

President's Annual Report to the SUNY Board of Trustees

President Michael E. Steiper, Ph.D.
Campus: Purchase College

The 2024-25 academic year was one of transition as the college conducted a presidential search following the announcement of the retirement of President Peña. After a successful and collaborative search process, Dr. Michael E. Steiper became the seventh president of Purchase College on August 11, 2025.

One of the major highlights of the 2024-25 academic year was the college receiving significant grants for key areas such as sustainability, arts, technology, and STEM. Together, these grants will provide access to scholarships and hands-on research in several forward-thinking disciplines, enabling our students and faculty the opportunities for high impact learning while advancing the arts, liberal arts, and sciences on campus and beyond. Details are included below.

Planning for Purchase's Financial Future

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 concluded with a deficit of approximately \$1.3 million, which was covered using college reserves. This deficit comprised a one-time transfer of about \$2.3 million for the funding of a turf field project in Athletics, with expectations of the strategic investment to not only benefit the athletic department and campus, but also generate approximately \$500k in annual revenue through rentals.

The college's reserves, including both IFR and DIFR, amount to approximately \$28 million, yet the available cash is affected by deficit balances in certain IFR accounts. The operating budget for FY 2025-26 is approximately \$80 million. The existing budget stability plan spans until fiscal year 2029-30, and is based on current projected enrollment and relevant assumptions.

The campus is actively collaborating with its SUNY colleagues on a budget stability plan that positions the institution to adapt to changes in higher education.

Academic Program Planning for the Future

Academic Affairs remains committed to excellence and adapting to changing educational landscapes. The college's innovative curriculum, international recruitment initiatives, and community achievements position us well for ongoing growth and influence. Moving forward, these foundations will support Purchase's strategic goals of improving student experiences, broadening global reach, and enhancing the college's reputation as a leader in liberal arts and performing arts education.

Curriculum Innovation

The TAPROOT project is a key part of Purchase's curriculum development strategy, aimed at fostering innovative programs and hands-on learning across various disciplines. Funded by a generous \$500,000 grant from the Sherman Fairchild Foundation, it highlights Purchase's dedication to evolving educational methods while staying true to core values. In the first year, we successfully established the Taproot Committee, composed of faculty members from diverse academic fields, to oversee and guide the project. This committee, working with campus stakeholders, initiated the creation of an interactive

media lab that will serve as a center for student and faculty exploration and creativity through interactive and immersive experiences. The committee also reviewed proposals and selected the initial group of Taproot Faculty Fellows, who will begin their roles in the upcoming academic year. These Fellows act as innovation champions within their departments, promoting cross-disciplinary collaboration and curriculum development.

Looking ahead, the college's academic program development plans reflect our responsiveness to industry needs while honoring legacy programs. Key initiatives include:

- Development of a Bachelor of Arts in Animation, addressing the growing demand for skilled professionals in this expanding field
- Creation of an Illustration track within the existing Graphic Design BFA, providing specialized training for students interested in this career path
- Comprehensive revision of the BA in Arts Management program to incorporate contemporary business practices and digital strategies essential for today's cultural institutions

These curricular evolutions represent Purchase's commitment to preparing students for evolving professional landscapes while maintaining the artistic excellence and critical thinking that define our institution.

Current Enrollment Trends at Purchase College

Purchase College has managed to welcome a robust incoming class of 1,069 students as of October 27, 2025, comprising of first-year, transfer, and graduate students. With strong continuing student enrollment, the total enrollment landed at 3,414, up from 3,344 in 24-25.

This year's record number of applications of 12,645—for fall undergraduate admission—can be attributed to the efforts of Purchase's admissions team and SUNY's initiatives, including the Top 10% Promise program and free application weeks. However, overall student enrollment remains significantly lower than the peak in 2018.

Scholarships

The college has developed a scholarship strategy to increase yield and revenue by awarding scholarships designed to attract high-achieving students and encourage them to live on campus. These full housing scholarships were awarded to students admitted to the college through the SUNY Top 10% Promise Program and resulted in 13 enrollments. Purchase College also leveraged Broadview funding from the Broadview Living Community to award TAP eligible New York State residents additional financial support (up to \$3,000).

International Student Recruitment

Purchase College has made remarkable progress in attracting international students. In Fall 2024, the college saw a 75% increase in newly matriculated undergraduate international students, growing from 12 to 21. The number of graduate international students surged by an impressive 700%, rising from 1 to

8. Additionally, the college welcomed six inbound study abroad students from Japan, strengthening ongoing partnerships. These efforts are expected to positively impact the college's finances, with revenue from international students projected to double over four years, from \$2.1 million to \$4.3 million. To achieve these goals, the college has implemented strategic recruitment initiatives, including faculty participation in international events like those in Amman, Jordan, developing summer programs for Japanese and Chinese students and educators, establishing transfer agreements and Memoranda of Understanding with international high schools, and engaging in local outreach to high schools and community colleges with high international student populations. Furthermore, a focus group dinner with current international students provided an opportunity to gather insights and improve retention strategies.

Enhanced Outreach and Events

The college has increased on-campus events for visitors and continued outreach via phone, text, mail, and email. Based on the success of past initiatives, Purchase offered additional yield events, including regional accepted student receptions in Nassau and Suffolk Counties and on-campus events for accepted students. In addition, the college developed partnerships with four Westchester County school districts serving a diverse student body in the local community and offered eight students full housing scholarships to students from these schools. In addition, Purchase provided college readiness programming and specialized on-campus visits to those schools.

Strategic Enrollment Plan

Developed and refined with various stakeholders on campus, the strategic enrollment plan aims to increase enrollment through several key strategies.

First, the college aims to optimize the use of recruitment and prospect-building technologies to increase the number of undergraduate applications. This involves updating messaging through the Slate platform and other external vendor sites to enhance responsiveness to college choice characteristics obtained from accepted student questionnaires and other market research.

