Inspired to view the world anew

Students choose to attend the Rome Center for a number of reasons. Beyond Rome’s natural allure and the quality of education at the Rome Center, many students come to be inspired. Inspired to reimagine their place in a global community and their relationships to people in other cultures. Inspired to step out of their local communities and be challenged by new ideas. Inspired to go forth and set the world on fire.

In this issue, we feature “a day in the life” of a Rome Center student who studied here last semester (see pg. 6). We hope the voices of recent students and alumni will re-energize your affinity for this special program. For additional student voices, read Go Global blog entries from students at the Rome Center and other international Loyola programs at http://blogs.luc.edu/goglobal.

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TRANSFORMING THE ROME CENTER

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR
Emilio Iodice
Director, John Felice Rome Center
Vice President, Loyola University Chicago

Dear Alumni, Family, and Friends,

After nearly a decade at the helm of the John Felice Rome Center, I will step down as director and assume a new role as director emeritus effective June 30, 2016. An international search for a new Rome Center leader has begun. In the interim, Ted Bohr, S.J., assistant professor of art history and theology, will step in as acting director. This transition will give me the chance to continue to devote my life to our students. In my new role, I will be there for our alumni who visit the JFRC, and I will teach and mentor our students as we shape them to take on the work of the world. In this way, I can continue to serve and preserve the vision of John Felice and uphold the Jesuit traditions that make us so strong.

A decade of progress has transformed the Rome Center. We are no longer just a place to study in Rome. We are no longer just a place to have fun and travel. We are all those things and so much more. Today, the JFRC is a community and an institution. It is where each of us, along with our students, is transformed every day.

During the past decade, the John Felice Rome Center has experienced significant growth, expanding its academic offerings, developing the campus, and enhancing its long-standing reputation as one of the premier study-abroad programs in Europe.

This achievement could not have been realized without the support of our many colleagues in Rome and in Chicago. It could not have happened without the help of our alumni, who have been there for us in ways large and small. They have provided not only financial support but also pride in our legacy, so that we could build a glorious future. Finally, our recent progress would not have been possible without the vision, wisdom, and love of John Felice. I was fortunate to know him, and his inspiration will continue to guide future leaders as they navigate the challenges and opportunities facing the JFRC.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the John Felice Rome Center.

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God bless you and those you love,

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Students celebrating Interreligious Week

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Students celebrating Interreligious Week
Alumni remember draft, unrest during Vietnam War

BY GREGORY LONGHINI (JFRC ’69–’70, BA ’73)

In early September 1969, approximately 500,000 Americans were in Vietnam fighting a war. Almost 12,000 of them would die that year. What was it like for students who were at the Rome Center at that same time, during the height of the war?

“I felt detached,” said Carol (Summers) Landou (JFRC ’69–’70). “We had no internet, social media, cell phones, etc.”

On National Moratorium Day, October 15, some students congregated in the evening on campus. “We all were black arm bands and sang protest songs,” recalled Marianne (O’Laughlin) Richardson (JFRC ’69–’70).

But detachment from the war’s impact on America’s youth, somber feelings, and protests did not prevent students from fully engaging in the Rome Center experience that fall. Group weekend trips to Florence and Munich were cherished, as were local excursions to Rome’s city center and the Vatican.

But an event in the U.S. on December 1, 1969, brought the war crashing back home—450 U.S. schools were shut down by demonstrations, some violent. It is estimated that some 450,000 students who were at the Rome Center that year recall being furious at the war’s escalation.

“I was 16 years old, and I wondered about the reputation of Rome Center students that year recall being furious at the war’s escalation,” said Don Lorek (JFRC ’69–’70). “I threw the magazine onto his bed.”

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A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A

BY ALEXANDRA JONKER  (JFRC FALL ’15)

Alexandra Jonker is an intern in Loyola’s marketing department this semester. Before she left Rome last December, she agreed to tell us what her “typical day” was like at the JFRC. This particular day was a Wednesday in November 2015.

9:00 AM – Wake up to the sound of Dr. Sander Evers coming into the gate with a loud “Good morning, students. Wake up!”—something typical on a campus this small that, though not in the moment, will surely be missed.

