spirit in a way that nothing else can. It’s a voice for us to express ourselves.”**

**► Jennifer Davenport, Art Teacher**

We are anxiously awaiting the start of an exciting construction project on campus. This summer we are scheduled to break ground on a new arts building that will serve students in the Lower and Middle Schools. This facility has been designed to further enhance our outstanding arts program and the work of our teachers, Jennifer Davenport and Judy Hafso. Jennifer and Judy were key in the design phase of the classroom space.

The new 3,357 sq. ft. building will have three primary spaces: Music Room, Art Room w/kiln, and a Gallery with seating. The Art Room will provide more instructional and storage space than the existing Art portable it will replace. In addition to the well-lit work space, there will be a special gathering place for instruction

that includes a projector and demonstration space. The architects have also designed an open work area outside for larger and potentially messier projects. There will be additional sink and clean-up areas to expedite the transitions to and from class. Finally, with the addition of a kiln and firing room in the space, there will be more opportunity for ceramic activities.

The front of the building will feature an airy Music Room with slightly higher ceilings for improved acoustics. The space is designed for single classes as well as the large choir when they meet. The design process has been very intentional with more storage and easy access to the large variety of instruments used during the class. This classroom will also include demonstration and instructional



**Drawing of new arts building  
by NAC Architects**

areas. Since many performances take place in Founders Theater, easier access for moving instruments has also been included in the design.

The Gallery will be the welcoming entrance to the facility. It will be a showcase for art work and serve as a place for the community to gather for conversation, a quiet workplace before school is dismissed or a location for small meetings. There will be several clusters of comfortable seating and restrooms available, so we envision it to be a place for parents to meet informally or where someone can work while waiting for afternoon dismissal.

The location of this exciting building will be in the same area as the current art portable and extending up the hill towards the Davenport House. The front entrance should align closely with the current sidewalk from the Lower School. The location was finalized after considering safe access and the proximity for the Lower and Middle School students using the facility. The outside patio area has also been configured for additional seating and gathering space when the weather is nice... and the weather is always nice on campus.

You can follow our progress throughout the construction process on social media (Facebook and Instagram) as well as our website.

This new building would not have been possible at this time without a generous donor, who provided a million-dollar gift to seed the project, and each of the other generous donors who made the commitment to support Saint George's School in this transformational project. It is a difference maker in this community for our students and their dedicated instructors.

Thank You!

— Jamie Tender, Head of School



**The current Lower School Arts Building**

**“A new space is going to be incredible. It’s going to give us more square footage so there’s room for us to move around. It’s going to allow me to set up a variety of art supplies that we haven’t had before. It’s really just going to enable us to do even more than we’ve ever done.”**

➤ **Jennifer Davenport, Art Teacher**



**“Every child has something to say. As they grow and go out into the world as an adult, they have very important gifts to share. And I think music can pull some of those gifts out of them.”**

➤ **Judy Hafso, LS Music Teacher**



**“Sometimes there are moments when words just don’t articulate how we’re feeling. And music is a real vehicle for expressing emotion.”**

➤ **Judy Hafso, LS Music Teacher**

### **On the Web**

**See a Video of teachers talking and students singing about Saint George’s arts program at [www.sgs.org/magazine](http://www.sgs.org/magazine)**

