

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY NEW ORLEANS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024  
MONROE LIBRARY, SEMINAR Room 4 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

**AGENDA**

- I. **Prayer**
- II. **Call to Order/Welcome** **Gene Hernandez**  
President
- III. **Approval of Minutes** **Gene Hernandez**  
January 23, 2024 Meeting
- IV. **Loyola Loyal Day** **Garrett Lacour**  
Director of Annual Giving  
**Curt Howard**  
Fundraising Chair, Alumni Association
- V. **Student Report** **Mia Vitello & Makayla Hawkins**  
Student Government Association  
  
**Curt Howard**  
Fundraising Chair, Alumni Association
- VI. **Faculty Report**
- VII. **Committee Reports**  
  
a) Awards & Fundraising **Ryan Holmes and Trent Dang**  
b) Career Mentoring **Terry Fisher and Ashley Stevens**  
c) Chapters **Jen Costa**  
d) NOLA Chapter **Jill Ferrell**
- VIII. **Office of Alumni Engagement Report** **Laurie Leiva**  
AVP of Alumni Engagement
- IX. **Unfinished or New Business**  
Black Alumni affinity group  
Board Member Recruitment  
Planning for 2024-2025

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024 BOARD MEETING (5/5)

## **Black Alumni Affinity Group**

A group of alumni are interested in establishing a Black Alumni affinity group affiliated with the larger Alumni Association. The existing group of BSU alumni consists of approximately 271 alumni across the nation with graduation years from the 1980s to the 2020s. The existing group would like to create a formalized alumni affinity group through the Alumni Association with the goal of reconnecting BSU graduates with both the university and the regional chapter groups in addition to providing a network of alumni who were part of the BSU while they were at Loyola. The ultimate goal is to engage Black alumni, offer mentoring, networking and career advancement opportunities to current students and alumni. The long term goals of the group would be to assist in furthering the University President's goals for Loyola and potentially, once established, work to raise funds to support current BSU students.

### **Proposed 2024-2025 Meeting Schedule**

August	Orientation
September	First Meeting + Awards Committee Meeting (Separate Nights) OR Committee Meetings + Executive Committee Meeting (Separate Nights) - Depending on the Volunteer Social
October	First Meeting + Awards Committee Meeting (Separate Nights) OR Committee Meetings + Executive Committee Meeting (Separate Nights) - Depending on the Volunteer Appreciation Social
November	Second Meeting
December	No Meeting
January	Committee Meetings
February	Executive Committee Meeting
March	Third Meeting
April	Committee Meetings
May	Executive Committee Meeting
June	Fourth Meeting
July	No Meeting



LOYOLA UNIVERSITY NEW ORLEANS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024  
MONROE LIBRARY, SEMINAR ROOM 4 (2<sup>nd</sup> FLOOR)  
Zoom: <https://loyno.zoom.us/j/97420430407?pwd=ejJiV2NpalIzN3JFSnRMbmRLV2wwUT09>  
Meeting ID: 974 2043 0407  
Passcode: 663784

**MINUTES**

**Members in Attendance**

Gene Hernandez, Mia Vitello, Terry Fisher, Curt Howard, Jillian Farrell, Michael Davis, Delaney Vollmer, John Person, Laura Lee Wolfson, Patricia Crowley, Jenna Cronin, Ashely Stevens, Allison Plaisance, Natasha Alveshire, Chelsea Manuslich, Mike Giusti

**Members Attending Virtually**

Shercole King, Michelle Dunnick, Mike Inman, Ryan Holmes, Kyle Carpenter, Jen Costa, Juliette Frazier, Trent Dang, Kieran Harper, Anne Seiler

**Non-members in Attendance**

Eliana Fernandez, Laurie Leiva

**I. Opening Prayer**

Laurie began with a Jesuit joke.

**II. Call to Order/Welcome**

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Mardi Gras Participation signup sheet

Recognition of Mike Giusti for Excellence in Service

**III. Approval of Minutes**

Terry Fisher moved to approve the minutes, minutes were approved unanimously.

**IV. President's Report**

Delivered by Gene Hernandez.

