



Press Release

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St. Cecilia Academy students explore new experiences in 2011

St. Cecilia Academy students are spending this first week back to school in 2011 exploring places such as Rome, Washington, D.C, and New Orleans; participating in hands-on internships; and taking out-of-the-ordinary classes here on campus during Interim.

Heather Honeycutt, SCA's student activities director and Interim coordinator, said there are three seniors participating in internships in Washington, D.C. Two are working with Sen. Lamar Alexander and one is working with the Republican National Committee during this first week of the new Congress. Twenty-two juniors and seniors are in Italy where they are visiting Assisi, Florence, and Rome. And 19 juniors and seniors are in New Orleans where they were each paired up with a classroom at Cathedral Academy.

Other juniors and seniors are working closer to home completing internships at businesses such as: Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, Naticreme, News Channel 2, Peachtree Farms, The Country Music Association, Belcourt Theatre, *The Tennessean*, and the Frist Center for Visual Arts. One student is even spending the week with country-music star Marty Stuart and musician Kenny Vaughan (an SCA parent) taping live episodes of the Marty Stuart Show, doing teleprompter work, editing previous shows, and learning about song writing.

Freshmen and sophomores spend this week on campus taking classes that are not in the regular curriculum. Girls are trying their hand at cake decorating, pottery, knitting and cooking. In other classes they are studying the culture of Japan, learning calligraphy and illumination, receiving an introduction to learning the Chinese language, and taking daily field trips to a variety of locations to learn about the field of law. Still others are studying film noir, taking an introduction to nursing, learning the history of medicine and forming a rock band in different classes. Classes are taught by SCA faculty as well as several guest teachers, alumnae and parents.

“One of the most unique opportunities the girls at St. Cecilia have is to participate in our Interim Program,” said Mrs. Honeycutt. “The goal of these five days is to provide a time for students to explore the possibilities that exist within the world around us. From internships to travel to courses offered on-campus, this time allows the girls to encounter cultures, ideas, and experiences they might not have the opportunity to explore otherwise.”

There will be an Interim showcase Thursday at 12:30 p.m. in the St. Cecilia theater highlighting some of the classes. Sophomores will participate in a day of service on Monday, Jan. 10, while the freshman class will use the final day of Interim to make a visit to the St. Cecilia Motherhouse for lunch. Everyone returns to campus and regular classes Tuesday, Jan. 11.

St. Cecilia Academy is Nashville's oldest private high school founded in 1860 by the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation. 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.

Photograph outline:

A group of juniors and seniors from St. Cecilia Academy prepare for their flight to New Orleans for Interim 2011. They are spending the week working at Cathedral Academy. The students and chaperones are, from left, back row, Sister Nicholas Marie, O.P., Caroline Wehby, Mary Elizabeth Wesley, Amelia Furbish, Emily Parten, Jill Nagle, Alex Brink, Brigid Wahl, Natalie Goodrum, Sarah Babb and Sister John Catherine, O.P.; front row, Alex Wall, Mary Waddill, Sara La Haie, Roxana Pita-Romero, Elizabeth Henard, Bridget Jack, Sarah Copeland and Ms. Ashley George.

SCA junior Taylor Ely is spending her Interim week working with country-music star Marty Stuart.

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