The marketing drip campaign was updated to tailor messaging per market segments, and new academic graduate program drip campaigns were created to focus on targeted communication.

Current students and successful Purchase outcomes were showcased through social media and updated web content as well as postcards from alumni to engage prospects and parents. We also utilized a formalized call back process that guides prospects through next steps leading to application. Personalized communications from Athletics coaching staff engaged appropriate prospects with targeted messaging. In addition, Purchase promotes support programs such as EOP and ACE throughout the enrollment cycle.

Secondly, the college strengthened recruitment programming targeting traditional freshman and transfer students. Purchase invited students and parents to campus by updating visit sites, websites, and vendor sites to increase attendance at admissions events as well as by sending mailings and connecting with the school counselor community. With the support of SUNY, Purchase was able to provide free transportation from New York City to students and their parents to attend Accepted Students Day (with priority given to EOP students and other students to whom the cost may have been a barrier). Large admissions events, such as Open House and Accepted Students Day (ASD), were offered on weekends

(ASD also had a weekday option). The Admissions team attended Hispanic fairs throughout NYC and continued hosting Spanish-speaking post-fair webinars for families and students. Formalized campus experiences enabled prospects and applicants to sit in on classes and interact with faculty. Faculty presence at admissions events was also increased to enhance engagement with prospective students.

The admissions team created transfer-specific events (both virtual and in person) to increase transfer applications and yield, established EOP prospects and applicant events in NYC utilizing SUNY Global Center for targeted events, and hosted an Arts NYC session at SUNY Global Center to engage arts-focused students. Attendance at athletic events helped build interest in athletic programs through visibility at tournaments, showcases, camps, high school games, and practices. Specialized financial aid events were led to promote merit housing and Broadview scholarship opportunities and eligibility requirements. Purchase will also continue efforts to engage adult learners in the area promoting the fully remote General Studies degree.

Thirdly, the college continues to work to establish a compelling and deliverable “Purchase Promise” message to ensure marketing and recruitment efforts target students suited for a Purchase College education. Select student focus group sessions helped gather feedback on the student experience, and combined with other relevant data, continue to be reviewed to provide better support for at-risk students. Activities and messaging will also be updated based on student and school counselor feedback and data analysis. Special attention will be paid to attracting right-fit graduate and out-of-state students.

Finally, the college continues to work to increase acceptance to enrollment yield through conversion activities and tactics. Accepted student targets were established for each program and corresponding accepted student timelines were developed. Robust accepted student and scholarship events are offered January through April, and the Campus ESP parent communication platform and Purchase magazine will be expanded to promote career outcome-related stories to parents of accepted students. The scholarship awarding strategy will be continuously reviewed and revised to yield the desired student mix. Scholarship awarding messaging will be updated to ensure timeliness and parent receipt of these important messages.

Marketing Goals

The Purchase College marketing campaigns of 2024-25 were designed to increase awareness in New York State, with a strong focus on Westchester County and NYC. Marketing and advertising collateral were designed with the goal of improving the academic perception of our School of Liberal Arts and Sciences, while still emphasizing our strong conservatory and arts focused programs.

The overall marketing budget was increased in 2024-45, which offered the ability to increase our advertising spend for a broader reach across the region. The additional funds provided the resources to create out-of-home advertising and increase our spend across new media channels including digital television and billboard ads. A portion of the additional funds were used to hire a part time social media coordinator which helped to greatly improve our social media presence.

In addition to our general marketing campaigns, we created smaller campaigns focused of a select group of majors. The group of majors were selected based on data showing Purchase College could increase market share and enrollment in these programs.

For 2025-26 we plan on continuing to build on the initiatives started last year. With additional funding we anticipate hiring a full-time social media coordinator and increase digital and out-of-home advertising. New initiatives will include Westchester bus ads, bus shelters at WCC, and a NYC subway campaign.

Supporting Student Retention and Success

Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Offices at Purchase College work to engage our students with an environment that cultivates academic success, wellness, and personal and professional growth. Offices provide various programs, experiences, and support in a diverse, creative, and inclusive community. By our intentions, our actions, and our example, we help our students learn how to think creatively and critically, work collaboratively for the common good, live mindfully, and build rewarding and healthy lives, and careers.

Through intentional programs, we encourage students to be active agents, rather than passive spectators, in the learning process. We work to attract, engage, enroll, empower a community of committed individuals who will persist and thrive on our campus. We encourage and support meaningful interactions and discovery among students and faculty, advisors, mentors, and peers through our offerings.

At Purchase, high impact activities begin in the first year at Orientation and continue with First Year Seminar programs, and carry on through to the senior year. The benefits of these activities cut across demographics and increase retention, engagement, and graduation rates for all students.

Purchase continues to support new and continuing programs that help students build stronger connections throughout the campus community to build a community of support for their educational journey to graduation. Below are highlights from areas on initiatives and programs that have served our students over the past year.

SUNY Empire Service Corps

2024 – 2025 (first year of participation):

- 3 Snap and Basic Needs Outreach Corps
- 1 Peer Mental Health Corps
- 1 Sustainability Corps

2025-2026:

- 4 Snap and Basic Needs Outreach Corps
- 1 Peer Mental Health Corps
- 2 Sustainability Corps

ACE Purchase

We have increased the number of students we serve through the ACE program from 175 in our first year and a half, to 385 students (35 supported by the Robin Hood Foundation).

