

## **CAMPUS AWARD**

# **MEISA named Student Association Club of the Year**

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Saint Rose offers a variety of clubs on campus for the student body to join. Each one plays an important role in the campus community. However, only one club can be given the title of Club of the Year. This year, the recipient of that title goes to MEISA.

According to Brian Durant, who is the current treasurer, MEISA stands for Music and Entertainment Industry Student Association. The club here at Saint Rose is one chapter of this national organization.

"It is a way to bring music to the students of Saint Rose", stated Durant.

Many other colleges and universities around the country have chapters as well. The organization helps students gain knowledge and experience about how the music industry works. For example a student may learn about and receive experience about CD promotions.

MEISA also holds a national conference that takes place every year in April. This year the conference will take place April 3-4 in New York City.

"It's a great opportunity to explore options and make contacts for our future

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# MEISA: takes SA club of year honors

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in the music industry", said Jeremy Barbeau, a junior, Music Industry major.

According to Beth Hickox, the current president, MEISA holds a number of different events throughout the school year. The club puts on many concerts throughout the year and holds Open Mic nights which are held on the first Wednesday of every month.

"I think they are a great way to get the campus to hear what Saint Rose musicians are doing", stated non-MEISA member Danielle Para, a junior, Music Education major.

"It's nice to have something free or cheap to do on the weekends. Albany has a vibrant music scene and its great how MEISA showcases local musicians", said junior Sean Fox.

The club also hosts acoustic showcases, a place where students are able to perform and show off their talents. Many people may not know this, but MEISA produces its own CD. It is recorded in Saint Rose's very own recording studio, the Saints and Sinners Sound Studio, located in the Music Building. There is no set date for the release of its next CD, but it will be sometime in April.

"It's still a work in progress", stated Hickox.

MEISA also hosts guest speakers for its members to help them learn even more about the industry. One important speaker that came to Saint Rose was Scooter Scudieri, an independent musician. He provided information about how people are able to become part of the music industry independently and how different aspects such, as the label, manager, and booking agents, work.

This year MEISA also held two benefit concerts that gave back to the community. One concert provided its donations to help Joey Reilly receive a liver transplant and the other concert collected food and donated it to the St. Vincent's food pantry. MEISA holds its main event, the annual Rose Rock, on campus. This year the event will take

place on April 17. This year there were twenty-six submissions from different bands and a panel of MEISA members voted on the top eight.

"The panel includes both music and non-music majors to help provide different input", said Hickox.

The club has come a long way. It officially became active at Saint Rose in 2000. Hickox, a member of MEISA since her freshmen year, has personally seen the club grow.

"My freshmen year there was only thirteen members, now it has grown to fifty members."

Even though MEISA is a club that helps provide students with experience and guidance to a career in the music industry, its members includes a number of non-music majors as well.

MEISA has received a lot of support from members of the campus community and they are happy with the recognition it has gotten as well.

"Congratulations MEISA for getting club of the year. The shows are great", said Kerri Evans, a junior Communications major.

According to Parra, "It's awesome that MEISA got Club of the Year. They really work hard and do a great job with their shows."

Student Association's Vice President for Academic Activities, Brendan O'Brien showed his support for the club of the year as well; "MEISA's caliber of events reflects how much time and energy they put in towards bettering the college community. Right from the start they have been an effective organization communicating with other organizations on campus."

So what does receiving the title of Club of the Year mean? It means a lot according to Hickox.

"I feel like a proud parent. We have worked really hard in the past three years. The club grew a whole lot. I'm glad we got recognized."

If anyone would like more information about MEISA or to ask them any questions feel free to email them at [meisastrose@yahoo.com](mailto:meisastrose@yahoo.com).