9:45 AM – Head to Rinaldo’s Café where dozens of other students are starting their day with the typical, but delicious, 2 euro “Italian Breakfast”—a Nutella-filled croissant and a frothy cappuccino.

4:30 PM – Get back to campus in time for dinner at Mensa. Losses are forgotten once everyone has gelato is enjoyed on the Spanish Steps with a few friends.

7:00 PM – From the pitches, a large group of students boards the 913 bus toward Piazza Balduina for the weekly after-calcio beer and pizza. No other dining hall can ever compete superbly, and the various students from Spain once again succeed in making one feel refreshingly welcome. Superb.

10:30 PM – Hop back on the 913 bus, and ride it to the end, where gelato is enjoyed on the Spanish Steps with a few friends.

12:00 AM – Arrive back at campus, stop and say hello to Corinella the cat, and sleep until tomorrow arrives—inevitably another unbelievably perfect day in Rome.

The road less traveled

BY ALEXANDRA JONKER (JFRC FALL ’15)

The Rome Start program gives select students the opportunity to spend the first year of their Loyola experience studying at the Rome Center. After that, students complete their degree at Loyola’s campuses in Chicago. This unique program allows students to gain a global perspective during their education while receiving a Loyola degree.

“It was unconventional,” says Nicolas (Nico) Valdes (JFRC ’13–’14, Fall ’15) after deciding to spend his entire freshman year at the Rome Center as a part of the Rome Start program. Now, as a junior, he has traveled down another unconventional path and returned to the Eternal City for one more semester.

Save for actual Italians, Valdes may be the most acclimated student to Italian culture at Loyola. While minoring in Italian, he has cumulatively lived in Rome for almost a year and a half—three of his first five college semesters. But he was not always such a savvy world traveler.

“Freshman year, I was not adventurous at all,” he says. “I only traveled once outside of Italy to Istanbul, and I only decided to go there because I had been several times before, so there was familiarity.”

For many that study abroad, slight regrets experienced from missed travel opportunities or things that could have been tended to appear once landing back in one’s home country. Valdes saw the opportunity to fix his regrets almost immediately when he applied to spend the fall semester of his junior year back at the Rome Center.

“The more I thought about it, the more I wanted to return to Rome,” he says. “I study Italian, and they have business courses there. It makes sense.”

This “Study Abroad 2.0” has never been done before by a Rome Start student, so Nico had to argue his case with the Office for International Programs. His enthusiasm for learning the Italian language and culture, after having spent a year in Rome already, convinced them that he deserved a second term there.

“When I went back, I did things that I wasn’t able to do before, like pursue an internship,” says Nico. “I traveled to five different countries, and I traveled by myself a couple times.”

CALLING ALL JFRC LOVEBIRDS!

Did you meet your spouse or significant other at the Rome Center? If so, we want to hear from you. Tell us how you met, where you traveled together, or maybe you didn’t actually meet at the Rome Center but perhaps at an alumni chapter meeting back in the states. However the JFRC “hooked you up,” we want to hear!

The deadline is July 1, 2016. Email your story to JFRCAnnounce@LUC.edu. Please include a photo or two of both of you, preferably the original from a phone or other camera (small Facebook photos may not work for publication). If you don’t hear from us that we received your submission within a week, please re-send the e-mail without any attachments, just in case an attachment prevented transmission.

In this year’s fall issue, we will publish as many stories as we are able. So, we want to hear from you all roads undeniably lead to Rome!”

BY NICOLAS VALDES (JFRC ’13–’15, FALL ’15)

“When I got in the second time, I wanted to help out freshmen, because I was a freshman once and I was scared,” he says. “Getting to work unofficially with the Rome Starts while still being able to be their friend was great.”

“My ideal plan would be to go back to become a Student Life Assistant (SLA) for a year,” he says. “I would want to focus on the Rome Start program even more. That’s my passion project with the JFRC, because that’s what got me there and helped shape who I am today.”

Valdes runs a blog called Edge of Travel (ontheedgeoftravel.blogspot.com), where you can read more about his adventures.

