

MARIST

THE MAGAZINE OF MARIST UNIVERSITY | FALL/WINTER 2025-26



THE **POWER** OF **AND**

A University Where Students
Don't Choose One Path—
They're Given Access to

MORE

**At Marist,
the view
is just the
beginning.**

Sunsets on the Hudson. Tree-lined paths leading to iconic red-brick buildings. River views that never get old. It's no surprise that The Princeton Review's 2025 guide, *The Best 391 Colleges*, has recognized Marist among the **Top 25 Most Beautiful Campuses** in the nation.

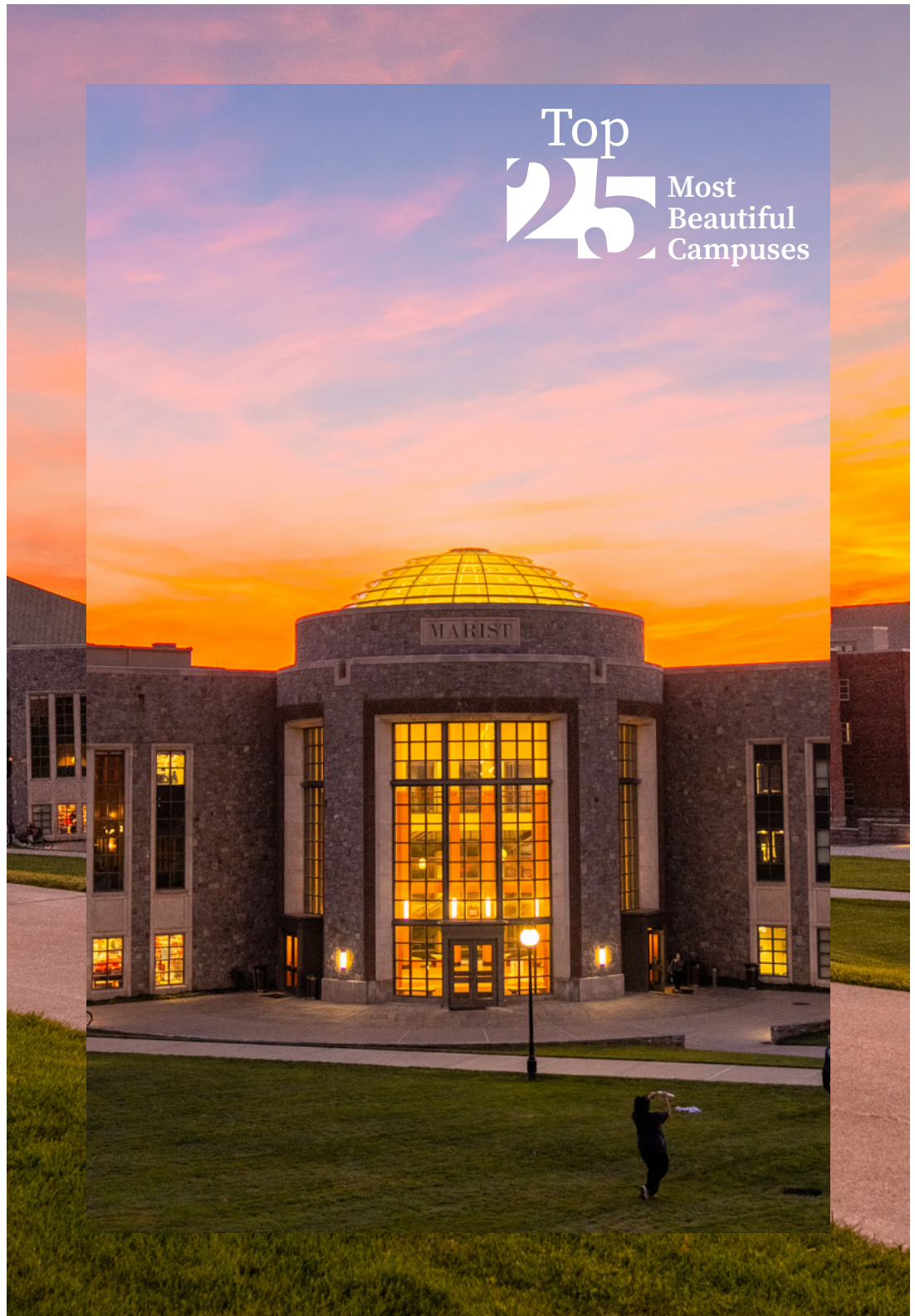
The guide also named Marist to its list of "Best Athletic Facilities," highlighting the University's signature blend of academic excellence and vibrant campus life. The Princeton Review praised Marist as a place that "empower[s] students to discover practical applications for their talents and interests through experiences that complement their classes and coursework."

Set along the banks of the Hudson River, Marist's Poughkeepsie campus continues to inspire students, faculty, and visitors alike, offering the kind of beauty that reflects the spirit of the community itself.

Marist's famous sunsets remain a favorite backdrop for photos and social media posts, even generating a student-run Instagram account, @marist_sunsets, that shows off some of our campus's nicest views with community-submitted photos.



Top
25 Most
Beautiful
Campuses



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Marist is dedicated to helping students develop the intellect, character, and skills required for enlightened, ethical, and productive lives in the global community for the 21st century. Marist Magazine is published by the Office of Communications and Marketing to engage alumni and friends in the life of the campus and community.

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ON THE COVER: Vallane Sneva '27 poses for a portrait wearing her volleyball gear in the biology lab on campus. Photo by Nelson Echeverria.

THE **POWER** OF **AND**

WHERE CURIOSITY, PURPOSE,
AND AMBITION DON'T COMPETE.
THEY COMPOUND.

When Vallane Sneva '27 arrives for morning lab, the DI student-athlete is often still in her volleyball warm-up jacket from practice. But within minutes, she's balancing chemical equations with the same persistence and focus she brings to the court. It's a rhythm she's mastered at Marist—moving between identities, responsibilities, and passions without ever feeling like she must choose only one.

"I'm not just a biomedical sciences major or an athlete," said Vallane. "Marist helped me see how every experience shapes who I am and what I can do."

Vallane's pursuits stretch far beyond the lab bench and the court. She's a tutor for local high-school students, and a communications coordinator for the Black Student-Athlete Association, and an Honors Program researcher exploring the intersection of psychology and religion, and an aspiring global traveler preparing for a short-term microbiology course in France.

She's living proof of why Marist University believes so deeply in the power of "and" not "or."

It's an enduring educational approach that combines Liberal Arts and pre-professional studies and immerses students in classroom instruction and experiential learning to prepare them to succeed in a complicated world. Students are challenged to blend the analytical with the human, the global with the local, the technical with the creative.





Vallane Sneva '27 photographed in the Allied Health Building on campus. Photos by Nelson Echeverria.

The Idea in Action

In a world transformed by globalization, emerging technologies, and constant change, Marist's approach gives students something algorithms can't match: a layered education that develops curiosity, judgment, and purpose.

"Marist's 'and' not 'or' philosophy leans into our mission and mindset, rooted in the founding values of the Marist Brothers, and combines intellect, character, and skills," said Marist University President Kevin Weinman. "It's critically important given the pace of change in today's society that we're not just preparing our students for a career or for material successes, but also developing them into enlightened, ethical, and productive leaders who will thrive as they work across relationships, borders, and cultures."

It's this human edge—rooted in nearly a century of liberal arts excellence and strengthened through experience—that prepares Red Foxes not just to adapt, but to lead.

In an economy defined by rapid change, employers are looking for graduates who can bring both expertise in a given profession and the human qualities that make expertise matter. They want thinkers who communicate clearly, collaborate across disciplines, navigate ambiguity, and lead with integrity—capacities that can't be automated or easily taught on the job. Marist's educational model is intentional about cultivating these strengths.



From the Steel Plant to the streets of Paris, Noelle Stamm '26 has built a Marist experience shaped by creativity, community, and exploration. Her journey shows what's possible when students don't choose between passions—they combine them. Photo by Bobby Oliver.



Watch Noelle's story online!

RED FOXES CHOOSE **AND**

50%+ of students study abroad.

86% complete one or more internships.

1 IN 3 participates in varsity, club, or intramural athletics.

95% land jobs or graduate school placements within six months.

Why
Today's
Employers
Want
"AND"
Graduates

#1

employer-prioritized skill in today's job market: *adaptability*.

