



THE PARENT'S GUIDE TO

# GIVING *and* GETTING INVOLVED



**STUART**  
COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL OF THE SACRED HEART

## Dear Parents,

For over 50 years, the active participation of families in the Stuart community has been instrumental in continuing Stuart's mission of expanding our girls' confidence in their own possibilities grounded in our Sacred Heart Goals. Our faculty, staff, alumnae, and parent volunteers work together to make Stuart an extraordinary place for girls to learn and grow. Whether you are new to Stuart or not, I hope that you will get involved with the life of our school.

Stuart's programs challenge our students to reach beyond what they think is possible. Our exceptional faculty and programs inspire girls to be the innovative risk-takers and changemakers of the future. Our commitment to providing a cutting edge education grounded in our Sacred Heart Goals and Criteria fosters the best environment for the intellectual, social, and moral growth of girls. To make all of this possible, Stuart encourages parents to be engaged and provide financial support beyond tuition.

I hope that this brochure will help you learn about the many ways in which you can show your support and become involved in the Stuart community. Just as the support of generations of parents before you has done, your participation and generosity will make a difference for our students, our faculty, and the entire Stuart community. We count on your support to make Stuart the incredible place that it is.

I look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Sincerely,



**Patty L. Fagin, PhD**  
Head of School

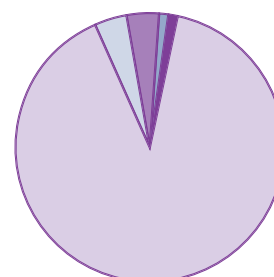


## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Stuart is committed to perpetuating the tradition of Sacred Heart education. To that end, financial support is critical as tuition only covers a portion of the cost of educating each girl at Stuart. The school receives no outside financial support from the Catholic Church, the Society of the Sacred Heart or state and local government, so your financial contributions are essential in helping maintain a vibrant, thriving institution that provides students of all races, religious beliefs and socioeconomic backgrounds with an exceptional education in the Sacred Heart tradition.

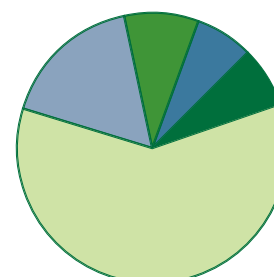
Since tuition only covers 90 percent of the actual cost of providing an education, Stuart relies on your gifts to meet its annual operating expenses and to attract and retain outstanding faculty and to invest in enhancements to our programs.

### REVENUE



- 90% Tuition
- 4% The Stuart Fund and Events
- 4% Donor Endowed Funds Transfer
- 1% Investment Income, Facility Rentals, Misc.
- 1% Draws from Restricted Gifts

### EXPENSES



- 60% Salaries & Benefits
- 17% Financial Aid
- 9% Plant Operation & Maintenance
- 7% Instructional Support
- 7% General & Administration



# OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER

## The Stuart Fund Cabinet

Participation in The Stuart Fund is a meaningful way to show support for the school. Members of The Stuart Fund cabinet reach out to parents throughout the year to discuss how your gift will make a difference in the lives of Stuart girls. The Stuart Fund is the school's most important fundraising initiative each year. Stuart hopes that every family will make Stuart a philanthropic priority and asks them to consider a gift of any size. If you are interested in volunteering to be part of The Stuart Fund Cabinet, please contact **Beth Marks '84, P '21**, Director of The Stuart Fund and Planned Giving, at [bmarks@stuartschool.org](mailto:bmarks@stuartschool.org) or (609) 921-6118.

## Stuart Parents Association (SPA)

Organized in 1971, the Stuart Parent Association (SPA) serves to foster parents' interest in the school and involve them in enhancing the quality of their daughters' lives through enrichment activities designed to support both student and parent.

