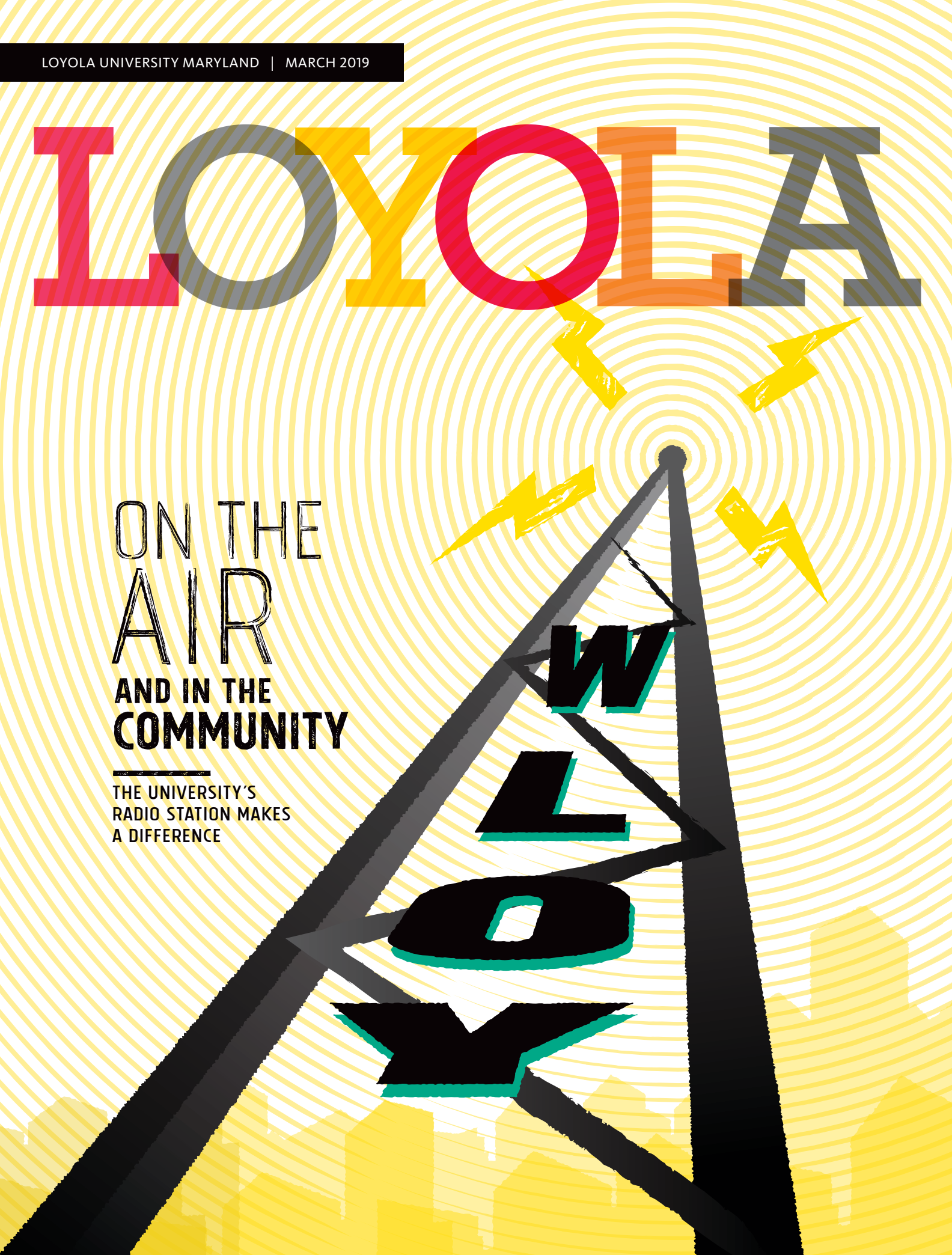


# LOYOLA

ON THE  
AIR  
AND IN THE  
COMMUNITY

THE UNIVERSITY'S  
RADIO STATION MAKES  
A DIFFERENCE

W  
L  
O  
Y



# MARCH 2019

VOL. 36 · NUMBER 1

## LOYOLA

**THE REVEREND  
BRIAN F. LINNANE, S.J.**  
President

**TERRENCE M. SAWYER, J.D.**  
Senior Vice President

**SHARON B. HIGGINS**  
Associate Vice President for  
Marketing and Communications

**RITA F. BUETTNER**  
Managing Editor

**BRIAN HATCHER, MBA '13**  
Creative Director

**BRIGID HAMILTON, '06, M.A. '17**  
Contributor

**MOLLY COCHRAN**  
Contributor

**STEPHANIE WEAVER**  
Contributor

**GARY EPSTEIN**  
Traffic Manager

**CLARKE JONES**  
Class Notes Editor

**DAVID BLOHM**  
Online Designer/Programmer

**RYAN EIGENBRODE**  
Assistant Athletic Director

**JENNIFER KINNIFF**  
Archivist

**DAVID BELZ, '78**  
**SHELLEY BLISS MCGARY, MBA '06**  
**JACQUELINE DURETT, '00**  
**BRENDA FOSTER, '75**  
**CHRIS KALTENBACH, '81**  
**STEFANI MANOWSKI, '95**  
**GEORGE MATYSEK, JR., '94**  
**MIKE MEMOLI, '04**

Loyola Magazine Advisory Board

Loyola magazine, published by Loyola University Maryland's office of marketing and communications, is distributed to alumni, faculty, staff, administrators, parents, prospective students, and other friends of the University.

Loyola magazine is printed on FSC®-certified uncoated paper.



**4 A FRESH START**  
FRESHCRATE INITIATIVE BRINGS  
PRODUCE TO FOOD DESERT



**14 START THE PRESS**  
LOYOLA'S STUDENT-RUN BOOK  
PUBLISHER OFFERS OPPORTUNITIES  
TO STUDENTS



**18 BROADCASTING SERVICE**  
WLOY STUDENTS ARE MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY

## CONTENTS

- 2 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**
- 3 REFLECTIONS**
- 4 MAGIS**
- 6 GREEN AND GREY**
- 16 ATHLETICS**
- 24 ALUMNI PROFILES**
- 28 CLASS NOTES**

### ON THE COVER

Students involved in WLOY take their roles seriously both in keeping Loyola's radio station on the air and in investing in the Baltimore community. Illustration by Brian Hatcher