60%

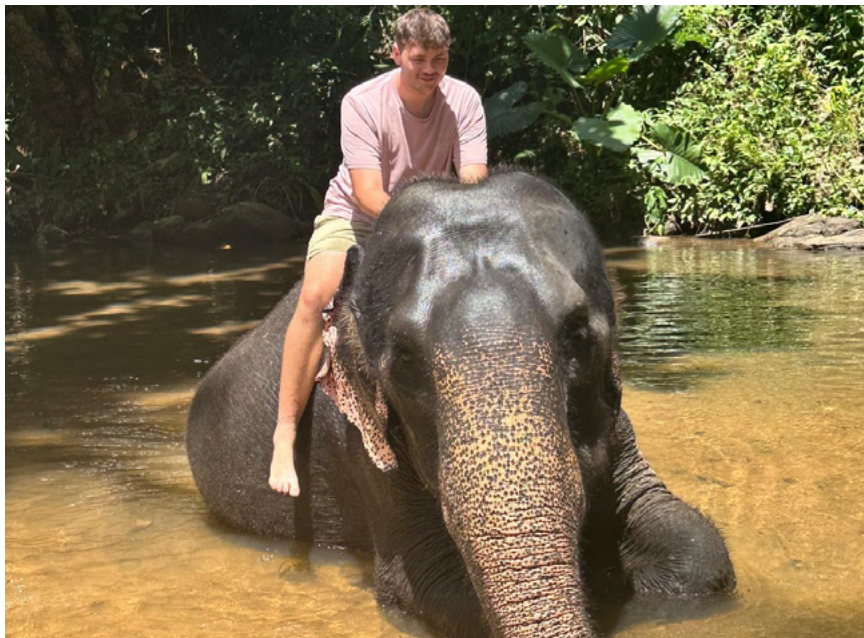
of employers report *soft skills* are more important now than five years ago.

Learning Without Borders

Across 11 countries and 18 cities, Jacob Richard '28 spent 100 days immersed in the Asia Study Abroad Program—learning to navigate new cultures, connect with communities, and view the world from different vantage points.

Through study abroad, short-term travel courses, and intercultural learning, Marist students gain fluency in more than language—they gain perspective. The ability to empathize, adapt, and lead across difference has become essential currency in today's global workforce.

“Traveling to so many different countries in a single semester has helped me appreciate the cultural diversity of each country, from fast-paced cities to the humble communities where tradition is the heart of their lifestyle. This has truly been a once-in-a-lifetime experience.” - Jacob Richard '28



Jacob Richard '28 courtesy photo.

Red Fox Connections

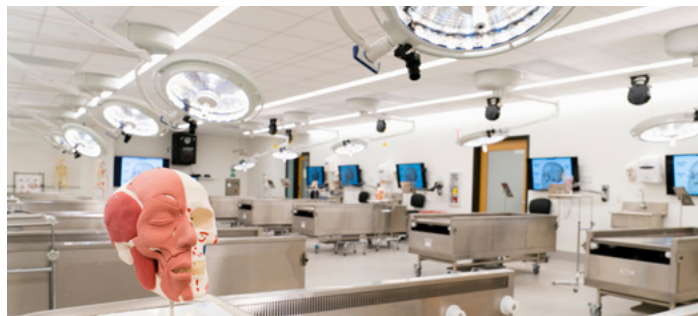
Behind every Marist story is a network of mentors—faculty, alumni, and peers—who invest in the growth of others. That guidance begins in the classroom and lasts far beyond graduation.

The strength and expanse of this network was on full display during the Center for Career Services' recent Road to the Workplace visit to Paramount in New York City (see more on p. 6), where Katie Altuz '12, Director of Multi-Platform Content Strategy for the MTV Entertainment Group was one of many Marist alumni at Paramount who welcomed students into her world—offering an inside look at breaking into entertainment and building a creative career.

“Being here and hearing from them and talking about how people from Marist still reach out and still connect— it really proved that alumni are a big part of going to Marist and they really take pride in the place that they came from.” - Angelina Ruiz '27



Marist Trustee Ross Mauri '80 meets with students. Photo by Carlo de Jesus.



Science & Discovery

In Marist's Gross Anatomy Lab, future healthcare leaders experience a form of learning that blends scientific rigor and human connection. Physician assistant, physical therapy, and athletic training students work directly with human donors, gaining an understanding of anatomy impossible to achieve through textbooks alone.

For many, it becomes the moment when classroom theory and professional purpose converge.

“The cadaver lab was a deciding factor for me. The depth of knowledge you gain is unmatched, and it solidified my commitment to a career in healthcare.”

- Nico Andrada '26

Under faculty guidance, students learn more than musculature and systems—they learn responsibility, respect, and empathy. The lab teaches them to see both the science and the story in the human body: pacemakers, surgical hardware, anatomical variations, signs of disease. It's a powerful reminder that medicine requires clinical skills and deep compassion.

The Human Edge

Back in the Dyson Center's Atrium, Bas Vallane finishes studying for her finals and grabs her volleyball gear before heading to the gym, she embodies what it means to be a Red Fox: multifaceted, driven, grounded, and lifted by a community that encourages her to explore in every direction. She's not choosing between passion and profession; she's energized by both.

"At Marist, you don't have to choose who you'll be, you get to become all of it," she said. And as she considers the path ahead, graduation, med school, and more, she adds, "I used to assume I'd have to give something up—research, athletics, travel, leadership. But here, everything I care about strengthens each other. That's what surprised me most."

In an age of automation and rapid change, the ability to hold multiple identities, strengths, and ambitions at once has never mattered more. Employers today increasingly seek graduates who pair technical knowledge with communication, empathy, collaboration, and judgment. In fact, national hiring surveys show that the vast majority of managers now view these human-centered skills as just as important as professional expertise. It's exactly this blend of capability and character that distinguishes Marist students as they enter a workplace defined by complexity.

Marist Trustee Ross Mauri '80, who has spent decades leading global teams at IBM, has seen firsthand how technical expertise and human judgment must coexist.

“

Technology moves fast, but good judgment never goes out of style. Marist equips students to make decisions that honor both the data in front of them and the people behind it.”



Center for Career Services Brings Students Face-to-Face with Alumni Professionals

What happens when students meet alumni who've turned their Marist experience into creative careers at one of the world's biggest media companies? Inspiration and a glimpse of what's possible.

In October, 30 Marist students traded their Hudson Valley classrooms for Paramount's headquarters in Times Square, where they found themselves surrounded by Red Fox alumni working behind some of the most recognizable names in entertainment: MTV, CBS, Nickelodeon, and Paramount Pictures. Their stories of risk, persistence, and connection carried the same message: a Marist education builds both skill and character, and the relationships formed here can change the trajectory of a career and life.

The trip was part of *Road to the Workplace*, a signature program from Marist's Center for Career Services that brings students face-to-face with alumni professionals across industries. Since 2017, the series has led more than 40 visits to companies nationwide, giving students a front-row seat to what life after Marist can look like.

At Paramount, the group met with Katie Altuz '12, Director of Multi-Platform Content Strategy, who helped organize the day. A panel of fellow alumni—spanning from Donna Tine '94 to Colin D'Amelio '15 and Annie Farragher '19—shared stories of how internships, mentorship, and persistence shaped their careers. "It's all about connections," D'Amelio told the students. "The people you meet at Marist can open doors long after graduation."

That spirit of mentorship drives *Road to the Workplace*, which connects students with alumni across industries—from entertainment and finance to tech and healthcare—turning career exploration into a sense of belonging and possibility.

For Angelina Ruiz '27, that sense of belonging was unmistakable. "Hearing how Marist alumni stay connected and lift each other up really hit home," said the digital media major. "It made me feel like I'm already part of something bigger."



Watch video from
the Paramount
visit online!



**FROM CAMPUS
TO CAREER**



Students visit Paramount in New York City as part of the Center for Career Services' *Road to the Workplace* Career Trip. Photo by Carlo de Jesus.

NEW MARIST-SENTRICUS PARTNERSHIP EXPANDS CYBERSECURITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS



The University's School of Computer Science and Mathematics has launched a partnership with national cybersecurity firm Sentricus, creating new opportunities for student research, mentorship, and experiential learning. The collaboration includes a student-produced podcast on emerging cyber threats and a capstone project on AI and risk management—advancing Marist's leadership in cybersecurity education.

