



**STUART COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL
OF THE SACRED HEART**
Princeton, New Jersey

HEAD OF SCHOOL
Start Date: July 1, 2022
stuartschool.org



**Carney
Sandoe**
& ASSOCIATES



STUART

COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL OF THE SACRED HEART

MISSION

Stuart's mission is to prepare young women for lives of exceptional leadership and service within the framework of the Goals and Criteria of the Schools of the Sacred Heart.

Part of an international community of Sacred Heart schools, Stuart is an independent Catholic school that welcomes and embraces students of all faiths and backgrounds, helping them to become accomplished, committed women whose confidence, global perspective, and passion for justice will transform the world in which they live.

OVERVIEW

Founded in 1963 in Princeton, New Jersey, Stuart Country Day School of the Sacred Heart (Stuart) serves approximately 370 students, with a co-ed Early Childhood Program (EC) and an all-girls program in grades Junior Kindergarten (JK) through 12. Stuart offers highly engaging, innovative curricular and co-curricular programs, both of which take advantage of the way girls learn and focus on centering girls' needs. Led by a talented faculty, Stuart offers an impressive array of courses in the STEM fields and the arts and humanities, with a focus on helping girls develop the skills for lifelong, sustainable leadership.

As a member of a global community of more than 150 Sacred Heart schools, Stuart educates to the following Sacred Heart Goals (the Goals): a personal and active faith in God, a deep respect for intellectual values, a social awareness that impels to action, the building of community as a Christian value, and personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom. Stuart is committed to living out these principles in every aspect of its program.

As such, Stuart is dedicated to providing an education steeped in these Goals with a focus on faith, knowledge, social justice, community service, and personal growth while providing a commitment to the intellectual dimension of faith. Stuart has a deep commitment to equity and inclusion and promotes a culture where young women understand and have a deep respect for diversity. Stuart is uniquely positioned, as the only all-girls school in Princeton, to create an environment where young women are encouraged, and expected, to become courageous leaders who think critically and work together for the greater good.

FAST FACTS

Founded: 1963

Total students: 370

Students of color: 47%

International students: 5%

Total faculty: 68

Faculty with advanced degrees: 67%

Faculty of color: 20%

Financial aid budget: \$3 million

Students receiving financial aid: 44%

Value of endowment: \$15 million



Current Head of School Dr. Patty L. Fagin, who has served as Head of School for 11 years, is set to retire at the conclusion of the 2021-22 school year. At this time, Stuart seeks a dynamic leader as its next Head of School starting July 1, 2022. The successful candidate will be an experienced educational leader devoted to the school's all-girls mission and program. The Head of School has oversight of all organizational activities and serves as the school's spiritual and academic leader. The new Head will deeply support Stuart's Catholic identity as established by the Religious of the Sacred Heart and will display a committed conviction to personally and institutionally living the Goals. The Head of School will be charged with fostering a climate of excellence and ethical growth among an amazing body of intellectually curious students, a stellar and committed team of administrators, faculty, and staff, as well as a devoted community of alumnae and other stakeholders. This is an exceptional opportunity to lead a highly regarded independent school with an unwavering commitment to student success with individualized attention to the development of the whole child.

SCHOOL HISTORY

Stuart was founded in 1963 by Princeton-area parents who wanted a rigorous, faith-based education for their daughters. They appealed to the Religious of the Sacred Heart to open a school that welcomes and embraces students of all faiths and backgrounds.

With the help of the Society of the Sacred Heart and local friends, a large woodland tract was purchased on The Great Road, and Professor Jean Labatut, a world-renowned architect who was Director of Graduate Studies in Architecture at Princeton University, was appointed as the designer for the school's campus.

Stuart is named for Mother Janet Stuart, the sixth Superior General of the Society of the Sacred Heart, who in the early 1900's was highly committed to the education of girls as change agents for a better world.



THE SCHOOL

Stuart is known for building a close-knit community focused on high academic achievement and aspirations, strong values, personal growth, and a commitment to service. Stuart is committed to educating girls well through all stages of their young lives from EC through Upper School, preparing them for the challenges of life.