Organized an Executive Committee composed of the Board's Committee Chairs to improve operations and communications among the Chairs. Mention of the Day at the Races taking place in February. There is now a local chapter Facebook group for local Alumni events, the Board is encouraged to engage with it.

**V. Student Report**

Delivered by Mia Vitello

Homecoming coming up. 40 under 40 is being highlighted on the Instagram Page and is about to be wrapped up to honor them during Homecoming. Alumni thrift shop on the 29<sup>th</sup> and a discounted Flea Market on Jan 30<sup>th</sup>.

Programming Board Family Feud, cookoff on Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, kickoff game on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Wrapping up last initiatives before transitioning to new leadership, elections commissioner has been selected. Board members encouraged to donate to the thrift store event.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024

#### VI. **Faculty Report – Mike Giusti**

Recruitment is a big focus of the faculty's attention. Fafsa forms are especially being looked into, due to new formatting for accessibility and ease of use as well as general down time due to technical issues middle income students have been left behind. Higher education across the country is down. President for enrollment is being looked for, troublesome due to high turnover.

#### VII. **Young Alumni report – Laurie Leiva**

In the process of finalizing its spring social event calendar including their larger May event to welcome Class of 2024 into the YAP. They are also forming a committee to propose amended and updated YAP bylaws to be reviewed/voted upon by the YAP before the end of this board term. The networking/professional development committee is working with the AA Board's committee for the March networking event.

#### VIII. **Fundraising Committee**

Delivered by Curt Howard

Video for Loyola Loyol day to encourage donating as well as give information on what donations are going towards. Loyola Loyol day is on March 20-21 with a goal of 900 donors. Higher donation levels had been added the previous year. Discussion of ways to make accessing the website easier for potential donors during Loyola Loyol dates such as creating a QR code that directly brings a donor to the donation page or alternate means of donating on that day that can still be kept track of. Given that Alumni prefer donating to causes where they can see a tangible result, general scholarship donation money will be counting towards the donor total as well as general Loyola Fund money.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Awards and Admission Committee**

Co-Chairs: Trent Dang and Ryan Holmes

Each year, the Alumni Association awards a scholarship to one graduating student from each of the university's colleges. The committee found identifying just one recipient from the College of Arts and Sciences impossible, so three scholarships were awarded. Join us in congratulating the following exceptional students for their hard work and dedication to their studies!

College of Arts and Sciences — Olufemi Adegoke

College of Arts and Sciences — Makayla Hawkins

College of Arts and Sciences — Nha Nguyen

College of Law — Taylor Rogers

College of Music and Media — Devin Cruice

College of Business — Dimitry Jackson

Thank you to committee co-chairs Trent Dang '02 and Ryan Holmes '01, and committee members Gene Hernandez '07, Curt Howard '83, Michael Davis '76, Laura Lee Wolfson '00, Jenna Cronin '05, and Allison Plaisance '00 for their time and commitment.

This semester the committee will shift focus from Awards to Admissions to identify opportunities and best practices for alumni to support student recruitment efforts at Loyola. The goal is to create a plan that can be presented to the new VP for Enrollment Management when they start in Summer 2024 and implemented during the 2024-2025 student recruitment cycle.

### **Career Development Committee**

Co-Chairs: Terry Fisher and Ashley Stevens

The committee is working with the Young Alumni Pack's Career Development Committee. In the Spring semester, they will focus on planning 2 events. A virtual workshop on networking on March 14 or 19<sup>th</sup>. The workshop will be facilitated by Ashley Stevens and alumni participants will be recruited next month. The purpose of the workshop is twofold with goals to (1) prepare students for the next Student Alumni Networking night on March 19 and (2) provide an opportunity to broaden outreach to students who cannot attend in person. The committee is also organizing another student-alumni networking night on Tuesday, March 19 from 6-6:30 p.m. prior to the March board meeting. Alumni Board members and Young Alumni Board members are encouraged to participate. Both of these events will be advertised during Grad Fair on March 11-12.

Finally, the committee is starting the planning process now for an etiquette dinner that will take place in the 2024-2025 school year.