### BACK COVER

Kayla Ingram, '22, performs in the Loyola University Dance Company Fall Showcase in McManus Theatre in December. Photo by Brittani Borden, '19

## Northern Lights on Northern Radio Waves

FORMER WLOY STUDENT CALLS NOME HOME

BY MOLLY COCHRAN



The idea of moving across the country to accept a volunteer fellowship at KNOM Radio in Nome, Alaska, was daunting.

"It was Alaska, after all—so far away and dark and freezing cold and unknown," said Katie Kazmierski, '18. She found herself turning to Loyola's Jesuit values for inspiration to face her fears.

"Loyola taught me that some of the best things in life are the scariest," said Kazmierski, who is originally from Manalapan, N.J. "We need to run toward that fear and make ourselves vulnerable in order to reach our full potential."

In her fellowship, which continues through September, Kazmierski is a producer, on-air DJ, and reporter for KNOM Radio. She has interviewed senators and congressmen, traveled to remote areas to talk to listeners, and worked with many native communities in Alaska.

"My Loyola education gave me the tools to realize I might not fully understand communities unlike myself, but to approach them with compassion, patience, and love," she said.

Those are skills Kazmierski learned while serving as the community program director and volunteer DJ at WLOY.

"WLOY taught me that good media revolves around serving the community," said Kazmierski, who earned her degree in global studies with a minor in communication specializing in journalism.

While at Loyola, Kazmierski participated in the office of student engagement's Road Trip retreat; studied abroad in Cape Town, South Africa; co-founded Rival Loyola, an online newspaper; volunteered with the Center for Community Service and Justice; and participated in the Environmental Action Club.