Building on the school's growing national reputation for innovation, the partnership exemplifies how Marist blends academic rigor with real-world application. Through research, hands-on projects, and industry engagement, students are gaining the skills and experience to lead in the next wave of technological progress.

Marist and Nuance Health Expand Partnership to Grow the Future Healthcare Workforce

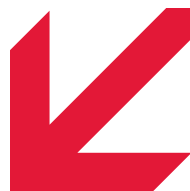
Marist University and Nuance Health, now joining Northwell Health, are deepening their academic alliance to address critical healthcare workforce needs across the Hudson Valley and tri-state region. The partnership includes new clinical training opportunities for Marist students and the launch of an Emerging Leaders certificate program taught by Marist faculty to cultivate rising leaders within Nuance Health.

“For nearly a decade, our collaboration with Nuance has created powerful, real-world learning experiences for students in physician assistant, physical therapy, and medical laboratory science programs,” said Dr. Alicia Slater, Dean of Science and Senior Associate Provost for Academic Operations. “This expanded partnership builds on that foundation while adding new

dimensions in leadership and data science.”

The Emerging Leaders Program—a 15-week professional course led by faculty in Marist's School of Management—equips early-career Nuance employees with essential skills in communication, financial stewardship, and team leadership. Beyond clinical placements, both organizations are also exploring opportunities for computer science and data analytics students to work with healthcare information systems, linking classroom learning with critical industry needs.

Together, Marist and Nuance Health are preparing the next generation of healthcare professionals and leaders—strengthening the region's capacity to meet growing demand for skilled, compassionate care.



Marist Physician Assistant student Valerie DeLeon is on the right working with Nuance Surgical PA Danielle Maze on left.
Photo by Nelson Echeverria.





Marist Fashion Student Lena Alibrio '26.
Photo by Nelson Echeverria.



ADVANCING MARIST'S EXCELLENCE IN GLOBAL SCHOLARSHIP

Designing Her Future Marist Fashion Student Wins CFDA Creative Futures Scholarship

Council of Fashion Designers of America's prestigious Veronica Beard x CFDA Creative Futures Scholarship has been awarded to Lena Alibrio '26 of Marist's Fashion Design program—one of just four recipients nationwide. Sponsored by the contemporary sportswear brand Veronica Beard, the \$50,000 scholarship recognizes exceptional talent in creativity, design, and inclusivity.

"I spent nearly every waking moment sketching and researching Veronica Beard and its competitors to fully immerse myself in the brand's aesthetic and identity," Alibrio said. "Through that deep dive, I genuinely discovered a passion for designing denim." Marist University

The recognition reflects the growing national profile of Marist's Fashion Program, where creativity meets

industry access. Through global study opportunities, hands-on experiences in New York and abroad, and mentorship from leading designers, Marist students are gaining the skills and visibility to stand out on the world stage.

With innovative work in denim and sustainable design, Alibrio is already establishing herself as a designer to watch.



FULBRIGHT HONOR HIGHLIGHTS MARIST'S DISTINGUISHED FACULTY



Dr. Duy Nguyen, Associate Professor in Marist's School of Computer Science and Mathematics, was awarded a highly competitive Fulbright U.S. Scholar Grant for Summer 2026. During a 42-day residency at Vietnam's International University in Ho Chi Minh City, he will teach a course on "Recent Advances in Variational Inference" and engage in collaborative research in mathematical statistics.

"I'm incredibly honored and excited to receive a Fulbright grant ... I can't wait to exchange ideas on Variational Bayes and be part of the inspiring collaboration this program makes possible."

- Dr. Nguyen

This recognition underscores Marist 100's commitment to global scholarship and faculty excellence—highlighting the University's growing influence in advanced mathematics and data science.



Diane Hart, Marist Associate Vice President of Special Projects and Innovation (left), hosts a panel discussion on AI awareness with Kevin Cafaro '08, Principal Product Manager at Amazon (center), and Brian Gormanly, Senior Professional Lecturer of Computer Science (right). Photo by Nelson Echeverria.

Hudson Valley Artificial Intelligence Summit

Marist took center stage in shaping the region's technological future as it co-hosted the 2025 Hudson Valley Artificial Intelligence Summit in partnership with Dutchess County Government. The event drew industry leaders, public officials, researchers, and students to campus to examine the transformative power of AI—and the human responsibility that comes with it.

Designed as a vital forum for understanding both the opportunities and ethical challenges posed by AI, the summit featured thought leaders from major tech firms—including IBM, Amazon, Central Hudson, and Nuvance Health—alongside members of **Marist + AI**, a University-wide collaborative focused on shaping Marist's institutional approach to artificial

intelligence. Together, participants shared perspectives on integrating AI responsibly into organizational strategies and everyday practice.

Kevin Cafaro '08, Principal Product Manager at Amazon, was among the panelists. Since graduating from Marist, he has built a distinguished career at the intersection of creativity and technology, where he now leads innovative applications of AI within the company's product development teams. "I think of generative AI as a supercharged intern whose job is to help you research, translate things, and operate at a scale you wouldn't otherwise reach," he said. "Its job is to study patterns and use that information to make predictions."



MARIST LEADS REGIONAL CONVERSATION ON THE FUTURE OF AI

About Marist + AI

Marist + AI is a cross-divisional initiative established in October 2024 to guide the Marist community through the opportunities and challenges of the rapidly evolving artificial intelligence landscape. The group's work will continue to evolve toward developing best practices and fostering an integrative approach that aligns with the *Marist 100* strategic plan—enhancing academic vibrancy, prioritizing student success, and cultivating a dynamic, inclusive community.



Learn more about the Marist + AI initiative!



George '91 and Deborah Koutsaftes

Koutsaftes Gift Fuels Business Innovation and Experiential Learning for the School of Management

Marist has received a transformative \$250,000 pledge from George '91 and Deborah Koutsaftes to establish the **Koutsaftes Family Business Innovation Lab** in the Dyson Center. Their investment will empower faculty and students in the School of Management to expand experiential learning through hands-on projects, applied research, and opportunities that bring classroom concepts to life.

The gift will directly fund new initiatives—faculty grants to pilot innovative courses, support for student organizations to attend national competitions, and resources for career development. Access to new technologies like Suitable and Salesforce will connect academic experiences to the real world, helping students document co-curricular learning, build professional competencies, and engage with industry-standard platforms used across today's workforce.

For George Koutsaftes '91, a former Honeywell executive and member of the School of Management Advisory Board, the motivation was personal. "I wanted to invest in experiences—real-world opportunities and technology that help students grow as thinkers, leaders, and professionals."

A proud alumnus and seasoned business leader, Koutsaftes brings more than three decades of corporate leadership experience, having risen through the ranks at Honeywell, and ultimately serving as CEO of one of the company's largest divisions. He has long championed student success at Marist, mentoring young professionals and supporting initiatives that blend classroom learning with real-world applications. His and Deborah's latest gift continues that legacy—advancing Marist's vision for innovative, hands-on business education.

The Koutsaftes' focus on experiential learning aligns with Marist 100 and the School of Management's vision to expand access to applied interdisciplinary learning through the Business Innovation Lab. This critical initiative will provide students with the tools, resources, and opportunities to connect with faculty mentors, alumni partners, and industry leaders—cultivating the entrepreneurial mindset and professional agility that define today's business landscape.

George and Deborah's generosity ensures that future Red Foxes will not only learn about business innovation—but practice it every day.



Jim Elliott '75 Establishes Scholarship to Support Marist Softball Student-Athletes

Marist University has received a generous gift from Jim Elliott '75 and his wife Barbara Emerson establishing the Elliot Family Trust Scholarship, a new endowed fund that provides financial support to Marist softball student-athletes. The scholarship celebrates Jim's deep connection to the University and his belief in the power of athletics to shape strong, confident leaders.

“*Marist shaped so much of who I am today. The friendships, the lessons, the sense of community—it all stayed with me. Supporting the softball program felt like the perfect way to give back and help future Red Foxes create those same experiences.*”

— Jim Elliott '75

A proud alumnus and supporter of Marist Athletics, Jim has long been inspired by the determination and

character of Red Fox student-athletes. He hopes the scholarship will help deserving players pursue both their academic and athletic goals—continuing the proud tradition of excellence that defines Marist Softball.

