



Center for Service and Social Action Bulletin

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Remembering Danielle Rose

By Kristen Gittinger '15

In the first conversation I had with Danielle Rose (affectionately called Danie), she could not stop talking about her family. Danie was one of four children. The way she talked about her two sisters, brother and her parents made it obvious to me that they were a close family. As I recently learned from her older sister Catie, Danie loved the outdoors and it was often that her family would go on walks together to explore new places. For Danie, family came first.



Danie was quiet yet extremely insightful. As her classmate, I was privileged to witness the moments when the so called "reserved" Danie would stand up from her seat, demand the floor, and wow the class with her answer. The words she spoke always held great value to those in her presence.



Danie not only had an immense love for her family, but she also had a genuine love and passion for others. She dedicated much of her time to serving those in need. Danie exemplified what it

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Fair Trade at JCU

By Alexandra Higl '15

Pause for a moment. How was your favorite scarf from Forever 21 made: in some Chinese sweatshop with poor working conditions and unfair wages? How often do we really take the time to ask ourselves this question? As Americans, we are immersed in a society focused on materialism, superficiality and appearance. Any thought of where products come from is often thrown by the wayside.

The widespread mentality of consumerism has fed the growth of sweatshops globally. Yet, on a smaller level, progress is being made one step at a time.

Fair trade initiatives can be traced back as early as the 1940s in the south. In the late 1950s, the concept was brought to Europe, eventually becoming a global work in progress. Although fair trade has been in the works for years, general awareness about the concept is minimal. The goal of fair trade encompasses much more than creating products in conditions fit for the benefit of the worker – it focuses on the equity of people at an international level, creating a sense of respect for the laborer. By supporting fair trade initiatives, we develop a relationship with those who are miles and miles away.



At John Carroll University, progress has been made. With the help of passionate students, faculty and staff,

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John Carroll University
CENTER FOR SERVICE AND SOCIAL ACTION

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means to be an Arrupe Scholar. As one fellow scholar commented, "She was an angel in disguise." Danie took every possible opportunity to serve others whether it was offering fellowship with the homeless in the Labre program or volunteering at Fieldstone Farms Therapeutic Riding Center. Last May, she traveled to Ecuador as part of the JCU Immersion Program, bringing her energetic, positive and comforting presence to the community in Duran. Unlike those who may boast about their service accomplishments,



Danie remained humble as a true woman for others. She will forever continue to serve as she has provided the John Carroll community with a perfect example of how God intends us to live and love. To honor Danie, the Arrupe Scholars Program, in partnership with Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity and the Upside of Downs organization, will sponsor the first annual Danie's Day (formerly known as Project H.O.P.E.) on Saturday, April 13, 2013. We will welcome children and teens with Down syndrome along with their families for a day of fun and games on JCU's campus.

Alumni Column

By Molly Gradowski '11



In August of 2011, just two short months after graduating from John Carroll, I left the comforts and privileges of my life in the United States to volunteer with a program called *Rostro de Cristo* (Face of Christ) in Ecuador.

Rostro de Cristo is a post-graduate volunteer program that challenges young volunteers to recognize the face of Christ while working and living among the poor. Since returning in August 2012, I have been asked the infamous question from friends, family, and neighbors, "How was your trip?" This daunting question, whether I have 30 seconds or 30 minutes, is almost impossible to respond to. *What do I tell them? I think. How do I adequately express to them that I have been transformed, heart and soul? Where do I even begin?* The questions that race through my head are endless. Because in a way, I know that I will never be able to adequately portray to people how the poor have completely captivated me and changed me forever.

While I was in Ecuador, I was privileged to work in two incredible ministries. First, in the mornings I worked as a part-educator/social worker/mentor/friend in a shelter and trade school for boys who have formerly lived and worked on the streets, or were at high risk of doing so. Working with these boys was the hardest thing I've ever done in my entire life. Trying to befriend young boys who have been hurt, abused, neglected, and rejected by so many people and loved ones in their life, I discovered that there was not much space to wiggle myself in as a trusting friend and mentor. Though with lots of trust, patience, and a lot of heartbreak, these boys gracefully opened their hearts to let me in. Their experiences and their friendships are now deeply written and rooted into my own heart.

Second, in the afternoons I returned back to my home neighborhood, Arbolito, where two other Rostro volunteers and I ran an afterschool program, *Semillas de Mostaza*, for about 60 kids every afternoon. *Semillas* was like a jolt of energy. Working with loving and joy-filled kids was the thing that got me through every day. While *Semillas* became a safe haven where kids could let out their emotion and pent-up energy, their gentle hugs and contagious laughter overcame my heart and lead me to question everyday *how are we so lucky?* Their smiling faces are forever ingrained in my memory.

When I think back on my own journey of how I came to Ecuador, I feel an overwhelming sense of gratefulness for my experience at JCU. Service through CSSA also helped put a name, a face and a person to many of the complicated issues of social justice that I had been wrestling with. This community wanted to see me succeed by discovering my deepest passions and desires, and the ultimate freedom of truly searching for what I love and what I am passionate about was the support I needed in my journey of trying to discover who God was calling me to be.