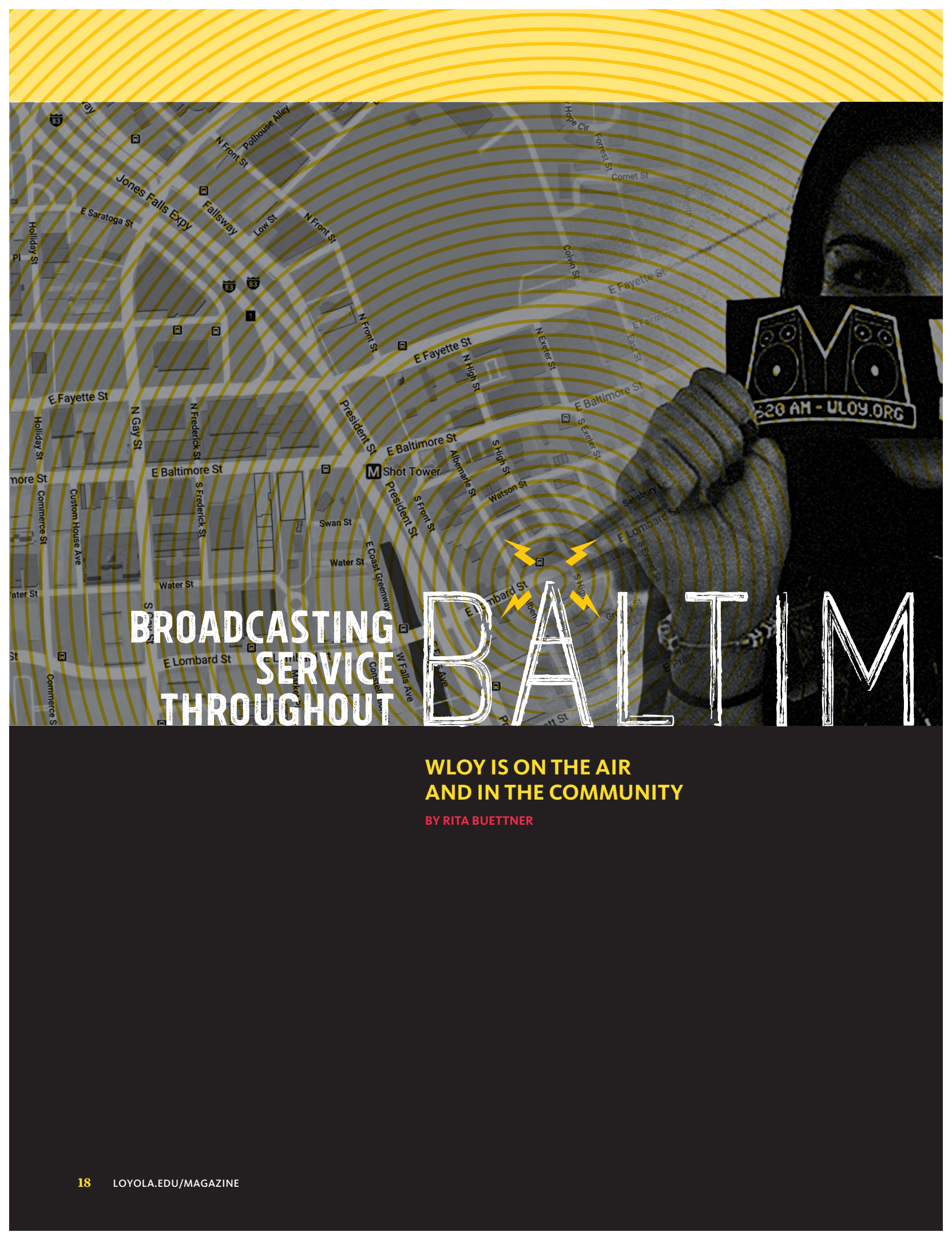
"Loyola really felt like a community with many resources through other peers and professors, providing many avenues for growth beyond the classroom," she said. ■



