

Anna Krieger interns with Edgewater Village Chicago

**by
Ben Polk**

“As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands, one for helping yourself, the other for helping others.” This quote by Audrey Hepburn is ideal for Anna Krieger, who is interning with Edgewater Village Chicago this summer. Reaching out to help others is what she does.

She said she thought her previous 48th Ward internship might involve a lot of paperwork or general admin duties. Instead, her responsibilities included responding to voice mails, tracking them in spreadsheets and updating COVID vaccination site information. She also sent emails to constituents and neighborhood residents who needed help finding vaccination sites. “I can see how I’ve helped,” she said, “and I didn’t expect to be helping so much. It’s fun getting to know people.”

Through her internship with Edgewater Village this summer, she expects to continue learning a lot about the community. She recently moved to Edgewater from south Minneapolis and enjoys exploring the area and the people. It’s helping her learn about day-to-day operations of local government.

English and communications

Anna is an English and Communications major at Loyola and plans to be involved with media. Her interests are in broadcast journalism and in learning how different groups of people communicate. Anna said, “English is the history side of literature and communications is putting it in action.” She explained that different books and stories show us how they can be turned into communications in life.

Anna comes from a family of two public defenders in Hennepin County, Minn. Her father passed away when she was 12 and her mother remains actively practicing. She shared that her father used to talk to her about his clients and described them as really good people. Both parents always told her that people deserve a chance to be heard. Altogether, it was a strong influence on her. “It’s how I view life today,” she said, “and how I view this internship seeing through their perspective.”

She recalled that when her older sister was with her father in downtown Minneapolis, everyone spoke to him, many people of different backgrounds. She added, “I think that’s been my mentality as well. I want to make sure what I put out to the world is genuine kindness and respect to people all the time. No matter what.”

Community outreach

In considering what Edgewater Village does well, she referred to our newsletter, recently streamlined with her collaboration, and now published biweekly. Producing the newsletter, Anna said “is about collaborating and is very different than school projects.”

She also thought that another area of strength is our community outreach. “You have a strong foundation of readers and I hope you keep building on that.” She added, “Try to get friends of friends to read the newsletter or reach out to Loyola students to read it. I think students are going to want to be more involved with in-person activities when they’re available. Let students know about our activities. Then we can tell them about the newsletter and other activities. I want to see us build on what’s already there.”

Back to school

Anna said that this fall Loyola plans to be open and requires that everyone upload their vax cards in order to attend. Safety is still number one. Online learning has been especially challenging for freshmen. She’s a peer mentor of five freshmen through the Rambler Success Program, listening to their issues and helping where she can. “Learning is not linear and being with others is really important,” she added.

Her plans include being around people. She loves writing and researching and learning things. “I have to do something with reporting or writing. I’ve seen people with their clear visions who don’t want to make a change. I’m open to new ideas about what to do. I want to find a career that fits that.”

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