Every year, hundreds of thousands of students — including a record 274,000 degree-credit students — choose The City University of New York for a multitude of reasons that can be summed up as one: opportunity. Providing a quality, accessible education, regardless of background or means, has been CUNY’s mission since 1847. The University’s unwavering commitment to that principle is a source of enormous pride. CUNY colleges offer a seemingly infinite array of academic programs taught by award-winning faculty, as well as sports, internships, scholarships and community service opportunities found on campuses throughout New York City’s five boroughs. CUNY’s combination of quality academics, remarkable affordability, financial support and the convenience of 24 modern campuses offers a remarkable educational experience.

We look forward to welcoming you to The City University of New York.

— James B. Milliken, Chancellor

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BOASTING WORLD-CLASS ACADEMICS, award-winning faculty and both new and enhanced campuses, today’s City University of New York is attracting students who win National Science Foundation fellowships and Rhodes Scholarships, keeping a nearly 170-year-old commitment to educational excellence and opportunity.

Our mission dates to 1847 when founder Townsend Harris, an early champion of public education and a pioneering diplomat who was the first U.S. ambassador to Japan, called upon New York City to create a public academy of higher learning to “educate the whole people.” An inaugural class of 143 academically qualified young men was soon assembled.

The fledgling school quickly grew in reputation and enrollment and, as a new century approached, plans were approved for an expansive neo-Gothic campus uptown that became the College of the City of New York. Twenty years after the first students entered the academy, a second school for the education of teachers, the Female Normal and High School—later renamed Hunter College in honor of its founder, Thomas Hunter—offered the same higher education opportunities to women.

Fueled by an immigration boom in the early 20th century, City College and Hunter expanded to include evening sessions in Brooklyn and Queens. In 1926, the state Legislature established a Board of Higher Education to oversee the growing municipal college system and expand public access in the city’s outer boroughs. Over the next decade, Brooklyn College and Queens College were founded and Hunter established a Bronx campus, which decades later would become Lehman College.

Despite the city’s limited resources, demand for public higher education continued to grow during the Great Depression. The colleges created night divisions that charged affordable tuition while offering students the opportunity to work toward their degrees or raise their grades to the levels required to enter the colleges’ free baccalaureate programs. In the ensuing post-World War II years, another dramatic enrollment boom led to the...
creation of several community colleges, including one on Staten Island. In 1961, the state Legislature formally established The City University of New York, uniting what by then had become seven municipal colleges into a formally integrated system and authorizing the new University to offer doctoral programs. Today, the senior colleges have selective admission requirements. Community colleges continue to serve as portals to opportunity for applicants with a high school or GED diploma.

Since 2000, billions of dollars have been invested to rebuild, enhance and expand the University’s 24 campuses. The CUNY Graduate School of Journalism, CUNY School of Public Health, Macaulay Honors College and the innovative Guttman Community College are among the colleges and graduate schools recently established. This greatly expanded University, serving record enrollments, offers tuition-free education to seven in 10 full-time undergraduates thanks to federal, state and CUNY financial aid. In contrast to the crushing debt other students typically carry at many public and private institutions, 80 percent of our students who earn an undergraduate degree graduate with no student debt.

The University’s 21st-century mission remains true to its founding principles of academic excellence, scholarship and opportunity for all. CUNY boasts 13 Nobel laureates and the tradition of high academic achievement continues as our students win prestigious scholarships. In recent years, the University has produced 70 Fulbright scholars, 70 National Science Foundation fellows, 10 Truman scholars
and seven Rhodes scholars.

With a flourishing reputation among students and educators alike, CUNY is defining value by providing the opportunity of a lifetime: a high-quality, competitive and remarkably affordable college education. It’s an education that delivers in the marketplace, producing job-ready graduates with respected academic credentials. It’s a 21st-century education, taught by top scholars on upgraded campuses that is transforming the student experience, bringing jobs to New York and stimulating economic development.

That’s why more high-achieving students, and more students of all backgrounds and abilities, are choosing to study in vibrant New York City at The City University of New York.
THE UNIVERSITY includes 11 senior colleges, seven community colleges, The Macaulay Honors College and five graduate and professional schools, located throughout the city’s five boroughs.

