

# A Successful *Return to Campus*

How has Mercy College managed to sustain its commitment to offering a transformative educational experience in the rapidly shifting post-pandemic landscape? The answer: **adaptability** and **commitment**.



Since March of 2020, the College community has repeatedly adjusted to seismic changes to uphold its mission. Mercy's dedication to supporting students, faculty and staff in the pursuit of delivering or accessing their education has never wavered.

And now, with all three of Mercy's campuses fully open, the air of excitement is palpable. Residence halls are bustling with students, athletic teams are practicing and competing, and in-person learning is underway. Given all that transpired in the past 18 months, the fall 2021 campus reopening has been

a success.

In his "Welcome Back" message delivered in early September to launch the return to campus, President Tim Hall emphasized the College's top priority of safety. But he also reiterated the need for cooperation and diligence from every member of the Mercy community. "We are heading into another challenging year as the Delta variant continues to spread," he said, "but I'm confident that our vaccine and mask policies, our cleaning and ventilation protocols will prepare the college for a successful year."

Mercy's Task Force, comprised of members of the faculty, staff and administration evaluated New

York State recommendations to communicate a new mask and vaccine policy and developed a digital media campaign reminding students to submit their proof of vaccination. The campaign "Take UR shot/Mavs stick it to COVID," was just part of the team's outreach programs to help ensure a safe and healthy return to campus.

"It's so important to remember that as an institution of higher education, Mercy College plays an important role in educating our community about keeping ourselves and our loved ones healthy," said Hall. "We are ready for a new year with a vibrant campus of student events, and we are so excited."

## Start of the Fall Term and Move-In

Over 8,000 students enrolled for the fall term and 538 moved into the residence halls. Visit [www.mercy.edu/magazine/fallterm](http://www.mercy.edu/magazine/fallterm) to see more!

## 9/11 Ceremony in Honor of the 20th Anniversary

During the College's 20th Anniversary of 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony, the College honored those lives lost and those who protected us. Former Mercy President Lucie Lapovsky, who was Mercy's President in 2001, returned to campus to share her memories. Visit [www.mercy.edu/magazine/911ceremony](http://www.mercy.edu/magazine/911ceremony) to see more!

## Annual Founders' Festival

The Mercy Community came together for our Annual Founders' Festival on September 18 with music, games, food and student clubs. Visit [www.mercy.edu/magazine/foundersfestival](http://www.mercy.edu/magazine/foundersfestival) to see more!

## Fall Open Houses

Mercy welcomed prospective students on all three campuses during our fall Open Houses. The Dobbs Ferry and Bronx Campuses hosted students outside in a tent while MercyManhattan students experienced Mercy right in the heart of New York City. Prospective students and their families learned about academic programs, toured campus, and met with faculty, staff and current students.

Photo by Noel Campbell



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