“This gift honors the legacy of our softball program and the student-athletes who give their all to represent Marist,” said Joe Ausanio, head coach of the University's softball program. “It provides resources that allow our players to focus on their studies, their game, and their growth as people.”

Marist softball turned in a dominant 2025 season, finishing 22-2-1 in MAAC play to claim the regular-season and tournament titles. Their performance secured a spot in the NCAA Tournament and capped one of the strongest campaigns in program history.

In addition to helping students, Jim's generosity reinforces the University's mission to empower scholar-athletes through opportunity, mentorship, and teamwork. “Gifts like this inspire others to give back and invest in the next generation of Red Foxes,” said Kirk Swenson, Vice President for Advancement.

Through the Elliott Family Trust Scholarship, Elliott is leaving a legacy that will strengthen Marist Softball—and the lives of its student-athletes—for years to come.

Marist University Appoints New Vice President for Advancement

Kirk Swenson joined Marist University this fall as Vice President for Advancement, following a national search. Swenson previously served for more than five years as Vice Chancellor for Advancement at the University of North Carolina at Asheville. He brings a wealth of expertise in higher education advancement and a strong track record of leadership in fundraising, alumni engagement, and strategic development.

“I'm honored to be chosen to join Marist University at this defining moment in its history,” said Swenson. “I look forward to partnering with Marist's leadership, alumni, and friends to expand opportunity, strengthen our mission, and ensure that the Marist experience continues to inspire generations to come.”

At UNC Asheville, Swenson led record fundraising efforts, launched the Centennial Campaign, and helped expand programs like the Gateway Scholars and Asheville Ideas Fest.

“Kirk will be a dynamic new addition to Marist's leadership team and will help drive the vision and strategy for the University's philanthropic efforts and alumni engagement,” said Marist President Dr. Kevin Weinman. “His arrival comes as we prepare to embark upon an extraordinarily ambitious comprehensive campaign that will be critical to helping fund many of the priorities in *Marist 100* and supporting our students' success.”

In his new role, Swenson will lead Marist's advancement and alumni relations teams, strengthening philanthropic support and alumni engagement in alignment with the University's long-term goals. A Hudson Valley native, he and his family look forward to joining the Marist community this January—a move inspired, he says, by the dedication of the University's volunteers and leaders.



Celebrating Local Talent and Partnerships at the Hudson Valley Scholars Reception

Marist welcomed students, business leaders, faculty, and staff to campus this fall for the annual Hudson Valley Scholars Reception—an event that celebrates one of the University’s longest-standing commitments to local talent and community partnership.

For more than 25 years, the Hudson Valley Scholars program has connected generous regional businesses with high-achieving students across the seven counties of the Hudson Valley, providing essential financial support and strengthening the local workforce.

Last year alone, more than \$90,000 was contributed by 51 Hudson Valley businesses, helping 330 students pursue their education at Marist. These scholars represent the best of the region—first-generation students, commuters and residents, and students ready to contribute to the future of the Hudson Valley.

Executive Vice President Dr. Geoff Brackett reflected on the University’s longstanding commitment to community, one of the founding ideals of the Marist Brothers. He noted that the program embodies the Expansive Community pillar of *Marist 100* by strengthening partnerships that enrich both Marist and the greater region.

The event also featured remarks from Jared Kerin '26, a computer science and cybersecurity major supported by the program throughout his four years at Marist. “Being a Hudson Valley Scholar has meant more than financial support,” he shared. “It’s given me opportunities, confidence, and a community that believes in my future.”



A Record Year for the School of Management Golf Outing

The School of Management celebrated another banner year at the annual School of Management Advisory Board Golf Outing, where alumni, friends, corporate partners, and families came together in support of Marist students.

Thanks to the enthusiasm and generosity of everyone who participated, the event raised an impressive \$61,400—continuing a remarkable seven-year streak of surpassing fundraising goals.

The outing, organized in partnership with the School of Management Advisory Board and the Golf Committee, has become one of the school’s most enduring traditions. More importantly, it has grown into a vital source of direct support

for students across the School of Management. Proceeds from the event benefit both the School of Management Scholarship Fund, which provides immediate financial assistance to students with demonstrated need, and the School of Management Strategic Initiatives Fund, which enhances the Marist experience through club programming, study-abroad opportunities, case competitions, and career networking events.

This year’s success underscores the deep commitment of the Marist community that includes alumni eager to give back, industry partners invested in the next generation of talent, and families who believe in the transformative power of a Marist education.





Honoring Legacy, Enriching Community: The Dedication of Sammon House

Marist University recently celebrated the dedication of Sammon House, a beautifully restored campus landmark created to honor the late Brother Seán Sammon, FMS '70, whose life's work left an indelible mark on the Marist community. The project reflects a powerful intersection of legacy, philanthropy, and the University's enduring values.

Originally the carriage house of the historic Fern Tor estate, the building has been thoughtfully renovated to preserve its architectural character while transforming it into a vibrant space for gatherings, student engagement, and a new on-campus residence for the University president. Its new purpose embodies the qualities Brother Seán championed throughout his life including welcome, reflection, care for community, and a deep commitment to Marist's mission.

“

He had a unique gift for bringing people together, for making them feel seen, valued, and cared for. Naming this house for Brother Seán made instant sense.”

—President Kevin Weinman

This restoration—made possible with donor support and University stewardship—represents the kind of investment that safeguards Marist's history and creates meaningful spaces for current and future generations. By naming the house in Brother Seán's honor, the Marist community celebrates a legacy of leadership and service while giving new life to a historic structure that will play an active role in campus life.

Brother Seán, who served on the Board of Trustees and held leadership roles internationally within the Marist Brothers, is remembered for his intellect, compassion, and unfailing belief in the transformative power of education. Sammon House stands as a living tribute to those values.

The Marist Fund Means More for Students

At Marist, students don't have to choose just one path. Thanks to gifts to the Marist Fund, Red Foxes can pursue academics and leadership, athletics and global experiences, creativity and career-building opportunities. This unrestricted support ensures students have access to the resources, programs, and mentorship that turn their interests into impact.



Ben Cook '25 has built a rich college experience—captaining the Ski Team, studying across Asia, and competing in an international business ethics competition.



Renata Meiram '26 blends creativity and connection as a communications major, campus leader, and mentor, helping others grow with confidence.

Their journeys reflect what becomes possible when the **Marist Fund** empowers students to say yes to more.



Support The MARIST fund

Your gift fuels the opportunities that shape every Red Fox—ensuring students can explore boldly, lead confidently, and make the most of their Marist experience.





GARTLAND COMMONS TRACK & TURF FIELD

A New Era Powered by Philanthropy

Marist Track at Gartland Commons has only been open for a few months, but it has already transformed daily life at Marist. From sunrise runs to late-evening practices, the complex hums with energy—serving Division I teams, club athletes, casual joggers, and students who simply want a beautiful place to move and reset.

For many, it has quickly become a favorite spot on campus.

“I love running before my early morning classes, and since I live in the north end it’s so nice to have the track right there,” said Lindsey Mascia ’26. “It’s super pretty during the morning, and I get to be outside before I start my busy day.”

A Long Awaited Home

For Marist's Division I track and field and cross-country programs, the new facility fulfills a long-held dream: a true on-campus home.

"The track at Gartland Commons is a dream come true for our program," said Pete Colaizzo '86, Director of Men's and Women's Cross Country and Track and Field. "Now, we have an on-campus home and a place where student-athletes in all our event groups can share in our daily pursuit to be better. In addition, this will be a boost for our recruiting efforts, as future Foxes can see first-hand what we have to offer."

The complex also serves lacrosse, soccer, and other DI programs, as well as intramural and club teams, broadening its reach across the campus community.

Powered by Generosity

The opening of the facility is the direct result of a groundswell of philanthropy and leadership.

Fundraising for the track and turf began in 2023 with a lead matching challenge from Marist Trustee Tim Tenney, whose gift inspired alumni, families, and friends to step forward in support. From significant leadership commitments to named spaces and commemorative bricks, the project has become a testament to the passion and loyalty of the Marist Athletics community.

The momentum continues to build, as donors recognize the impact this facility has on student-athlete experience, recruitment, wellness, and Marist's broader vision for vibrant campus life.

"This project is a reflection of what happens when alumni and friends rally around a shared goal," said Tenney. "The track and turf field will elevate the student-athlete experience for years to come—and strengthen the spirit of community that makes Marist special."