LISTO: Leveraging Impactful Strategies and Transforming Outcomes for Student Success (Dept. of Education Title V Grant)

The LISTO grant is finishing its second year, running from October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025. LISTO is guided by an Advisory Committee composed of 16 members, drawn from throughout the college, the Project Director, and the Vice President of Student Affairs who is the Principal Investigator. The following are highlights of Year 2 grant activities:

- In the Fall of 2024, the grant reimbursed the college for the cost of housing for two diverse faculty members who taught courses on Hispanic topics as part of the Residential Learning Communities.
- A total of 16 students were hired as part of the Peer Mentor program, providing an array of services to students, including tutoring, peer mentoring, test proctoring, and providing bilingual campus tours. A faculty member is also developing a training course that will be available for peer mentors in Fall 2025.
- Four trips to Hispanic cultural activities, namely museums, were carried out over the course of the year under the Purchase in the City program, with some trips sponsored by faculty.
- Three faculty advisors to the LISTO grant organized an event on Building Latinx Community in November 2024 that was attended by over 100 students, as well as a Latinx graduation celebration in May 2025.
- The LISTO Sophomore Summer Quest welcomed 21 students for a five-day residential program from June 1-5, 2025, where they engaged with faculty and learned more about campus resources and majors, all while having fun and building a sense of community. A pilot program in Natural and Social Sciences, with a focus on instruction in psychology, was also held from May 19-30, 2025, with an initial cohort of four students.
- The license for the Digital Assessment Platform known as HelioCampus has been renewed for another year. The platform assists with collecting, analyzing, and assessing student data. Training has been provided to campus users, assisted by the grant-funded Assessment Coordinator.
- A grant-funded Learning Specialist has been providing academic support and assistance to 12 Pell-eligible students under the Cornerstone Connect program.
- Planning is underway for celebrations to commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 – October 15, 2025, including three faculty-sponsored activities.
- A speaker came to campus in August 2025 to provide training in Cultural Competency to faculty, staff, and students.
- A new grant-funded Bilingual Admissions Counselor, who is focusing on outreach to Spanish-speaking students and their families, came on board in February 2025.
- Other admissions activities have taken place to help attract more Hispanic students to Purchase College.
- Brockport Research Institute, the external evaluator for the grant, has conducted surveys, interviews, and focus groups to help assess the effectiveness of grant activities.

Please note that funding for the LISTO grant was discontinued as of September 11, 2025. We are currently using carryover funds from the first two years to support programs that are most impactful for our students.

Internship and Applied Learning Initiatives

Engagement in high-impact, hands-on, applied and experiential learning, such as internships, service learning, and career readiness activities, significantly enhances students' chances of persisting to graduation. Purchase continues to expand its organizational and employer partnerships, resulting in increased opportunities for internships and other applied learning projects.

As a result, there has been a substantial growth in offering paid and other compensated internships, along with diverse program offerings designed to support at-risk students. These initiatives include summer residential programs, peer mentorship, dedicated advising, and additional funds designed to address financial needs.

Purchase has received SUNY Transformational and incremental funds to further support student development through new program offerings, expanded paid internship opportunities, enhanced mental health services, and strategic staff hiring.

When students are engaged in high-impact applied, experiential learning that includes career readiness preparation through hands-on exploration, learning and developing competencies outside the classroom, they are more likely to persist to graduation. Purchase continues to expand and increase employer organizational partnerships resulting in internships and experiential opportunities for students, with a significant increase in offering paid and other compensated internships, as well as various types of programs that can provide at-risk students with additional support. This support includes summer residential programs, peer mentor support, dedicated advisors, and additional funds to support financial needs.

At Purchase, high-impact activities begin in the first year at orientation and continue with first-year seminar programs and carry on through to the senior project. The benefits of these activities cut across demographics and increase retention, engagement, and graduation rates for all students.

Purchase received SUNY Transformational funds and Incremental Funds to support the development of Purchase students through additional program offerings, paid internship opportunities, additional mental health support, and some additional staff hires. Brief highlights of the programs, services, and support provided to increase student success are outlined below:

Internship support and development

- Number of students with internships (by field and student demographics) (to the extent data is currently collected) is **245** registered-credit bearing only)
- Number of students with paid internships (by field and student demographics) (to the extent data is currently collected) is **152**
- Number of professionals hired to support internships and career development opportunities:
 - 1 new full-time Experiential Learning Coordinator (Spring-2/25 hire) and 1 part-time student-support administrator (Fall 11/24 hire)

- Number of students indirectly served by the increase in resources: **5,414**

Support for Students with Disabilities

The Office of Disability Resources experienced some staffing shifts as they said farewell to their Assistant Director and internally promoted Gabriella Velazquez to that role. Prior to Gabriella filling this role, the Director restructured the position to oversee Cornerstone Connect. Additionally, the Assistant Director role will now take the lead with office programming, which is an area that the team has not previously had the bandwidth to focus on. Gabriella kicked off this initiative by bringing Dave Thompson to campus for an in-person workshop. Dave is the founder of NeuroDAVErsity and is also a Purchase College alum. He presented a program titled, "Neurodiversity, Self-Advocacy, and Empowerment Workshop." This workshop was open to the campus community and was designed to empower neurodivergent individuals to thrive in school, work, and community life through exploring the unique strengths and challenges faced by neurodivergent people, offering practical tools and strategies to foster self-advocacy and success.

The office has nominated two students for the role of Disability Student Ambassador. If selected, these students will be sponsored through SUNY System, and they will support the office with additional program initiatives. Primarily, the students will be tasked with supporting the development of a Disability Celebration Week on campus.

The Director of the office presented at UCONN's Post-Secondary Disability Institute Conference in Boston, MA, this past May. She collaborated with colleagues from Rhode Island College and Quinnipiac University to design and present a workshop regarding housing accommodation requests and strategies to support the decision-making process.

Cornerstone Connect

Cornerstone Connect just completed its first year with a second cohort of students who were supported through the LISTO grant (Title V grant). The grant allowed this cohort of students to receive this service at no cost.

