

comm·unity

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Meet Kyla Guilfoil, The Newly Elected Editor-in-Chief of The Quadrangle



by Kerry Sullivan

In November 2021, The Quadrangle elected a new leader: Kyla Guilfoil, a sophomore who stepped into the role the very next month and has been spearheading the newspaper since.

Guilfoil is a political science and communication double major concentrating in journalism. She is one of the five recipients of the Quadrangle scholarship from the class of 2024 and has been heavily involved in The Quad since her freshman year, starting as a staff writer, and then assistant news editor, working up the ranks to editor in chief.

Guilfoil's work on the Quad is something that she holds very close to her heart. Her decision to apply for the Quadrangle Scholarship once she had committed to MC has led her to grow on the Quad staff, as well as increasing her love for journalism.

"I honestly just love journalism, and this paper specifically, so much. We have such incredible staff so getting to work closely with everyone and keep developing our stories and our mission is really special and impactful to me."

Guilfoil was excited to get to work as editor-in-chief this year, noting her ambitions to grow as a journalist.

"The Quad is my favorite thing about MC. It has led me to incredible people and to a place where I can do what I love most. I have developed my journalism skills, as well as my passion for this field, in ways I never knew possible. The dynamic of this staff, and the goals that we share, make this a really special publication that constantly inspires me."

As well as being deeply involved in The Quad, Guilfoil's achievements on-campus run deep. She is incredibly active in other parts of the Manhattan College community, serving as executive editor for Lotus Magazine and an intern at the Lasallian Women and Gender Resource Center, as well as being a student-athlete on the swim team. With such a busy schedule, she said that time management is a big challenge.

"It is definitely challenging to juggle overseeing the paper alongside being a student and an athlete on campus. With that, maintaining communication with the staff becomes difficult but it is a priority and therefore something I strive to do."

Outside of The Quad, Guilfoil is excelling in her academics. The Quadrangle's faculty advisor and



Communication Department Assistant Professor Nick Gilewicz noted that her work in the classroom has been beneficial.

“In our journalism classes, Kyla has worked on the craft of journalism, though she arrived with knowledge and experience. That’s helped her accelerate her development as a reporter, writer, and editor. Occasionally, students make the mistake of pursuing journalism without understanding that journalism is a craft that requires practice and rigor. More than anything else, it’s Kyla’s commitment to pursuing a journalism career—and the commitment to the effort that such a pursuit involves--that has led to her doing well in coursework, and to her top-notch work for the Quad.”

Gilewicz also added that Guilfoil was exceeding the expectations she had set after being awarded the Communication Department’s ‘Most Promising New Student’ award her freshman year.

“Our department always struggles with our awards, because so many of our students show great promise and demonstrate deep commitment to the communication major and to their respective fields,” he said. “Kyla made enormous contributions to the Quadrangle during her first year, and was elected editor-in-chief as a second-year student. Since January, she’s already steered Quad staff through stories that have had a major impact on the college, including the tragic deaths of two undergraduate students — including writing one of the obituaries herself. And starting this summer, she’ll be interning with the ABC News digital team on political coverage.”

Guilfoil’s assigned mentor during her freshman year was Anna Woods, last year’s editor-in-chief.

“Anna Woods was my mentor when I first came to MC and started on the paper, and has been a huge support and inspiration to me. Seeing her last year as EIC inspired me to run this year and she has always offered the best advice to me throughout the challenges in this role.”

For anyone looking to join The Quad, it meets on Tuesdays at 4:00 pm in Kelly Commons 4.12. If you need any more convincing to join such an awesome club, take it from the editor-in-chief herself, who says, “Do it.”

“It is beneficial to anyone, not just those pursuing journalism. It allows you to dive deeper into our MC community, while also meeting and working with incredible people. There are so many skills that you learn from beyond the pen and paper when you are a college journalist.”

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