Marist Track and Cross Country Coach Pete Colaizzo '86 and other guests celebrated at the Track and Field Alumni Day this fall. Photos by Carlisle Stockton.

A Space That Belongs to Everyone

While the facility supports Marist's Division I teams, its purpose extends far beyond athletics. Students, faculty, and staff use the track for walking, jogging, intramurals, fitness, or simply to clear their minds.

"What I like about the track is that it's open to everyone," said Megan Doshi '26. "Whether you're an athlete, a casual jogger, or just walking with friends, it gives you a place to move, reset, and enjoy the campus."

Celebrating Together: Track & Field Alumni Day

To mark the opening, alumni, families, and friends of the cross country and track and field programs were invited to Track & Field Alumni Day and the Victory Lap celebration in September 2025. The event offered a first look at the facility—and a chance for Forever Foxes to take a ceremonial lap.

"We're really excited to welcome back our Marist Cross Country/Track family," Colaizzo said. "It will truly be a celebration for our loyal alumni base, as well as for family and friends of our current and past teams."

Looking Ahead: Phase Two on the Horizon

The opening of the track and turf field marks a major milestone, but the vision for Gartland Commons is far from complete. Phase Two—of the project envisions

expanding—will further expand the complex into a premier home for Marist Athletics and student wellness.

Plans include enhanced spectator areas, improved athlete support spaces, and additional infrastructure designed to elevate both training and game-day experiences. These upgrades will strengthen recruiting, create more opportunities for student engagement, and transform the north end of campus into a vibrant hub of activity.

As momentum continues, philanthropy will again play a critical role.

"Phase One shows what's possible when the Marist community comes together," said Vice President for Advancement Kirk Swenson. "Phase Two builds on that success—ensuring our student-athletes have the resources they deserve and our campus continues to thrive."

Stay tuned for more information about the celebration that will be held in 2026 for alumni, families, and friends who have supported the project.



“

More than a state-of-the-art athletic facility, the track and turf field has become a symbol of momentum—for Marist Athletics, for student wellness, and for the University's commitment to building spaces that bring people together.”

– Tim Murray, Director of Athletics



A NEW TRADITION OF RED FOX PRIDE

**Marist Athletics Launches Hall of Fame,
Names Selection Committee**

Marist University announced the creation of the Marist Athletics Hall of Fame, a new tradition to honor the student-athletes, coaches, teams, and supporters whose achievements and spirit have defined Red Fox pride across generations.

The Hall of Fame will celebrate the University's long history of athletic and academic excellence—from record-breaking seasons and championship moments to the lifelong impact of Marist's athletic community. The inaugural induction ceremony is planned for Homecoming & Reunion Weekend 2026, when the first class of honorees will be recognized.

“This initiative allows us to showcase the incredible history and tradition of Marist Athletics. Our programs have produced exceptional competitors and leaders who continue to make Red Fox Nation proud. The Hall of Fame gives us a meaningful way to celebrate their legacy.”

– Tim Murray, Director of Athletics

This fall, Marist invited the public to nominate individuals for consideration for the inaugural Hall of Fame, and hundreds of nominations were submitted before the November 22 deadline. The nomination categories went beyond student-athletes to reflect the many ways Red Foxes contribute to the University's rich athletic tradition.

Building on their recommendations, a Selection Committee composed of prominent Marist alumni and leaders in the sports industry will determine the members of the first induction class. Full details will be shared on GoRedFoxes.com and through official University channels in the coming months.

The Marist Athletics Hall of Fame will stand as a lasting tribute to the talent, teamwork, and tradition that continue to elevate Marist University on and off the field.

SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVES:

Greg Bibb '96; Terrence Fede '14; Sean Kennedy '02; John Lasker '97; Maureen Magarity '03, '05M; Bobby Marks '95; Ian O'Connor '86; Travis Tellitocci '04, '14M; Brandon Tierney '96; Julianne Viani '08, '09M

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Eileen Altobelli '82

DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS:

Tim Murray

NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

Josie Skelley; Mike Ferraro '01



Get a closer look at the alumni representatives on the selection committee and read their full bios online!



MARIST ATHLETICS

HALL OF FAME





Scenes from 2025 Homecoming and Reunion. Photos by Carlo de Jesus, Nelson Echeverria/Marist, and Al Norwak for On Location/for Marist University.





Welcome

H I M E

Once a Red Fox, Always a Red Fox

**Homecoming welcomes
alumni back to campus**

Campus buzzed with excitement as alumni and their families returned for the weekend of October 24–26 for the annual Homecoming and Reunion festivities. Red Foxes of all generations arrived at Marist with energy and pride, reconnecting, reminiscing, and celebrating the community that “always feels like home.”

Highlights included the alumni association awards honoring distinguished service and leadership, the Theatre Hall of Fame induction, milestone class reunions (including the classes of 1965 and 1975), and a full lineup of tours, gatherings, and family-friendly events.

From the football field to the theatre, from campus strolls to residence-hall celebrations, the weekend underscored one thing: whether new or returning, the Red Fox family carries its connection forward.

“

*They say college
is four years, but
Marist is forever!*

– Shamus Barnes '91



Relive all the
excitement online!

Send Your News We want to hear from you!

Email: maristalumni@marist.edu

Web:
<https://mari.st/update>

Phone:
845-575-3283

Mail:
Office of Alumni
Relations
Marist University, 3999
North Rd. Poughkeepsie,
NY 12601-1387



"We thought we'd share with
you what Marist started
50 years ago!"

1966

Marty Triola '66 is the author of *Triola Statistics Series*, the #1 statistics textbook for the past 30 years.

John Hart '66 is the author of eight books and numerous journal articles. As a lecturer, he has been invited to speak on five continents, eight countries and in 36 states. He most recently wrote *Cosmic Commons: Spirit, Science, and Space; Encountering Eti: Aliens in Avatar and Americas Third Displacement: Cosmobiology, Cosmolocality, Cosmosocioecology*. He also was editor for *The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Religion and Ecology*.

1969

Floyd Alwon '69 has published his memoir, *Brooklyn Bred and Beyond: The Memoirs of a Floydian Philosopher*, now available on Amazon. The book offers a compelling look into Alwon's life journey, including a vivid chapter dedicated to his transformative years at Marist as a member of the Marist crew team, his involvement in student activism during the Vietnam War era, and a formative third-year experience studying abroad at the Sorbonne in Paris. His stories capture the spirit of the 1960s, and the role Marist played in shaping his intellectual and personal growth.

1977

With 50 years of friendship behind them, they journeyed to the Emerald Isle to toast to good fortune and lasting bonds. Masterfully coordinated by **Peggy Schaefer '77** and joined by **Irene Bailey '77**, **Barbara Bella '77**, **Marian Conneally '77**, **Kathy DeWitt '77**, **Ginny O'Shea '77** and **Maggie Reid '77**, this lively crew raised a glass (or two) in Dublin, Galway, Killarney and beyond! It was a wonderful week for this Magnificent Seven filled with laughter and new memories and proving once again that life gets better with age!

1978

Theodore Clark '78 was elected as Assistant Commodore, Merry Mariners Boat Club. He was also elected as First Vice Commander, American Legion.

1980

Nick Landekic '80 retired after a distinguished 35-year career in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry.

1981

Chuck Calio '81 retired in 2024 after over 40 years with IBM and now enjoys landscape photography, traveling, and running.

1982

Ginny Brophay '82 was inducted into the 2025 Country Radio Hall of Fame in Nashville, Tennessee. With a distinguished career spanning 40 years in radio — including 35 years dedicated to country radio, primarily in the Boston market — Brophay's contributions to the industry were recognized with one of its highest honors.



Ginny Brophay '82

James Hage '82 retired from education after 42 years and was honored for 41 years of teaching at Mount Saint Michael Academy.

Joe Burleski '82 has been a loyal Marist Fund donor for more than 40 years. He recently retired from AT&T Corporation after a distinguished career that began with 26 years at IBM, where he worked in New York, Colorado, and Missouri. Joe helped lead the 2008 transition of 4,200 IBM employees worldwide to AT&T. A dedicated scouting volunteer for more than 45 years, he was honored with Scouting's Silver

Antelope Award (regional level) in 2022 and the International Baden-Powell Fellowship Award in 2023. Joe also served 19 years as an officer and trustee of the Catholic Knights of Columbus Council and as a 4th Degree Assembly Officer and Trustee. He continues to give back as a monthly USO volunteer.

