



# AlumniConnections

The monthly newsletter for alumni and friends | June 2021 | Volume 15 | Issue 6

**Montclair  
State  
University**

## Alumni News



### New Board Members Bring Expertise and Passion for Education to the Montclair State University Foundation

Eager to share in the work of providing financial resources for Montclair State University and its students, three new board members of the Montclair State University Foundation — Susan Head '75 MA, Nadine Leslie, and Lester E. Taylor III '97 — are ready to bring their expertise and passion for education to their roles. [\[Read more\]](#)



### Startup Brings 'A' Game to Pitch Competition

Michael Elices '13 is on the cusp of something big in the wildly popular realm of sci-fi, historical and fantasy board games — making personalized figurines that look just like the gamers. As this year's winners in Feliciano Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation's annual Startup Montclair Pitch Competition, Elices and his business partner and spouse, Raisa Da Silva, now have much needed capital to make their next move. [\[Read more\]](#)

## Featured Event

**June 22**

[College Hall Rededication Ceremony](#)



Montclair State University Board of Trustees requests the honor of your presence at the rededication of College Hall. Please join us to rededicate the University's original building after its renovation and expansion, and to honor President Cole's outstanding leadership at her last formal campus event. Tours of the building will be offered after the ceremony. [\[Register now\]](#)

## Upcoming Events

**June 18**

[The Intersection of Climate and Social Justice: Part IV - Barrier Island Migration, Sea-Level Rise, and Coastal Protection: Insights from Long Beach Island, New Jersey](#)

**June 23**

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

**June 23**

[Webinar: MBA and Certificates Information Session](#)

**June 23**

[Webinar: Computational Linguistics \(MS\) and Certificate](#)

**June 25**

[Taubman Piano Festival 2021](#)

**June 28**

[Webinar: Teacher Education Programs](#)

**June 30**

[Webinar: Public and Organizational Relations](#)

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

## Career Corner



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



### Entrepreneur Mimi Feliciano Receives Honorary Degree

Montclair State University awarded Mimi Turco Feliciano an honorary Bachelor of Science degree at the Monday evening Feliciano School of Business Commencement ceremony on opening day of a week of ceremonies. It was a milestone long delayed for Feliciano who has credited the University with providing the foundation for her successful career even though she did not complete her degree when she attended decades ago. [\[Read more\]](#)

### University News



### Arizona State Dean Named Next President of Montclair State

Jonathan G.S. Koppell has been selected as Montclair State University's ninth president, the Board of Trustees announced today. A nationally regarded scholar of policy, organization and management who transformed the public affairs college at Arizona State University into one of the largest, best and most innovative in the nation, Koppell will start on August 2. [\[View full story\]](#) [\[View a welcome message from Dr. Koppell\]](#)



### Scenes From Graduation Week

#### Development

#### [The Center for Career Services](#)

Continued professional development is the backbone of any career, but where to begin? A sensible place to start, given most employers and job seekers are there anyway is the [Top Free Tech Courses on LinkedIn](#). Those who complete courses can showcase them on their LinkedIn profile under "Licenses and Certificates," as well as post their digital badges throughout online platforms to demonstrate professional development. LinkedIn course titles are diverse, too, including Blockchain Basics, Learning Cloud Computing, Analytical Reasoning and AI Foundations. Get started at [LinkedIn Learning](#).

#### Sign onto [MONTCLAIRconnect!](#)

Create your profile to start making connections today!

Sign on today to:

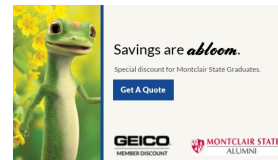
- Expand your network and connect with fellow graduates
- Access Hire a Red Hawk with the click of a button!
- Check out the calendar of events for upcoming digital opportunities

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.® [\[Learn more\]](#)

#### Summer is here! Save on Six Flags through PerksConnect!

Save up to \$30 per ticket on Six Flags locations nationwide!

