

# UNIVERSITY IMPACT REPORT

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BE BOLD.

BE IMAGINATIVE.

BE INSPIRATIONAL.

BE TRANSFORMATIVE.





Dear friends,

It is with the utmost pride that I reflect upon a year of remarkable progress, one that perpetuates the legacy and values set forth by the Sisters of St. Joseph.

This year, we achieved unprecedented fundraising success, raising \$5.6 million through the exceptional generosity of our SJNY community and supporters—a level of giving that exceeded anything we've seen in the past decade.

Our annual Impact Report is a reflection of SJNY's accomplishments, all made possible by the unwavering commitment of its students, staff, faculty and alumni. Together, the St. Joseph's community has remained steadfast in honoring our core values: spiritual depth, integrity, intellectual rigor, service and social responsibility.

One of the most significant milestones is the extraordinary progress we've made toward our \$25 million Comprehensive

Campaign goal. Today, we have raised over \$14 million. These contributions touch all corners of the University, from student life and athletics to academics and scholarships. We are looking forward to continuing our future progress with your support.

Your heartfelt actions and deep generosity directly impact the people and places that make St. Joseph's a transformational university.

While our journey is ongoing, your contributions have aided in paving a successful path for future generations to follow. With your continued support, we will carry this momentum forward to serve students, strengthen our mission and create lasting impact for years to come.

With gratitude,

Donald R. Boomgarden, Ph.D.  
President  
St. Joseph's University, New York

# #55

U.S. NEWS & WORLD  
REPORT'S BEST  
REGIONAL  
UNIVERSITIES  
NORTH  
2025

# 28

NEW  
SCHOLARSHIPS  
FUNDED

by more than 200 Aquinas  
Society members





# BE IMAGINATIVE

**GOAL:**  
**\$5M to Create New Academic and Research Opportunities**  
**Raised: \$5.4M**

SJNY is committed to expanding high-impact academic experiences that deepen learning and prepare students for meaningful careers. By investing in initiatives like undergraduate research, service learning, internships and mentoring, the University will strengthen its academic foundation and create new programs and credentials that respond to today’s evolving needs, particularly in education, healthcare, STEM and the humanities.

## New Five-Year Grant Brings Expanded Support for First-Gen and Low-Income STEM Students

SJNY has received a C-STEP grant from New York state beginning in 2025 and continuing for five years. C-STEP (Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program) is a competitive funding opportunity designed to support undergraduate STEM majors, especially those who are navigating the challenges of being first-generation college students and those who face

financial challenges. The grant will support research opportunities, travel to professional conferences, stipends for textbooks and technology and other student support services such as enhanced tutoring. This grant covers students on both the Brooklyn and Long Island campuses in majors including biology, chemistry, math and computer science.

**12:1**  
**STUDENT**  
**FACULTY**  
**RATIO**

**81%**  
**RETENTION**  
**RATE**



**HEATHER BARRY, PH.D.**  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Professor of History

*“It’s important to focus on what truly matters. Imagination is the spark that fuels innovation. At SJNY, we transform bold ideas into opportunities that change lives—engaging students in research, service, and hands-on learning that inspires them to lead with purpose in education, healthcare, STEM, and the humanities.”*



## HANDS-ON LEARNING IN ACTION

Assistant Professor of Biology Pamela Lovejoy, Ph.D., is advancing student-centered research while exploring how environmental factors influence genetic behavior in model organisms. Her work with undergraduate students on fruit fly responses to the herbicide

atrazine provides hands-on experience in experimental design and data analysis, helping students build skills for careers in science and healthcare. A dedicated mentor, Dr. Lovejoy also engages students outside the classroom, collaborating with the biology department and Go Green Club, including a recent Giving Day project to revitalize the Tuohy Hall courtyard.

**\$8**  
**MILLION**

in future support from 130 current Aquinas Society Members



# BE TRANSFORMATIVE

## GOAL:

**\$4M to Reinvent Teaching, Learning and Collaborative Environments**

**Raised: \$4.5M**

SJNY is enhancing its campuses to meet the evolving needs of today's students and academic programs.

From modern classrooms and simulation labs in nursing to advanced computing spaces for STEM and cybersecurity, the University is focused on creating state-of-the-art environments that support hands-on learning, collaboration and student success, ensuring St. Joe's remains a destination of choice for future generations.



