



Alumni News



Montclair State University Foundation Announces New Leadership

As the first African American chair of Montclair State University Foundation, Greg Collins '79 (pictured above) will bring his expertise in business, accounting, education and building strong communities to his new role. He has a passion for helping students find a path to a better future at Montclair State. Also on the board are Judith Schumacher-Tilton and Gerald ("Jerry") Appelstein, co-chairs of the Foundation Board's Development Committee. Appelstein recently accepted the role of chair of the President's Club as well. Together with their fellow board members, these champions of Montclair State will inspire our donors and raise the bar for philanthropic support for the University. [\[Read more\]](#)

MONTCLAIRconnect



MONTCLAIRconnect: Tap into Your Alumni Network

We all know it can be hard to stick to New Year's resolutions, so here is an easy one we think you can keep! Build and grow your professional network. Join the new and improved online community platform exclusive to Montclair State alumni – MONTCLAIRconnect. The Montclair State alumni network is a powerful group of more than 130,000 fellow Red Hawks in virtually every profession, across all 50 states, and in more than 75 countries worldwide. Tap into your alumni network and start making your connections today. [\[Read more\]](#)

University News

University's New Brand 'Elevates' the Student Experience

A newly released video highlights students' passion and grit, disproving those who said it couldn't be done. Watch students and alumni who were chosen to represent the University tell their stories highlighting Montclair State's values: empowering, welcoming and committed to excellence. [\[View full story\]](#)

Principal Gives Pupils Extra Credit for Masks

Digital Events

January 21

[Webinar: Business Analytics \(MS and Certificate\)](#)

January 25

[Professional Development: Networking Best Practices to Land the Job and Career You Want](#)

January 26

[Webinar: Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor and Student Assistance Coordinator programs](#)

January 27

[Online Professional Development Presentation Innovations #1](#)

January 28

[Webinar: Virtual Learning for Students with Disabilities Graduate Certificate](#)

To find out more about online events and resources, visit our [website](#).

IMPACT Montclair State

Check out Montclair State's crowdfunding initiative, IMPACT Montclair State. Support a campaign, team, or fund that means the most to you and your Montclair State experience. [\[Learn more\]](#)

February is Matching Gift Month

Increase the impact of your giving!

Many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will match any charitable contributions or volunteer hours made by their employees. To find out if your company has a matching gift policy, check out our [website](#).

For more information on matching gifts, contact Kara Baldwin Brennan '92, Director of Annual Giving, at 973-655-7492 or brennanka@montclair.edu.

Career Corner



By Adam Mayer, MA, GCDF, CPRW, Director of Career



Some New Jersey fifth-graders are showing their smarts by coming up with an idea for a face covering that helps people cope with the stress of the pandemic. The budding entrepreneurs are even getting help bringing the idea to life, thanks to the connections their school principal has with Montclair State, as both an alumnus and an adjunct professor in Educational Leadership. After the pupils won a virtual Shark Tank-style pitch competition, Principal Harold Abraham '13 MEd invited recent alumni from the University's Fashion Studies program to continue working with his students to create a prototype of a mask infused with essential oils. [\[Read more\]](#)

Giving News



James E. Harris Book Scholarship

Former Associate Dean of Students and University Ombudsman James E. Harris '68, '70 MA provided 42 years of dedicated service to Montclair State and its students. He established the James E. Harris Book Scholarship to provide highly deserving undergraduate students financial support for the purchase of books. Share in James' commitment to supporting the mission of providing access and opportunity for all students to be successful, no matter their financial means. [\[Learn more about how you can support this Scholarship.\]](#)

Athletics News

Development [The Center for Career Services](#)

What are interviewers looking for when hiring for remote jobs? Primarily, evidence of independence, initiative and collaboration. The [Muse](#) offers great advice on answering common questions, including "What types of remote/distributed team tools and software have you used and how did you use them?" and "How do you keep yourself motivated/engaged when working from home?" Key to any interview is to share concrete, evidence-based examples—using SAR (Situation Action Result) is great for fleshing-out answers. For more details on how to ace remote job interviews, check-out the Career Services' podcast [Manual or Automatic: What Gears are Driving Your Career.](#)

Sign onto
MONTCCLAIRconnect!

