



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD THROUGH SCIENCE AND ART

Senior Keira Lyons came to Catholic University as a physics major with a love of art. So she began taking art classes and soon found a way to integrate both interests in her college education. Now, as a double major in physics and studio art, she finds much of her art is inspired by her studies in physics.

As she sees it, physics and art are “different ways of learning about how the world works around me. Physics is very analytical; we’re breaking apart mathematically how we understand the world. Art is also a way that you’re trying to understand the world around you. It’s just in a very different way in which you learn more on nuance, visual thinking, visual processes. You can’t necessarily put a mathematical equation on emotion.”

The theoretical integration that Lyons sees between art and science has been made possible at Catholic University with the support of faculty in both the art and physics departments, she says.

While at some art schools “you have to submit a portfolio to even take a class, Catholic’s art program isn’t like that. It’s very inclusive. So if you don’t necessarily have a strong art background you have the ability to start taking classes and grow from there.”

Integration may just be the key word in Lyons’ college career. She also loves to break a sweat, and has made that passion part of her routine as a successful student-athlete. She was a diver for one year, a soccer player for two years, and is currently a standout on the indoor and outdoor track and field team. In January, she was named the Landmark Conference Athlete of the Week.