Peter JFRC ’16–’18 and Mary JFRC ’16–’18, IE 72, MSG ’18 Mudd met at the Rome Center 47 years ago. “Our year in Rome remains the most fateful of our lives,” they say. “Inseparable ‘friends’ for most of that year abroad imperceptibly grew into romance on the Elementary school playground, and we found ourselves at the altar less than a year later. (No, Mary wasn’t pregnant!) For us, all roads undeniably lead to Rome!”

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STUDENTS REFLECT ON CAMPAIGN SUPPORT

We asked recent students at the Rome Center how the fundraising priorities of the Avanti! campaign have and will support their experience there. They shared with us reflections about three of the campaign’s four priorities.

RENOVATED SPACES

RINALDO’S CAFÉ

“Rinaldo’s is the perfect space for both socializing and working. The staff are lovely, and they treat you like family.”

—ALICE SALT (IFRC FALL ’15)

MENSA

“The mensa provided a really nice environment to interact with other IFRC students and enjoy a good meal. The new renovations provided an interactive medium for the student life assistants to relay information about community activities and other events.”

—FIRAS HENTATI (IFRC FALL ’15)

INFORMATION COMMONS

“The IC back at Lake Shore Campus is hard to beat, but the warm, intimate space at the IFRC will definitely be missed back in Chicago—which doesn’t have the golden Roman sun coming through the windows.”

—MADELINE BERNHARD (IFRC FALL ’15)

SCHOLARSHIPS

“Studying abroad in Rome is one of the best decisions I’ve ever made. I thank God for the Vogelheim Scholarship, which had a huge part in me being in Rome. I have grown a great deal from this experience, and I will never forget this.”

—JENAI BOOKER (IFRC FALL ’11, BS ’12)

STUDY TRIPS

“Study trips allow you the comfort of having everything planned for you, so that the only thing you have to worry about is enjoying yourself and taking it all in. Plus there are so many trips available throughout the semester, from varying lengths and price ranges, that it’s easy for everyone to take at least one.”

—ALEXANDRA JONKER (IFRC FALL ’15)

Fueling student adventure

Continued from Page 4

the IFRC staff assists the benefit a student will gain through a proposed trip. Loyola’s Office of Financial Assistance reviews the student’s unmet financial need. Since Forza Roma was established, more than 1,000 students have benefited from the fund.

What is the impact of Forza Roma? Now, more than ever, it is becoming increasingly important for college students to study and travel abroad. The world is growing in its demand for globally minded people, and one of the best ways to achieve this is through travel and exploration. The benefits of travel are intangible but also extremely valuable. Through travel, students learn lessons of independence, self-sufficiency, resourcefulness, and tolerance to name a few. And thanks to our generous alumni, our students will take these important lessons with them for the rest of their lives.

Paying it forward

Avanti! gifts dedicated to Dr. Michael Fink

After almost two years into Avanti!, Phase II of the Rome Center’s campaign, we are making progress toward our goal. There are various ways members of our community can support the campaign, our students, and the amazing campus transformation work in progress. Dr. Michael Fink was a professor of art history at the IFRC for many years before he passed away. During his tenure, many IFRC students had the pleasure of being in his classes and drawing from his inspiring teaching methods. And now, several alumni have decided to give meaningful gifts in support of Avanti! and dedicated to the memory of Dr. Fink. One is Dr. Scott Sullivan (IFRC ’67–’68).

FORMER STUDENT OF DR. FINK SUPPORTS FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

“The Rome Center was a great experience for me, and I value it even more as I look back some 40 years later,” says Dr. Scott Sullivan (IFRC ’67–’68), who can attribute many life lessons and successes to his experience at the Rome Center. Being at the IFRC broadened his worldview and challenged him to accept different lifestyles and cultures.

“It was like the world opening up to me,” he says. “It really shaped who I am today to a large extent.” Perhaps most importantly, it shaped his career path. Being in Rome and studying under Dr. Michael Fink was the catalyst that ignited Sullivan’s passion for art history.

