A look at LUMA, Loyola’s hidden treasure
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The city of Chicago is filled with a potpourri of art. Just by walking down the city streets, one is greeted with murals on walls and park benches, hand crafted sculptures and skillfully placed fauna.

These forms of self-expression are what the students of Loyola are able to relish with just a swipe of their CTA passes. Although one can experience Chicago’s love of art from the outside, it’s when an individual takes the time to visit an actual exhibit when he or she is able to view the city’s beauty through displayed works.

There is an array of art museums located in Chicago that one would be able to visit. These include: The Art Institute of Chicago on South Michigan Avenue, The Museum of Contemporary Art on East Chicago Avenue, and Chicago’s Art District on South Halsted Street. These museums display a wide variety of mixed media, sculptures, intricately drawn portraits and ancient paintings.

For those Loyola students that have a limited amount of time on their hands, he or she can discover new art within our campus. What I realized is that students at Loyola aren’t aware that the school has a museum.

This is probably because the majority spends most of their time at the Lake Shore Campus. For those that love art but have only strolled around Lake Shore, it’s time to explore and head downtown!

Located on Loyola’s very own Water Tower Campus is LUMA, The Loyola University Museum of Art. The Museum can easily get passed, unnoticed since the neighboring Hershey’s Store draws in shoppers for delectable deserts.

I would recommend any Loyola student to visit this museum at one point while attending the university or even after. The visit will not be disappointing, especially if you appreciate art.

If a student were to visit LUMA, he or she would have eight main exhibitions to wander through including the pushpin gallery, Sacred Art and Architecture, Herlan J. Berk and much more.

The exhibits also expand on a variety of cultures and five different faiths.

Among these culturally diverse exhibits is the Gilded Glory collection, which revolves around European art during the Renaissance. It is known as “the gem” of LUMA.

The exhibit features art of the most important objects during the Medieval time period. It is also home to paintings by many of the first European artists. These compositions are created on unique surfaces such as copper, marble, stone, and three-dimensional pieces using gold and jewels.
In addition, the Museum has a shop that tourists can purchase souvenirs as a memorabilia of their visit.

Museums in the windy city are filled with new things to discover, beauty to appreciate and have the potential, like LUMA, to create an unforgettable experience.