### **Chapters Committee**

Chair: Jen Costa

Chapters have been busy planning Madi Gras Meet-Up Events. Chapters in Atlanta, Phoenix, Dallas, Houston, Austin, New Orleans, LA, Central Florida, Tampa, and Washington DC. There is also an exploratory event in Phoenix as we determine if we have enough alumni in the area to sustain a chapter. Chapters are also beginning the planning process for Crawfish Boils later in the spring.

There are 3 remaining presidential reception events this semester in Miami (2/16), NYC (3/1), and Chicago (5/23).

### **New Orleans Chapter/Events Committee**

Chair: Jill Farrell

Subcommittee Chairs: Delaney Vollmer (Inauguration); Robert Allen (1912); Bea Forlano (Starlight Racing & WOTP).

This is the first year there has ever been a New Orleans Chapter so the organization of this chapter and the Events committee has evolved a bit. It's been recommended that next year the New Orleans Chapter be separate from the Events Committee. Looking ahead the chapter's next event is the King Cake Happy Hour on Thursday, January 25, 2024. Later in the spring, the chapter will host the event at the fairgrounds on 2/24, the Pelicans night on 4/5, and a Crawfish Boil on 4/18. Anyone wishing to volunteer to help with Jazz Brunch on 3/24 should contact sub-committee chair Robert Allen.

The chapter now has a Facebook page. Like and follow here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1133148198059385>

## **IX. Alumni Engagement Report – Laurie Leiva**

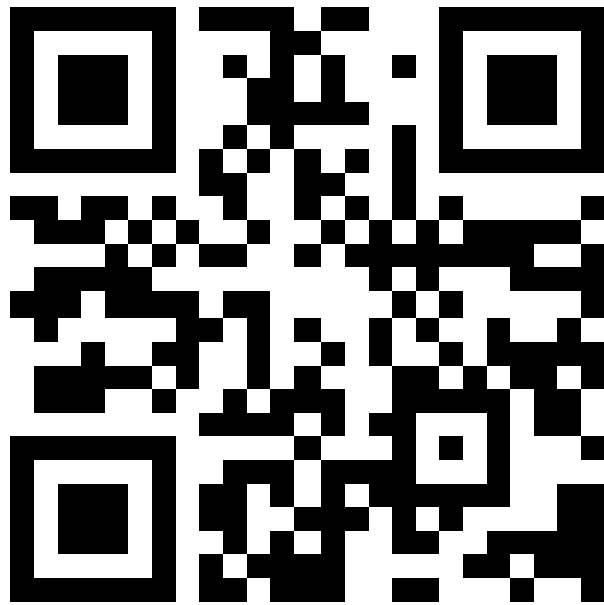
## **X. New Business – Old business**

Voting to move unspent funds from the grad award to the general scholarship fund. Terry Fisher made the motion to hold out a portion to be used for a future Alumni Association event/need, seconded by Gene Hernandez and Mike Davis. Motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.