Cornerstone Connect served 54 students for Fall 2024. This number dropped to 45 students for the Spring 2025 semester. This decrease between semesters was primarily due to mental health concerns and students choosing to take medical leaves.

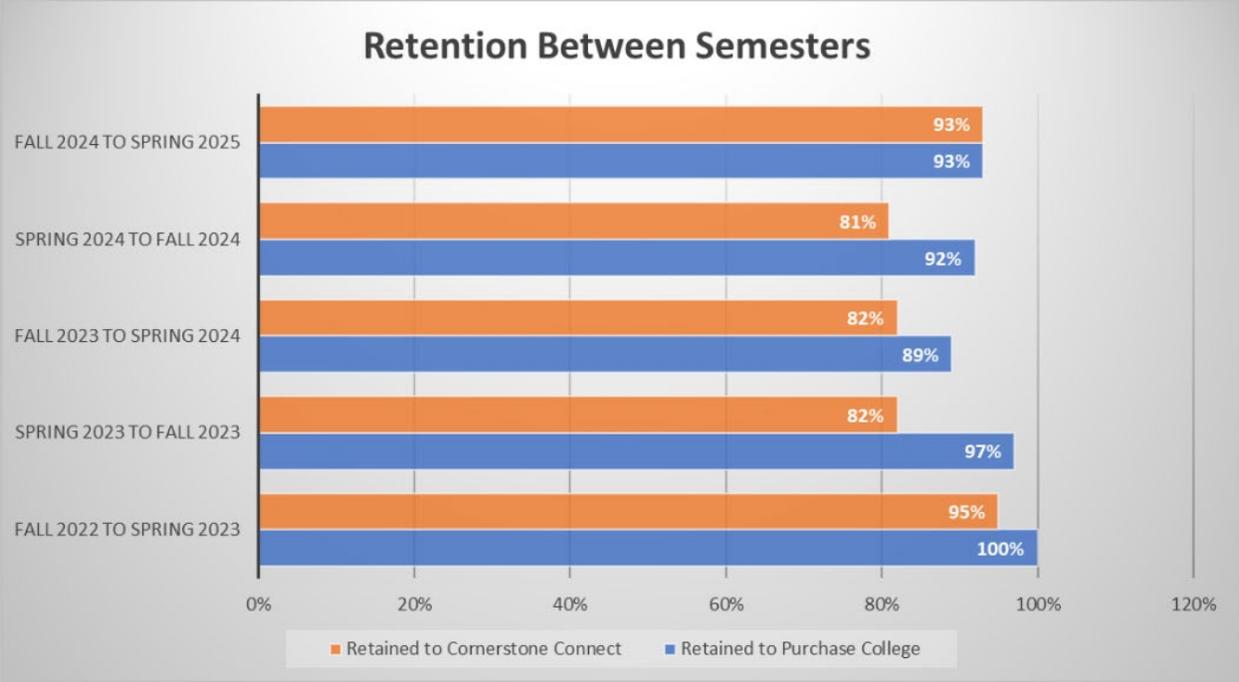
GPA's have been tracked over the course of the year and the results are as follows:

Fall 2024:

- o Average Term GPA: 3.22
- o Average Cumulative GPA: 3.25

Spring 2025:

- o Average Term GPA: 3.29
- o Average Cumulative GPA: 3.29



As of July 30, 2025, Cornerstone Connect has 56 students enrolled for the Fall 2025 semester. Staff members are still reviewing applications and conducting intake meetings. Cornerstone Connect is expected to hit capacity (66) before the semester begins and move to a waitlist. Cornerstone Connect has hired a new learning specialist who will begin in August 2025. The position had been vacated due to a promotion within the Office of Disability Resources.

Counseling and Behavioral Health Services (CBHS)

CBHS offers students open-door help for a range of mental and behavioral health needs. CBHS provides outreach and campus prevention education, crisis response, clinical care, and peer-led activities. CBHS prevention campaigns focus on high-risk college student behavior (suicide, overdose, sexual assault), delivering information, support, and resources for every phase of managing mental or behavioral health needs.

The Chancellor’s Incremental Funds permitted successful innovations in prevention education campaigns, additional crisis response education, and Health Promotion activities that feature Peer leadership: NASPA Peer Educator training; paid Health Promotion Interns (HPIs); peer-led after-hours programming; outreach activities, promotions, stress reduction and HPI programming materials; a social media intern. The Social Media intern produced effective marketing and allowed for more HP Intern face time with students. An Empire Student Services Corps worker collaborated with the Health Promotion program to solicit direct student feedback on stress reduction and recovery needs through interactive contacts. Student participation in Peer-led, substance free activities doubled to 325 individual students. The new Peer-Led Recovery support group produced leadership from members to continue into the AY 25-26.

The Health Promotion Coordinator, HP Interns, and clinical staff provided 4102 participating students a mix of educational and interactive programs. Participation in non-clinical stress reduction classes and

activities at the Harbor Center for Health Promotion (led by professional staff and non-HPIs) numbered 248 individuals.

Incremental Funds paid 1 FTE with trauma care training to enhance crisis response. CBHS creates a student safety net through walk-in crisis support, after hours counselor on call coverage (24/7 for clinical staff), victim advocacy services, and direct outreach to individuals. Clinical services were provided to 25% of enrolled students this year, with increases in the number of emergency contacts to 36% of our clients (up from 29% in 2023-24). Clinical staff provided 746 students with 4,352 appointments. The CBHS infrastructure is designed to accommodate walk-in care. We seek referrals and warm hand-offs for students in distress, with urgent needs, or struggling with trauma impacts.

