

# There's a reason MMC is the best small college in the greatest city in the world.

## You and your vital support of the College and our students.

Marymount Manhattan College stands out among small liberal arts colleges nationally for providing a **versatile**, **personalized education** that leverages the limitless resources of one of the greatest cities in the world.

The generosity of our donors enables the College to prepare students to become **creative changemakers**—well-informed adults who are able to adapt in a rapidly changing world and advance their communities through creative and impactful action.

Through **contemporary and compelling** programs in arts and sciences, business, communication and media arts, and performing arts, MMC immerses students in the rich learning and career landscape of New York City, positioning them for personal and professional success.

Thank you for giving the gift of an MMC education.



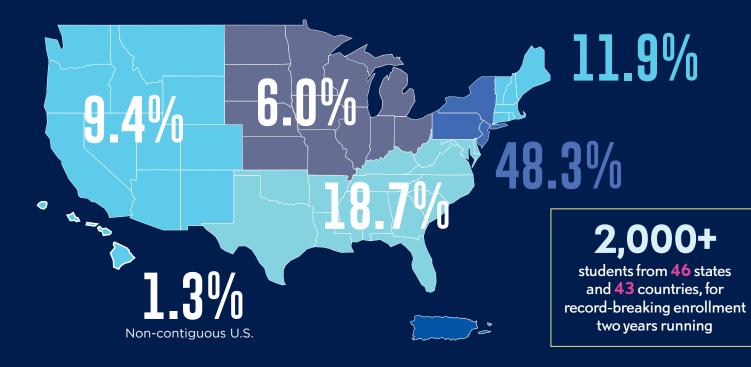
"Our vibrant and high-energy campus, diverse academic offerings infused with creativity, and culture that celebrates the uniqueness of each individual empower MMC students to become creative changemakers. We are so grateful for your partnership in this mission!"

—Kerry Walk, Ph.D., President

## **OUR STUDENTS**

Marymount Manhattan College prides itself on its geographical and cultural diversity. Each year, we are pleased to welcome students from around the country—and the globe—to our student body.





## GIFTS AT **A GLANCE**



#### CARSON MATCH COMPLETION

In 2018, the College celebrated the completion of the Carson Match—a transformative \$3 million gift by longtime Marymount Manhattan benefactors Judith '03, H'13 and Russell Carson. Through the Match, the Carsons donated one dollar for every two dollars contributed by MMC donors, inspiring engagement and generosity from friends of the College at all levels. In all, this philanthropic effort generated \$9 million for the College and had an unparalleled impact on the Annual Fund.



## **AUXILIARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

A \$1,000,000 gift from MMC alumna Mary Ellen McNiece Hawn '91 and her husband, Gates Helms Hawn, has enabled MMC to expand its cutting-edge educational programs to dozens of precollege, college, and adult learners from across the city, country, and world. In 2018, Summer Intensives in Musical Theatre brought a contingent of high school students from Taiwan to take master classes at MMC and experience Broadway, while the Women in Leadership series convened New York City professionals in the business and publishing industries to campus for compelling panel discussions—to name just a few of the new programs that have been offered.



## **HEOP GIFT**

An anonymous gift of \$36,000 in 2018 established MMC's Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) Professional Development Fund, which enables HEOP students to pursue opportunities that aren't funded through scholarship or federal or state loans. From internship stipends to professional workshop attendance costs, and from study abroad experiences to graduate school application fees. this high-impact gift makes a significant difference in the lives of MMC's HEOP students by opening up pathways to success.



#### **GRIFFINS GIVE DAY**

In an effort to support the Annual Fund, promote philanthropy on campus, and increase school spirit, MMC established an annual day of giving—Griffins Give—in 2017. Faculty, staff, students, parents, alumni, and Griffins around the world came together to make a difference for current and future MMC students. The second annual Griffins Give Day, held in October 2018, raised over \$40,000—a 25 percent increase in funds raised and a 15 percent increase in participation over the inaugural year!



