

Since becoming a member of the St. Edward's community, Matthew Hines has combined his scholarly, artistic, and musical skills to transcend personal ideas of success and look toward the greater good.

A participant in the Honors Program while earning a BA in Religious Studies and English Writing and Rhetoric, Matt's research in liberation theology investigated the implications of oppression and domination in South America.

As a member of the Moreau House Collegiate Program, he volunteered with the Egg Ministry, serving breakfast to the homeless. As a member of the Transit Theater Troupe, a student organization offering free theater performances benefiting charitable organizations, he volunteered as an actor and musical director. His band, The Eastern Sea, dubbed by *The Austin Chronicle* as one of nine local bands to watch in 2009, has performed unpaid at a variety of benefit concerts, toy drives and fundraisers.

While studying abroad in China, Matt's documentary photography project chronicled the recreational pursuits of people in the city of Xi'an. Founder of a weekly poetry group, Poetry on the Garage, his literary works were published in the university creative journal, *Sorin Oak Review*. He was also published in the university academic journal, *Arete*, and performed with the St. Edward's madrigal singers and the St. Edward's jazz band.

One advisor said: He "is a spiritual pilgrim, exploring the connection between his scholarly pursuits and his own journey."