

# the GIRLS FIRST STORY

2009-2023

**FOUNDED in 2009**  
INITIALLY OPERATED ONE DAY A WEEK  
HELPING MORE STUDENTS EXPERIENCE THE ARTS

**2009 ESTABLISHED THE NAME: ST. AUGUSTINE ACADEMY**  
EXPOSURE TO THE ARTS  
ACADEMIC SUPPORT  
MEALS in A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

**2010-2015**  
STARTED SERVING MORE GRADES (NOW 2<sup>ND</sup>, 3<sup>RD</sup>, 4<sup>TH</sup>)  
ART & PUBLIC SPEAKING COURSES  
YEAR-END RECITALS  
FIELD TRIPS  
PARTNERSHIPS & INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES

**2019**

BEGAN SERVING ALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRADES

4 DAYS A WEEK, OCTOBER-MAY



**2018 IMPLEMENTED NEW CURRICULUM**

CULTIVATING EMPATHY, AGENCY, & EFFICACY

TRAUMA-RELATED TRAINING

INCREASE IN EMPATHETIC RESPONSE



**2017 THOUGHTFUL CONVERSATIONS WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT & COMMUNITY**  
"HOW CAN WE BEST SERVE THESE GIRLS?"

**2017**

ADDED THE AMAZING ARTS RACE SUMMER CAMP WITH MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE



PREPARE STUDENTS FOR A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE BUT LET THEM BE GIRLS FIRST

**2020**  
CHANGED NAME TO GIRLS FIRST  
SHIFTED FOCUS FROM WHERE WE ARE TO WHO WE ARE



INTRODUCING GIRLS TO FEMALE SCIENTISTS

**2021**

PARTNERED WITH DREXEL UNIVERSITY'S COLLEGE OF MEDICINE TO LEAD OUR STEAM PROGRAM



**2022**

COPYRIGHTED OUR UNIQUE ARTS-BASED, TRAUMA-INFORMED SEL CURRICULUM

BRINGING IT INTO NEW COMMUNITIES



**2023**

INAUGURATED THE OAK TREE AWARD

SHELTERING CARE



**ink factory**  
you talk. we draw. it's awesome.