The Booth Ferris Foundation's generous \$250,000 grant enabled MMC to put career preparation and professional development at the forefront for students through the College's signature CityEdge program. The award funded thirty-seven \$1,000 stipends for student internships: the establishment of CareerLab, a career development "boot camp" for students; and the College's new annual Career Summit. giving students the opportunity to network with a diverse set of employers.



## NATHALIA FONSECA '06

It was during her senior year that Nathalia Fonseca's career goals truly took shape. As a Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (SLPA) major with minors in Hispanic Studies, Psychology, and Education, she completed two clinical rotations—one at MMC's Ruth Smadbeck Communication and Learning Center and a second in a District 75 elementary school, where the students were predominantly multicultural, medically complex, and majority nonverbal.

"One child stands out during this experience. He was completely nonverbal and I tried for days, weeks, and months, using a variety of techniques in English and Spanish, to increase his receptive and expressive skills, but nothing worked or so I thought. The week before my internship ended, this boy responded verbally to my cue and initiated a game of "tag"—an act that may seem so simple to others, but meant everything to me. That experience taught me that with patience and persistence, I could help others find their voices, too."

After MMC, Fonseca went on to earn her master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology at Nova Southeastern University, in Fort Lauderdale, and is now a bilingual speech-language pathologist in private practice on Long Island. She also serves as a Clinical Supervisor for current SLPA students at MMC and intends to pursue a doctoral degree in Speech-Language Pathology with a focus on the medical aspect of speech pathology.

## ANNUAL DANCE GALA

MMC's Annual Dance Gala is held in the Theresa Lang Theatre each spring. A festive occasion highlighting the extraordinary talent of MMC's students, the Gala celebrates and enhances the rigorous training and versatile education provided to Dance majors.

At the 2018 event, students of MMC's Department of Dance took to the stage to perform works by visiting choreographers Gerald Arpino, Robert Battle, Jacqulyn Buglisi, Loni Landon, and Maria Torres. The event raised nearly \$50,000, which allows the dance department to produce high-caliber work by distinguished choreographers each year and enables the College to provide learning experiences that challenge and improve students' technique. artistry, and performative abilities.





## **BEDFORD HILLS COLLEGE PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT**

Since 1997, Marymount Manhattan has granted more than 220 degrees to incarcerated women through the College's Bedford Hills College Program (BHCP), at New York State's only maximum-security prison for women, located in Bedford Hills, New York, Education and hope are vital to rehabilitation. making the BHCP a life-changing experience not only for BHCP students, but for their families and communities as well. Moreover, a college degree substantially increases these students' chances for fruitful employment after release.

Prison education programs are the single most effective tool for decreasing the likelihood of a return to prison. For released BHCP graduates, the recidivism rate is virtually zero, as compared with the national average of 44 percent for women. As a result, the program lowers prison costs—prison education is significantly less expensive than reincarceration—strengthens families, and makes communities safer.

For the past two decades, MMC has led the charge by raising private donations, including \$3 million in private endowed funds, to build this vital program. The incarcerated women in the BHCP cannot bear the cost of higher education, nor does federal funding for prison education programs make an appreciable impact. The generosity of individual donors and foundations is essential to sustaining this transformative program. With the ongoing commitment of BHCP supporters, the future looks bright—for BHCP students and alumnae, the wider MMC community, and society as a whole.

## **OWEN KELSEY'10**

When attending classes at Marymount Manhattan, Owen Kelsey '10 could never have predicted his current career. A Communication Arts major and Philosophy minor at MMC, Kelsey is now a performance blacksmith, demonstrating the centuries-old trade at museums and state parks across New Jersey.

"When schools bring their students to historical smithies, they get to see into the past and, I hope, stoke the 'curiosity-creativity fires' within themselves," he says. "Had I known I would one day give demonstrations in front of crowds of people, I may have taken a theatre course while at MMC!"

Kelsev is genuine and good-natured when reflecting upon his college days.

"My love for philosophy, history, and technology was nurtured by some of the best faculty an undergraduate student could ask for. Though the faculty might remember me as frequently sleepy. the knowledge I gained in college has shaped the person I am today," he says.



