

# AlumniConnections

The monthly newsletter for alumni and friends | April 2023 | Volume 16 | Issue 4



MONTCLAIR STATE  
UNIVERSITY

## Alumni News



### Making the Montclair Connection at Prudential

MSU + Pru Connect is building a platform and a valuable workforce pipeline between the Feliciano School of Business and Prudential, one of the country's most respected, value-driven corporate leaders. As the initiative grows, it will become a template for affinity relationships between the University and top employers nationally.

[\[View Full Story\]](#)

## 1 DAY 4 MONTCLAIR



### One Day for Montclair: The Countdown is On!

One Day for Montclair is a day when the entire Montclair State University community comes together for a day of action and celebration! Your

## Upcoming Events

**April 21**

[What to Know and What's to Come with ChatGPT & Artificial Intelligence](#)

**April 24**

[Bocce Nella Piazza](#)

**April 24**

[Food Web Structure and Dynamics Across Space and Time](#)

**April 27**

[World's Fair Day](#)

**April 27**

[Advanced LinkedIn: Optimizing Your Profile & Digital Footprint](#)

**April 28**

[University Wind Symphony with Dr. Thomas McCauley, Conductor](#)

**May 5**

[Webinar: Women, Wealth, Taxes & Retirement](#)

View the [full calendar of events](#) and check out some [online resources](#).

### Class of 1973 Reunion Hotel Deadline is May 4

1973 **50**<sup>th</sup> Reunion 2023  
Reminisce | Reconnect | Rediscover

Congratulations on the **50th anniversary** of your graduation from

support on Thursday, April 27, 2023, will help us create opportunities, elevate achievements and celebrate our students.

[\[View the full story\]](#)

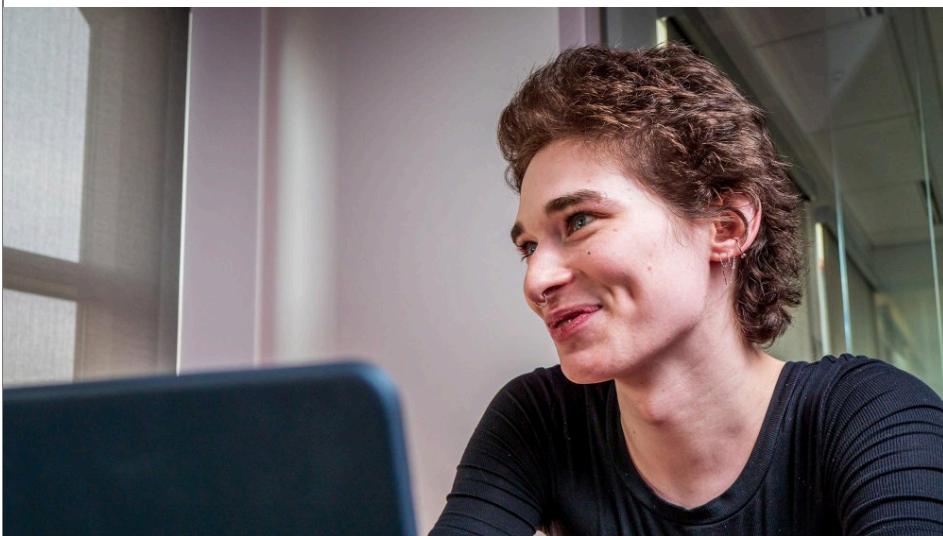
## University News



### Hillary Clinton Recognizes Advances and Challenges to Women's Rights

Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, in celebrating Women's History Month with a capacity crowd at Montclair State University, used the opportunity of a keynote address on Sunday, March 26, to both honor and reflect on the challenges confronting women and human rights.

[\[View the full story\]](#)



### Montclair Graduate Student Building \$7.5 Million AI Company

When Raz Besaleli isn't on the Montclair State University campus participating in the Natural Language Processing (NLP) Lab, tutoring

Montclair State University!

The deadline to book your hotel room at Best Western Fairfield Executive Inn is **May 4. Call (973-575-7700)** for a discounted group rate of \$159+ per night. Please mention Montclair State University's Reunion when making your reservations.

Complimentary shuttle service will be provided to and from campus at designated times. Also, don't forget to **register for Reunion!**

### BAAC Black Alumni BBQ Saturday, June 10



The Black Alumni Advisory Council invites you back to campus on Saturday, June 10, for a summer barbeque. Come connect with fellow alumni and friends for food, drinks (soft and beer/wine), games, music and dancing! There will be fun for the whole family. Future Red Hawks (children) are welcome and can enjoy face painting, cotton candy and glitter tattoos!

[Purchase Your Tickets](#)

### Join HLAN



Hispanic/Latinx/a/o representation has increased at Montclair State in recent years with 32 percent of undergraduate students and 16 percent of graduate students

fellow linguistics students or helping professors with their courses by grading assignments and attending office hours, she's working on her master's in Computational Linguistics – or helping run a multimillion-dollar AI company she helped co-found.

