

SSESH Stories

Dylan Stergio SSESH Class of 2017

Dylan Stergio, a 2017 graduate of SSESH, is now a senior at Texas State University, studying psychology with a pre-med minor. She's set to graduate in fall 2025 and is preparing for the MCAT to apply to medical school. Alongside her academic work, Dylan serves as an Instructional Assistant, teaching a General Chemistry II lab, and is the Vice President of her Alpha Gamma Delta chapter, where she continues to build the leadership skills she first developed at SSESH.



Reflecting on her time at SSESH, Dylan shares: "Before attending SSESH, I was a very timid person with little confidence. SSESH helped form me into the confident leader I am today by giving me a safe space to grow my self-confidence." She fondly adds, "SSESH is a place where you can unapologetically be yourself," highlighting the positive, supportive community that shaped her.

Teddi Utley SSESH Class of 2015

Teddi Utley, a 2015 SSESH (high school) graduate, has been teaching for six years and is currently a second-grade English Language Arts teacher in Katy, Texas. Previously, she spent five years teaching kindergarten at a Title I school in HISD. Teddi is pursuing her ESL endorsement to better serve her students and community, and she treasures her role as a mother to her 10-month-old child.



Teddi reflects on the life skills she gained at SSESH, saying: "SSESH taught me tolerance, acceptance, resilience, and responsibility—skills I still use every day." She also emphasizes the lasting relationships she built: "At SSESH, I met lifelong friends and cultivated relationships that are still intact today."



Taj & Jocelyn 8th & 6th Grade

Tajdin Dossa, a member of the St. Stephen's Episcopal School Houston (SSESH) class of 2025, began his journey at the school at just 18 months old, starting in Orientation. Jocelyn Beveridge, from the class of 2027, joined when she was three years old after moving to Houston, starting her education in Primary. Tajdin is currently in 8th grade, while Jocelyn is in 6th grade. Over the years, both students have flourished at SSESH, finding a supportive and nurturing environment that allowed them to grow academically and personally.

Outside of school, Taj is a busy and active student. He's a dedicated member of his Scouts of America troop, an avid tennis player, and an enthusiastic skier who takes every opportunity to hit the slopes and escape the Texas heat. Jocelyn, on the other hand, is diligently working to build her performing arts portfolio. She spends her time taking art, piano, and musical theatre lessons, honing her skills and pursuing her passion for the arts.



Both Tajdin and Jocelyn credit SSESH for providing an academic environment that allowed them to learn at their own pace while keeping them on track with their studies. "It can be hard to find a welcoming community, but I found one in SSESH," Tajdin says, reflecting on the strong sense of belonging he feels at the school.

Jocelyn adds that, "SSESH is an open environment where children have creative freedom," highlighting how the school's approach encourages students to explore their interests and talents in a nurturing setting.

For both students, St. Stephen's has been more than just a place to learn—it's been a community where they've grown, developed their skills, and found the freedom to be themselves.