Campus Climate Initiative

Purchase is currently participating in cohort 6 of the Campus Climate Initiative (CCI) hosted by Hillel International. At launch, the Purchase team consisted of the following key administrators: Lisa Miles-Boyce, Convener, Chief Diversity Officer; Earnest Lamb, Provost; Patty Bice, Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment, Caitlin Read; Assistant Director of Public Relations, Betsy Aldredge; Executive Director Executive Director Hillels of Westchester, Rachel Klein; and Hillel Director of Community Engagement, Jon Horgan.

The program runs from February through November 2025 and Purchase's CCI team attended an in-person meeting in Washington on February 3-4th to kick off the program and to meet the other college CCI teams that are part of cohort 6. Purchase's CCI team meets once or twice a month online with other members of the cohort for Cohort Learning Sessions on a variety of topics related to antisemitism and discrimination on college campuses.

As part of our participation in CCI, we conducted an on-campus training on Antisemitism facilitated by Dr. Mara Lee Grayson, Director of Content Development for CCI. The training was attended by members of the President's Cabinet, Student Affairs Staff, the Provost Counsel, and the Bias Response Team.

As participants in the CCI program, the Campus will have a Climate Review (CCR) done by NORC, an objective non-partisan research organization, at the University of Chicago. The CCR is customizable, institution-specific climate assessment and analysis done by the University of Chicago and CCI (<https://hillelinternational.app.box.com/v/cci-cohort6-ccr-overview>). Additionally, in the Fall, CCI will hold focus groups with students, to gather information on campus climate.

Bias Response Team

The Bias Response Team (BRT) was mobilized at the beginning of the Fall 2025 semester. BRT is a cross-representative team of Purchase College community members that reviews, assesses, prevents, and responds to crisis level high-impact global campus-wide incidents of bias and/or discrimination that may occur. This team is mobilized to determine necessary action and communications in a timely manner. The Bias Response Team (BRT) meets weekly during the academic year.

The BRT sent a campus-wide Broadcast E-mail (BEM) providing a working definition of bias, listing the members of the team, its purpose, and contact information as well as a link to the Bias Incident Report Form.

Throughout the semester, BRT members were invited to and attended events and programming centered on conflict and was asked to lead a classroom discussion on bias after a complaint of the use of a racial slur. BRT members also attended a panel discussion on the experience of Trans students on campus and share the recommendations of the panelist at a cabinet meeting. The BRT's engagement with the community also included meeting with the Purchase Student Government, Faculty Advisors, Cabinet Members, and campus leadership to share awareness of campus policies and resources and to share our insights on campus climate gathered from our engagement with the community

Interfaith Council and Prayer and Meditation Space

Student Affairs and the Diversity and Compliance office have established an Interfaith Council for Purchase. The council includes community members, clergy, faculty, and staff. The college has also received grant funding from SUNY to create a new interfaith prayer, meditation, and reflection space. This multi-denomination space, is located in the Harbor Center will house appropriate educational and religious materials and supplies to provide a calm, welcoming place open to all members of the community for their spiritual needs.

The members of the campus Interfaith Council are:

-Imam Shafieq Chace of the Westchester Muslim Center in Mount Vernon

Rabbi Shira Milgrom, who is the author of articles on Jewish spirituality, education, and healing, and who has served as Rabbi for Congregation Kol Ami, White Plains, NY

Rev. Siobhan Sargent-Faustino, Senior Pastor Memorial UMC, White Plains, NY

Joe Clodit – Staff Member

Barbara Washington -Staff Member

Encouraging Civil Discourse

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion collaborated with “Fostering (Dis)Agreement,” which is a campus collective of faculty and staff who have come together for open and constructive dialogue on the student protest movement, the October 7th attacks, the war in Gaza, and Israel/Palestine more broadly.

The college Office of Diversity and Inclusion sponsored a program which included a video presentation from the “Listening from the Heart” organization and was followed by a panel conversation which included faculty with a range of political perspectives followed by Q&A. The program was well attended and included staff, faculty, and students. The program is the first in what will be a series of on campus conversations.

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the Multicultural Center co-sponsored a workshop on negotiating conflict facilitated by Cara Raich. Cara is a conflict consultant who has years of experience leading organizations through challenging situations. Cara facilitated a half-day workshop for the SUNY Chief Diversity Officers at their Spring convening. The workshop offered at Purchase was designed to be responsive to the stated need for more civil discourse on campus.

The workshop was attended by staff, faculty and students and focused on the following skills:

Defining conflict.

Eight conflict traps and how they can be avoided.

The tension between dialogue and advocacy.

Building community in the presence of conflict

Inspiring Giving:

Guided by a strategic long-term vision established to shape fundraising, stewardship, and engagement efforts for Purchase College, the Office of Institutional Advancement set out to achieve and surpass the following goals during academic year 2025:

Goal 1: Sustain the level of philanthropic commitments achieved last fiscal year by securing \$2.65 million in new commitments, while working toward leveraging additional support through Research Foundation grants.

As of June 30, the Purchase College Foundation and the Friends of the Neuberger Museum raised a combined total of \$2.51 million. Two major contributors responded to our proposals just two weeks after the June 30th deadline. With commitments totaling \$175,000 for scholarship support in Art History and Dance, these commitments extend our total for FY25 fundraising activities to \$ 2,694,900.

Staff efforts in FY25 on major grants resulted in the award in July 2025 of \$1,989,977 from the National Science Foundation which will support efforts to prepare students for interdisciplinary STEM careers.

Notable gifts and grants secured this year included:

- \$500,000 / Five-year Sherman Fairchild Grant for TAPROOT, a STEM/Arts integration plan
- \$200,000 to support Directing students in the Conservatory of Theatre Arts
- \$100,000 for campus-wide scholarships
- \$100,000 to support Dance students
- \$89,500 from NYSCA for programs at the Neuberger Museum of Art and The PAC
- \$82,386 from the Robin Hood Foundation for student recruitment, mentoring, and retention
- \$55,000 renewal for arts education at the Museum
- \$50,000 in dance scholarships from Mugler

This year, 11 households participated in SUNY Impact Foundation's tax credit initiative, generating more than \$73,200 in charitable contributions and significant donor benefit.

