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PRESS RELEASE: Loretto at the United Nations to Launch New Curriculum

- In preparation for the upcoming Commission on the Status of Women, Loretto at the United Nations will launch a new curriculum to educate high school students about the United Nations, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the Commission on the Status of Women.
- The curriculum emphasizes critical thinking skills and metacognition, or "thinking about thinking"

NEW YORK, NY– On Thursday, January 24th, 2019, Loretto at the United Nations will launch a new curriculum, the *Loretto Learner Curriculum*, to educate high school students about the United Nations, the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the Commission on the Status of Women. The curriculum is designed to prepare students at Loretto-affiliated high schools for the upcoming [63rd Commission on the Status of Women \(CSW63\)](#) which will take place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from March 11-22, 2019.

The *Loretto Learners Curriculum* utilizes the [CoreAtlas](#) platform, co-created by educators Paul Bulakowski, Ph.D. and Sara Niesen, MA Ed. of [Mind My Education](#). The software offers students and teachers a platform for self-directed learning, self-assessment, dialogue, and metacognition. Beth Blissman Ph.D., representative to the United Nations for the Loretto Community, notes: “We are so excited to be able to work with Paul and Sara on the *Loretto Learner Curriculum*, and to learn together with students, teachers, and administrators. I have a feeling the students will take to the platform like ducks to water.”

This year, fifteen students from [Nerinx Hall High School](#) in St. Louis, Missouri; [St. Mary's Academy](#) in Denver, Colorado; and [Loretto Academy](#) in El Paso, Texas will travel to New York City to attend parallel and side events hosted by various governmental and non-governmental organizations. The priority theme for *CSW63* will be social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. This year’s review theme is women’s empowerment and the link to sustainable development.

The curriculum launch date coincides with the United Nations’ first ever [International Day of Education](#), established to celebrate the role of education in peace and development. The *Loretto Learners Curriculum* is our initial contribution to this effort.

About Loretto at the UN: The [Loretto Community](#), whose mission is to “*work for justice and act for peace because the Gospel urges us,*” is a faith-based, non-governmental organization accredited with ECOSOC consultative status at the UN. Loretto at the UN works collaboratively to educate future global citizens, advocate on the international level for the needs of our constituents, and promote climate justice.