



## Press Release

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### **St. Cecilia freshman starts Venture Club**

St. Cecilia Academy, Nashville's oldest all-girls school, is joining the Boy Scouts of America to bring its Venture Club to campus.

St. Cecilia Academy freshman Grace Forster recruited more than 50 of her classmates to join the club after finding a fellow outdoor enthusiast in SCA English teacher and head volleyball coach Maggie Kuyper. Grace loves to go backpacking, repelling, white water rafting, and climbing so she naturally wanted to share those activities with her friends at SCA.

"I have always been adventurous. My older brothers were involved with Boy Scouts and I always tagged along," Grace explains. "When they quit the Boy Scouts, I had nowhere to do adventurous things. I've wanted to start a Venture Club since I was younger."

Coach Kuyper stepped in to help because she saw such a huge interest from girls in the outdoors and nature.

"Our short term goal is to get the girls outdoors and loving it!" says Coach Kuyper.

Often teenagers do not take the initiative today to get others outside and doing activities such as hiking and white water rafting.

"Most teenagers are attached to television and technology," Grace said. "We should go outside more often like kids used to. I don't want to be boring."

The SCA Venture Club is an official troop with the Boy Scouts of America and will meet twice a month as well as participate in joint activities with the Montgomery Bell Academy Venture Club. Activities will be decided by the girls in the club and they will also implement the planning of the adventures.

St. Cecilia Academy—Nashville's oldest private high school founded in 1860 by the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation—is celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary throughout the 2010-2011 school year. The Academy has been named to the Top 50 best Catholic high schools in the U.S. list five times since 2004. Eighty-five percent of the 53

Class of 2010 members were offered college scholarships totaling \$5.5 million. That equals an average of over \$100,000 in offered college scholarships per graduate.

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