The Purpose and Passion calendar year-end campaign supported annual fund-level, unrestricted giving and ran through the holiday season. This multi-channel effort was designed to strengthen donor

engagement and expand the pipeline for legacy and major gifts.

The fiscal year-end campaign targeted alumni and focused on student scholarship support. Centered on a compelling video series produced by alumni filmmakers, it highlighted what students love about Purchase, how scholarships shape their education, and why public education matters. This campaign saw record-breaking alumni participation, doubling the number of contributing alumni over the previous year.

Goal 2: Increase capacity for securing and stewarding revenue that, over time, will allow the college to realize the greatest return on investment in alignment with its priorities.

This year, the OIA strengthened volunteer leadership, expanded staff capacity, and deepened cross-campus collaboration to support fundraising and stewardship efforts.

Volunteer Leadership

Frans Hijkoop has been appointed as the newest member of the Friends of the Neuberger Museum of Art Board of Directors. He is the former Executive Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer of MetLife, and previously served as Chair of the Board of Trustees of Sesame Workshop.

At its annual meeting in September, the Purchase College Alumni Association (PCAA) elected 18 members to serve a three-year term (2024–2027). Eight members are new to the Board, while ten were re-elected.

Staffing Updates

- Michelle Spino joined the Institutional Advancement team as Associate Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations in October 2024. She is working closely with Advancement colleagues and campus partners to enhance alumni engagement and annual fund-level philanthropy.
- Stephanie Hinkaty will join Purchase College in August 2025 as Director of Development. Her appointment brings key leadership capacity to support frontline fundraising and the stewardship of major donors.

Endowment Impact Reporting

Donors of endowed funds received formal annual reports detailing fund performance and frequently asked questions. Development officers used these reports as tools for continued donor engagement and stewardship.

Goal 3: Deliver dynamic engagement opportunities for Purchase’s circle of alumni, friends, and supporters, while scaling programs to suit current resources.

Throughout 2024–2025, the Office of Institutional Advancement engaged constituents and donors through a wide range of activities—from high-profile alumni events to personalized outreach with major gift prospects. The team connected with alumni and donors at campus events, during tours, through one-on-one meetings, virtual calls, and intimate gatherings, often in collaboration with campus colleagues and students. Highlights included:

- **#ForeverPurchase Alumni Meet-Up (July 2024):** Held annually in midtown Manhattan, this summer social event strengthened alumni connections, welcomed new graduates, fostered networking and mentorship, and promoted involvement with the Purchase College Alumni Association. More than sixty alumni attended the 2024 event; more than one hundred alumni are already registered for August 2025.
- **Samara Joy Post-Performance Meet-and-Greet (November 2024):** Following her sold-out performance at The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College, Grammy winner Samara Joy '21 and her band—including alumni Donovan Austin '23 and Kendric McCallister—hosted a backstage reception with PCAA and Purchase College Foundation Board members, Westchester dignitaries, President's Cabinet, and Conservatory of Music representatives.
- **Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration (November 12, 2024):** PCAA Board members joined faculty, staff, and students for *Celebrando Comunidad: Building Latinx Community at Purchase*. The event, organized by Professors Benmergui, Hess, Gonzalez, and Casa Purchase, featured remarks from Dr. Antonio Santiago '00 (Liberal Studies) and PCAA President Stephanie Blum '13 (Arts Management).
- **Shark Tank Competition (December 4, 2024):** Hosted by Purchase College's Economics program, this annual competition invited student entrepreneurs from across campus to pitch innovative business ideas to a panel of judges. Held in the Humanities Theatre, the event featured two alumni judges, David Settanni '09 and Priya Tejpal '25—herself a past winner—along with three industry professionals. Cash prizes were awarded in three categories.
- **New Year: New You Virtual Series (January 13–23, 2025):** A series of seven midday and evening Zoom workshops explored physical, mental, spiritual, social, and financial health. The series featured alumni and campus experts, including faculty from Physical Education and staff from the Career Development Center. Over one hundred alumni and students participated.
- **Black History Month Summit (February 26, 2025):** The fifth annual summit was held at the SUNY Global Center in NYC. Distinguished alumna Janet Rollé '84 (Dance) headlined a fireside chat moderated by Dr. Krystal Perkins '02 (Psychology), Chair of the Global Black Studies program. A post-event speed networking session connected guests, students, and alumni.
- **PCAA Alumni Awards (May 2, 2025):** Nine alumni were honored across six award categories, including three new awards introduced in 2024. Honorees included Nicco Annan '98 (Acting), Samara Joy '21 (Music), and Drs. Anthonia Shagaya '00 (Biology) and Sheida Rodriguez '16 (Biology and Chemistry), recognized for excellence in arts, music, and medicine.
- **Alumni Weekend 2025 (May 2–3):** More than two hundred alumni and eighty guests returned to campus for a lively weekend of connection and celebration. Highlights included the Night of Reunions, Legacy Fest featuring alumni musicians, a Class of 2000 reunion in the Neuberger Museum of Art's *Stephen Antonakos: Proscenium* installation, campus tours, performances, athletic events, and the inaugural Alumni Showcase.
- **Inaugural Alumni Showcase (May 3, 2025):** As part of Alumni Weekend, this new event highlighted alumni talent and entrepreneurship with exhibits by thirty alumni artists, authors, and professionals that filled the upper lobby of The Performing Arts Center.
- **Alumni e-Newsletter & Departmental Campaigns:** The bi-monthly alumni newsletter maintained a strong open rate of 57%. Targeted departmental outreach, developed in collaboration with academic program directors, achieved exceptional engagement, with open rates up to 75% and click-through rates of 6%.
- **Mentoring:** The Office of Alumni Engagement and the Career Development Center continued to collaborate on the growth of the Purchase Mentor Network. In addition to fostering meaningful one-on-one conversations about careers, academics, internships, and entrepreneurship, the program cultivates enduring connections and encourages a culture of giving among both mentors and mentees.