Each of the senior colleges offers a distinctive history, as well as a rigorous baccalaureate degree program and enriching campus experience. Over the years, The City College of New York, founded in 1847, has been joined by Hunter College, Brooklyn College, Queens College, New York City College of Technology, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, York College, Baruch College, Lehman College, Medgar Evers College and the College of Staten Island. The Macaulay Honors College at CUNY, established in 2005, offers exceptional undergraduates a transformative educational experience, blending traditional and innovative programs at eight senior college campuses, in addition to Macaulay’s central home near Manhattan’s Lincoln Center.
and graduate schools

The University’s seven community colleges provide a high-quality education through associate degree programs that prepare students for transfer to senior colleges or entry into professional careers. These institutions include the Borough of Manhattan Community College, Bronx Community College, Hostos Community College, Kingsborough Community College, LaGuardia Community College and Queensborough Community College. Stella and Charles Guttman Community College, which first opened in the fall of 2012 as the New Community College before being formally named, is the University’s first new community college in more than 40 years, and is especially designed to connect rigorous classroom learning with rich field experiences and internships in the wider urban community.

The CUNY Graduate Center offers more than 30 doctoral programs. CUNY School of Public Health, a collaboration of four CUNY institutions, offers master’s and doctoral degrees. The CUNY School of Law is recognized as the nation’s premier public-interest law school.
CUNY colleges are attracting record numbers of high academic achievers, including numerous winners of top national honors. The University now accepts about 20,000 applicants with a high school GPA of 85 or above—more than double the number from 10 years ago. Over the years, the winners of the prestigious student awards include seven Rhodes Scholars, six Marshall Scholars, 10 Truman Scholars and dozens of National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellows.

Among CUNY’s recent Rhodes Scholars are Pakistani immigrant Zujaja Tauqeer and two Russian immigrants, Lev Alexander Sovkis and Eugene Shenderov. For more about notable student scholars, visit: www.cuny.edu/outstandingstudents

The University’s long list of distinguished alumni includes 13 Nobel Laureates, among the highest number from any public university. For a complete list of these Nobel Prize winners, visit www.cuny.edu/nobellarueates

Overall, total full- and part-time enrollment at CUNY has soared in the last decade, increasing by more than a third. During that same period, enrollment at the University’s community colleges increased an extraordinary 48 percent. Fully 46 percent of all college students in New York City attend the University—including nearly 270,000 in adult, continuing and professional education.

CUNY students also continue to reflect remarkably diverse backgrounds, with family heritage linked to over 205 countries. More than 40 percent of undergraduates were born outside the United States; about 42 percent are first-generation Americans, and about 42 percent are the first in their families to attend college.

In addition to rigorous classroom learning, student life has become an increasingly important part of the CUNY experience. Students enjoy a wide array of extracurricular activities, including performing arts, cultural, social and political clubs, study abroad programs and community service opportunities.

For more about student life please visit: www.cuny.edu/studentlife

CUNY’s 7,517 full-time faculty features internationally recognized experts in nearly every academic field. Many faculty members combine outstanding academic credentials with significant real-world experiences and are regularly recognized with fellowships, grants and awards. Guggenheim Fellows, winners of Pulitzer, Bookers and National Book Awards and two U.S. Poet Laureates have taught or currently teach at CUNY.

To find out more about CUNY’s distinguished faculty please visit: www.cuny.edu/faculty

For a comprehensive campus-by-campus list of institutes and centers, which provide research opportunities in a range of areas, including aging, applied sciences, corporate integrity, transportation systems, ethnic studies, performing education and research, such as the Institute for Ultrafast Spectroscopy and Lasers. Others exemplify the University’s commitment to service and historic preservation.

Many institutions reflect CUNY’s support of state-of-the-art research and technology, including the CUNY Advanced Science Research Center, which is home to the Franklin Institute’s National Academy Science Library, the only one of its kind in the U.S. The University’s 7,500 full-time faculty includes internationally recognized experts in nearly every academic field. Many faculty members combine outstanding academic credentials with significant real-world experiences and are regularly recognized with fellowships, grants and awards. Guggenheim Fellows, winners of Pulitzer, Bookers and National Book Awards and two U.S. Poet Laureates have taught or currently teach at CUNY.
institutes & centers

CUNY IS HOME to more than 100 research centers, institutes and consortia, which provide research opportunities for faculty and students, employment, internships, and special events. These centers focus their efforts on a wide range of areas, including aging, applied sciences, corporate integrity, transportation systems, ethnic studies, performing arts, sustainable energy and urban studies, to name a few.

Many institutions reflect CUNY’s support of state-of-the-art education and research, such as the Institute for Ultrafast Spectroscopy and Lasers. Others exemplify the University’s commitment to service and historic preservation.