With a student body that is nearly 50% students of color, Stuart is also committed to promoting a culture of universal respect. With a multicultural curriculum; school-wide student sponsored initiatives such as the Flag Ceremony and *HerStory* (a celebration of African American history with a lens on the historical contributions of Black women in America); and division-specific diversity, equity, and inclusion programs, at Stuart young women are engaged in an education that advocates for an understanding of and deep respect for diversity. All administrators, faculty, and staff engage in anti-bias and anti-racism training and have the cultural competencies and practices to adeptly support students, and a number of parent affinity groups facilitate safe spaces for the community.

Stuart is also home to the National Center for Girls' Leadership at Stuart (NCGLS). Established in 2015, the NCGLS engages in research, professional programming, and development of innovative curriculum for girls. The NCGLS has enabled Stuart to showcase its expertise in educating girls to a life of compassionate and exceptional leadership. The NCGLS spans across all divisions and works to enhance each girl's path to leadership through coursework, guest speakers, alumnae connections, internships, and Upper School academic endorsements. In addition, the NCGLS recently announced its inaugural merit-based scholarship program to expand its reach by sponsoring accomplished students with aspirations of making a difference. The NCGLS has brought national recognition to Stuart with the overwhelming success of its annual, national #LEADLIKEAGIRL Conference, inspiring hundreds of girls



around the country to become ethical risk-takers and change makers in their respective communities and schools. The NCGLS serves as a valued resource to parents, students, and educators across the country.

Stuart is accredited by the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, and is a member of the international community of Sacred Heart Schools, the National Association of Independent Schools, the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools, the National Coalition of Girls' Schools, the Secondary School Admission Board, the College Board, the Education Records Bureau, the Association of Supervision and Curriculum, and the Online School for Girls. Additionally, as a Sacred Heart school, Stuart is accountable to the Society of the Sacred Heart for adherence to the Goals and Criteria of the Sacred Heart through the Society's Sacred Heart Commission on Goals evaluation process completed every five years.

ACADEMICS

From EC through grade 12, Stuart encourages curiosity and a zest to learn, supported by outstanding academics and inspiring faculty.

Stuart's EC program provides girls and boys with a joyful initial classroom experience and a solid foundation for the future. Nurturing a sense of wonder and uncovering each child's curiosity through frequent one-on-one interactions is a hallmark of the EC program. Children are encouraged to "play it forward" by exploring, questioning, and problem-solving—the essence of play. The program includes a social and emotional skills-based curriculum, along with a stellar academic program, that provides girls and boys the building blocks for JK and Kindergarten. The EC faculty support the children's development



of confidence and independence by encouraging them to speak in front of others and learn to do for themselves. The faculty know each child, and are dedicated to helping children express themselves, discover their world, and become engaged and enchanted with learning.

In the Lower School, girls in grades JK-4 continue to develop a love of learning, while teachers ensure that each girl has a solid mastery of the fundamentals of mathematics, reading, writing, and other foundational principles to ensure her success in Middle School. Students annually engage in ERB and MAP testing to allow the faculty to identify and address any learning gaps or issues. When a girl comes to Stuart's Lower School, she enters a kind and collaborative community of learners. The curriculum includes the humanities, STEM, financial literacy, arts, Spanish, theology, drama, and physical education. Students also engage in character education through the Lower School's Social-Emotional Learning curriculum fostering a sense of community and each girl's place in the world. Critical leadership skills are developed at these young ages through such signature programs as the Lower School Visiting Author Program, Women We Admire Day, Stations of the Cross, and the #LEADLIKEAFOURTHGRADER curriculum. The Lower School provides the building blocks for each girl's successful transition to Middle School.

Building on the Lower School curriculum, the Middle School years are a time for Stuart girls in grades 5 -8 to discover who they are, what they want to become, and how they want to make a difference in the world. The innovative curriculum and 1:1 iPad program provide students with skills essential for a dynamic and rapidly changing world, including effective communication, critical thinking, and problem solving. The curriculum consists of extensive offerings in STEM subjects, core courses in the arts and humanities, as well as classes in world languages, theology, physical education, leadership, and health. Signature Project Based Learning units at each grade level offer real-life, cross disciplinary opportunities to engage in team-based relevant research and problem solving. Across the board, the faculty seek to incorporate sources that represent diverse perspectives and foster cultural competency into the curriculum. The Middle School offers additional studies in financial literacy and digital citizenship.



