



The Arts Association

The St. Benedict School Arts Association was officially formed in January 2005 with the following objectives:

1. To be an advocate for the arts and arts education within the school community
2. To lend support, both moral and financial, to all arts related activities within the school

Since then, the Arts at St. Benedict have grown to include not only the Band and School Choir, but also an annual Talent Show, an annual Drama performance that rivals Broadway, an Art Showcase, and the student-run Boys Jam and Girls Jam clubs.

The proceeds raised from our fundraisers, in addition to proceeds raised from the Talent Shows and Drama productions, have funded many costs not passed on to tuition. As examples, in the past we have purchased risers used by the choir and pageant performers, licensing, scripts and venue for each yearly Drama Club production, the venue for the Talent Show, new tables, chairs, and cabinets for the Art Room, a yearly stipend for the Drama, Art, and Music programs, and a yearly Guest Author visit for the Library. We also assist teachers at St. Benedict by providing supplemental funding for projects.

At graduation, we present all 8th grade graduates who participated in Band, Girls or Boys Jam, Choir or Drama, with an Artistic Achievement Award. The Arts Association also funds scholarships for graduates who have been in Band for five years, and covers the cost of printing the yearly 8th Grade Literary Journal that is presented to every graduate.

Each year the Arts Association provides the funds to purchase the recorders for the entire third grade. This provides the students with an opportunity to be introduced to instrumental music and perform as a class at the Spring Concert.

In addition, we purchased a state of the art audio system for the school to enhance all student performances throughout the year. We also purchased a keyboard that debuted at the annual Saint Benedict Revue and is used when the choir sings at local nursing homes. And in keeping with the digital age, we funded the purchase of software and 15 webcams at the inception of a new Animation Club.

The Arts Association is a small but busy group and, with the Arts programs expanding each year, we are eager to welcome new volunteers with fresh, fun ideas. We meet the 4th Monday of each month at 7:30 pm, and can be reached at:

SBS-Arts@stbenedictnj.org