

Dear St. Andrew's Families,

I learned how to simplify complexities during the three years I taught special education in LaPlace, Louisiana. I broke down subjects like algebra and works of Shakespeare into small, manageable pieces that appeared easy and less intimidating. I made them accessible, pretty, and simple. We know that life doesn't work like that.

One of the reasons I love working at St. Andrew's and being around St. Andreans is because we embrace life's complexities, regardless of how challenging and unattractive they may be. We faced them head on in a week filled with tremendous happiness, success, loss, and sadness. Tad's thanks speaks volumes of the place he describes as "the core of his being" though I suspect, based on this [obituary](#), that his father influenced much of that core. Tad shared moments of his father's last days with students this afternoon in Chapel. With students giving him their rapt attention, Tad softly shared how the time away gave him opportunity to conclude that St. Andrew's was indeed good. Then he asked us who wanted to join him in making it great.

Two days earlier, Dr. Muqtadar Kahn spoke from the same pulpit about his experience and hope for the struggle for democracy in the Arab world. The next day, Governor Markell told students that showing up is just not good enough anymore and that their opportunity required them to lead a life that matters. Will Speers describes their visits beautifully on the [School blog](#).

It was, by all accounts, an absolutely spectacular weekend and we thank you all for celebrating and supporting the entire student body. We took a breather on Monday with a well-deserved free day, but we aren't planning on resting. As Tad alludes to in his letter, there's much more work to be done.

All the best,
Will Robinson '97
Communications

Delaware Governor Jack Markell Challenges Students to Live a Life That Matters



“It’s not enough just to show up anymore,” exhorted Delaware Governor Jack Markell near the end of his talk with students on Thursday. Governor Markell, whose first term has focused on improving education, attracting jobs, and extending human rights for all Delawareans, challenged students to build the skills and experience necessary to thrive in the global community.

“You’re competing for college and jobs with people from all over the world. While the challenges may be bigger, so are the opportunities, particularly with the education you’re getting here.”

You can watch the Governor's talk (and his responses to several student questions) on our [livestream page](#).



Gov. Jack Markell @GovernorMarkell

18h 

It was a pleasure - tks for the opportunity to visit RT @SASDelaware: Thank you @GovernorMarkell for your honesty and wisdom this afternoon.

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Girls Cross Country Wins DISC Championship

For the first time in 13 years the St. Andrew's girls cross country team made it to the top of the ultra-competitive Independent Conference. To do it, they had to beat 7-time defending state champion Tatnall (yes, Tatnall is going for an 8-peat this year).

Louisa Belk '16 came in first and broke the course record in 18:26. Caitlin Porrazzo '15 and Emma Porrazzo '15 worked together finishing third and fourth and breaking the 20-minute barrier. Ella Bristow '17 finished eighth followed closely behind by Anne McIlvaine '16, Charlotte Bristow '14 and Lucy Slack '14 for a total of 28 points. Go Saints!



Parents Weekend Recap

Please let us know if you have any great pictures or videos to share (email Will at wrobinson@standrews-de.org). We recapped the weekend on our [website](#), but please make sure to listen to Paul Hanrahan's beautiful [chapel talk on integrity](#), watch Varo Duffins's [information session on college financial aid](#), or read [Tad's words](#) Will Speers delivered on Saturday morning.



Happy Birthday ChiaChyi Chiu!

"To be this old, I finally realize that the most important thing in life is to love what you have. I am blessed with loving family, friends, students and colleagues. With their love, I look forward to starting each day. I am so grateful." — Chinese teacher ChiaChyi Chiu on the eve of her birthday



Dr. Muqtadar Khan

Chaplain Jay Hutchinson and Terence Gilheany have continued to build a relationship between St. Andrew's and Dr. Muqtadar Khan, one of the world's leading Islamic scholars. Dr. Khan visited campus for the third year in a row on Wednesday to share his experience in Taksim and Tahrir squares over the summer. You can listen to his views on the need for democracy in the Arab world [here](#).



Nicaragua Spring Service Trip

Join us for the 4th Annual spring break service trip to Nicaragua with Al Campo International, a sustainable development organization run by Tim Gibb '90. Students will rejoin our friends for a 5-day homestay in the farming village of Las Palmas where we will complete the second stage of our Greenhouse Project.



We will then explore the Somoto Canyon and surf the Pacific coast in San Juan del Sur where we'll also work with a local non-profit dedicated to early-childhood education. We'll spend our last day at Laguna de Apoyo, a national park host to a magnificent crater lake. A detailed trip itinerary can be found [here](#).

In the Classroom

What's that you say? That doesn't look like a classroom? This is St. Andrew's! You never know where one might pop up, but a faculty apartment is a good place to look. Mary Kelly works on Latin with Isabel Wilcox '16 on Monday evening.



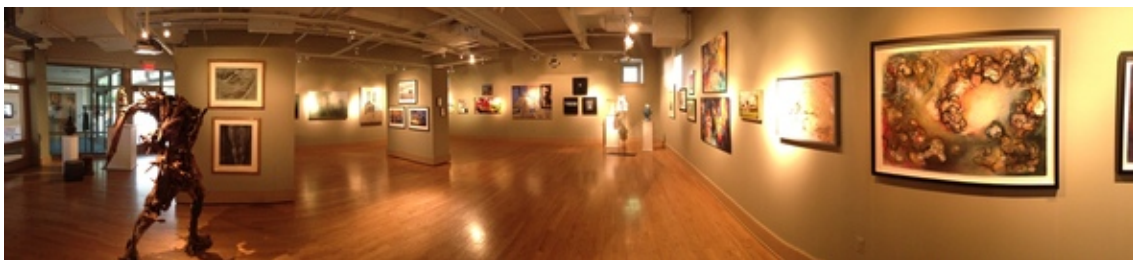
A St. Andrew's Moment

Bo Miller '14 considers edits and comments from both his teacher and a classmate to revise a draft of his English essay on Toni Morrison's *Beloved* in the Irene duPont Library.



Alumni Arts Festival — November 8-9, 2013

The Warner Gallery is now featuring the work of more than 25 alumni artists in anticipation for the upcoming Alumni Arts Festival November 8-9. We hope you join us for what promises to be one of the most inspiring weekends of the year. Please [visit our website](#) for more information.



Upcoming Event Calendar

- November 8 — Haroldson Master Class and Concert, [Cypress String Quartet](#)
- November 8-9 — Alumni Arts Festival, Homecoming
- November 23 — V Form College Day ([details](#))
- November 23 — Leave for Thanksgiving Break, 12:00 p.m.

- December 2 — Return from Thanksgiving Break, 6:00 p.m.

[Full School Calendar](#) — [Athletics Calendar](#)

Planes, Trains, and Automobiles!

It's never too early to send along travel plans for both Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks. Please send itineraries to Dave Miller at damiller@standrews-de.org.

Bonus Photos — Karen Gowen P'09,'10,'14 Gallery

It is rare to be able to call on someone like photographer Karen Gowen who is both talented and a dedicated St. Andrew's parent. She spent the day here last week visiting classes and taking photos. Here are a few of our early favorites. You can learn more about Karen and her work at <http://www.karengowenphotography.com/>.







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