

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

*A Jesuit Elementary School | Preschool-8th Grade*



## **MATTEO RICCI NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY (7-8)**

### **Mission:**

The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding junior high students.

More than just an honor roll, NJHS serve to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, Character, and Citizenship. Chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments but challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service.

### **Description:**

The Kristin Spucces Chapter of the Matteo Ricci\* National Junior Honor Society will, like its namesake, focus on immersing students in the social and economic realities in the local community. Student leaders will be commissioned to adapt to the customs and feel the economic struggles of those with greatest need. It is an invitation to better know a community in order to make oneself, like Matteo Ricci, an accessible leader with the desire to "serve first and only then, to lead; seeing the big picture and acting upon it for the common good."

NJHS members will be required to meet approximately a week once. This time will be spent serving the SFX school community. The chapter meeting will be held one Friday a month from 1:15-3:00. This meeting is mandatory and will serve as planning time for upcoming events in addition to occasionally hosting speakers and visiting off campus organizations. In addition, NJHS members are required to participate in service events throughout the year requiring the commitment of approximately one weekend day a month.

\*Matteo Ricci, SJ, was an Italian Jesuit priest, and one of the founding figures of the Jesuit China Mission, as it existed in the 17th–18th centuries. His current title is Servant of God. As a Jesuit missionary Ricci brought his mathematical and astronomical knowledge to China and immersed himself in Chinese culture fully. This allowed him to share both intellectual and religious viewpoints and Ricci left China with over 2,500 Catholics. Ricci modeled servant leadership by putting his own customs aside and embracing those of others.

**Selection Information:**

As a select society the minimum GPA requirement is set at the top 5% of the class.

At the end of the second trimester, all seventh-grade teachers are asked to recommend students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, Character, and Citizenship and have performed in the top 5% of their class for the past two trimesters. Once second trimester grades are released an invitation to be considered for NJHS selection is submitted to students who were nominated by their teachers, have no repetitive behavior issues and have an overall cumulative GPA that falls above 3.75, and 94% in their courses, for the past two trimesters. Once an invitation to be accepted is extended, students complete and submit additional information for review. If selected, membership is extended at the end of seventh grade.

Moderator:

Mrs. Cari Sheedy [cari.sheedy@sfxphx.org](mailto:cari.sheedy@sfxphx.org)

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