**During her fellowship with KNOM Radio, Katie Kazmierski, '18, is traveling to remote parts of Alaska to conduct interviews, talk to listeners, and capture stunning photography of the landscape.**



PHOTOS COURTESY  
KATIE KAZMIERSKI, '18



**BROADCASTING  
SERVICE  
THROUGHOUT**

**BALTIMORE**

**WLOY IS ON THE AIR  
AND IN THE COMMUNITY**

**BY RITA BUETTNER**



Late every August, students who are involved in WLOY travel into downtown Baltimore to help run the People's Barbecue for the Homeless, held near St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church. The People's Barbecue for the Homeless is an annual event co-founded by WLOY and supported by more than 25 organizations from around the city, including Loyola's very own radio station. This charitable effort provides a nutritious and delicious meal to hundreds and hundreds of people in need on a summer day in Baltimore.

"There have been years where we stopped counting at 1,000 people," said John Devecka, operations manager for WLOY. "It's madness to see how bad the need is. We play music during the event, and students serve or pour or cook."

homelessness—filled it with ready-made meals offered from a women's shelter in Cecil County, Md. Ultimately, more than seven pallets of food were distributed to local organizations and at the event.

The People's Barbecue for the Homeless is an experience that makes a difference for the community while also making an impact on the students, who throw themselves into hosting the event. They work hard alongside community partners and connect with other residents of Baltimore.

"One year a student who helped at the barbecue gave me a ride home," Devecka said. "We got to my house, and he got really quiet. He looked at me and said, 'That was the coolest thing I've ever done.' I said, 'There you go. That's why we do that.'"

This past summer's event took place at the Shot Tower Park, where WLOY collaborated with 10 other community groups. In addition to serving barbecue, the groups organized and manned tables with clothing and packaged food. Devecka borrowed a box truck from Loyola and—with a group of men who had formerly experienced

"THAT WAS THE COOLEST THING I'VE EVER DONE."

As a part of the Loyola community, the campus radio station sees itself as an arm of Loyola that is fully invested in the surrounding community as well. This vision reflects that of the university as a whole. Across Loyola, students, faculty, staff, and administrators connect with organizations and businesses throughout the community, enriching the city while also being enriched through the experience of service and partnership.

Notably, the Center for Community Service and Justice (CCSJ) takes the lead on much of the community engagement, linking students to organizations and opportunities throughout the city and working with faculty to create service-learning courses. The commitment to engaging the city of Baltimore extends beyond CCSJ, however; it permeates the Loyola community in numerous ways, including at WLOY.

Left: People wait in line for food at the 2016 Barbecue for the Homeless. Right: Katherine Marshall, '13, and Billy Dries, '14, prepare to grill for 1,000 people.



Children visit the WLOY recording studio to create episodes for *What Happens Next?*



WLOY takes that aspect of the University's Jesuit mission seriously—and brings an energy and excitement to that work that those in the community notice. It's even in their mission statement, which says WLOY "is committed to integrating itself into the greater Baltimore community through programming, events, and outreach."

"We have a lot of problems in Baltimore City, and some of the solutions that are needed to fix these problems are needed on a large scale. The larger problems require big sweeping resources to affect hundreds of thousands of people," said Baltimore City Councilman Bill Henry, MBA '06. "But not all big problems can be addressed, so we need people who are making a small difference, even if that difference is just for a couple dozen or hundreds of people. WLOY and other community-based groups are completing projects that go under the radar, but through the work they are doing, they are improving the lives of many people."

Henry first met Devecka when his children participated in *What Happens Next?*, an award-winning program WLOY has offered since 2009 to promote reading and writing skills among children.

"Since then, our relationship has expanded, and I keep finding WLOY involved in other events," Henry said. "WLOY is living up to the Jesuit values with their involvement in the community."

Devecka first came to Loyola in 2001 as a contractor to help set up the radio station. And he never left. Since starting at Loyola, he has sought ways to help students build those bridges to the community—and to offer lessons they will carry with them through their time at Loyola and afterward as graduates.