1983

Pam (MacGregor) Sullivan '83 has been widely recognized for her leadership and influence across New Jersey. She was named one of NJ.com's 25 Women to Watch in 2025, a testament to her growing impact in the state. In both 2023 and 2024, she was honored by Women We Admire as one of the Top 50 Women Leaders in New Jersey, recognizing her continued excellence, innovation and dedication in her field.

Robert McDermott '83 was recently promoted to the Director of Compliance and Risk at Primary Development Corporation, a nonprofit Community Development Entity (CDE) specializing in lending to Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) and other healthcare facilities that specialize in serving underserved communities.

1986

Mike Masterson '86 has been living in Maui since 1996. He retired from Marriott in 2019 after 30 years as a Sales & Marketing Executive in the Hospitality Industry. He now spends the winters in Colorado skiing and then traveling whenever possible with his wife Veronica when not on Maui.

1989

James McCloskey '89, proudly shared that his son Jonathan graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Fordham University and will be attending law school at the University of Montana Law School in the Fall of 2025. His son Brendan married his wife, Carmen, in January 2025.

Christine (Domurat) Maio '89 was appointed Vice President for Marketing and Communications at Farmingdale State College, part of the State University of New York (SUNY), in July 2025.

1990

Colonel Christopher Douglas '90 (retired) is currently assigned to the Office of the

Secretary of War and performing temporary duty as the Deputy to the Commanding General for the Permanent Change of Station Joint Task Force at Scott Air Force Base. His personal awards include two Legion of Merits, one with a Combat Distinguishing Device, Two Bronze Star Medals, the Purple Heart, Three Combat Action Ribbons, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, two Meritorious Service Medals, the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V," a Navy, Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and the Humanitarian Service Medal. He and his wife Susan have been married for more than 30 years. Their son is an Army Infantry Officer; he and his wife are stationed at Fort Stewart.



George Koutsaftes '91
and his family

1991

George Koutsaftes '91 and his family took a trip to Florence and visited Marist's branch campus.

Joseph Heavey '91M graduated from the University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences with a Doctor of Education (EdD) in Executive Leadership on August 24, 2024.



Dr. Robin Buckley '93 ▲

1993

Dr. Robin Buckley '93 brings a fresh and innovative perspective to relationships in her latest book, *Marriage Inc.: The Boardroom Blueprint to a Lasting Love*, which was released in September 2025., on Amazon. Blending her background in psychology with her extensive experience as an executive coach, Dr. Buckley applies a business-minded approach to the complex dynamics of romantic relationships. In *Marriage Inc.*, she introduces practical strategies typically reserved for boardrooms and executive teams, repurposing them to help individuals and couples build resilient, intentional, and fulfilling partnerships.

Designed for both those preparing for future relationships and couples seeking to strengthen existing ones, the book emphasizes measurable progress and intentional structure—hallmarks of successful businesses now reimagined for lasting love. In addition to her work as an author, Dr. Buckley is a TED speaker and executive coach who specializes in helping leaders, teams, and couples achieve thriving, purpose-driven outcomes.

Bartholomew Steinhorn '93 accepted a position as chief financial officer with Feuerstein Kulick, a leading law firm in the cannabis industry, in spring 2023.

Jacob Knorr '93 got engaged on April 5, 2025, to **Nanci (Forman) Posner '93!** She said “absolutely” under the gazebo by the Hudson—right where their story began when they first met as freshmen in Leo Hall back in 1989.

1997

George Santiago '97 was inducted into St. Anthony's High School (S. Huntington, Long Island) Athletic Hall of Fame.

1998

Jerome Pickett '98 welcomed his second child, Weston Maurice Pickett, on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 2:06 p.m. Weston weighed 7 lbs. 10 oz and measured 20.5 inches long.

JoAnne (Adamo) Gorham '98 celebrated 25 years of marriage to **Jonathan Gorham '98** in October 2025.

1999

Kathleen (Wisniewski) McEnroe '99 is a dedicated second-grade teacher at the New York City Public Schools and an active leader within the Parent Teacher Association (PTA). She currently serves as a Unit President in her district, Webmaster for Nassau Region PTA, and Tech Training Specialist for the New York State PTA. Drawing on her bachelor's in communication, Kathleen recently helped launch the Bite-Sized: Insights from NYS PTA podcast on Spotify, offering valuable perspectives and updates to the PTA community. In recognition of her exceptional service and leadership, she was honored with the Nassau Region PTA's Carolyn Fiori Award for Outstanding Leadership.

Brian Dawson '99 is semi-retired and transitioning out of his role as a psychiatric crisis emergency room screener. He plans to return to addiction and mental health counseling through his private practice, Your Fullest Potential Counseling.

Caryl Mallory '01 is now retired but as active as ever. In September 2025, she competed in the ACTS Olympics in water volleyball in Huntsville, Alabama. At the time of her retirement, she had recruited more than 300 people to serve in missions, most in information technology.

2000

Chris Bythewood '00 has produced a movie called *Trüebadour*. It starred Ryan Bergara and Kevin Kreider, with Jamie Lee Curtis serving as Executive Producer. **Jessica Macias '00**, a longtime friend of Chris' who works at Marist, flew out to LA to serve as Production Assistant. The two took a photo on the Universal Studios set during filming.



Jacob Knorr '93 got engaged on April 5, 2025, to Nanci (Forman) Posner '93! ▲

In July 2025, a special group of lifelong friends and Marist alumni reunited to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of their original Mt. Washington summit.

Aisha (Wright) Kutter '00, her husband Jim Kutter '99, Steve Suhocki '00/'00M, and Brian Brazil '98 made the trek once again, this time braving the New Hampshire peak together to honor a decade since their first climb on July 18, 2015. Though poor weather forced a one-day delay, the group was rewarded with perfect conditions for their ascent. Despite living across several states, these friends have maintained their strong Marist bonds, reconnecting each summer for physical challenges that have earned them the nickname "The Adventure Club." Aisha, who proudly serves as the Marist University Hudson Valley Alumni Chapter President, has summited all the major high peaks in New England—Mt. Mansfield, Mt. Katahdin, Mt. Greylock, Mt. Marcy, and Mt. Frissell—often alongside these close friends and other like-minded adventurers.



Photo: from left to right: Steven Suhocki '00/'00M, Aisha (Wright) Kutter '00, Brian Brazil '98 and Jim Kutter '99

2001

Angela (Peluso) Chillemi '01 has launched her own talent consulting agency, DayMoon Talent, based in Los Angeles and New York. Her current clients include *The Jennifer Hudson Show*, where she serves as consulting producer; entrepreneur and Skims and Good American founder Emma Grede; *The Athletic*, part of *The New York Times*; and Higher Ground, the production company founded by Barack and Michelle Obama.

Kimberly Saylor '01 is a proud Federal Employee - 23 Years!

2002

Amanda Harmon '02 was appointed director of the Master of Social Work program at Sacred Heart University, where she is a clinical assistant professor.

2003

Jaclyn (Jacobsen) Cote '03 was awarded the prestigious King Charles III Coronation Medal in recognition of her extensive services to the community of Montreal. The award, which was announced in March 2025, honors individuals who have made significant contributions to their communities.

Steven Neuhaus '03 was honored with the Champion of the Chamber Award at the Orange County Chamber of Commerce event on March 29, 2025.

Clare Knapp '03 continues to make a lasting impact on collegiate athletics. This year, Knapp was named the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) Regional Coach of the Year for the fifth time in her career. In addition, she was honored with the IHSA National Coaching Sportsmanship Award at the National Championships in North Carolina—recognition of her leadership, dedication, and positive influence within the sport. Knapp has served as Head Coach of the Marist Equestrian Team since 2008, guiding the program to sustain success. This season marked the eighth consecutive year that a Marist rider qualified for the IHSA National Championships. The team also excelled academically, with 11 student-athletes earning Academic All-American honors. "I'm incredibly proud of the student-athletes on this team," said Knapp. "Their hard work, both in competition and in the classroom, truly represents the spirit of Marist." A former member of the Marist Track & Field team, Knapp also expressed excitement about the college's new track facility. "It's an amazing addition for the Marist community and a great resource

for current and future athletes," she said. Knapp's accomplishments underscore the strength of Marist's athletic programs—and the legacy of alumni who continue to elevate them.