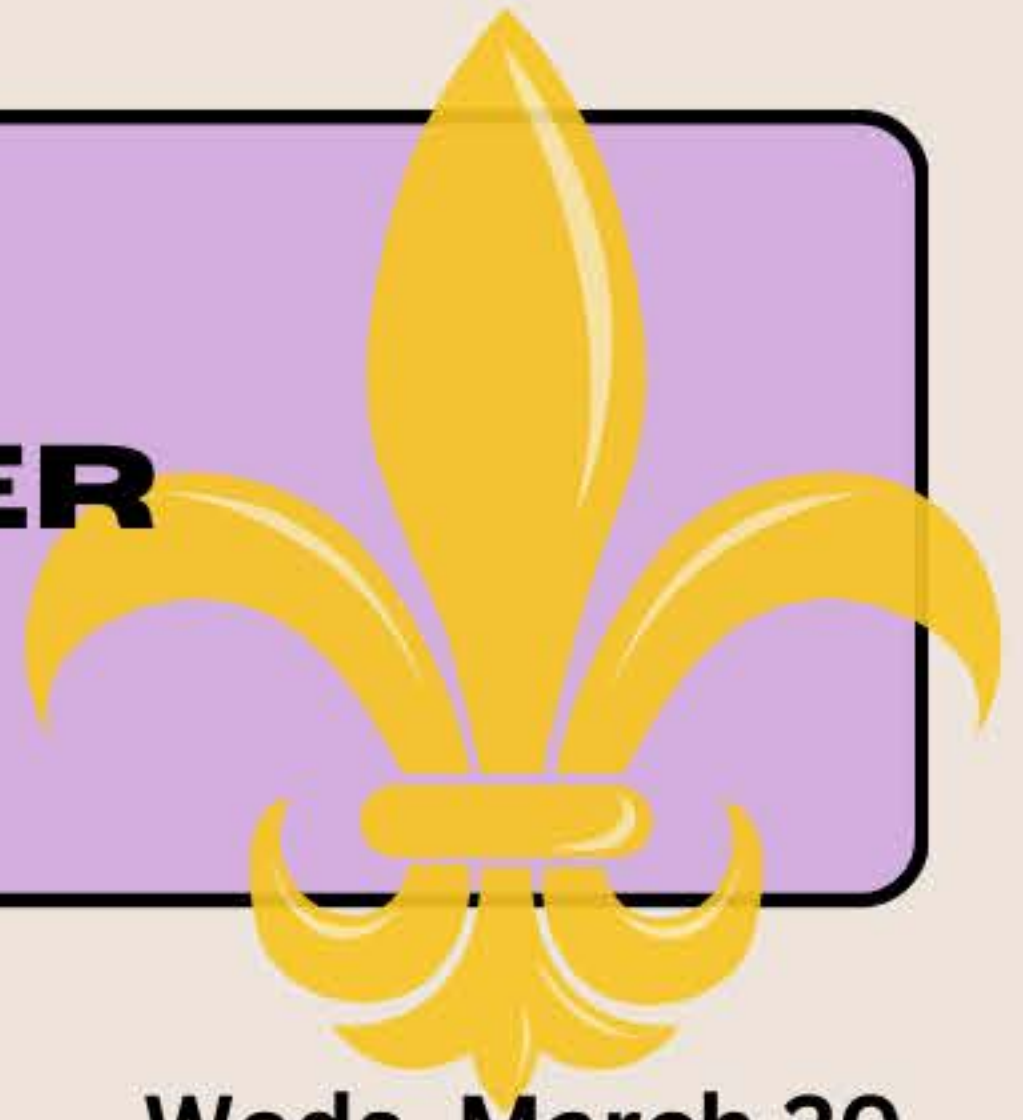
**Join the LOYNO NOLA Alumni  
Chapter Facebook Group!**



**SCAN HERE**



# LOYOLA NOLA ALUMNI CHAPTER UPCOMING EVENTS



## LOYOLA LOYAL DAY

Weds. March 20

*YLC Wednesdays at the Square  
Lafayette Square, NOLA*

5:00 PM-8:00 PM

Join Loyola to help celebrate Loyola Loyal day at our tent - any donation gets you free beer! Flow Tribe & SaxKixAve are on the lineup! **FREE JUST SHOW UP!**

## ALUMNI JAZZ BRUNCH

Sun., March 24

*Audubon Tea Room, 6500  
Magazine St., NOLA*

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Don your Sunday best and join fellow alumni in celebrating the Adjutor Hominum & Young Alumnus Awards.

Tickets: \$40 pp.; \$30 for young alumni.

**REGISTER AT: <https://www.loyno.edu/alumni-giving/alumni-events>**

## LOYNO @ PELICANS GAME

Fri., April 5

*Smoothie King Center*

Tip-off: 7:00pm

Come cheer on the New Orleans Pelicans as they take on the San Antonio Spurs. Guests welcome! Group rate tickets for purchase through Loyola.

**REGISTER AT: <https://www.loyno.edu/alumni-giving/alumni-events>**

## CHAPTER CRAWFISH HAPPY HOUR

Thur., April 18

*Bayou Beer & Wine Garden  
315 N. Rendon St. NOLA*

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Come toast springtime with friends and fellow Loyno alumni! Event is FREE and all are welcome. Drinks & crawfish available for purchase. **FREE JUST SHOW UP!**

Join  
-US-

**[Loyola NOLA Facebook Group](#)**



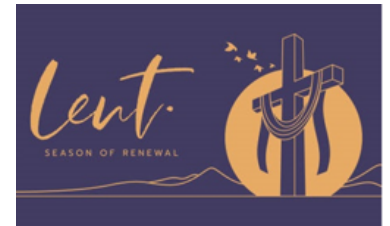
## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

### ***Dear Friends of the Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC):***

**If this is the first time you have received *Magis*, the newsletter of the IVC in New Orleans, we warmly welcome you to the growing community of those who follow and support our mission of service to those in need.**

The Holy Spirit is blessing us continually with growth and new opportunities, and our outreach through *Magis* is expanding accordingly. As with more and more folks like you who care about giving back to the New Orleans community, we invite you to journey with IVC - NO.