"You should be connected to your community if you want the radio station to do something of value for the students," Devecka said. "Everybody can learn to spin a record and make a show, but you have to know how to engage with your community."

Community engagement is a priority and a passion for the team at WLOY, which has responded to opportunities while also creating some of their own. For example, the creation of *Both Feet In*, an interview show focused on people experiencing homelessness, led to co-founding and funding *Word on the Street*, a newspaper for those experiencing homelessness in Baltimore, which in turn sparked the idea for the barbecue.

WLOY also seeks out educational opportunities in the community, such as sending two students to Govans Elementary School every week to host *What Happens Next?* with children there and inviting students, like an eighth-grade theater group from Roland Park Middle School, to come record their radio plays in the studio. These moments of mentorship help the children envision

educational opportunities for themselves beyond grade school, and they're meaningful for the WLOY students, too.

A new initiative that Devecka and the WLOY students are launching is the Baltimore Furniture Bank, which will offer free furniture to individuals who are transitioning from homelessness into housing. WLOY is renting a one-car garage to store the donated furniture, which includes retired furniture from Loyola residence halls. The community-minded radio station is also developing a website, [www.baltimorefurniturebank.org](http://www.baltimorefurniturebank.org), that will help connect people to the available furniture.

Devecka is always impressed with how Loyola students embrace opportunities to serve and connect with the community.

"Before we started a radio show to interview people experiencing homelessness, I took the idea to the students and said, 'Do you want to have this on the air?', and I was amazed it was universally and enthusiastically accepted," he said. "That's very much a tribute to the kind of students we have here. They're much more open to engagement and the understanding that they have some community obligation."

It's not just a sense of obligation, though. WLOY also has fun. The students participate in community events such as HonFest and the Mayor's Annual Christmas Parade in Baltimore's

Hampden neighborhood. This year at the parade, the students dressed up as Charlie Brown characters and handed out 2,500 candy canes to the children on the sidewalks as they passed. Loyola is the only college or university that marches—invited because of the radio station's presence in the community—and WLOY always brings a float.

Tim Teeling, '11, remembers helping construct a float for the parade one year that featured flamingos pulling a sleigh on the top of the WLOY station van.

"WLOY got me involved in the local community from the very start. My first weekend on the job I was working the tent on The Avenue at Hampdenfest," said Teeling, who lives in Odenton, Md., and works as a web designer with Tenable, a cybersecurity firm in Columbia, Md. "WLOY has always been about showcasing local music, but also about bettering the local community."

During her time at Loyola, Alex Fili, '13, started as WLOY's event coordinator and moved on to serving as business

manager. The highlight of her time at WLOY, however, was directing What Happens Next?

"WLOY taught me how to work hard, time-management skills, how to work well with others who are not just in your major, and the importance of giving back," said Fili, who is planning to graduate from dental school at Boston University School of Dental Medicine in May. "I pride myself on being a dentist who is able to communicate and connect with my patients in more than just a doctor-patient relationship. WLOY helped me interact with so many different people at Loyola and in the surrounding Baltimore community. WLOY was way more than a radio station—in fact, that might have been just the basis of what we were. But really, the emphasis was placed on reaching out to the community and giving back in any way possible."



Right: Past WLOY student employee, Alexandra Fili, '13.  
Lower left: Students pose with the float they decorated for the 2012 Mayor's Annual Christmas Parade.  
Lower right: Jonathan Prozzi, '08, teaches audio recording to kids at Eutaw Marshburn Elementary School in a studio WLOY built for the Radio Edu program.