Middle School students also have the option to participate in a national student exchange program facilitated through the Network of Sacred Heart Schools spending two weeks at other Sacred Heart schools throughout the United States.

Stuart's Upper School provides a unique opportunity for girls to evolve into mature young women who are equipped with the knowledge, dedication, and confidence to make a difference in the world. The students master a variety of subject areas, including creative and expository writing, mathematical and analytical reasoning, science, conflict resolution, world languages, ethics, theology, and self-expression. The Upper School curriculum is also developed with a view toward developing critical thinking skills by again incorporating diverse perspectives and addressing existing and emerging world issues. Students regularly engage in lively classroom discussions where faculty weave religion, politics, and culture into all aspects of learning, helping students construct value systems they can articulate and live. The Upper School offers 18 Advanced Placement courses, as well as courses in financial literacy and digital citizenship. The technology-rich environment prepares girls to learn and work in today's mobile, networked world. Upper School students have the option to participate in the Sacred Heart Academic Exchange Program which is facilitated through the Network of Sacred Heart Schools spending two weeks with

COLLEGE MATRICULATION

Stuart graduates attend top colleges and universities in the U.S. and abroad. Three or more Stuart graduates matriculated at each of the following school colleges or universities between 2014-2020:

Princeton University (15)

Drexel University (9)

Fordham University (6)

Vassar College (6)

Rutgers University (5)

The College of William and
Mary (5)

University of Pennsylvania (5)

Barnard College (4)

Boston College (4)

Davidson College (4)

New York University (4)

The College of New Jersey (4)

Villanova University (4)

Tufts University (3)



other Sacred Heart schools in other nations around the world. Upper School students can also take part in the NCGLS Leadership Endorsement Program, a customized and personalized opportunity for each girl to leverage her unique passion and interests towards developing authentic leadership skills. The endorsements have been tailored to connect with and enhance learning in areas of interest for girls. Leadership Endorsements are offered in four areas: STEM, Business and Entrepreneurship, Arts and Humanities, and Social Justice. The Upper School also has an impressive writing program, supported by the Writing Center and the Visiting Authors Series. In senior year, each girl participates in a capstone project relating to any social justice issue of her choosing. Stuart graduates young women who are well-prepared for the challenges of college and university and life afterwards, as evidenced by frequent testimonials from alumnae.

THE ARTS

The visual and performing arts program emphasizes essential skill building, design, and process-based education using innovative technology, visual and performing art history, aesthetics, and critical thinking. The performing arts program includes theater, chorus, and instrumental ensemble.

The Lower and Middle Schools offer a discipline-based art program, creating projects in all mediums: painting, drawing, ceramics, sculpture, printmaking, and photography with components in art history and student critiques. In Upper School art, students further develop their skills and work toward a personal voice through projects in a wide variety of media. Art history is included in every class. After taking Foundations of Art, Upper School students may choose to take trimesters in studio (drawing, painting, and printmaking), ceramics, or photography. These trimester courses are prerequisites for the year-long Advanced Studio, AP Studio, and Honors Photography.



The Lower School music program is centered on musical exploration. By Middle School, students expand their knowledge of music history, theory, and performance. The grade-level choruses prepare students for two choral concerts and numerous other appearances each year. The Upper School Music department provides opportunities for students to refine their music theory, music history, and performance skills to the highest echelon. Music theory and appreciation electives are offered at basic and intermediate levels, and AP Music Theory is a full-year course offered for students interested in college-level theory. The Tartantones Choir is Stuart's Upper School award-winning choir that provides a platform for girls to share the gift of song, light, and love within the community and beyond.

The theater program is active at every grade level, with numerous stage performances each year. The major thrust of these programs is to garner effective public speaking and public presentation skills regardless of the subject matter. However students who are interested in a career in theater receive age-appropriate coaching and training across all divisions. In the Middle School, Stuart also collaborates with its brother school (Princeton Academy of the Sacred Heart) and girls audition for and perform in their co-ed productions. In the Upper School, students can take theater courses in acting, directing, musical theater, and stagecraft. Upper School students put their learning to the test participating in all aspects of the various theater productions put on at Stuart.