2004

Nicole Videla '04 was recently selected to serve on the nonprofit board, GenOne Charlotte.

Aubrey Bennett '04 was named the 2024-25 Secondary Teacher of the Year for Birmingham City Schools. A dedicated 12th-grade U.S. Government, Economics, and Advanced Placement African American History teacher at George Washington Carver High School, Bennett was informed of the award during a surprise presentation by Superintendent Dr. Mark Sullivan, executive leadership, and school administrators on March 18th, 2025. With 17 years of experience in education, Bennett has spent the past 11 years inspiring students at Carver High School. His commitment to education and professional growth is evident as he pursues National Board Certification, building on his bachelor's in human resource management from Marist and a Master's in Secondary Education from the University of Phoenix.

As Executive Director of Dartmouth's Center for Career Design, Joe Catrino '01 draws on the preparation and perspective he gained at Marist.



Joe Catrino '01

With the workforce and world evolving at an unprecedented pace, Catrino believes it's critical for career preparation to evolve in kind. At the heart of the Center's mission is a commitment to helping students unlock their potential through curiosity, self-discovery, and purposeful exploration. Drawing on life design principles, Catrino and his team are creating a more holistic, student-centered model of career development. Rather than focusing solely on job outcomes, the Center encourages students to explore who they are, what motivates them, and how they want to engage with the world. "This is more than just landing a job," Catrino explains. "It's about helping students design lives that are meaningful, dynamic, and aligned with their values." Under his leadership, the Center for Career

Design offers a more personalized and flexible approach—one that meets students where they are and opens the door to paths they may not have previously considered. Whether through one-on-one coaching, immersive experiences, or skill-building programs, students are empowered to think expansively about what's possible. "Our goal is to help students chart paths that are authentic and intentional," says Catrino. "When they leave Dartmouth, they should feel confident not only in what they want to do, but in who they are and how they want to contribute to the world."

2005

Jessica (Baldwin) Phillips '05 was named to the PoliticsNY Power Player in Arts & Culture list for 2025. This prestigious recognition highlights the vital role that arts and culture organizations—and the dedicated individuals behind them—play as the heartbeat and soul of New York City who work tirelessly to advance their missions in service to the community.

David Gorman '05 is retiring from the U.S. Air Force after a 20-year career that included assignments in Oklahoma, Alaska, Hawaii, Alabama, Florida, Rhode Island, and Curacao, as well as deployments to numerous locations in Southwest Asia, the Pacific, and the Caribbean. His final assignment brought him back to his hometown in Rhode Island, where he served as a Military Professor in the United States Naval War College's Strategy and Policy Department. Following his retirement from the Air Force, he plans to focus his energy on volunteer work with local non-profit organizations.

06

Maryellen (Conway) Guardino '07/'08M/'12M and **Joseph Guardino '06/'15M** welcomed a baby girl, Abigail Guardino, on Nov. 16, 2024.

Laura Yacovone '06 and **Scott Harrison '07** welcomed baby Max Harrison on Feb. 3, 2025.

07

Jessica Friedlander '07 completed the nine-month Leadership Westchester professional development program in summer 2024. Following this achievement, she was promoted to senior manager of community engagement at Volunteer New York.

Christie Melton '07 will graduate from UOP with his MBA on March 7, 2026. She was inducted into The National Society of Leadership and Success earlier this year.

09

Kevin Glover '09/'23M opened MeasuredMint LLC, a registered investment adviser that provides financial planning and advice to stock plan participants.

Kelly Reilly '09 launched her career in television production in New York City, where she worked as an associate producer on ABC's Live! With Regis and Kelly. She later

transitioned to Washington, D.C., joining the creative services team at one of the nation's most influential lobbying organizations, where she focused on creating meaningful and impactful content. Today, Reilly serves in her dream role at the USO, leading the operations team within the legacy entertainment department. In this position, she manages and produces entertainment tours for active-duty service members and their families worldwide. Working closely with high-profile talent and leaders across the entertainment industry, she finds deep purpose in supporting those who serve and bringing moments of joy to military communities around the world.

2010

Amanda Mulvihill '10 married Terry Poveda in November 2024

Shanene Muldrow '10 is the author of the children's book series *Sawyer, Kid Lawyer*. Her brother is the illustrator of the series. www.sawyerkidlawyer.com

2011

Katie (Keech) Brooks '11 is thrilled to announce the publication of her very first cookbook, *Buona Pasta: Fresh Pasta Made Easy With or Without a Machine*, out in November 2025. Katie's passion for cooking was sparked during her junior year semester abroad in Florence, Italy, and she believes this cookbook would be a wonderful addition to the alumni news. For more information about the cookbook, visit buonapastaclub.com/my-cookbook, and/or follow her on Instagram @buonapastaclub, where she shares pasta-making tips and tutorials.

Jessica (Wolsiefer) Asia '11 embarked on a new professional journey last year by establishing her own private practice while simultaneously working part-time for a group private practice. She is enjoying the flexibility that comes with working independently. Additionally, she completed EMDR training last year, further enhancing her skills.

Cassie (Russo) Boiani '11 and **Brian Boiani '12** are proud Marist alumni who celebrated six years of marriage on Sept. 20, 2025. Cassie and Brian first met during a memorable spring break while attending Marist. In 2012, the couple made a bold move to Oahu, Hawaii, after Cassie accepted

a position with the Hawaii Department of Education following an on-campus interview at Marist. They spent several years building their life together in the Aloha State before eventually returning to New York where they recently expanded their family, welcoming twins in July — their second and third children! You can find Cassie on Instagram at @casstastrophe_ and both Cassie and Brian on Facebook.

2012

Madison Kinnard '12 and her husband are expecting their first child in January 2026!

April Bourlier '12/'17M was recognized with the Hudson Valley Top Forty Under 40 Mover & Shaker Award in May 2025. As the Assistant Director of Alumni Relations at Marist University, she has dedicated her career to Marist alongside supporting and engaging the local community. April previously aided freshmen students in their transition and academic success. She has worked at Family Services, first as the Sexual Violence Prevention Coordinator and later as the Employee Engagement and Benefits Manager. April teaches a domestic violence prevention course at Marist, focusing on fostering a healthy relationship culture. Over the past year, she returned to Marist full-time, contributing to the Advancement Office's alumni engagement and event planning efforts. April serves as a Board Member at the Marist Brothers Center at Esopus, is a member of the Eastern Dutchess Road Runners Club, and is an avid supporter of the Hudson Valley Renegades.

2013

Zach Sloneker '13 and **Michelle Harrop '12** welcomed their first-born son Oliver in July 2024.

Brian T. Shannon '13 and **Madeline Shannon '14** experienced a moment of profound grace and connection during a recent visit to the Vatican. Just before the 10:00 a.m. Papal Mass on May 28, 2025, the couple's seven-month-old daughter, Molly Shannon, was lifted from the crowd by none other than Pope Leo himself. As the Holy Father was being driven through St. Peter's Square to greet the faithful, he paused and reached into the sea of thousands to embrace young Molly — a moment that left the Shannon family deeply moved and profoundly grateful. Molly comes from a long line of Marist alumni,



April Bourlier '12/'17M was recognized with the Hudson Valley Top Forty Under 40 Mover & Shaker Award in May 2025



Pope Leo holds Molly Shannon



Emily Felner '18 married
Samuel Arnedt '17



Brianne Kain '15 and Robert Duffy '15
married in August 2025

including her grandfather, **John Shannon '80/P'10/P'13**, and aunt, **Megan Shannon '10**. The Shannons describe the encounter as a powerful reflection of the faith, community, and spiritual life that Marist helped to nurture in them. They hope that sharing this experience — along with a treasured photo from that unforgettable day — will inspire joy and reflection among fellow alumni, students, and faculty.

2015

Brianne Kain '15 and **Robert Duffy '15** married in August 2025 on a very Marist weekend where the Red Fox pride was loud and proud! It was so important for them to spend as much time on campus reflecting on their Marist experiences. We are forever and always proud to be Marist graduates," said the couple.