**"SEVERAL YEARS AFTER GRADUATING FROM LOYOLA, JOHN DEVECKA AND I BRAINSTORMED A PROGRAM CALLED RADIO EDU WHERE WE WOULD TEACH AUDIO AND RADIO PRODUCTION TO BALTIMORE CITY YOUTH.**

**THIS IS WHERE I WAS ABLE TO REALLY COMBINE MY PASSIONS FOR TECHNOLOGY AND EDUCATION.**

**WE PILOTED THE PROGRAM IN 2013-14, AND THE IMPACT WAS CLEAR: THE YOUTH GREATLY ENJOYED LEARNING TECHNICAL SKILLS AND BEING ABLE TO SEE THE DIRECT RESULT OF THEIR LEARNING. WHILE I BELIEVE IN THE IMPORTANCE OF MY WELL-ROUNDED LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION, I WOULDN'T BE WHERE I AM NOW WITHOUT THE PROFESSIONAL SKILL-BUILDING THAT I GAINED WHILE WORKING AT WLOY."**

**JONATHAN PROZZI, '08**



Lower left: Eighth-grade students from Roland Park Middle School came to WLOY to record their radio plays created with their theater teacher Karen Saar.  
Lower right: A group of Cub Scouts tours the studio to learn about radio, broadcasting, and recording and record their own promo that is played on the air.

## OVERCOMING ADVERSITY IN BALTIMORE,

# ONE PAINTED DOOR AT A TIME



## FACULTY AND STUDENTS PARTNER WITH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION TO RESTORE ABANDONED BUILDINGS IN BALTIMORE

BY MOLLY COCHRAN

A gallon of white paint spills on the floor, and students race to clean it up. The students are busy creating windows and doors to spruce up abandoned homes in Baltimore's Harwood neighborhood. They don't want to lose the paint they will need to complete the project; luckily, they manage to salvage most of it.

"We met adversity, and we overcame," Mary Beth Akre, '80, MFA, professor of fine arts, tells the students.

Some communities in Baltimore face their own adversity, including dealing with the presence of abandoned buildings that detract from their neighborhoods. This project, initiated through the Harwood Community Association, is the recipient of a Homewood Community Partners Initiative Spruce-Up Grant, through the support of the Central Baltimore Partnership. This creative

community endeavor offers a way to beautify and enliven the neighborhood. The project helps restore, secure, and give a facelift to the exterior of 30 buildings along parts of Baltimore's Greenmount Avenue between 25th and 29th streets.

As part of their Introduction to Painting class, Akre's students enthusiastically volunteered to transform plain pieces of plywood into realistic, hand-painted windows and a front door for each home. The students painted curtains and a cat in one of the living room windows to help transform the abandoned building's exterior into a practical and inviting future home.

"This is a gift of love to the community," says Akre, who incorporates service-learning in her classes as a way to bring the Ignatian mission to life for her students. "I am so proud of my students—and so humbled by their contributions."

Akre's class is one of at least 35 Loyola courses per semester that incorporate community engagement or service in Baltimore, according to the Center for Community Service and Justice.

### ART INSTALLATION

On a rainy Saturday in December, the sound of a power screwdriver and a sense of excitement fill the air as the first door and window are placed on one of the abandoned homes in the neighborhood. Community members, local business owners, organization representatives, and the Harwood Community Association gather to celebrate the installation of the first pieces.

Evan Skalski, '19, a communication major with a specialization in digital media and journalism and a minor in studio art, is happy to be part of an initiative that helps show Baltimore in a positive light.

"I feel like people base their opinions off appearances. The abandoned buildings in Baltimore don't represent the true meaning of the city," says Skalski. "By participating in this project, we can provide a visually appealing product and make people feel welcomed."

### COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Aaron Kaufman, community project manager at the Central Baltimore Partnership, helped Miller Roberts, president of the Harwood Community Association, apply for the grant to fund the project. He notes that this initiative is completely driven and led by the community.

"What I love about this project is people can come together," says Kaufman. "It's about making it happen and giving residents a voice who haven't had one in the past."

Billy Friebele, MFA, assistant professor of fine arts, plans to continue to contribute to the Harwood Community Association project in his Public Art course this semester, when students in Akre's Drawing with Color class will also continue to paint windows and doors for the project. Friebele's students will learn about applying for funding and will work on a painting project that will further enhance the community.

"This is a vital learning experience because the goal is to make artwork that is valuable not only in an academic environment, but also art that speaks to a much wider audience and incorporates the feedback from the community," says Friebele.