ATHLETICS

Stuart's interscholastic athletic program develops strong athletes who are physically, mentally, and emotionally prepared to contribute to their team and to society. Stuart coaches, faculty, and administration are highly supportive of athletics as integral to the girls' overall growth and development. Experienced and dedicated coaches expect and model commitment to the team, cooperation in an atmosphere of mutual



respect, and exceptional levels of sportsmanship. Through the athletic program Stuart's exceptional coaches teach girls vital lessons in leadership, cooperation, teamwork, safety, and sportsmanship, enhancing the overall academic experience and teaching of critical life skills. The athletic teams are competitive and provide a source of pride and school spirit within the school community.

Stuart Upper School and Middle School sports include field hockey, tennis, cross country, volleyball, basketball, squash, swimming, lacrosse, golf, and track and field; a soccer team will be introduced in the fall of 2021. Exposure to athletic opportunities such as basketball and tennis are introduced in Lower School. Approximately seventy percent (70%) of students participate in a team sport and numerous athletes go on to play at the collegiate level. Stuart teams compete in the New Jersey Interscholastic Association league.

SCHOOL LIFE

Students at Stuart have the opportunity to participate in a variety of clubs and activities, beginning in the Lower School. Options expand as students move up through Middle and Upper School. In Middle School, students can participate in clubs such as the Debate Club, the Improv Club, the Math Club, the Book Club, the Robotics Club, just to name a few. Upper School similarly offers an array of clubs, including Activism Club, Black Student Union, Diversity Club, Literature Magazine, Medical Club, Mock Trial, Model UN, Math Club, Outreach Committee, Philosophy Club, Robotics, Student Government, and Women's Voices. Students are empowered to start new clubs with faculty support to address any gaps in clubs of interest to them.



Student Council committees—including Spirit, Outreach, Social, and Campus Ministry—provide girls additional unique opportunities to develop leadership skills. The Campus Ministry program also enables girls to share their rich and varied faiths, while celebrating the diversity of the Stuart community.

Service to the community lies at the heart of Stuart’s mission. Students and families engage in service initiatives starting in the Early Childhood program and continue through to senior year. As a promotion requirement all Upper School students engage in service-learning opportunities connecting them to service at home and in the local, national, and global communities.

CAMPUS

Stuart’s historic mid-century campus is set on 55 beautiful, wooded acres a few minutes from downtown Princeton and Princeton University. The campus was designed by Professor Labatut to meld into the landscape with boulders strewn throughout the building and the grounds, floor-to-ceiling windows, and hallways and classrooms that look out into wooded areas.

The campus includes state-of-the-art classrooms, two theaters, a STEM center and makerspace, two libraries, art space, offices, and dining facilities. The athletic facilities include two gyms, a dance studio, a fitness center, five tennis courts, a turf field, and two additional grass fields.

All in all, Stuart describes its campus as a “peaceful place for girls to make some noise.”



LAINIE'S HOUSE: HEAD OF SCHOOL RESIDENCE

The next Head of School will be offered the residence owned by Stuart for his/her tenure as the Head of School. The modern beautiful home is affectionately named “Lainie’s House” after the beloved mother of one of Stuart’s esteemed alumnae. This beautiful, approximately 3,000 square foot home is situated on two acres of bucolic land in the heart of Princeton, New Jersey, adjacent to Stuart’s campus.

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

The town of Princeton is situated half-way between New York City (50 miles) and Philadelphia (45 miles), with easy train access to both. The community, with a population of approximately 30,000 residents, is highly sought-after for the quality of life and the quality of education. Indeed, the town is regularly rated as the best place to live in New Jersey. The downtown offers a mix of shops and restaurants, surrounded by tree-lined neighborhoods and the Princeton University campus. Numerous scientific, technological, and medical institutions make their home here. Princeton-based companies include Bristol-Myers Squibb, Dow Jones, Black Rock, Bank of America, Johnson and Johnson, and ETS.

Princeton University and the surrounding other colleges and universities create a space for academic endeavor and connection. The area offers opportunities to attend symposiums and lecture series of interest presented by some of the finest educators in the nation. Also, there are opportunities for personal connection in local book clubs and community groups. The Princeton Public Library sits in the middle of downtown Princeton and is not only a beautiful landmark, but is full of resources and will often sponsor community events. Across the street from the Library is the Paul Robeson Center – the Arts Council of Princeton which features art classes and exhibits.



Residents are proud to call Princeton home, and the town features a strong sense of community. Cultural opportunities abound in Princeton, with a variety of museums, gourmet restaurants, shopping centers, and sporting events to experience. The area also features beautiful state parks, a preserve of the New Jersey Audubon Society, and visitor-friendly campgrounds. A variety of annual events contribute to the personality of Princeton, including the “CommuniversiTY” street fair; Patriots Week, which includes historic site tours, lectures, and re-enactments of the Battles of Trenton; JazzFeast, a food and music lover’s dream; and the Princeton Festival for the Performing Arts each summer. In addition, Princeton University’s McCarter Theater brings amazing stage productions and cultural events to Princeton all year round.

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

This is a time of great promise for Stuart Country Day School of the Sacred Heart. The next Head of School will have the opportunity to build on its unique history and lead a strong independent Catholic school with a stellar senior administrative team and dedicated faculty.

The next Head of School will:

- Foster the ongoing commitment to Sacred Heart education both in spirit and practice for the entire Stuart Community.
- Execute the 2021-2026 Strategic Plan currently under construction by the Board of Trustees.
- Lead a dynamic and committed team of administrators, faculty, and staff and enrich the academic rigor of the program and reclaim the school’s reputation as THE place to send your daughter; the premier schools for girls.



- Embrace the diversity of Stuart’s student body and faculty and foster principles of equity, inclusion, and justice within the school community to ensure that every member of the community feels a sense of belonging, with the support of the Sacred Heart Network.
- Eagerly engage in strategic and consistent outreach to rebuild the enrollment by conveying the value proposition of a Stuart education and marketing the new branding strategy: “NOTHING STOPS A STUART GIRL” in the broader community.
- Re-establish, post COVID, on-campus programming, traditions, and signature programming on and off campus.
- Foster and model wellness and balance for administrators, faculty, staff, and students.
- Enthusiastically reach out to Stuart’s vast community of alumnae and other stakeholders, build new relationships and maintain existing relationships, and serve as a point of Sacred Heart connection and advocacy for the engagement (or re-engagement) of all stakeholders with the school and school initiatives on a continuing basis.
- Collaborate with Stuart’s brother school, Princeton Academy of the Sacred Heart.

Stuart is interested in candidates who possess the proven leadership and interpersonal skills to help the school provide the best experience for its students. Stuart seeks candidates who meet most, if not all, of the following qualities and qualifications:

- A practicing Catholic who will embrace and promote Catholic values and support the charism of the Religious of the Sacred Heart as outlined in the Sacred Heart Goals and Criteria and will sustain the School’s Catholic identity, coupled with a respect for and embrace of the diverse fabric of faiths and belief systems shared by members across the Stuart community.
- An excellent communicator skilled at building community.



- A relatable, warm, and approachable consensus-builder who is passionate about diversity, equity, and inclusion and who can truly listen to divergent voices making them feel heard, respected, and valued.
- An advocate for all-girls education and who is interested in making a long-term commitment to be a fully-engaged member of Stuart and the greater community.
- A confident, courageous, and charismatic leader who can rebuild Stuart's brand in the greater community.
- A strategic thinker and visionary with an entrepreneurial mindset and willingness to support and continually evaluate school programs.

TO APPLY

Interested and qualified candidates are invited to contact the consultants in confidence. Candidates will ultimately need to submit the following materials as separate PDF documents:

- A cover letter expressing their interest in this particular position.
- A current résumé.
- A one-page statement of educational philosophy and practice.
- A list of five professional references with name, relationship, phone number, and email address of each (references will not be contacted without the candidate's permission) to:

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