Robyn Scarchilli '15 was recognized and awarded the Hudson Valley Top Forty Under 40 Mover & Shaker Award in May 2025. As the Community and Public Affairs Associate for Nuvance Health, Robyn is deeply connected to the Hudson Valley, drawing inspiration from her colleagues and the local organizations she collaborates with. Committed to making a positive impact, she contributes by organizing healthcare lectures, supporting local initiatives, and sharing patient stories. Her dedication to uplifting others and ensuring everyone feels heard has earned her this well-deserved recognition.

2017

Danielle De La Paz '17 was recognized as one of the 40 honorees in the NYC Tri-State area to receive the Negocios Now Latinos 40 Under 40 Award in June 2025. This prestigious award honors Latino leaders who are making significant contributions both in their professional fields and through their personal community efforts, highlighting those who are paving the way forward for future generations.

Kristen Lemma '17M was nominated by the City University of New York as an inaugural member of their 50 Under 50 distinguished alumni list in November 2024.

Kiersten Fallon '17 recently made the decision to leave the elementary school general education classroom and become a reading special education teacher at the middle school level.

2018

Emily Felner '18 married **Samuel Arnedt '17** on Sept. 27, 2025, at Locust Grove Historic Site in Poughkeepsie, New York.

Christina (Doyle) Longo '18 and **Anthony Longo '18** were married on Nov. 2, 2024, in Long Island, New York.

Monica Paige (Luisi) Baldwin '18 is incredibly proud to serve as a White House Reporter during President Trump's administration with Turning Point USA. In her role, she has already had the opportunity to ask multiple questions during press briefings, thanks to what she describes as new, more transparent administration.

2020

Madison (Russell) O'Brien '20, and **Jim O'Brien '19** first met at Marist while playing together in the Marist Band. Their one-year anniversary was on Oct. 13, 2025.

Emily (Sommer) Cernera '20 and **Gregory Cernera '20**, both members of the Marist Class of 2020 and former Red Foxes, recently celebrated their wedding on Sept. 5, 2025, in Long Beach Island, New Jersey.



Emily Felner '18 married
Samuel Arnedt '17

2021

John Powers '21 has been recognized for his outstanding contributions and leadership in the media and entertainment industry. He received the White Glove Service Award in 2023, while at Tubi, his innovative work earned him the Fox Power of You Maverick Award in 2025, an honor celebrating forward-thinking professionals who drive meaningful change across the organization.



Drew Callahan '22 and
Michaela Casey '21

2022

Drew Callahan '22 and Michaela Casey '21 married on Oct. 5, 2025.

Alexandria Sanatore '22/'24M, well-known since her time at Marist University, has always been dedicated to public service and building an inclusive campus community. Her return to student government as SBA Vice President is a natural next step after a fulfilling year as a 1L Senator. She looks forward to continuing her advocacy by working with fellow SBA members to foster engagement, strengthen community ties, and ensure that NYLS remains a place where every student feels supported, connected, and empowered.

Kacy Kiefer '22 is currently serving as an Intelligence Analyst at the New York State Police (NYSP) New York State Intelligence Center, working within the Counter Terrorism Center.



Sean Hammond '22 received the Rising Star Award from the New York State Young Republicans in 2025.

▲ Madison (Russell), O'Brien '20,
and Jim O'Brien '19

Elise Maddaloni '22 is an Emerging Leaders Award recipient and a Finest Honoree recognized by the M&A Advisor for her work with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

2023

Lidija Slokenbergs '23 and her mother, longtime Marist faculty member Sandra Slokenbergs, co-authored a new memoir, *Hold My Hand*, released in May 2025. The book offers a dual-perspective account of Lidija's life-threatening battle with anorexia and its impact on her family, told through both her own experience and her mother's as caregiver and advocate. Drawing from their Latvian American background and a decade spent living in Europe, the Slokenbergs shed light on an often-misunderstood mental illness while emphasizing the power of empathy and support. Sandra, who teaches public presentation at Marist and has long been active in student wellness, hopes the book fosters deeper understanding of eating disorders and mental health challenges among students and educators. "Nearly everyone we've spoken to knows someone who has struggled with an eating disorder," Lidija said. "That overwhelming response motivates us to share our story as widely as possible." The book's release aligns with Marist's upcoming common read on mental health, and the authors look forward to engaging with the campus community in ongoing conversations about awareness and recovery. *Hold My Hand* is available on Blurb.com and Amazon.

2024

Sarah Ortiz '24 was selected to compete in the upcoming Miss New York USA 2025 competition.



John O'Shea

REMEMBERING JOHN O'SHEA

Marist University mourns the passing of Life Trustee John O'Shea, whose leadership, generosity, and devotion to the institution spanned more than three decades. Few individuals have shaped Marist's trajectory as profoundly as John, whose steady presence and deep belief in the University left a lasting imprint.

For more than 30 years, John served on the Board of Trustees with unwavering commitment. He was a familiar face at Marist events, a thoughtful advisor, and a trusted steward of the University's mission. His impact endures through the many scholarships, facilities, and programs he and his late wife, Nancy, supported. Their most recent legacy, the O'Shea Lecture Hall in the Dyson Center, stands as a vibrant space for learning and community. In 2018, one of the North Campus Residence Halls was named in their honor.

John and Nancy also established an endowed scholarship for Hudson Valley commuter students, reflecting their longtime dedication to expanding opportunity. As members of the Legacy Society, their philanthropy will benefit generations of Red Foxes.

Beyond campus, John was a pillar of the Hudson Valley, serving in leadership roles with Vassar Brothers Medical Center, United Way of Dutchess County, the Poughkeepsie Rotary Club, and other local organizations. Marist honored him with the President's Award in 2004.

A Fordham graduate, U.S. Navy veteran, and longtime CEO of Marshall & Sterling, John's life was defined by service—to his country, his community, and to Marist.

In Memoriam

Alumni

Henry F. Henky '56
 Jay H. Boyar '65
 Bro. David W. Cooney, FMS '67
 Claude Gaier '69
 Thomas J. Smith '69
 Ray J. Campbell '70
 John P. Conlin '71
 James F. Cockroft '73
 Anthony D. Wutka '73
 Eric N. Garrison '74
 Joseph R. Callo, Jr. '76
 Ralph J. Nieri '76
 Michael J. D'Elia '78
 A. Harry Williams IV '80/'96 MBA
 Annie L. Mullen-Patrick '82 MA
 Dawn-Joy Ansbro '83
 Robert W. Powers '84
 Elizabeth Pelletier '86
 Robert S. Crabtree '87 MS
 Patricia J. Gaughran '87
 Edward McElduff '87
 Kenneth D. Lorello '88
 Robert E. Mac Avery '95
 Scott N. D'Errico '04
 Tami N. Herendeen Rice '07
 Kenneth H. Houghtaling '08
 Jill A. McCormick '08 MA
 Meagan J. Meehan '13 MA
 Garrett M. Anjos '15
 Cara L. McGuinness '16
 Juston K. Christian '25

Friends, Faculty, and Staff

Dr. Ann E. Davis
 Mary Ellen Lent
 Barnabas McHenry
 John O'Shea
 Emil Panichi

BEFORE THE BELL

MARIST ALUMNI AMBASSADOR
PROGRAM PLAYS KEY ROLE IN
RECRUITING STUDENTS

“Marist made me feel
welcome before I ever set
foot on campus. Being
part of MAAP lets me give
that same feeling to future
Red Foxes.”

— *Marist Alumni Ambassador
Dan Mahoney '69*

Before the bell rings at Accepted Student Day, countless touchpoints help future Red Foxes discover their place at Marist. One of the most meaningful? **The Marist Alumni Ambassador Program (MAAP).**

Ambassadors connect with prospective students across the country and around the world—sharing authentic stories, answering questions, and offering a glimpse into the Marist experience from someone who's lived it. Whether representing Marist at a college fair, joining a virtual panel, or reaching out one-on-one, ambassadors help students feel seen, supported, and excited for what's ahead.

A conversation with an alum can be the moment a future Red Fox knows:

“This is where I belong.”

Help shape a student's Marist
beginning. Become a Marist
Alumni Ambassador today.



Marist's Day of Giving
SAVE THE DATE!
MARCH 25, 2026

For 24 hours, Red Foxes everywhere will Rise Together to celebrate the power of community and giving back.

Join alumni, parents, students, and friends as we rally in the spirit of philanthropy—every gift, of every size, fuels the experiences that make Marist extraordinary.