### LONG-TERM HOPES

Loyola got involved with the project after Kate Figiel-Miller, assistant director for service learning, met Yvonne Fisher, a representative with the Harwood Community Association, at a community event.

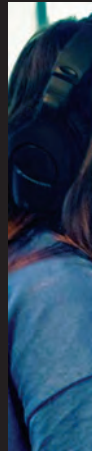
"We hope this is a prelude project to something that fixes up the houses and gets them sold," says Figiel-Miller. "This is a surface fix, but the long-term goal is to have the homes lived in."

Roberts is thankful to have Loyola's help in this community project.

"Being able to count on Loyola is key, because their students love to get involved in the community," says Roberts. "We are looking to make the corridor come back to life." ■



Above: Phil Dayao, '16, was active in WLOY as a student. Right: Amanda Nolan, '12, broadcasts live at Universal Studios during WLOY's 2011 trip to the National Student Electronic Media Convention.





**"WLOY IN MY OPINION WAS THE BEST ORGANIZATION ON CAMPUS TO HELP ME GET IMMERSSED IN THE BALTIMORE COMMUNITY. WLOY OPENED MY EYES TO SO MANY PHENOMENAL LOCAL ARTISTS AND MUSICIANS I WOULD MOST LIKELY NOT HAVE KNOWN."**

**PHIL DAYAO, '16**

Michael Ashley-Mennis, '10, is grateful that WLOY taught him how to work with the sound equipment and systems he uses today in his work as a teacher in Norwalk, Calif. He also learned about seeking a way to serve others and joined the Jesuit Volunter Corps after graduation, working in California and

Alaska in shelters helping women who had survived domestic violence.

"One thing I truly loved about WLOY was how much it always looked

outward for opportunities to help the community. From working with WLOY on expanding radio and production in Baltimore schools, and running a radio camp for kids where we helped students produce their own radio segments, to educating others on finance and serving those experiencing homelessness, the station always felt like it was looking to be a community station as much as it was a station for Loyola students," Ashley-Mennis said. "WLOY inspired and encouraged me to continue to pursue a path of service."

Before WLOY students graduate, Devecka tries to make sure they appreciate that they should carry this sense of community engagement with them in the future.

"When you go work for WXYZ Radio—or any business—in whatever town, you have to understand there's more going on than just in your studio," he said. "We have to invest in helping people."

One year, as the students were serving food at the People's Barbecue for the Homeless, one of them turned to Devecka.

"How do you know everyone in line is homeless?" the student asked.

"If someone is willing to wait in line for two hours for a free hot dog, they need a hot dog," Devecka told him. "There's no one in line who doesn't need the food. The need is clear and substantial. We're not here for judgment, we're here to feed people."

And feed people they do—with music and in so many other ways. ■

*Molly Cochran contributed to this story.*

**"WLOY IS NOT JUST A COLLEGE RADIO STATION. IT'S A PLACE WHERE BOTH RESPONSIBILITY AND FUN COME TO PLAY. YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH WHAT YOU DO AND FEEL THE SATISFACTION OF A JOB WELL DONE. BUT MORE THAN ANYTHING, WLOY IS A FAMILY. THE FRIENDSHIPS AND CONNECTIONS YOU WILL MAKE THROUGHOUT THESE IMPRESSIONABLE EXPERIENCES WILL STAY WITH YOU FOR A LIFETIME."**

**PATRICIA BRYAN, '15**

*Above: Patricia Bryan, '15, Kathryn O'Brien, '16, Rachel Stoczko, '16, and Kathleen McKeveny, '16, attend and broadcast live from the National Student Electronic Media Convention. Left: Singer, songwriter, and guitarist Walter Parks performs in the studio.*





**LOYOLA**  
UNIVERSITY MARYLAND

4501 NORTH CHARLES STREET  
BALTIMORE, MD 21210

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
BALTIMORE, MD  
PERMIT NO. 1716



“Act as if everything depended on you.  
Trust as if everything depended on God.”

— SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA