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NEWS RELEASE

UD TO COMMENCE CONSTRUCTION ON COMMUNITY GARDEN

DAYTON, Ohio—The University of Dayton will commence construction on an alumni-funded community garden in the student neighborhood during early November. The university hopes that the garden will serve as a unifying place where students can grow produce and flowers, as well as help add to the sense of community on campus.

"This garden will allow students to have a mutual responsibility for the care-taking of the university grounds," said university president, Dr. Daniel Curran. "We hope that the time and effort that the students use in cultivating the garden will also help to nurture a stronger sense of community at UD, while making the campus even more beautiful."

The garden will be located in the middle of the student neighborhood on Art Street near the McGinnis Center, and a generous alumni donation of \$100,000 is funding the construction, design and planting of the garden. The groundbreaking will take place on November 1, and the university expects for construction to be finished in time for spring planting. The university is also leaving the responsibility for the garden's upkeep and decoration entirely to the student body, and it is commissioning students to create artwork, such as sculptures and stepping stones to decorate the garden. Kaitlyn Coates, a junior Premedical Major living in the Lawnview Apartment building, is looking forward to the construction of the community garden and all that it will bring to the student neighborhood. "It will be fun to take care of the garden with all of our friends," she stated. "We can make the garden look just the way we want, and we've even come up with the idea of donating the food that we grow to local homeless shelters."

There will be a ceremonial ribbon-cutting for the opening of the garden in the spring at which time the university will reveal the name of the garden and the student artwork to the campus community.

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