Facilities, Sustainability, and Capital Planning:

Energy/Sustainability

In support of Executive Order 22, the college has made strides in both waste reduction and energy initiatives.

Waste:

On April 25, 2025, the Westchester County Department of Environmental Facilities presented Purchase College its EcoAward for the college's leadership and initiative in implementing numerous waste reduction programs. For fiscal year 2024-2025, the college's started and expanded a variety of programs. Composting was included as a service in its waste hauling contract. There were 31 pickups which diverted food waste to an authorized NYS DEC compost facility, conservatively five tons of food waste was converted to compost. The college also reduced its plastic bottle usage by approximately 95 percent in beverage vending machines by switching to aluminum cans. Through vending and retail, the college sold 29,000 aluminum cans that would have otherwise been in plastic bottles.

Energy:

The 2025-26 NY state enacted budget allocates a minimum of \$200 million for thermal energy network projects, with a focus on projects at SUNY institutions. Prior to this allocation, the college collaborated with environmental lobbyists to petition \$50 million in funding for the design and construction of an Underground Thermal Energy Network in the current year's budget. The college's plans align with the statewide initiative UTENJA, aiming to implement a district geothermal project that would significantly reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by more than 65 percent. In line with these plans, the college is currently conducting investigations into geothermal potential through a SUCF project at the dining hall, where a successful test pit was drilled 750 feet below the surface in just one day. At present, thermal conductivity testing is underway, and the corresponding report is expected to be completed soon.

Capital Planning

Creating a Community Space:

In the first of three planned projects that will focus on student engagement, recruitment, and retention, this project will transform the existing Main Dining Hall building into a new student union-type space, with a transformational design to facilitate the bridge between new first-year students and their upperclassman. This redesign will create opportunities for social and learning engagement which will positively impact the student experience and help foster a larger sense of community and belonging. The college has hired the design firm PFS Projects Architecture as the lead on the project, and has already begun the programming phase. The current project schedule has programming completed at the end of June 2025. We have moved into schematic design, which is projected to end in November of 2025. Anticipated construction bidding is scheduled for late Fall of 2026, with a construction start of Spring 2027.

ADA Site Improvements for an Accessible Campus:

In a continued effort to consistently improve overall accessibility on campus, this project builds upon a successful first two phases. The first phase focused on visitor parking lots, and providing pathways from parking lots to academic buildings. The second phase added upgrades to our residential and academic parking lots along the interior corridor of the campus. This included the relocation of a bus stop on Lincoln Avenue with a pull-off area for buses to more safely discharge their passengers, and then extended new pathways from the new bus stop to the adjoining Academic buildings. It also added a new accessible entrance into the Campus Center North building, upgrades at the entrances of the Natural Science and Dance buildings, expanding access to the East 4 parking lot, to student apartments, and enhancing pathways from the main residence halls to the campus Main Plaza.

The second phase of the project also received generous grant money from Senator Shelly Mayer and Assemblyman Buchwald.

The third phase expands upon all of this great work and will include parking lot upgrades to our athletic fields, residential parking on the east side of the campus, along with new parking and site improvements to the quad area of our Commons apartments. New pathways will be created at our playing fields and from the Central 2 parking lot, with expanded access and parking for the Neuberger Museum. Construction began in the Spring of 2026 and is scheduled to be completed in Fall 2027.

Planning for the future - Facilities Master Plan:

The campus is currently in the process of updating its campus master plan, which is 10 years old. This update comes at a time of transitional change at the college, and it aims to realign the campus physical infrastructure plan with the strategic vision and plan for the college. The entire process is expected to take at least a year. The design team has actively engaged with various focus groups, shared governance, students, faculty, and staff to gather valuable input. The team has been diligently sorting through the gathered information and working with the college to ensure its accuracy and relevance for informing their options and recommendations.

Office for Global Education

Support of International Students, Faculty, and Staff

In keeping with Chancellor King's message to all SUNY stakeholders at the end of January 2025 affirming SUNY's commitment to international students, faculty, and staff, the Office for Global Education is providing ongoing support to campus community members whose visas we facilitate. We have consulted regularly with our contracted SUNY immigration attorney and general counsel and increased communication with H-1B employees and F-1 students, following counsels' advice to make recommendations regarding travel, maintaining visas in good standing, and lawful responses in case of contact with federal authorities.

International Student Enrollment & Ongoing Recruitment Efforts

In 2024-25 we enrolled a total of 63 F-1 students from 34 countries. In addition, 9 students remained on a Purchase sponsored student visas participating in Post-Completion Optional Practical Training (OPT), an authorized year of work experience after graduation. Building on the college's success in increasing international student recruitment in 2024-25, new actions underway since our last Chancellor's report

to continue to support international student enrollment include: meetings with academic area directors to identify disciplines with the greatest potential for increased international student enrollment; convening the Global Education Advisory Group as recommended during the Plan Wide Open (PWO) process; and consideration of an outside international student recruitment consultant to assist in development of a long term international student recruitment strategy.

Global Education Advisory Group

As recommended during the campus wide Plan Wide Open (PWO) process, we convened a Global Education Advisory Group composed of faculty and administrative representatives from every academic unit in 2024-25. The group has assessed new faculty-led study abroad program proposals, and will advise on topics including international student recruitment, Global Studies curriculum, as well as a possible honors college modeled after/using the success of the Global Scholars program as a baseline.