“He was the inspiration for me. He was a dynamic and an exciting teacher. He made art come alive in the classroom,” says Sullivan. “When we went into the city, to the Sistine Chapel, and to the Forum, he made it real for us.”

Upon returning to his undergraduate home at John Carroll University, Sullivan continued to study art history during his senior year and went on to earn Mkh and PhD degrees in art history. He retired last year after 40 years in higher education. Most recently, he served as dean of the College of Fine Arts at Texas Christian University. Before that, he was a professor of art history and dean of the College of Fine Art and Professional Arts at Kent State University.

“I had a very fulfilling career because of the experiences I had from my Rome year, being exposed to great art and particularly renaissance and baroque art,” he says. “That certainly created a different life for me than I had ever expected before I went to Rome.”

“This firsthand experience as a professor—a career hatched from his time as a pupil under Dr. Fink—was a chief influence on Sullivan’s decision to support the Rome Center, and particularly its faculty, with the Scott and Joan Sullivan Faculty Development Fund.

“Supporting faculty in their research and helping them to be more successful in their work is something that appeals to me, because I was a faculty member. I was a professor of art history, and I still research and write in retirement,” says Sullivan. “So it makes sense for me to help the faculty who teach at the Rome Center, to give them opportunities to excel in their teaching and in their research.”

With so much to attribute to his experience in the Eternal City, Sullivan wants to acknowledge the enduring impact that the Rome Center continues to have on his life with this lasting and generous gift.

“Our gift is a thank you to the Rome Center and to Dr. Fink,” he says. “Hopefully it will provide some added resources to help the faculty achieve their goals and also strengthen the Rome Center.”

“I owe the success I have experienced in the field of education to Dr. Fink, my art history professor at the Rome Center. His use of the Socratic Method of teaching opened up a whole new world to me. He was the best teacher I ever had.”

—PAULA NERI HENNESSEY (IFRC SPRING ’72)
Meet your new JFRC National Alumni Board officers

PRESIDENT
Marina Mihaldovic Cato (JFRC Fall '86, MUND '87)
- Board member since 2004
- Loyola University Chicago (BS), Adler School of Professional Psychology (MA)
- Personal finance banker

VICE PRESIDENT
Paul Kelley (JFRC '66–'67)
- Board member since March 2013
- St. Michael’s College (BA), University of Connecticut (BS), Syracuse University (MA), New York University (PHD)
- VP in broadcast media industry

SECRETARY
Sarah Prentice (JFRC Fall '18, BA '12)
- Board member since March 2014
- Loyola University Chicago (BA), SCPS Certificate in Paralegal Studies
- Compliance coordinator

IGNATIAN CHAIR
Laurel Krzakora (JFRC Spring '77, BA '72)
- Board member since March 2014
- Loyola University Chicago (BA)
- Interior designer

ALUMNI WALL INITIATIVE UPDATE
On behalf of the JFRC Alumni Board and the Alumni Wall Committee, I want to thank all our alumni and friends who gave so generously to the Alumni Wall Initiative. Since our fundraising effort began in late summer 2014, more than 385 donors have given nearly $400,000 to support campus renovations, with a remarkable 15 percent of these donors making their first gift ever to the JFRC. We are deeply grateful for this outpouring of support. Congratulations and heartfelt thanks go to the top five fundraising classes: '66–’67, '73–’74, '98–’99, '93–’94, and '69–’70. Special thanks also to so many of our GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) alumni, who purchased tiles and have started to carry on the legacy of philanthropy at the Rome Center. Lastly, thank you to our class ambassadors for their tireless efforts.

Grazie mille to all of you who contributed to this incredible success. We look forward to reporting on the renovation progress that your generosity will make possible. Every gift from every donor is an important step toward the fulfillment of John Felice’s dream of building the permanent home of the Rome Center, a place of life-changing opportunities and a source of great pride for our alumni and families.