## GRADUATES GIVE BACK: PHILANTHROPY CORDS HONOR CLASS OF 2025'S GENEROSITY

The Class of 2025 marked a powerful new tradition by making \$20.25 gifts to the Student Emergency Fund in honor of their graduation. In recognition of their generosity, participating graduates received green Philanthropy Cords to wear at commencement. The cords are a symbol of their commitment to giving back to their alma mater. This generous practice helped raise more than \$2,800 to support fellow students in need.

## Honoring a Legacy of Leadership and Generosity



A newly renovated reception room in Burns Hall on the Brooklyn Campus has been dedicated in memory of Mary Jo Burke Chiara '69, a beloved alumna whose vibrant spirit and dedicated service left a lasting impact on the St. Joe's community. Ms. Chiara, who united generations of alumni through leadership, events and scholarship efforts, helped establish the Class of 1969 Endowed Scholarship, which to date has raised over \$350,000 to support female students on the Brooklyn Campus. Her legacy of joyful connection continues to inspire.

## FUELING LEARNING THROUGH GIVING DAY

Each year, Giving Day at SJNY sparks meaningful change across our campuses. Last year, the art department at the Long Island Campus raised nearly \$1,000 to purchase new equipment and materials, enriching the creative experience for student artists. The biology department secured almost \$2,000 to fund heated shakers for both campuses, enhancing lab accuracy and hands-on research. And, an appeal for donations to help pay for nursing equipment at both campuses raised more than \$5,100. These are just a few of the many initiatives that continue to elevate learning and discovery thanks to the generosity of our SJNY community.



**MARY BUTZ '69**  
Board of Trustees

*"Our facility transformation honors what makes us unique—intimate spaces that foster meaningful connections—while embracing 21st-century learning needs. Every classroom and lab upgrade reflects our commitment to creating environments where students, faculty and staff can engage, discover, and grow together."*

**3.3**

**COLLECTIVE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT GPA**

# SJNY'S COMPREHENSIVE CAMPAIGN



St. Joseph's University, New York's most ambitious fundraising effort yet, our \$25 million comprehensive campaign is designed to shape the University's future while honoring its proud traditions. Guided by the motto *Esse non videri* — "To be, not to seem," the campaign focuses on four key areas across both campuses: faculty research and support, student scholarships, campus improvements and enhanced student life, including athletics.

The University is proud to announce that thanks to our many dedicated and generous donors, we have already surpassed the halfway point toward achieving this historic goal. More than just a fundraising initiative, the campaign is an enterprising expression of SJNY's enduring mission and principles rooted in the legacy of the Sisters of St. Joseph. It reflects our deep commitment to academic excellence, accessibility and community, and invites alumni and friends to help ensure a vibrant and promising future for generations.

## BE INSPIRATIONAL

Goal: \$12.5M

Raised: \$3.9M

## BE IMAGINATIVE

Goal: \$5M

Raised: \$5.4M

## BE BOLD

Goal: \$3.5M

Raised: \$416,000

## BE TRANSFORMATIVE

Goal: \$4M

Raised: \$4.5M

**GOAL:**  
**\$25 MILLION**



—\$25M

—\$20M

—\$15M

—\$10M

—\$5M

**Raised:**  
**\$14.2M**  
(as of June 30, 2025)

## TOTAL RAISED 2023-2024

	AMOUNT RAISED	GIFTS
<b>Fiscal Year 2023-24</b>	<b>\$5,683,723</b>	<b>3,973</b>
<b>Giving Day 2024</b>	<b>\$100,000+</b>	<b>700+</b>

Your generous support leaves a powerful impact on the SJNY community and empowers students to grow, lead and embody our motto: *Esse non videri* — “To be, not to seem.”



Visit [sjny.edu/campaign](https://sjny.edu/campaign) or scan the QR code to learn more.



**CHRISTOPHER R. CARROLL '88, ESQ.**  
Chair, Board of Trustees

*“This campaign is vital to this great university. Its goals and priorities are so deeply rooted in our history and yet each dollar raised secures the future of St. Joe’s and benefits our students right now. I am delighted to see our progress and grateful to all alumni and donors for their generosity in getting us past the midway point of our goal so quickly.”*

**\$5.6 MILLION**

**RAISED 2023-2024**

The largest annual sum secured by SJNY in the past decade.