Lent is the season when the Church calls us to turn our thoughts more fully to prayer/reflection, to almsgiving, and repentance. All these practices draw us closer to Christ our Redeemer and His love for us. NOLA has its own Lenten traditions, and below we share a few stories about the Nine Churches Walk.



In every season of the year, Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) members give alms in the form of their service, deploying their life skills and experience serving those in need, as well as in ongoing Ignatian reflection - turning from comforts, perspectives and pursuits of retirement that do not lead them to Christ. The alms of our financial supporters help keep agency partnership value high, as IVC does the tasks to recruit, screen, place, and spiritually support our volunteers to do impactful things.

As always, but particularly in this Lenten season, we invite YOU to join or expand your support of our mission of senior engagement empowering meaningful service - either as a new agency deploying our volunteers, as a new service corps member ready to meaningfully serve, or as a supporter helping us with the costs and tasks of connecting those who God calls to those who can be blessed by them.

May God bless each of you on your own journeys of service, prayer, and repentance this Holy Lenten season!

In gratitude,

*Becky Goff*



## IVC-NO Continues to Grow

*We are so grateful for these new members, and all they bring to their commitment to service.*



**Charles Incaprera**

**Assigned to:** *Hotel Hope*  
**College:** Tulane  
**Expertise:** IT/ Hardware & Education



**Rev. Michael Schneller**

**Awaiting Assignment**  
**College:** Notre Dame Sem.  
**Expertise:** Pastor, Admin & Leadership



**Dr. Greg Tilton**

**Awaiting Assignment**  
**College:** LSU School of Med  
**Expertise:** Cardiology

*As our ranks grow, so does our capacity to partner with nonprofits who serve the marginalized. **Agencies** - call us to meet members ready to broaden your agency's mission!*

***Love is shown in deeds more than words.***

*- St. Ignatius of Loyola*

## Ignatian Service and Education

It is fitting that IVC regions nation-wide often partner with educational/literacy missions. The Society of Jesus (Jesuits) began their involvement in education around 1537, when St Ignatius and his companions traveled to Rome and engaged Pope Paul III in daily academic theological debates. By 1749 the Jesuits had established 875 schools around the world. In the USA, from colonial times Jesuits have founded hundreds of schools, often focusing on educating immigrants to become productive, contributing members of American society.

Three IVC-NOLA Service Corp members, **Henri Louapre, Jules Cote, and Mark Williams** carry on the Jesuit passion for adult education serving the Greater New Orleans YMCA's Educational Services (YES!) program, which began its partnership with IVC in 2021. YES! grew from the efforts begun by two area pastors, and since its facility was devastated by Katrina, members meet at local libraries, serving the literacy needs of more than 200 adults.



meeting at local libraries, serving the literacy needs of more than 200 adults.

The impetus to serve and the personal benefits experienced by IVC volunteers are unique to each.

**Jules Cote** (foreground), a French-speaking native of Northern Ontario, learned English as a second language when he moved to Toronto at age 19. Leilimar Santos and Jorge Rodriguez Nova (second and fourth from the front) are a Venezuelan-born couple who held professional jobs in their native land, but due to the language barrier, work in other fields in the US. Jules finds happiness tutoring English and pronunciation with clients like them because he

identifies with their struggles, and his appreciation continually grows in how the gifts of his service are made richer through his monthly time spent with his IVC-assigned Spiritual Reflector, Fr Larry Moore, S.J.