With appreciation,
James L. Centner Jr. (JFRC ’66–’67)
Chair, Alumni Wall Committee
JFRC Alumni Board

T he 10th annual symposium, Human Rights and a Just Society, convened in Toruń, Poland, at Nicholas Copernicus University (NCU) on October 11–12, 2015. The symposium is hosted and organized in cooperation with the Rome Center, Loyola University Chicago’s Polish Studies Program, and NCU. The ongoing migration crisis in Europe provided the focus of the event, aptly titled “The World is on Fire: Facing to Freedom or Survival?”

The symposium began on Sunday evening with a short film, the VICE News documentary “Europe or Die: Italy’s Mediterranean Mass Grave.” Immediately following, Alia Nardini, professor at Spring Hill University’s Bologna, Italy, campus; Ramal Harrabi, founder and director of the Intercultural Studies Center and president of the Immigrants Council for the Province of Siracusa, Italy, and NCU Law Professor Marcos Kabdanski held an exercise allowing students to analyze their initial expectations for the symposium and perceptions of the film.

On Monday, John Kurowski (JFRC ’73–’74, BA ’75), former visiting professor at NCU and co-founder of the symposium, gave opening remarks before the lectures began. The first speaker was Dr. Michal Balcerzak, NCU law professor and member of the United Nations Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent. Dr. Balcerzak briefed the students on the migration situation, including personal observations from his own time at a reception camp in Italy this past year.

Next up was Harrabi, who, in addition to speaking, brought a collection of his artwork and items he has collected from shipwrecked migrant boats in Sicily, such as children’s shoes and bottles of potable water. Harrabi shared experiences from the perspective of an artist and activist. He introduced the revelatory thought that Europe’s anxiety and fear toward immigrants is really in the suspense, and that the fears subsidize upon the immigrants’ arrival. He vocalized support for an intercultural society instead of one that is merely multicultural, the difference being that the former is one of interaction and connectedness between cultures. Harrabi left the crowd with the provocation that “School is mandatory. Ignorance is a choice.”

Jan Nawazi, the keynote speaker, spoke next in the format of a conversation with Dr. Todd Waller of Spring Hill University. Nawazi is a refugee from Afghanistan who lives in Italy. The conversation went through Nawazi’s life, touching briefly on his time growing up as a minority in Afghanistan before going in depth about his years-long journey to Europe. He is a lifelong entrepreneur, a spirit that was exemplified in each of his stories. The director of Human Rights Watch’s Europe and Central Asia Division, Hugh Williamson, then spoke about the assistance currently provided by international NGOs. He discussed why favorable European policies do not create a “pull factor”—no policy can outweigh the massive “push” from such war-torn areas—and he provided background about the different interpretations that countries of the European Union have on various intake procedures. He also mentioned the effects on unaccompanied minors and ended by noting that the key European institution on the frontlines of this crisis, Frontex, is based in Warsaw.

The symposium ended with a simulation by six students, two from the JFRC, two from Spring Hill University’s Bologna campus, and two from NCU. The students were given the facts of a real immigrant’s asylum application, and two students argued for the refugee’s asylum, while the rest played the role of judges, to determine the fate of a Tunisian man. The students were given facts and procedures but were not given the chance to rehearse. And although there were a couple minor inconsistencies in his story, the judges granted the man asylum—a fitting conclusion to a powerful and thought provoking symposium on one of the most provocative issues in our world today.

“Europe needs to wake up, and we need to put more pressure on them.”

—Hugh Williamson

ALUMNI WALL INITIATIVE UPDATE
On behalf of the JFRC Alumni Board and the Alumni Wall Committee, I want to thank all our alumni and friends who gave so generously to the Alumni Wall Initiative. Since our fundraising effort began in late summer 2014, more than 385 donors have given nearly $400,000 to support campus renovations, with a remarkable 15 percent of these donors making their first gift ever to the JFRC. We are deeply grateful for this outpouring of support. Congratulations and heartfelt thanks go to the top five fundraising classes: ’66–’67, ’73–’74, ’98–’99, ’93–’94, and ’69–’70. Special thanks also to so many of our GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) alumni, who purchased tiles and have started to carry on the legacy of philanthropy at the Rome Center. Lastly, thank you to our class ambassadors for their tireless efforts.

