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SGA in Review.....An East Village Renaissance

“This is not the school that I remember” is the popular phrase lately for alumni who pop in to their alma mater at 215 East 6th Street to visit with former teachers and recall fond memories of their time at Saint George Academy (SGA). In fact, the many visitors who have, in the last 3 years, stepped through the front doors of SGA have been pleasantly surprised by the changes they have seen in the school.

“I’ve noticed the school is more vibrant”, says alumni Klara Kurti, “and there is more student involvement.”

The vibe of the school has indeed changed, thanks to its spirited and energetic principal, Andriy Stasiw, an active member of the Ukrainian American community and resident of the East Village. Since he became SGA’s principal in September of 2015, he has launched the school into a renaissance the likes of which it has never seen before.



Students perform at annual Christmas concert

Mr. Stasiw began to make changes almost from day one. He installed state-of-the-art Smartboards and new desks in every classroom, and a high-tech security camera system throughout the school. The halls were then

painted in the new SGA colors, red and green, and a modern logo was introduced.

In addition to numerous cosmetic improvements, Mr. Stasiw added exciting new courses to the school’s educational program including: Computer Coding, Journalism, Current Events, Philosophy, Chorus and Art. In the near future, there are plans to add Advanced Placement courses and additional language courses, such as Japanese or French. Additionally, extracurricular afterschool activities have been added including Drama Club Heritage Club, and in some subjects, free Regents prep courses. The school also offers volleyball and basketball for both girls and boys.



Cardinal Timothy Dolan visits with SGA students

As part of their Journalism class, the 12th grade now publishes a newspaper, “The SGA Harbinger” which comes out twice a year and covers events happening within the school and the broader community. The class also designs and compiles an yearbook which is distributed to all students and faculty members, as well as generous contributors and supporters within the community.

In the past 3 years, SGA has hosted renowned guests from within the Ukrainian American community and around the world including Maryna Poroshenko, the First Lady of Ukraine, Mamuka Mamulashvili leader of the Georgian National Legion, Cardinal Timothy Dolan, prelate of the Catholic Church and more.

“There is always an opportunity here for

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