On Sunday, Montclair State wrapped up the last of its 16 Commencement ceremonies celebrating the achievements of the members of the Class of 2021. It also marked the last Commencement ceremony that President Susan A. Cole would preside over, bringing the number to 90,342 degrees the University has conferred during her 23-year tenure. In a show of respect on what was her 175th and final Commencement ceremony, employees lined Sprague Field as Cole walked off, applauding her after she was presented a bouquet of flowers. [\[Read more\]](#)

## More University News...

- [New String Quartet-in-Residence](#)
- ['Magical Evening' Honors President Cole, Raises Money for Student Scholarships](#)

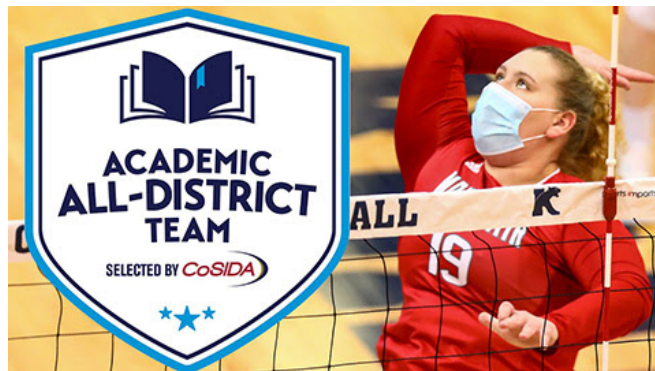
## Giving News



### Support the President Susan A. Cole Scholarship

After 23 years of service to the University, President Cole has announced her retirement at the end of this academic year. Join us in honoring Dr. Cole and creating opportunities for students by supporting the President Susan A. Cole Scholarship. This new scholarship will ensure that New Jersey students who have strived to achieve educational success have the opportunity for an education at Montclair State without respect to the economic and social challenges they may face or the life circumstances into which they were born. We invite everyone inspired by Montclair State and the legacy President Cole has created for the University to get involved and make a gift. [\[Learn More\]](#)

## Athletics News



### Carly Waterman Named CoSIDA Academic All-District

Junior outside hitter Carly Waterman of the Montclair State volleyball team was named to the College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-District Team Thursday. As a physical education major, Waterman, who holds a 3.84 GPA, was one of three student-athletes chosen from the New Jersey Athletic Conference. [\[Read more\]](#)

## Alumni Spotlights



Enjoy the thrill and excitement at your local Six Flags Theme Park! Tickets are valid for the current season and may be used anytime. [\[Visit PerksConnect!\]](#)

Exclusive Alumni Benefits through PerksConnect!



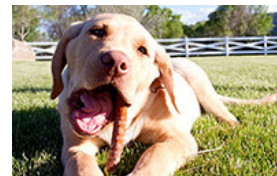
Sign on to PerksConnect to find local and national deals and discounts! Search for event tickets, cash back rewards, and much more! You will be asked to sign on to access your alumni benefits. [\[Learn more\]](#)

### Support Club Gymnastics!

The Montclair State Gymnastics Team is in its inaugural year with its founding in the Fall of 2020. Our president, Hannah Goldhaber, founded this club along with a motivated group of students that discovered a passion for the sport of gymnastics throughout their lifetime and wanted to continue their love for gymnastics through college. Our members are gymnasts ranging from beginner level to NCAA athletes, and our team has grown to become a family. We are looking to recruit new members to join our family and enjoy gymnastics as much as we do.

Our main mission when starting this team was to foster a passion for gymnastics in anyone who was interested in learning. Your support will help us create a practice atmosphere that is safe, accessible and inclusive to all students! [\[Learn more!\]](#)

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



### Father, Daughter Graduate Together: Lavone '21 and Tiiera Broxton '21

It's not easy to work a full-time job, raise a family and go to school "off and on for years," but Lavone Broxton, motivated by his wife and daughters, finally earned his undergraduate degree. His walk across the Commencement stage was made even sweeter on Thursday, June 10 as he shared graduation day with his daughter, Tiiera Broxton. Lavone and Tiiera Broxton earned degrees in Sociology, and now their home in Newark, New Jersey, is brimming with Red Hawk pride. Lavone's spouse and Tiiera's mother, Rhonda Robinson-Broxton, earned two graduate degrees from Montclair State, a Master of Arts in Teaching in 2013 and a Master of Education in 2019. [\[View full story\]](#)



### Making Waves: Arye Janoff '21 PhD

Arye Janoff '21 PhD, a coastal geomorphologist who studies the long-term effects of climate change along the New Jersey coast, was awarded a prestigious modeler award for research that couples geomorphology and economics to understand how communities manage their beaches along developed coasts. Janoff received the Jaia Syvitski Student Modeler Award for 2021 given by the Community Surface Dynamics Modeling System to recognize outstanding achievement in surface modeling, with a focus on how modeling is used to address scientific and societal challenges. [\[View full story\]](#)

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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 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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