Grazie mille to all of you who contributed to this incredible success. We look forward to reporting on the renovation progress that your generosity will make possible. Every gift from every donor is an important step toward the fulfillment of John Felice’s dream of building the permanent home of the Rome Center, a place of life-changing opportunities and a source of great pride for our alumni and families.

With appreciation,
James L. Centner Jr. (JFRC ’66–’67)
Chair, Alumni Wall Committee
JFRC Alumni Board

T he 10th annual symposium, Human Rights and a Just Society, convened in Toruń, Poland, at Nicholas Copernicus University (NCU) on October 11–12, 2015. The symposium is hosted and organized in cooperation with the Rome Center, Loyola University Chicago’s Polish Studies Program, and NCU. The ongoing migration crisis in Europe provided the focus of the event, aptly titled “The World is on Fire: Facing to Freedom or Survival?”

The symposium began on Sunday evening with a short film, the VICE News documentary “Europe or Die: Italy’s Mediterranean Mass Grave.” Immediately following, Alia Nardini, professor at Spring Hill University’s Bologna, Italy, campus; Ramal Harrabi, founder and director of the Intercultural Studies Center and president of the Immigrants Council for the Province of Siracusa, Italy, and NCU Law Professor Marcos Kabdanski held an exercise allowing students to analyze their initial expectations for the symposium and perceptions of the film.

On Monday, John Kurowski (JFRC ’73–’74, BA ’75), former visiting professor at NCU and co-founder of the symposium, gave opening remarks before the lectures began. The first speaker was Dr. Michal Balcerzak, NCU law professor and member of the United Nations Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent. Dr. Balcerzak briefed the students on the migration situation, including personal observations from his own time at a reception camp in Italy this past year.

Next up was Harrabi, who, in addition to speaking, brought a collection of his artwork and items he has collected from shipwrecked migrant boats in Sicily, such as children’s shoes and bottles of potable water. Harrabi shared experiences from the perspective of an artist and activist. He introduced the revelatory thought that Europe’s anxiety and fear toward immigrants is really in the suspense, and that the fears subsidize upon the immigrants’ arrival. He vocalized support for an intercultural society instead of one that is merely multicultural, the difference being that the former is one of interaction and connectedness between cultures. Harrabi left the crowd with the provocation that “School is mandatory. Ignorance is a choice.”

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—Hugh Williamson
CHICAGO ALUMNI LUMA RECEPTION

Chicago alumni enjoyed a reception at the Loyola University Museum of Art (LUMA) featuring the museum’s greatest hits, such as Andy Warhol’s Silver Clouds. Alumni experienced a private tour, mingled with fellow classmates, and enjoyed updates on the Rome Center from Kate Felice (JFRC ’63–’64).

Stay tuned for our next LUMA event in September.

CLEVELAND ALUMNI APERITIVO

Cleveland alumni gathered at Crop Bistro & Bar, a former bank-turned-restaurant-bar recently named one of the best restaurants in Cleveland. The evening was spent tasting wine and enjoying food made with local ingredients. A special thanks to Loyola’s Cleveland Rambler Club for organizing this fun gathering!

Save the date: The next Cleveland Alumni Aperitivo is scheduled for October.

SAN FRANCISCO ALUMNI APERITIVO

JFRC alumni in the San Francisco area gathered to celebrate the one-year anniversary of their JFRC San Francisco Alumni Chapter. Guests kicked off the holiday season in JFRC spirit at the Hidden Vine Wine Bar and enjoyed wines from around the world while reconnecting and meeting new friends.

We hope to see you in July at our next San Francisco Alumni Aperitivo.

CHICAGO ALUMNI GIVE BACK EVENT

Chicago alumni partnered with Catholic Charities of Chicago for an afternoon of service during the holiday season for local families in need. Held annually, JFRC Alumni Board member Claire Dittrich (JFRC ’77–’78) coordinated the service event and was joined by alumni to organize and pack donated gifts.

Mark your calendar to join us again this December.

ALUMNI RECONNECT

50TH CLASS REUNIONS

Two Rome Center classes celebrated their milestone 50th reunions in Rome last year. A tour of the renovated JFRC campus was a highlight of both reunion weekends, and both classes enjoyed lots of good food and wine during their reunions, including dinner at Emilio Iodice’s favorite spot—Madame’s!

