



CLUB SPOTLIGHT: ART FOR OTHERS

Art for Others isn't about perfect paintings or finished projects—it's about showing up. The club brings students together to create alongside others, using art to connect, listen, and build relationships. Members plan thoughtfully, reflect honestly, and keep asking how they can better serve the people they meet. In the end, what matters most isn't what's made, but the companionship that grows through the process. Learn more about how the club sparks connections through creativity and care.

At Loyola, service is central to the student experience and permeates across our entire community. For more than a decade the Art for Others club has lived out that mission by uniting creativity, companionship, and compassion in meaningful ways.

Founded by Ginny Petr (Visual Arts Department Chair) and Ryan Taggarse '15, Art for Others began when Taggarse expressed a desire to desire to explore how art and creative

expression could provide help and make connections on our campus and beyond. From that moment in 2012, he and Ginny began reaching out to schools, nursing homes, and care centers, hoping to engage both the young and the elderly through art-making and human connection.

While art is the shared activity, the heart of the club is service. All students are welcome to join—not just aspiring artists.. Through

reflection after each visit, students come to recognize the impact of their presence and the joy they bring simply by showing up.

For Will Aumiller '26, the club has become one of the most meaningful parts of his Loyola experience. While he joined his sophomore year because of his passion for art, over time, that passion grew into leadership, as Will now serves as Art for Others President. “The fact that

I'm able to serve a community I'm so connected to through Art for Others while sharing my love for art gives a sense of fulfillment that I cannot find elsewhere.”

That fulfillment is often found in moments of simple companionship. Many of the senior citizens the club visits may not be able to participate in the art itself, but they are deeply engaged in the experience. Conversations flow naturally, often centered on family memories and stories from the past—connections students frequently relate back to their own lives. Repeated visits to the same locations allow students to see the anticipation and excitement their presence creates, reinforcing the lasting impact of consistent service.

Will values the joyful traditions that make Art for Others meaningful and memorable. Through weekly after-school meetings, members collaborate to plan creative art projects for their visits, strengthening both their teamwork and sense of purpose. One of Will's favorite experiences is the club's annual Halloween trip to Saint Vincent Villa, where members dress in costumes and participate in a trunk-or-treat with residents—an event that captures the spirit of creativity, service, and joy at the heart of the club.

As participants graduate and reflect upon their time at Loyola, Ginny hopes they carry lessons from their

Art for Others experience with them. “The value of service for others is priceless,” she says. “No matter how busy you are, there is someone who will benefit from your companionship—and you do not have to go far.”

For Will, the club's impact is undeniable. “Art for Others has become a huge part of my time at Loyola,” he reflects. Through this work, members live out the Jesuit call to serve others with generosity and intention, using creativity as a bridge for connection. What begins as service in the club evolves into a ministry of presence—an enduring commitment students bring into the world, influencing how they accompany and care for others in ways both big and small.

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