## AN ALUMNUS WITH VISION FUELS STUDENT SUCCESS

Steve Somers '82 has built a remarkable career shaped by determination, humility and a deep appreciation for his roots. A former member of St. Joe’s basketball team, he met his wife, Sharon, on campus, and graduated with a degree in chemistry before embarking on a master’s in analytical chemistry. He acquired Vigon International, transforming it into a leading flavor and fragrance company, and went on to become a partner in Fenway Sports Group and Solex Capital Management. In 2024, Mr. Somers was honored with the President’s *Esse Non Videri* Award.

A longtime philanthropic supporter, Mr. Somers continues to give back to SJNY. His generous \$1 million gift established endowed scholarships supporting students in the Brooklyn Campus ACES program as well as nursing students in Brooklyn and Long Island. The Somers Endowed Nursing Scholarship offsets the cost of attendance for third- and fourth-year nursing students. In addition, his previously established Somers Scholarship for students from Cathedral Preparatory School and Seminary currently supports six bright and promising students at St. Joe’s.

The generosity of donors like Mr. Somers builds SJNY’s lasting legacy as a University that opens doors for future leaders and expands access to education.



Steve Somers '82

## 2024 Military Times’ Best for Vets: Colleges

**#8**  
**IN NEW YORK**

**#11**  
**NORTHEAST**



**DONALD R. BOOMGARDEN, PH.D.**  
President  
St. Joseph’s University, New York

*“Nothing inspires me more than the success of students who come to St. Joseph’s because a scholarship made it possible. Students, parents and alumni tell me all the time that only through scholarships were they able to attend and graduate. Generous donors like Steve Somers and many others are putting our students first and making all the difference.”*

**86%**

**OF STUDENTS RECEIVED FINANCIAL AID**

(2023/2024)

**BE...**  
**BOLD**  
**IMAGINATIVE**  
**INSPIRATIONAL**  
**TRANSFORMATIVE**

**BE INSPIRATIONAL**

## **BE INSPIRATIONAL**

**GOAL:**

**\$12.5M to Influence Achievement  
Through Scholarship, Student Aid  
and Fellowships**

**Raised: \$3.9M**

SJNY is committed to influencing achievement by expanding access to higher education through scholarships, student aid and fellowships. With over 85% of students relying on financial support, the University is prioritizing \$12.5 million in new funding to ensure affordability, expand access and reduce the financial strain on students, many of whom are the first in their families to attend college. By making scholarships and financial aid a top campaign priority, St. Joe's is committed to remaining a welcoming and accessible home for students from all backgrounds.

# BE INSPIRATIONAL

## SJNY: A TOP CHOICE FOR VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES

The University is proud to be recognized as one of the top institutions in the nation for military and veteran students, earning high rankings from Military Times, U.S. News & World Report, and Military Friendly® Schools. With dedicated support through the Office of Military and Veteran Services, personalized career development, and participation in the Post-9/11 GI Bill® Yellow Ribbon Program, the University ensures a welcoming, success- and opportunity-driven experience for service members, veterans and their families.



**#3** MILITARY FRIENDLY® SCHOOLS TOP 10

"Private not offering Doctorate" schools for 2025-2026

## Student Emergency Fund Helps Students Stay on Track

The Student Emergency Fund provides critical tuition assistance to students facing unexpected hardships such as illness, job loss or family emergencies that may threaten their ability to stay enrolled. Many SJNY students work while pursuing their degrees, and this fund offers a vital safety net. Gifts to the fund have an immediate and lasting impact.

TO DATE  
**\$52,845**  
 HAS BEEN DONATED BY  
**365**  
 DONORS

(JULY 1, 2024-JUNE 30, 2025)



## DEANNA LA GALA '25

Major: Speech Pathology  
 Campus Activities: NSSLHA/Speech Pathology Club (secretary), Founder of Best Buddies, Conference Services & Events Team

*"I've gained so much insight, not only as a student but as a person from St. Joe's and I felt like I found a family here."*

Originally unsure about college, Deanna took a chance on St. Joseph's and found a second home. A standout student on the Long Island Campus, she made her mark through leadership in student clubs, founding Best Buddies to support individuals with intellectual disabilities and conducting early childhood education research as part of the 2024 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program. Deanna plans to pursue graduate studies in speech pathology, carrying with her a passion for service, inclusion and lifelong learning.

