



## Greetings from the University of Saint Joseph

We are ready to welcome back students for the spring semester and want to be sure that you are up-to-date on all the latest news on campus. This newsletter includes recent news from campus and upcoming administrative deadlines. You are welcome to [contact us](#) with questions.

### **On-Campus Housing for the fall semester on your mind?**

Housing selection time is quickly approaching for the 2020-2021 academic year! This year, housing selection will happen in March and April. Students will be using the online housing portal, eRezLife, to complete their application and fill out any additional forms, reports, etc. Selection dates and times are based on Priority Points which helps recognize students who are engaged in the residential community on campus. Students earn points for attending programs, participating in activities, their GPA, and good standing within the university's conduct system. Students will receive information about housing selection in the coming weeks.

### **Recent news and updates:**

We greatly appreciate the patience of USJ students during McGovern Hall renovations. Please come visit us to see for yourself how we've transformed the student space and created a new kind of dining experience. Students are invited to attend a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Tuesday, Jan. 14 from 10-11 a.m., and take part in the Sodexo Dining Hall Open House with free breakfast treats and beverages. [Construction Update](#)

[U.S. News & World Report](#) named USJ the No. 1 Connecticut University in "Top Performers on Social Mobility" and "A+ School for B Students," the No. 2 Connecticut University in "Best Value Schools," and the No. 3 Connecticut University in "Best National Universities."

The University of Saint Joseph announced its new \$100,000 [Catholic Promise Scholarship](#) for first-year students enrolling in fall 2020. Lauded as the most generous national scholarship for students coming from a Catholic high school, this merit, and need-based scholarship is available to any high school senior in the U.S. who has attended a four-year Catholic institution and meets eligibility criteria.

In November, [Hartford Magazine](#) named USJ President Rhona Free as one of 30 Women of Distinction. Among her accomplishments, President Free was recognized for the new academic programs introduced during her tenure and for her work as the board chair of the Hartford Consortium for Higher Education.

[The Art Museum at the University of Saint Joseph](#) was honored to receive nearly \$30,000 in grant funds for Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections from the National Endowment for the Humanities.



Two University of Saint Joseph students, Nathan Arthur and Olivia Anderson, won first place for their poster presentations at the [Partnership for Innovation and Education \(PIE\) Innovation Research Day](#).

USJ's Chair of Human Development, Patrick Nickoleti, Ph.D., participated in [Watkinson School's panel](#) on "Middle School Years: Myths, Realities, and What a Parent Can Do," in West Hartford.

We hope to see you and your family at the Autorino Center for the Arts and Humanities at the University of Saint Joseph. Please join us for our upcoming season, [2019-2020 Season Disruption](#).

Our [Blue Jay](#) nation continues to grow, please join us at an upcoming game to support our student-athletic teams or learn more about becoming a member of the O'Connell Athletic Center Fitness Center.

**A note from USJ's Alumni Council President:**

The University of Saint Joseph has provided an exceptional education to thousands of students since 1932. As an alumna myself and a parent of two alumnae, I know that the education my daughters and I received from USJ prepared us for our careers, developed our leadership skills, and allowed us to make lifelong memories. Both of my daughters received scholarships through the Honors Program that helped to defray a portion of the cost of their educations thanks to generous contributions from donors. It is for this reason that my husband and I contribute each year to help support current and future USJ students. To help support faculty research, student scholarships, and maintaining campus facilities, consider making a donation to the USJ Annual Fund this year. Your gift will support your child, their classmates, and future USJ students. Make your gift at [usj.edu/give](http://usj.edu/give) or call 860.231.5364.

Sincerely,

Mary Dickerson '89, P'15, P'16

Alumni Council President

**Join us for an upcoming [Women's Leadership Center](#) event:**

**Voices of Women in CT Leadership: A Celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of Women's Suffrage**  
Monday, January 27, 2020, from 5 – 7:30 p.m. at USJ, Bruyette Athenaeum, Hoffman Auditorium

Keynote remarks by the Secretary of the State Denise Merrill, and followed by a dynamic panel including historian Tracey Wilson, educator, historian, and activist Brittney Yancy, and current USJ undergraduate student Aya Cruz. Panel moderator: Molly Griffin, Assistant Director, Government Affairs for The Hartford. This event is made possible by the generous support of The Hartford.

The event is free to attend, [registration is required](#).

Our [events calendar](#) can keep you up-to-date with activities all year long.