**Mark Williams** (third from the front) had already been engaged with a spiritual advisor for many years when his interest in IVCNO was sparked from his post-retirement prayer "Lord, tell me what you want me to do". One answer came when he read a *Clarion Herald* (NOLA Archdiocesan newspaper) article about IVCNO. Mark also finds reward in his AARP volunteer work (preparing tax returns for members), but in his YES! work he is particularly humbled by how his clients work to improve themselves. Mark he grows in piety helping other children of God as the Lord asks him to do.

**Henri (Fritz) Louapre** (right), was familiar with the Ignatian education from attending Jesuit High School and Loyola of New Orleans (where he earned a degree in Physics). Henri taught for several years before running his family's business. His teaching background benefits his tutoring with YES!, which began when both he and they joined IVC in 2021. Henri relishes finding God in his service in his monthly meetings with his Spiritual Reflector, Sr. Rochelle Perrier, MSC.



**Amy Leggette**, the Executive Director of YES! (shown at left), recognizes the significance of IVC tutors to the YMCA program, noting "Our IVC service members are family -- our students rely on their steadiness, patience, and humble wisdom for the guidance and consistency they need to make learning gains. Our high quality IVC tutors are vital to our program's mission. We help and meet more students where they are with the individualized attention of these extended members of our instructional team!"

**Non-profit agencies** – call us and let's explore how IVC volunteers can support your mission as significantly as Jules, Mark and Henri do at YES!

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## IVC Virtual Info Session

Are you or someone you know seeking purpose and community in retirement? Discover the Ignatian Volunteer Corps and embrace the power of service and spirituality.

**Join us on March 21st for a Virtual Info Session** featuring Sr. Jean (of Loyola University Chicago) and learn how you can ignite your passion for service and spirituality with IVC.

**Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to deepen your faith, build community, and discover how you can make a difference in the world. Register now at [www.ivcusa.org/Info2024](http://www.ivcusa.org/Info2024) to secure your spot for this informative and inspiring session!**

A purple rectangular graphic for an IVC virtual info session. It features the IVC logo (a stylized cross with 'IVC' text) on the left and a small portrait of Sr. Jean Dolores Schmidt, BVM, on the right. Below the logo, the text reads: "Elevate Your Purpose, Energize Your Service". Underneath that, it says "Join us for a virtual information session featuring Sr. Jean Dolores Schmidt, BVM." At the bottom left, the date and time are listed: "March 21st, 3:30 pm Eastern Time". At the bottom right, there is a white button with the text "REGISTER NOW".

**IVC**

**Elevate Your Purpose,  
Energize Your Service**

Join us for a virtual information session  
featuring Sr. Jean Dolores Schmidt, BVM.

March 21st, 3:30 pm  
Eastern Time

**REGISTER NOW**

# Action Items



**NINE CHURCHES WALK - The NOLA community is encouraged to do a Nine Churches Walk on Good Friday.** Individuals can choose a route from [the Archdiocesan list of options here](#) or join a group like [the one here set up by the Jesuit High School of New Orleans](#), making their way to nine (most often uptown) churches, rooted in our history and garnished with striking architecture, a pilgrimage in imitation of the way of the cross endured by Jesus. A brief history of each parish may be given, one or two of the Stations of the Cross prayed, and then after a few moments of prayer pilgrims make their way to the next station church.



The origins of the Nine Churches Walk, like most traditions in New Orleans, are somewhat obscure, but date back to at least 1792. Some sources say that the number of churches reflects the tradition of praying nine days of a novena for a particular petition, while others cite the tradition of pilgrimages in Rome to pray the Stations of the Cross at a different church on each of the forty days in Lent. It has always been evolving - over the years other area communities have started organizing their own walks.

It always has been and remains a wonderful Lenten family observance. Read [a reflection by our Council Chair Leah Grau here](#) and [another family's memories here](#). The NOLA tradition of the Nine Churches Walk manifests the vibrant and integral part the Catholic faith has played for centuries as an integral part of our region's culture.

**ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS** Lenten event info IS available [here](#), including **Living Lent Daily**, an email series inspired by the book *God's Voice Within* written by Rev. Mark E. Thibodeaux, SJ. Pastor of Holy Name Church and an IVC-NO Spiritual Reflector.