The organization also functions as a communications conduit between faculty, students and parents. The work of SPA is led by the Executive Council, consisting of SPA's elected officers and the Head of School. The Executive Council and Stuart Administrators meet to discuss current happenings in and around the school five times per academic year. Meetings are held virtually this year. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. 2020-2021 SPA meeting dates are as follows:

**Wednesday, September 16, 2020 8:30am to 10:00am**

**Wednesday, November 4, 2020 7:00pm to 8:00pm**

**Wednesday, January 13, 2021 8:30am to 10:00am**

**Wednesday, March 3, 2021 7:00pm to 8:00pm**

**Wednesday, May 19, 2021 10:00am to 11:00am**

SPA is also responsible for coordinating various events throughout the school year. If you are interested in helping, please contact Jennifer Teaney, SPA President, at [jenteaney@gmail.com](mailto:jenteaney@gmail.com). Detailed information about volunteer opportunities with SPA can be found at [www.stuartschool.org/spa](http://www.stuartschool.org/spa) under the parents tab.

## Stuart Parents Groups

Stuart Parents Groups foster a sense of community and provide a forum to celebrate the diversity of our school. If you are interested in joining one of the following parent groups, or forming one of your own, please contact **Beth Marks '84, P '21**, Director of The Stuart Fund and Planned Giving, at [bmarks@stuartschool.org](mailto:bmarks@stuartschool.org) or (609) 921-6118. The current parents groups are below:

**Black Heritage Parents Group**

**Chinese Parents Group**

**Indian Parents Group**

**Dad's Club**

## Stuart Parent Ambassadors

Stuart's Parent Ambassadors are veteran parents who volunteer to welcome new families to the Stuart community and to establish channels of regular communication. As veterans, these Parent Ambassadors are familiar with the culture of our school and understand the rules, the players, the events, the opportunities and the confusions they experienced as "newbies", and have pledged to use that experience to help new families navigate the beginning of their Stuart journey. If you are interested in becoming a Parent Ambassador, please contact **Joe Petitto**, Director of Admissions at [jpetitto@stuartschool.org](mailto:jpetitto@stuartschool.org) or (609) 921-6043.

## Events

Stuart holds fundraising and community building events throughout the year. Whether you are interested in sponsoring, attending, or planning an event, we encourage you to get involved. For more information about events please contact **Kristen Lopez-Watt '90, P '25, P '29**, Director of Donor Engagement and Stewardship at [klopezwatt@stuartschool.org](mailto:klopezwatt@stuartschool.org) or (609) 378-1935.



# OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE

Since Stuart’s founding mothers, Mary Murray Garrett, Peggy McNeil, and Millie Harford raised the initial funds to open Stuart in 1963, Stuart’s success, indeed its very existence, has been the direct result of a tradition of generous gifts both large and small. Today is no different, and Stuart continues to rely on current parents, alumnae, past parents, faculty, staff, and friends to provide the best possible educational environment for girls.

## The STUART FUND

The Stuart Fund is an annual fundraising campaign raising unrestricted dollars from current parents, alumnae, past parents, faculty, staff, and friends. These gifts have a significant impact on all areas of the school providing innovative teaching, robust professional development, state-of-the-art technology, the best and the brightest faculty, and updated collaborative learning spaces.

Stuart’s 60+ student clubs, 30+ sports teams, 25 stage performances, four Congés, and one Teddy Bear Picnic are just a few examples of what happens in a year at Stuart. Gifts to The Stuart Fund help make all of this (and so much more) possible.

These annual unrestricted gifts directly support our operating budget. They allow Stuart to continue to provide a values-based, Sacred Heart education, rich with a variety of programs and opportunities that make a real difference in the lives of hundreds of girls and preschool boys. Like other independent schools, tuition alone does not cover the cost of a Stuart education. Eighty-eight percent of education costs are covered by tuition. Stuart relies on gifts of all sizes to make up the difference.

As support for The Stuart Fund grows, so does the flexibility the school has in its budget to do more for our students. Gifts to The Stuart Fund are spent in the year they are made and help balance the budget. Stuart asks every parent to consider making an unrestricted gift each school year. Pledges are payable by June 30. In 2019-2020, The Stuart Fund contributed \$579,339 to the school’s operating budget. The Stuart Fund is the school’s top philanthropic priority.

### CAPITAL, ENDOWMENT AND SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT

#### Capital

As projects arise, Stuart may ask families for special gifts or pledges, separate from The Stuart Fund, to accomplish the school’s long-term goals. New facilities such as the Fruscione Athletic Center, Cor Unum, and Futures Classroom were

# STUART FUND GIVING LEVELS

ARCHANGELS	\$25,000+
ANGEL’S CIRCLE	\$10,000+
BARAT CIRCLE †	\$5,000+
DUCHESNE CIRCLE *	\$2,500+
STUART CIRCLE	\$1,000+
TARTAN CIRCLE	\$500+
GREEN AND WHITE CIRCLE	\$250+
FRIENDS	UP TO \$249

\* Donors at this level or above are invited to the annual Founders Reception.  
† Donors at this level or above are invited to the annual Sophie Dinner.

funded through the generosity of parents, alumnae, and friends. Gifts to these capital projects are typically made in addition to support of The Stuart Fund and can be paid over a period of time.

#### Endowment

Endowment funds are used for attracting and retaining the most gifted students, recruiting the most qualified and dedicated faculty, maintaining a cutting edge facility, and providing the most relevant, challenging and comprehensive curricula and service programs.

Stuart Country Day School of the Sacred Heart seeks through its endowment to ensure the future of Sacred Heart education for women. Many independent schools maintain an endowment to ensure their long-term security. Funds donated to Stuart’s endowment are invested and managed wisely to maximize interest potential. Income from the investment of the school’s endowment, together with fundraising initiatives, helps to bridge the gap between tuition and the school’s actual operating expenses. A strong, growing endowment helps keep tuition affordable. Your gifts to Stuart’s endowment are an investment in the Stuart of today and tomorrow.

#### Scholarships

The Angels Program at Stuart Country Day School of the Sacred Heart enhances the lives of students by providing academically qualified young women with a private girls’ school education rooted in the philosophy of the Sacred Heart. The Angels Program serves students and families who have limited financial resources, and for whom a private-school education would otherwise be impossible. Stuart, because of its history and heritage as a Sacred Heart school, is uniquely qualified to identify, educate and support girls in need.



# WAYS TO GIVE

## Cash or Check

Cash is still the most popular way to make a tax-deductible charitable gift. Checks should be payable to Stuart Country Day School and mailed to:

Beth Marks '84, P '21  
Director of The Stuart Fund and Planned Giving, Stuart Country Day School of the Sacred Heart, 1200 Stuart Road, Princeton, New Jersey 08540

## Securities

Gifts of appreciated securities and mutual-fund shares held for more than one year provide significant tax savings for the donor. Gifts are tax-deductible at fair market value and there is no capital-gains tax on the transfer.

Call the Advancement Office at **609-921-6118** or email **Beth Marks '84, P '21**, Director of The Stuart Fund and Planned Giving at **bmarks@stuartschool.org** for information about the stock-transfer process.

Please advise the Advancement Office once you have transferred stock into the school's account so we may properly credit you your gift. Gifts are transferred to our account without identifying information of the donor, so we must be notified by you or your broker in order to acknowledge your gift.

The school's account for receipt of securities is with The Glenmede Trust Company. The account name is Stuart Country Day School Gifts and the account number is 5671-01-4/8.1, DTC clearing #2139, Agent Bank #12286. Institutional ID #12286

## Credit Cards

Gifts by credit card are welcomed. Call the Advancement Office at **609-921-6118** or use the online giving form at **stuartschool.org/give**

## Online

Online giving is one of the most popular and easiest ways to make a gift. Make your gift online today at **stuartschool.org/give**

## Matching Gifts

Many organizations match charitable donations made by their employees. Matching gifts can double or triple the size of the donation, while allowing you to allocate your company's charitable-giving dollars to Stuart. Please obtain the matching-gift form from your company's human-resources department. Complete your section of the form and enclose it with your gift. We'll do the rest!

What's more, Stuart considers your company's matching gift as part of your total contribution. Therefore, your \$50 gift can become a \$100 or \$150 gift to Stuart. Securing a match for your \$500 donation, if your company matches dollar-for-dollar, makes you eligible for the Janet Erskine Stuart Society (a \$1,000 annual giving minimum).

**Tax ID Number:** Should you need it for tax purposes or to qualify for a matching gift, the school's tax ID number is 21-0744683.



## Frequently Asked Questions



### *Stuart is an affluent school. Why is my gift important?*

Stuart, like most independent schools, relies on your gifts to meet its annual operating expenses, to continue its tradition of offering an exceptional education grounded in the Goals and Criteria of the Sacred Heart, and to provide opportunities to qualified students through its financial aid program.

### *Why not raise tuition?*

Stuart's tuition only covers 88 percent of the actual cost of providing an education. If tuition were increased, many families would not be able to afford to send their daughters to Stuart. To close the gap, monies raised by the Advancement Office allow more families to better afford a Stuart education, to attract and retain an outstanding and diverse faculty, to maintain the facilities and keep current on technological advances in education.

### *Why are participation rates so important?*

Participation rates are an important way for Stuart to demonstrate to others in its community and to prospective families the commitment and dedication of our parents, alumnae and friends to the school and our students. We aim for 100-percent participation from our current parents. Foundations and corporations awarding grants to educational institutions often look at the level of parent, alumnae and community participation in the school's fundraising initiatives. At Stuart, 100% of our Board of Trustees give substantially and 75% of our faculty and staff support Stuart by making annual fund gifts.





## Office of Institutional Advancement

### Christen Jones

Director of Institutional Advancement  
cjones@stuartschool.org | (609) 921-6101

### Admissions

#### Joe Petitto

Director of Admissions  
jpetitto@stuartschool.org | (609) 921-6043

#### Susy Kim

Associate Director of Admissions & Financial Aid  
skim@stuartschool.org | (609) 921-6641

#### Melinda A. La Nasa, P '12, P '14, P '23

Admissions Liaison  
mlanasa@stuartschool.org | (609) 921-2330

### Development

#### Beth Marks '84, P '21

Director of The Stuart Fund & Planned Giving  
bmarks@stuartschool.org | (609) 921-6118

#### Kristen Lopez-Watt '90, P '25, P '29

Director of Donor Engagement & Stewardship  
klopezwatt@stuartschool.org | (609) 378-1935

### Communications

#### Hilary Morris

Associate Director of Communications  
hmorris@stuartschool.org | (609) 378-1931

#### Monica Vogel

Art Director, Office of Communications  
mvogel@stuartschool.org | (609) 921-6106

### Alumnae Relations

#### Alicia Fruscione Walker '98, P '29, P '32

Coordinator of Alumnae Relations  
awalker@stuartschool.org | (609) 921-6103

## STUART PARENT ASSOCIATION (SPA)

### 2020-2021 SPA Executive Committee

**President:** Jennifer Teaney

**Treasurer:** Pernilla Burke

**Secretary:** Aurora Calonico

**VP of Outreach:** Kerry Yates

**VP of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion:** Nitza Pean Paulina

**VPs of Merchandising:** Ludwig Zebrauskas

**Encore Emporium:** Leah Klein

**VP of Education (Common Ground):** Aurora Calonico and Lisa Pisano

### Division Representatives

**Early Childhood:** Natasha McDermott

**Lower School:** Katherine Janiszewski

**Middle School:** Joan Mullen and Kathleen Mandzij

**Upper School:** Aparna Deshpande and Sandy Scarlatella

For contact information please visit [www.stuartschool.org/spa](http://www.stuartschool.org/spa)

2020-2021

# SCHOOL *Calendar*

## SEPTEMBER

- 8 Orientation Day
- 9 Classes Begin

## OCTOBER

- 12 School Closed
- 22 Middle and Upper School No Classes - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 23 Lower, Middle and Upper School No Classes - Parent/Teacher Conferences

## NOVEMBER

- 25-27 School Closed - Thanksgiving Break
- 30 No Classes - In-Service Day

## DECEMBER

- 1 Classes Resume
- 21-31 Christmas Break

## JANUARY

- 1 School Closed - New Years
- 4 Classes Resume
- 18 School Closed - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

## FEBRUARY

- 12 No Classes - In-Service Day
- 15 School Closed - Presidents Day

## MARCH

- 15-26 No Classes - Spring Break
- 29 Classes Resume

## APRIL

- 2 School Closed - Good Friday
- 5 School Closed - Easter Monday
- 6 Classes Resume

## MAY

- 31 School Closed - Memorial Day

## JUNE

- 5 Graduation



\*For an up-to-date event calendar, please visit [www.stuartschool.org](http://www.stuartschool.org)



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