[\[View the full story\]](#)

## More University News

[Professor Earns NSF CAREER Grant to Advance Nuclear Physics Research](#) Grant will also provide access to high-level research for students typically underrepresented in laboratory science

[EOF's 8th Annual Women's Empowerment Conference a Success](#) Montclair State University leaders and female high school students participate in discussions, and activities to highlight Women's History Month

## Giving News



### Satchel Paige Bobblehead Night - Thursday, May 11

Join the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum and the New York Yankees to celebrate Satchel Paige at Yankee Stadium, as they take on the Tampa Bay Rays. A portion of every ticket sold will benefit the [Charles J. Muth Museum of Hinchliffe Stadium](#). Each Special Event Ticket includes a New York Yankees Satchel Paige Bobblehead. Please note that you must purchase a Special Event Ticket in order to have access to this exclusive offer.

[BUY TICKETS](#)

identifying as Hispanic/Latinx/a/o.

Launched in 2021, the Hispanic/Latinx/a/o Alumni Network provides opportunities for networking among alumni and a forum to strengthen connections with the University and its students.

[Read more here.](#)

If you're interested in joining HLAN, please complete this [brief survey](#).

## Our Partnership with AMBA has Launched



The Montclair State University Foundation has partnered with AMBA to offer quality benefits at affordable prices to our alumni.

Check your inboxes. You will receive information on email offers for dental insurance and Liberty Mutual home and auto insurance.

[Learn More](#)

## New Online Graduate Certificate in Real Estate Development

This fall, the Feliciano School of Business will launch a new online graduate certificate in Real Estate Development. Designed for aspiring and practicing project managers, property managers, brokers, analysts, and entrepreneurs, the certificate program will prepare participants to coordinate and facilitate commercial real estate development projects. This four-course certificate program can be completed in as little as six months,



# Athletics News



## Griffith, Itoua Notch Wins at Osprey Open

Michelle Itoua and John Griffith won events while Montclair's track and field teams competed at the Osprey Open.

[\[View the Full Story\]](#)



## Former Student-Athlete Becomes Assistant Coach for Montclair State University Baseball

A new name enters the exclusive alumni-turned-coach club as Joe Norton was named assistant coach for the Montclair State baseball team. Norton made a name for himself as a student-athlete after playing six seasons for the Red Hawks from 2017 to 2022. Norton is top five in Red Hawk baseball for most hits and runs and is the school's all-time leader in stolen

and the nine credits can be used to pursue Montclair's new MBA concentration in Real Estate Development!

[More Details.](#)

## Sign onto MONTCLAIRconnect!

[Create your profile](#) to start making connections today!

- Expand your network and connect with fellow graduates.

Our featured **MONTCLAIRconnect group of the month** is the **School of Nursing**. This fledgling group is a place for graduates of the nursing program to network, exchange ideas and resources. [Click here to sign up and learn more.](#)

- Access Handshake to post a job or search for a job with the click of a button!
- Check out the calendar of events for upcoming digital and in-person opportunities

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

## Career Corner



Adam Mayer, MA, GCDF, CPRW,  
Director, University College Career and  
Academic Programming

ChatGPT is all the rage, so how can job seekers benefit from it? Job seekers can effectively use ChatGPT by asking questions related to job search strategies, resume writing,



bases with 74.

[\[View the Full Story\]](#)

## Alumni Spotlights



### Johnny Ross '20 *The Beauty of Influencing*

Johnny Ross '20 is more than a pretty face. A talented comedian, actor and makeup artist, Ross has created a winning social media brand, landing the #5 spot on Traackr.com's list of top beauty influencers. A member of the elite Ulta Beauty Collective Class of 2023, Ross is already preparing for the next chapter for [@mrjohnnyross](#).

[\[View full story\]](#)



### Tiffany Perez '09 *Drawing a Line between Art and Community-Minded Entrepreneurship*

interview preparation, and career advice. They can also ask for insights into specific industries or companies, as well as seek guidance on how to develop their skills and experience. ChatGPT can provide personalized recommendations based on the job seeker's qualifications and preferences. Additionally, ChatGPT can assist job seekers with job search resources, such as job boards, career fairs, and networking opportunities.

## Working Advantage

**working**  
ADVANTAGE

Alumni have exclusive access to the [Working Advantage discount network](#) which allows you to save up to 60% on ticketed events and online shopping.

To access these discounts, visit [workingadvantage.com/montclair](#) and get started today. Signing up is free!

## Follow Us on Facebook and Get Entered to Win



We have created a [brand new alumni Facebook page](#) we ask you to join us by [liking our page](#)! Please note, the prior Facebook page no longer exists. When you [like our new page](#), you will get entered to win cool prizes!

Tiffany Perez '09 is a highly regarded tattoo artist whose clientele includes celebrities from television, the music industry and professional sports. Now the owner of Ink Gallery Tattoo Studio – the largest tattoo studio in New Jersey – Perez is building a successful business while also building a community fueled by the arts.

[\[View full story\]](#)



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