(This is an excerpt of the full article, which can be found on the Arrupe Scholars website at www.jcu.edu/arrupe.)

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the phrase “fair trade” has become more recognizable around campus. On Oct. 25, the Fair Trade Festival, sponsored by the George B. Sweeney Campion Award, the Program in Applied Ethics and the Arrupe Scholars Program, was held in the Underground of the Lombardo Student Center. The primary focus of this night was to raise awareness of fair trade.



Every other Friday, outside of the Center for Service and Social Action, the Arrupe

Scholars and others interested in the initiative, sell products such as coffee, tea, chocolate, jewelry, scarves and other items.

To promote fair trade during the Christmas season, the annual Gifts that Give Twice sale also creates awareness on campus and gives members of the University an opportunity to purchase fair trade items.

Around campus, fair trade products are beginning to appear. The Cubby, a popular coffee shop and social spot for students, proudly sells fair trade. Schott Dining Hall and Einstein's Bagels offer students their daily dose of caffeine with fair trade coffee.

As the year progresses, the Fair Trade Committee, in conjunction with the Center for Service and Social Action and Campus Ministry, will provide opportunities for students to purchase fair trade and become more aware of the movement.

Revive Project

This semester, students in Dr. Jenna Drenten's advertising classes at JCU participated in a project with Revive, a fair trade retailer in Cleveland, to create advertising campaigns to be used by the store. Teams of students worked together to create promotional ideas geared around the holiday shopping season. Winners and sample promotional pieces are shown below.



joy to you...



joy to the world

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One winning team was “Hoo That” comprised of students Alana Bryan, Kelly Buck, Taylor Horen, Jon Orr and Alyse Viggiano for their “You See Fabric, We See People” campaign. The second winner was the “Expreso” team, which included Julia Adams, Elizabeth Blackley, Megan Lowes, James McElroy, Sara Needham and Kate Pioch who won for their “Joy to you.. joy to the world” campaign. All of the groups did a great job!



Announcing JCU's Clothes Closet

Maggie Hutchison '14 has always been interested in sustainability. This led to the idea of a free clothing exchange for JCU students. After working with Dr. Peggy Finucane to find space on campus, the newly created Clothes Closet opened in early December in room 127 of Grasselli Library. The Clothes Closet is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00 - 10:00 pm while classes are in session.

In order to take from the closet, you must first donate time or items of similar value. The Center for Service and Social Action is currently accepting donations of new and gently used clothing, coats, shoes, and accessories to build the inventory. Items can be dropped off at the CSSA office, Room AD-32. If you have any questions, please contact Maggie Hutchison or the CSSA office at clothescloset@jcu.edu.

Through the Eyes of a Child



A favorite activity on campus is the annual Through the Eyes of a Child event where more than 100 children from Cleveland Catholic elementary schools are paired up with JCU buddies for a day of holiday fun. This year's event on December 1 included wreath making, decorating cookies, competing in an obstacle course, reading Christmas stories, creating holiday cards, and a visit with Santa.

The students look forward to building relationships with the children and to the dance party and gift giving that provide a joyous end to the day. The event is co-sponsored by the Arrupe Scholars program and Beta Theta Pi Fraternity.

CSSA Fall Highlights

- ➔ August 23rd, **Cleveland Neighborhood Project**: held annually at the Fatima Family Center as part of Living the Mission Day.
- ➔ August 31st, **"Where and With Whom is Your Heart" Service Fair**: held on campus for students to learn more about JCU's community partners.
- ➔ October 6th, **Footprints for Fatima**: a 5k run and 1 mile walk. Proceeds benefit the Fatima Food Drive.
- ➔ October 22nd - November 9th, **Fatima Food Drive**: Thanksgiving meal and groceries for a week for over 100 families at the Fatima Family Center.
- ➔ October 11th - 14th, **The Cleveland Urban Plunge**: a poverty immersion held over Fall Break.
- ➔ November 12th - December 7th, **Gifts that Give Twice**: a fair trade holiday sale.
- ➔ November 14th, **OGT field trip**: area high school students working with JCU tutors visited campus.
- ➔ December 1st, **Through the Eyes of a Child**: see article on left.
- ➔ December 1st - 6th, **AIDS Awareness Week**: various activities on campus including the 150 person living ribbon during halftime at the JCU men's basketball game.

This fall, nearly 600 students participated in weekly service at 75 community partners! Another 200 students participated in course-based service projects. Thank you to our partners for providing such a rich learning experience for the JCU students.



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Center for Service and Social Action Mission Statement

The Center for Service and Social Action seeks to educate for justice by offering opportunities for learning through service. Growing from a rich Catholic intellectual tradition, we promote service that inspires a deeper commitment to those most in need. The Center connects the campus with the local, national and international communities through sustained partnerships that enable John Carroll community members to become "men and women for and with others."