## Long Island Alumni Board Establishes Scholarship

As the voice of the Alumni Association on the Long Island Campus, the Long Island Alumni Board strengthens connections among alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends of SJNY. The Long Island Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship is a meaningful initiative created to help deserving students access an SJNY education, pursue their academic goals, engage in campus life and experience the personal and professional growth that defines a St. Joe's journey.



*Long Island Alumni Board members with Dr. Boomgaarden.*

## LONG ISLAND ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

TOTAL RECEIVED.....**\$12,385**

PLEDGES.....**\$7,500**

**GRAND TOTAL** (RECEIVED + PLEDGES).....**\$19,885**

(AS OF JUNE 30, 2025)

## KAELA COLLAZO '25

Major: Biology  
 Campus Activities: Lab Assistant, SURF Research Fellow



*"I've been given so many opportunities, whether it's through meeting friends, working with the biology department and even involving myself in the community—these are memories I will never forget, and which I am so extremely thankful for."*

A recent graduate of SJNY's Brooklyn Campus, Kaela once spent countless hours in the biology lab immersed in research, hands-on learning and the close-knit STEM community. Inspired by her siblings' medical challenges, Kaela plans to apply to medical school after a gap year. As a recipient of the Oshinski Powers Endowed Scholarship, she credits the opportunity with easing financial pressures and allowing her to explore meaningful experiences in healthcare that have helped shape her professional goals.

# BE BOLD

## GOAL:

**\$3.5M to Ignite Spirit Through Student Engagement, Campus Life and Athletic Initiatives**

**Raised: \$416,000**

SJNY is committed to igniting the spirit through investments in student engagement, campus life and athletic initiatives. By enhancing programs like clubs, leadership development, athletics, campus ministry and fellowship opportunities, the University will ensure that every student, no matter their circumstances, can fully engage in a vibrant, supportive campus experience rooted in service, faith and community.



### Encouraging and Preserving the Spiritual Heartbeat of SJNY

The Friends of the Chapels honors the legacy of the Sisters of St. Joseph and strengthens the spiritual life of the St. Joe's community. Launched this year, it supports the preservation of SJNY's four chapels: the Kennedy Chapel and Lady Chapel on the Brooklyn Campus and the Sisters of St. Joseph Chapel and the Student Center Interfaith Chapel on the Long Island Campus. This initiative helps maintain sacred spaces, fund campus ministry programs and uphold the University's Catholic traditions. Contributions foster spiritual growth, enhance faith-based community engagement, and ensure that the chapels remain vibrant centers for unity across all spiritual backgrounds.

To learn more about Friends of the Chapels, visit [sjny.edu/chapels](http://sjny.edu/chapels) or scan QR code.



### EMPOWERING STUDENT LEADERS

Students on the Long Island Campus are developing leadership skills in interactive workshops designed to strengthen decision-making, problem-solving and collaboration. The Leadership Workshop Series offers hands-on activities and peer discussions where students reflect on real challenges they have faced in leadership roles. As students gain confidence and refine their communication skills, they are better prepared to lead on campus and make meaningful impacts in their communities.



### SJNY Leads the Way in Women's Flag Football

SJNY Athletics made history as the first Skyline Conference school to launch two women's flag football programs that kicked off in spring 2025. The new initiatives, on both the Brooklyn and Long Island campuses, expand opportunities for female student-athletes and reflects the University's commitment to fast-growing and emerging sports.



### S. MARIE MACKEY '84, CSJ

Director of Campus Ministry, Brooklyn Campus

*"As a student, I was the recipient of the self-emptying love of the sisters, faculty and staff as they went about the business of the day. I never doubted that I was cared about for who I was. Now, I can do the same for the new generations of St. Joe's students."*

**69%**

### GRADUATION RATE

Six-year graduation rate (2018-2024)

St. Joseph's  
University  
NEW YORK



245 Clinton Ave.  
Brooklyn, NY 11205