The life and career of Berette Macaulay '01 has always centered on the arts. After graduating from Marymount Manhattan with a Theatre Arts degree, Macaulay performed in independent theatres in New York City, and later studied ballet and modern dance at Peridance Capezio Center, near Manhattan's Union Square.

"Theatre training in any capacity, as a performer or technician, prepares you for just about anything, I believe, because of its interdisciplinary and interpersonal culture, and the sheer rigor of the work, from research and writing to staging a production," she says.

Today, Macaulay's primary focus is photography, a field in which she experimented during elective classes with professors Millie Burns and Millie Falcaro, MFA, at MMC, and which she credits as a direct influence on her current career as a photo-based artist.

Macaulay's latest work, a portrait series called memory of nothing, features images of interracial/intercultural couples and is on display at the Amazon headquarters, in Seattle. Macaulay's photography also appears in the journal MFON: Women Photographers of the African Diaspora.

Looking ahead, Macaulay will participate in a four-week residency at an international artists' and writers' colony in Vermont. She will also pursue a master's degree in Cultural Studies at the University of Washington.





"At MMC, you really do meet a great network of influential and supportive people who quickly become friends...."

-CHRIS PINNELLA '07

## **CHRIS PINNELLA '07**

For Chris Pinnella '07, attending Marymount Manhattan provided many opportunities to perform—and he hasn't stopped since. The singer-songwriter looks back fondly on his undergraduate experience and appreciates the ways his peers and professors supported his career. In addition, the master classes offered to students and the numerous opportunities to work with renowned music directors proved to be transformative educational experiences. "I credit [quest director Marcia Milgrom Dodge for my initial professional acting jobs," he says. "She got me an audition for a production of Carousel in Dallas. That show allowed me to join the Actors' Equity Association. A few months later, I portrayed the title character in a musical Marcia directed called Simeon's Gift."

Performing in Gift proved to be exactly that. Pinnella had the rare opportunity to work one-on-one with acting legend Julie Andrews, whose children's book served as the musical's source material. After that, friend and MMC alumna Adrienne Warren '09 —currently starring as Tina Turner in the blockbuster musical Tina—brought Pinnella to the attention of the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, resulting in a world tour.

Over the years, Pinnella has maintained a close connection with the MMC community, collaborating on projects with alumna Jenna Ushkowitz'07 (of Glee fame), staying in close touch with professors David Mold and Patricia Hoag Simon, and even marrying a fellow MMC grad—Tara Ruddy Pinnella '08, with whom he welcomed a daughter earlier this year.

Today, in addition to performing, the Asbury Park, New Jersey, resident recently launched a documentary series called The Musicians Collective.





## ANNUAL **SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT**

A Marymount Manhattan liberal arts education is among the finest in the nation. Scholarships enable deserving students—regardless of financial means—to have access to the small-college experience and professional opportunities that only MMC, in the heart of New York City, can provide. Over 90 percent of the College's student body relies on scholarship support, and 95 percent of freshmen receive scholarships. The Annual Scholarship Benefit—MMC's largest fundraiser of the year—raises crucial funds for students in need. In 2018, trustees, faculty, alumni, parents, and friends of the College exceeded the million-dollar mark in support of Marymount Manhattan students.

The 2018 Benefit honored the College's Academic Access Program and its director, Diana Nash '89. For more than two decades, Academic Access has fostered success during college and beyond for students with learning differences.

During the moving award presentation, Diana Nash (top left) spoke passionately about Academic Access students' experiences throughout the years: "They had been told, 'We will try to help you get through high school, but don't even think about college.' But they had the courage to think about college, and they came to Marymount Manhattan to the Academic Access Program—and worked hard When they walk across the stage at graduation, they have the biggest smile on their faces and my eyes fill with tears of joy and pride."

## **ELEKTRA B. YAO '09**

As a person with a passion for art. Elektra B. Yao '09 felt understandably drawn to New York City. "I transferred to Marymount Manhattan after my first year of college because of its outstanding national reputation, challenging curriculum, and dedication to shaping future artists," she says.