May 4–6, 2015: CLASS OF ’64–’65
A group of 62 classmates from the class of 1964–65 traveled to Rome for a six-day celebration that included classes taught by JFRC professors, VIP seating for a Papal audience, and private evening tours of the Vatican Museums and St. Peter’s Basilica.

October 1–4, 2015: CLASS OF ’65–’66
About 75 members of the class of 1965–66 journeyed to Rome for their own six-day reunion. Their celebration included a trip to see the old CIVIS campus, guided tours of “Borromini’s Rome,” Galleria Colonna, Trastevere, and a cooking class in the Alban Hills.

CIVIS ROME CENTER ALUMNS

If you are a CIVIS Rome Center alum and want to support the CIVIS classrooms, please contact Julia McGannon at 312-915-7647 or jmcgannon@LUC.edu.

THE JFRC IS GRATETFUL to these classes for honoring their milestone reunion with gifts to the Rome Center. The class of 1964–65 made a generous class gift and has also launched a successful fundraising effort to name one of the newly renovated class-rooms in honor of the four CIVIS classes. The class of 1965–66 raised nearly $60,000 for a variety of JFRC initiatives.

If you are a CIVIS Rome Center alum and want to support the CIVIS classrooms, please contact Julia McGannon at 312-915-7647 or jmcgannon@LUC.edu.

Grazie mille to the classes of 1964–65 and 1965–66. You are an inspiration!

OTHER CLASS REUNIONS

September 17, 2015
CHICAGO ALUMNI LUMA RECEPTION
Chicago alumni enjoyed a reception at the Loyola University Museum of Art (LUMA) featuring the museum’s greatest hits, such as Andy Warhol’s Silver Clouds. Alumni experienced a private tour, mingled with fellow classmates, and enjoyed updates on the Rome Center from Kate Felice (JFRC ’63–’64).

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November 12, 2015
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Mark your calendar to join us again this December.
All-Class Reunion: Be a “virtual” part of the festivities

Attend the JFRC All-Class Reunion May 21–27... virtually!

Follow JFRC on social media to stay connected throughout the week. See your fellow alumni experience the newly renovated Rome Center campus for the first time, reconnect with favorite JFRC faculty and staff, and experience the beauty of the city.

Facebook: facebook.com/JohnFeliceRomeCenter

Official Facebook page for the Rome Center

Instagram: instagram.com/jfgfrc

Keep up with studies, news, and regular events at the JFRC with photos from students and others in Rome.

Twitter: @jfgfrc

Official Twitter handle for prospective and current students of the Rome Center


Class of 1965-66 50th reunion committee

If you are interested in planning your reunion in Rome, contact JFRC Alumni Relations to get started or visit the JFRC “Reunion in a Box” webpage at LUC.edu/jfrcalumni.

You’ll find this page under the Events section.

“REUNION IN A BOX” WILL HELP JFRC ALUMNI:

• Identify the ideal reunion date: yearly weather in Rome, months with lower travel prices, popular tourist times, identifying flexible group travel dates, etc.
• Communication examples: initial reunion questionnaire to gather reunion interest, surveys to determine activities, tentative agendas while in Rome.
• Determine whether to use a travel agent: review travel agent details, and decide how best to use their services for your group.
• Find a “Reunion Central” hotel: reviews of local hotels based on pricing, indoor/outdoor terraces, common spaces, friendliness, environments, cleanliness, walkability, etc.
• Restaurant reviews: recommendations from JFRC classmates and friends, locations best for group meals, including restaurants that allow groups to split bills and local tips on authentic meal choices.

Campus Mission and Ministry

There are few other experiences in life that have proven to have such a positive and sustainable impact as the study-abroad experience. Personal growth, increased maturity, intercultural development, lifelong friendships, and career attainment are among the benefits of studying abroad. The JFRC’s Catholic and Jesuit heritage adds another layer to this powerful experience, as the Jesuit tradition seeks to develop not only the intellectual but also social and spiritual dimensions in an effort to educate “the whole person.”