**IGNATIAN LENTEN RESOURCES** online and nationally are listed [here](#).



**Help us grow by forwarding this edition of IVCNO *Magis* to individuals and agencies with a heart to serve the poor.**

*If this newsletter was forwarded to you ...*

continue to follow the work of IVC in New Orleans by [clicking here](#) to receive future editions of IVCNO *Magis*.

***Thank you!***

**Make a Gift to IVC**



## LOYOLA UNIVERSITY ESPLANADE IN THE SHADE STAGE

### **Friday, April 12, 2024**

EVER MORE NEST 11:00am - 12:00pm

THE KISSING DISEASE: JAVI DJ W/ BEN DELGADO, PLANET OF THE LITTLE

GREEN MEN 12:20pm - 1:35pm

THE TIN MEN 1:55pm - 2:50pm

COLE WILLIAMS 3:10pm - 4:10pm

BON BON VIVANT 4:30pm - 5:30pm ICEMAN SPECIAL 5:50pm - 7:00pm

### **Saturday, April 13, 2024**

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY COMMERCIAL ENSEMBLE 11:00am - 12:15pm

THE REVEALERS 2:15pm - 3:30pm

JASON NEVILLE FUNKYSOUL BAND 3:45pm - 5:10pm

JOHNNY SKETCH AND THE DIRTY NOTES 5:30pm - 7:00pm

### **Sunday, April 14**

GEORGE BROWN BAND 11:00am - 12:00pm

LOYOLA HIP HOP SET WITH ABSTRACT, DAMI, DU DEVIN, KIMBVSAVCE, TAVI, &

DU CASEY KENNIT 12:20pm - 1:20pm

LYNN DRURY 1:40pm - 2:40pm

SLANGSTON HUGHES AND THE RIMLESS BENTLEY 3:00pm - 4:00pm

CREOLE STRING BEANS SUNDAY 4:20pm - 5:20pm

ASTRAL PROJECT 5:40pm - 7:00pm

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# Alumni Association Board of Directors

## Tuesday, March 19, 2024





# Meeting Agenda

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- i. Prayer
- ii. Call to Order/Welcome
- iii. Approval of Minutes
- iv. Reports
  - i. Loyola Loyal Day
  - ii. Student Report
  - iii. Faculty Report
  - iv. Committee Reports: Awards & Admission; Career Mentoring; Chapters; Events;
  - v. Office of Alumni Engagement Report
- v. Unfinished or New Business
- vi. Adjourn (committee discussions if necessary)



# Loyola Loyal Day

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March 20-21, 2024

Goal = 900 donors to unlock a \$300,000 leadership gift

NOLA Area, join us at  
Wednesday at the Square  
TOMORROW!



# Student & Faculty Reports

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SGA Report, Mia Vitello & Makayla Hawkins

Faculty Report, Mike Giusti

# Committee Reports

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- Awards & Admission
- Career Mentoring
- Chapters
  - Crawfish Boils
  - Mardi Gras Pop-Ups (photos next slides)
- Events

# Mardi Gras Pop-Ups





# Mardi Gras Pop-Ups



# Mardi Gras Pop-Ups





# Mardi Gras Pop-Ups

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# Committee Reports

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- Events (handouts in packet)





# Alumni Engagement Report

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1. Raise \$350,000 for the Loyola Fund (\$13 million in other new gifts and pledges)

*\$220,792.58 raised towards \$350,000 goal*

2. Execute events that showcase the values, history, and tradition of the University.

*Done: Inauguration, 1912 Society Dinner, Wolves on the Prowl, Law Alumni Luncheon, Hall of Fame, Presidential Receptions in Houston, San Francisco, Miami, & NYC*

*Ahead: Jazz Brunch, Loyola Loyal Day, Presidential Receptions in Chicago, Commencement and Law Reception during LSBA Conference*

# Alumni Engagement Report

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## 3. Implement an alumni engagement strategy that supports University and advancement goals

- Volunteers
  - Alumni Association Board of Directors
  - Young Alumni Board
  - Law Alumni Board
- Chapters
- Affinity Alumni Programming

## 4. Other Updates

- Construction: Mercy Residence Hall & Chapel (special guest at next meeting)
- Handouts
- Staff News

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**THANK YOU!**

**Next Meeting Dates:  
Tuesday, May 14, 2024 – Meeting**