For a comprehensive campus-by-campus list of institutes and centers, visit: www.cuny.edu/institutes
STUDENTS AT EVERY CUNY CAMPUS can participate in an array of intercollegiate and intramural sports. Among the offerings for both men and women: basketball, cross-country, fencing, lacrosse, soccer, swimming, tennis, track and field and volleyball. Baseball, water polo and wrestling are offered for men; softball for women. Co-ed cheerleading/dance is also available and the John Jay College of Criminal Justice has a co-ed rifle team.

Four-year college varsity teams compete with schools in the National Collegiate Athletic Association, while community college teams participate in the National Junior College Athletic Association.

All CUNY schools also are members of the City University of New York Athletic Conference (CUNYAC). Championship CUNYAC tournaments are played in premier venues in New York City, including the National Tennis Center, MCU Park, Icahn Stadium, Metropolitan Oval and the Armory.

For more information about sports opportunities at each campus, visit http://www.cunyathletics.com, click “The Conference” tab and check “Athletic Offerings,” on the pull-down menu.
Research is a cornerstone of CUNY’s mission. Its Decade of Science initiative has reaffirmed the University’s commitment to meeting the nation’s pressing need for highly trained professionals in science, math, engineering and technology in the 21st century. To accomplish these efforts, CUNY has invested hundreds of millions of dollars building state-of-the-art facilities, such as the Advanced Science Research Center at CCNY, the Lehman Science Facility and the Interdisciplinary High Performance Computational Center at the College of Staten Island. The CUNY ASRC, a new science complex at CCNY featuring CUNY’s ASRC and CCNY’s Center for Discovery and Innovation, will link collaboration in five emerging science disciplines: photonics, nanotechnology, water and environmental sensing, structural biology and neuroscience.

The University’s Decade of Science initiative also has sparked mentoring relationships throughout CUNY, with professors involving undergraduates in research spanning the sciences.

Through the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, CUNY offers resources to faculty to encourage research, including internal funding programs, mentoring for junior faculty and assistance in seeking external grants. The CUNY Research Foundation manages private and government-sponsored programs at the University. And the Technology Commercialization Office helps faculty transfer innovative academic research to the commercial marketplace.
CUNY & the city

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK has long maintained a strong bond with its community, intertwined with the major civic events, economic issues and social changes affecting each era.

Fueled by record enrollments, CUNY is generating billions of dollars in needed construction and renovation on campuses throughout the five boroughs, benefiting students as well as economic development in the city. CUNY’s capital investment program – representing 20 percent of city construction today – is modernizing aging facilities, renovating historic buildings and building energy efficient, state-of-the-art centers of learning for the 21st century. An infusion of nearly $10 billion in new facilities over the last 15 years has produced 14,000 jobs in New York City.

CUNY’s diverse faculty provides instruction, workforce training and research in the ever-expanding body of disciplines required to meet the needs of the city’s evolving economy. The University has conferred more than 1.3 million degrees in the past 45 years, and surveys indicate that more than three-quarters of its graduates remain in the city. CUNY colleges account for more than a third of the business and finance degrees awarded by New York City institutions, about one-third of the city’s public school teachers and a high percentage of the nurses and health and science technicians employed by
local medical facilities. The University produces hundreds of computer scientists, specialists and engineering professionals each year. And over the years, it has created cutting-edge programs for tens of thousands of city agency workers.

Through collaborations with other city institutions, nonprofit groups and private entities, the University contributes in ways that directly benefit the everyday lives of individuals and their communities. College Now, the University’s academic enrichment program, is offered at more than 400 city high schools.

CUNY cultural events are often open to the public, or appear on CUNY TV, the largest public university television station in the United States, reaching about 2 million households. For information please visit: www.cuny.edu/culturalpassport
AS MORE AND MORE NEW YORK CITY STUDENTS seek a quality CUNY education, philanthropic partnerships have become increasingly important. The University's Invest in CUNY campaign is in the midst of an unprecedented initiative to raise $3 billion, and through the support of alumni, friends, corporations and foundations it has already raised more than $2.8 billion.

Each of CUNY's 24 colleges and professional schools offers a range of philanthropic opportunities, including support for scholarships, faculty, academic research and major building or reconstruction projects. Donations may be made through annual funds or giving societies, endowments and named or planned gifts. For more information visit: www.cuny.edu/invest
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CUNY Graduate Center-1961
Brooklyn College-1930
Queens College-1937
New York City College of Technology-1946
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LaGuardia Community College-1968
Lehman College-1968
Hostos Community College-1970
Medgar Evers College-1970
College of Staten Island-1976
CUNY School of Law-1983
Macauley Honors College at CUNY-2001
CUNY Graduate School of Journalism-2006
CUNY School of Professional Studies-2006
The CUNY School of Public Health-2008
Guttman Community College-2011