Under the direction of Campus Minister Father Albert Anuszewski, O.S.S.T., with the help of Father Ted Bohr, S.J., the Campus Mission and Ministry Program offers a variety of activities that help students connect with their faith and values and reflect on how they can use their gifts to lead lives of purpose.

Activities such as the Mass of the Holy Spirit and Community Dinner each semester, weekly priests’ dinner with students, a regular speaker series, and evenings of guided reflections have become staples at the JFRC.

OTHER CAMPUS MINISTRY INITIATIVES INCLUDE:

RETREATS AND PILGRIMAGES

The JFRC offers trips and retreats to holy pilgrimage sites in Italy and Europe, including Assisi, Lourdes, Padre Pio’s Church, and others.

HOLY WEEK CHURCH CRAWL

An especially meaningful time to be in Rome is during Holy Week and the Easter season. On Holy Thursday, after the Celebration of the Lord’s Supper on campus, the campus minister takes interested students on a “church crawl” where they visit 13 to 20 churches in the center of Rome and enjoy a festive simple dinner afterward.

INTERRELIGIOUS WEEK

For a week in early spring, the JFRC community celebrates and learns about the faiths of communities that celebrate and learn about the faiths of the world. The week consists of a Women in Religion panel, interfaith prayer service, a visit to Rome’s Moiria, a Seder meal, a tour of Rome’s Synagogue, and a tour of the Jewish Ghetto.

PANINI DISTRIBUTIONS

Every Friday, JFRC students travel to St. Peter’s Square to feed people who are homeless. Partnering with Opera Divina, a Vincentian organization, students form a food distribution line and spend time building relationships with homeless people. Afterward, attendees participate in a facilitated time of reflection.

CASA RONALD VISITS

On six different occasions throughout the semester, students travel one hour to dedicate their time to residents of Casa Ronald Palidoro, also known as the Ronald McDonald House of Rome. There, they facilitate activities for families and children who reside at the house. The Ronald McDonald house provides free housing to families whose children require prolonged medical attention. Families from all over Italy, regardless of their immigrant status, are welcomed to the center year-round.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Visit LUC.edu/jfrcalumni for all JFRC alumni events taking place throughout the year.

**JFRC ALL-CLASS REUNION**
May 21-27, 2016 • INFORMATION: LUC.edu/jfrcreunion
Alumni will gather to see exciting new developments on campus, explore the city and nearby places of interest, take classes from several JFRC professors, and more. You can participate “virtually” on social media! See pg. 14 for more information.

**JFRC ART IN ROME AT ALUMNI WEEKEND**
Friday, June 10, 2016 • 5–7 pm
Loyola University Chicago’s Water Tower Campus, Kasbeer Hall
Take a trip down memory lane this summer! Join fellow JFRC alumni and friends for a special presentation of Art in Rome, led by Professor John Nicholson. Revisit this beloved class of the JFRC, alongside a reception of wine, hors d’oeuvres, and an opportunity to meet with fellow alumni and friends.

**JFRC ALUMNI RECEPTION AND L.A. DODGERS GAME**
Sunday, August 28, 2016
Meet your fellow Los Angeles alumni at Dodger Stadium this summer, and join us as the L.A. Dodgers take on the Chicago Cubs! Prior to the game, enjoy a private reception inside the stadium with alumni and friends, alongside a selection of ballpark food, beer, wine, and soda.

**ST. LOUIS ALUMNI APERITIVO**
Save the date: September 2016
The St. Louis Alumni Chapter invites you to its fall gathering. Join local alumni at the downtown location of Robust Wine Bar for a winetasting and hors d’oeuvres. Make new friends, and hear updates on the Rome Center.

**CLEVELAND ALUMNI APERITIVO**
Save the date: October 2016
The Cleveland Alumni Chapter invites you to reconnect with fellow alumni, meet new friends, and experience an evening of reminiscing about Rome! The festivities will include an open bar, hors d’oeuvres, and updates from your alumni chapter leaders on the chapter’s upcoming year.