At MMC, she became a reporter for The Monitor, worked in both the Office of Institutional Advancement and the Media Center, and participated in several clubs, including Lambda Pi Eta (the Communication Arts Honor Society), the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, the International Students Association, the Black and Latino Students Association, and the Art Fusion Club.

Today, Yao is the owner and principal attorney of an eponymous law office in New York City. There she runs a corporate immigration law practice with a special focus on artists and entrepreneurs.

A Communication Arts major at MMC, Yao credits her education with influencing her career development: "The creative analysis I learned in my classes is a tool that I use daily as an attorney representing artists. Because I understand and have direct experience with the creative process, I am able to more effectively help artists secure temporary visas and green cards based on their extraordinary abilities," she says.



## CITYEDGE

## CityEdge: Breaking Down (Classroom) Walls

Marymount Manhattan was established on New York's Upper East Side with a distinct purpose in view: to provide students with a highquality liberal arts education enriched by deep immersion in the City's dynamic cultural and professional environment. CityEdge—MMC's signature initiative—ensures that students are learning both in the City and from the City while preparing to transition from college to career.

Internships and meaningful field experiences are central to CityEdge's impact and to the College's commitment to readying students to excel in an evolving professional world. The CityEdge Internship Stipend is a \$1,000 grant awarded to eligible students who secure unpaid internships at nonprofit organizations or government agencies. The selection process prioritizes students with the greatest financial need, who may not otherwise be able to have internships. These students often have the most to gain from the opportunity to obtain marketable job experience and build social capital.

Allison Lehman '19, a senior at MMC, was awarded a CityEdge Internship Stipend last year, which enabled her to pursue an internship at the esteemed nonprofit off-Broadway company Women's Project Theater. "Having an unpaid internship of this magnitude was really only possible for me with the support of the CityEdge Stipend," Allison says. "As a student and just a young person in general, unpaid internships are essentially the name of the game in entry-level positions, especially in the arts and in the nonprofit world. I cannot express how thankful I am to have received the stipend."



Internships are invaluable in helping students explore possible fields of interest and acquire the experience and connections necessary to obtain full-time positions. Thanks to the support of our generous donors and the dedication of faculty, as well as the Career Services staff, MMC students can pursue prestigious internships year-round in a wide variety of industries. From the New York City Ballet to Rolling Stone, and the Department of Homeland Security to Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and Wall Street (above), MMC students across all majors are able to take advantage of all that New York City has to offer.

## **JULIA KHVASECKO '01**

Julia Khvasecko '01 had already graduated from the Katherine Gibbs Business School and was working as an administrative assistant in the finance field when she began her BS in Accounting and Finance at MMC. Her degree enabled her to transition into more challenging roles after graduation, and she became an accounting associate and then a hedge fund accountant over the next several years.

But when the market crashed in 2008. Khyasecko saw an opportunity to pursue another passion. "I went back to school to study bodywork," she says. "As I continued to work in finance by day, I began to build a practice during the evenings and weekends. In 2014, I left finance altogether to start my own company—and have been self-employed ever since."

Khvasecko's bicoastal company is Marathon Massage. As a licensed massage therapist, registered yoga teacher, and running coach, she helps clients mostly distance runners—achieve or maintain peak physical performance.

In addition to formal training. Khyasecko has experience that makes her distinctly qualified for the work. After being diagnosed with a brain tumor in her twenties, she was bedridden. From her hospital window, Khvasecko was able to watch the sea of runners competing in the New York City Marathon, and she vowed to run again herself one day. As her strength and mobility returned, she took up training, completing first a 5K and then, eventually, her first marathon, in 2005. After that, marathoning became both her pleasure and her vocation. In April 2018, Khvasecko completed her 200th marathon at the Yakima River Canyon in Washington—on her 20th "cancerversary," no less.