Create your profile to start making connections today!

Sign on today to:

- Expand your network and connect with fellow graduates

- Access Hire a Red Hawk with the click of a button!

- Check out the calendar of events for upcoming digital opportunities

Get started by [creating your account](#) today!

Did you lose your health benefits? Augeo Benefits can help!

If you just left your job for any reason and lost your job-based health coverage, you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period. This means you can enroll in a Marketplace insurance plan any time of year. You usually have 60 days from the day you lose your coverage to enroll. Speak with a licensed benefit counselor today by calling 888.807.3881 or get things started with a [free online quote.](#)

GEICO Alumni Discount



As a graduate of Montclair State University, you may be eligible for a special discount on auto insurance from GEICO. Find out how much you could save. Fifteen minutes could save you 15 percent or more on car insurance. [\[Learn more\]](#)

Exclusive Alumni Benefits through PerksConnect!



Athletics Spring Back!

Montclair State Athletics is back in 2021! Student-athletes are returning to begin practicing. And our basketball teams will lead us into spring competitions on Friday, February 5! Check out the Montclair State Athletics Website for opening game dates. [\[Read more\]](#)



Mills Named Finalist for Pro Football Hall of Fame

Former Montclair State all-time great and NFL All-Pro Sam Mills inched closer toward enshrinement into the Pro Football Hall of Fame as he was named one of the 15 Modern-Era Finalists earlier this month. Mills is a finalist for the second straight year and is among a group that includes Peyton Manning, Reggie Wayne, Charles Woodson and Zach Thomas. [\[Read more\]](#)

Alumni Spotlights



Bisa Butler '05

Not even the pandemic and the challenges of the last several months could slow the upward trajectory of quilting artist and alumna Mailissa "Bisa" Yamba Butler's career, which capped a year of accomplishments and recognition with a show at the prestigious Art Institute of Chicago, where 22 of her quilts are on exhibit until April. [\[View full story\]](#)



Sign on to PerksConnect to find local and national deals and discounts! Search for event tickets, cash back rewards, and much more! You will be asked to sign on to access your alumni benefits. [\[Learn more\]](#)

Working Advantage



As alumni, you have exclusive access to the Working Advantage discount network which allows you to save up to 60% on ticketed events and online shopping. Access these discounts and get started today! [\[Learn more\]](#)

Wilson's Family Saved \$2,998 in Vet Bills!



Wilson needed emergency surgery after ingesting a tennis ball. Luckily Wilson's parents had Healthy Paws pet insurance, which covered 90% of Wilson's vet bills.

- #1 Customer-Rated Pet Insurance
- Save up to 90% on Vet Bills
- Comprehensive Accident & Illness Coverage
- No limits on Claim Payouts
- Montclair Alumni Save up to 10% Today

[\[See My Rates!\]](#)

Why Get Life Insurance Through AIG Direct?



Hear from our customers who helped protect their family with life insurance. What our satisfied customers say about us in their life insurance reviews say more than any advertising campaign ever could. A review from a



Thomas Maroulakos '10

When the luxury fashion industry didn't offer the spark Thomas Maroulakos '10 wanted from his career, he partnered with his brother Dean (MSU '07) to launch a brew pub with great food and 1930s speakeasy charm. Today, the four restaurants that comprise Skopós Hospitality Group are providing a growing New Jersey clientele with stellar dining experiences. [\[View full story\]](#)

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customer is a great way to see what people really think about a company. We encourage you to request a [free quote](#) for life insurance to experience a similar journey as our thousands of other happy customers. Take the first step to help protect those who matter to you. [\[Learn more\]](#)

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You shop. Amazon gives.

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support your alma mater by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com. [\[Support Montclair State!\]](#)

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Are you following us on social media? If not, you're missing out on live coverage of events and activities, important announcements, event invites, and much more!

Follow us on Facebook Montclair State University Alumni, on Instagram [@officialmsualumni](#) and on Twitter [@MontclairAlumni](#)



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