## COMMENCEMENT

Each May, Marymount Manhattan students, faculty, staff, alumni, family, and friends gather at Lincoln Center's iconic David Geffen Hall to celebrate the College's annual Commencement Exercises and recognize a milestone achievement of the graduating class.

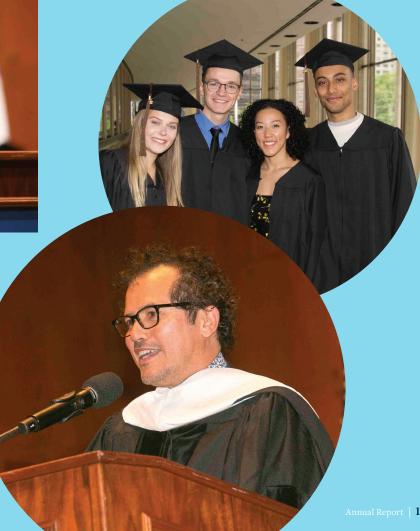
In addition to the conferral of degrees, MMC's Commencement features a festive Alumni Induction Ceremony, during which graduates are presented with a special alumni pin and are officially welcomed into MMC's proud and robust community of alumni—a lifelong network of support, camaraderie, and connection to the College.

In 2018, MMC proudly granted honorary degrees to Debora Spar, groundbreaking leader in the arts and education, and the first woman to hold the esteemed position of President of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, and John Leguizamo, acclaimed actor, producer, and author whose many accolades include an Emmy Award and a Drama Desk Award, as well as a Special Tony Award, given in June 2018.



"I want you to do something that you can't not do. Regardless of the road you're about to head down, you're young, and you will make mistakes. Do whatever it is that you are put on this earth to do, even if it scares you. Take risks but be aware your time on this earth is brief, so eat whole fat foods and be happy."

— John Leguizamo H'18





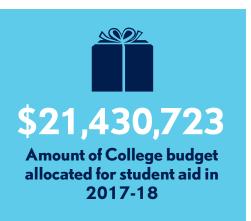
## **■ IT ALL ADDS UP**

95%

Percentage of first-year students receiving financial aid

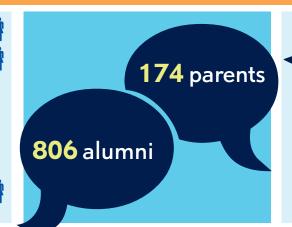
Percentage of total student body receiving financial aid





Number of donor-funded scholarships awarded in 2017-18: 309







## MAKING AN IMPACT ON FUTURE GENERATIONS

## Fiscal Year 2017 - 2018 Gifts & Pledges

Gifts to MMC have an impact on every aspect of the student experience at the College, supporting student scholarships, faculty initiatives, new academic programs and curriculum enhancements, campus improvements and technology updates, and other areas of greatest need. It is with deep gratitude that we list our donors whose enduring generosity has helped preserve this legacy of support. The full donor list is available at www.mmm.edu/donor-roll.

#### LEADERSHIP SOCIETY

## (\$50,000+)

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(\$25,000 - \$49,999)

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(\$5,000 - \$9,999)

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## SAVE THE DATE

## THE RUDIN LECTURE FEATURING BILL T. JONES

**February 6, 2019** 

The Ferraro Institute presents the annual Rudin Lecture featuring Bill T. Jones, Founding Artistic Director of New York Live Arts and Artistic Director/ Co-Founder of the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company. Reception to follow.

### THE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT

April 29, 2019

The Annual Scholarship Benefit is MMC's largest fundraising event of the year. This year's event, to be held at Jazz at Lincoln Center, will honor Carol Berman '13.

### **DANCE GALA**

May 10, 2019 Theresa Lang Theatre Marymount Manhattan College

## COMMENCEMENT

May 17, 2019 **David Geffen Hall** Lincoln Center, New York City

### REUNION

## Friday-Saturday, May 17-18, 2019

All alumni are invited to come home to 71st Street! This year's reunion will honor class years ending in 4 or 9, including our 25th Reunion Class (1994) and our 50th Reunion Class (1969).



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