Outbound Semester-Long Education Abroad

In the 2024-25 academic year, 29 Purchase students studied away and abroad in semester long programs at various institutions in Australia, Austria, England, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Norway, Scotland, South Korea, Spain, Taiwan, and Washington D.C.

Winter and Summer Outbound Short-Term Faculty-Led Programs

50 students studied abroad in short-term faculty-led programs in 2024-25. Our winter 2025 faculty-led program, Coral Reef Biology and Ecology in Roatán, Honduras, reached maximum enrollment and had a waiting list. In addition, we offered summer 2025 faculty-led programs in Norway and France. The Norway program featured courses on Norwegian responses to climate change as well as art activism, both with an emphasis on sustainability and the environment. The France program featured French language and cinema studies courses. In addition to Purchase faculty-led programs, there were four students who studied abroad this summer on different SUNY programs, studying in Switzerland, Italy, South Korea, and England.

Student participation in our faculty-led programs is supported by the International Study Assistance Scholarship, the Durst International Endowment, the SUNY Global Learning for All Stimulus Scholarship and the Petrillo Family Fund. In addition to internal scholarships, six Purchase students were awarded Gilman Scholarships in AY 2024-25, and one student was awarded a scholarship from the Forum on Education Abroad.

SUNY Turkey Delegation Trip

Dean for Global Strategy and International Programs Anne Kern joined a SUNY delegation trip to Turkey in April 2025. Purchase's participation in the SUNY Familiarization Tour to Turkey served as an important opening to advance the work of diversifying the geographic locations for our faculty-led study abroad programs, strengthening ties to a country long considered a cultural crossroads between East and West. The opportunity for Dr. Kern to travel to Turkey with a SUNY delegation laid the groundwork for the successful development of a new short-term faculty-led program there, to be launched in academic year 2025-26, as well as other international activities with Turkish partners, particularly partners who may be interested in dual degree programs, joint research projects, and faculty exchanges.

Technos-Purchase College Relationship

Purchase College is proud to have a strong and longstanding partnership with Technos College in Tokyo, Japan, that brings art and cultural exchange to students at each institution, fully funded by the Tanaka Foundation. Two Purchase students and one faculty member from the Conservatory of Music traveled

to Tokyo in February 2025, where they performed original songs composed by the students in an event produced by Technos students. Technos students hosted their American counterparts in sightseeing around Tokyo and as they attend classes and activities at Technos College. In April 2025, Purchase welcomed a delegation of Japanese students and faculty on our campus for a week of project-based learning. Purchase senior Sophie Ledden (anthropology/history double major with museum studies minor) was selected among a competitive field for Technos's English Teaching Assistantship, a year long, paid internship in Tokyo, Japan. In June 2025, Purchase once again participated in the annual Technos International Week, sending one faculty member and two students for two weeks of collaboration, sightseeing, and intercultural exchange.

The Purchase Community: Connecting, Expanding, Engaging

Neuberger Museum of Art

The Neuberger Museum of Art's fiftieth anniversary in 2024 inspired reflection, celebration, and a renewed sense of purpose. Building on the momentum of this milestone year, the Museum introduced a new strategic plan rooted in founding patron Roy R. Neuberger's commitment to living artists and public access. Aligned with the Museum's mission to champion those who make, engage with, and find meaning in art, the plan prioritizes deeper campus integration, broader community engagement, investment in sustainability, and keeping both art and visitors at the center of its work.

During the academic year, the Neuberger welcomed nearly 11,500 in-person visitors to exhibitions, talks, tours, family programs, and community events. Admission to the Museum remains free for all.

Through its Open Classroom program, the Museum fosters cross-disciplinary collaboration with Purchase College students and faculty. Acting students voice exhibition content, dancers explore movement in the galleries, and art history students work directly with the collection. These experiences, along with internships and digital projects, support academic inquiry and position the Museum as a living laboratory for creative and professional growth.

The Yaseen Lectures on the Fine Arts bring leading voices in art and scholarship to the Neuberger and Purchase College. Held in November 2024, this year's livestreamed program explored feminism and body freedom, featuring artist Marilyn Minter, curator Jasmine Wahi, and moderator Emily McElwreath '05. The conversation, which examined how contemporary art and activism intersect to promote gender equity and bodily autonomy, was organized by Curator of Education Diana Puglisi, with opening remarks by Director Tracy Fitzpatrick.

The Fred Wilson Lecture in Global Black Studies continues to celebrate Black makers and thinkers whose work shapes our cultural and creative landscapes. Presented in collaboration with Purchase College's Global Black Studies and Media Studies programs, the annual lecture brings influential voices to campus for public talks and meaningful student engagement. In 2025, the Museum welcomed Dr. Zalika U. Ibaorimi—an antidisciplinary artist known as N.H.I. and faculty member at The Ohio State University—for the series' second lecture.

A free digital guide powered by Bloomberg Connects continues to expand the Neuberger's reach and accessibility. Students and faculty contribute directly to this interactive platform, which features

exhibition highlights, artist interviews, and behind-the-scenes content. Acting students help bring the experience to life through engaging audio recordings that make the museum's spaces and stories more accessible to both on-campus and remote audiences.

Exhibitions

The fiftieth anniversary multi-part exhibition, *The Making of a Museum: 50 Years*, remained on view through the calendar year. Tracing the museum's evolution from its founding vision to its present-day impact, the project highlighted Roy R. Neuberger's landmark founding gift, the conceptualization and early use of the museum building, the debut of Cleve Gray's monumental *Threnody*, and key exhibitions, programs, and moments from 1974 to 2024 that shaped the museum's role as a leader among academic art institutions.

Another major exhibition during this period was *Rosalie D. Gagné: A Contemporary Alchemist*, the first retrospective dedicated to the Pan-American artist's interdisciplinary practice. Organized by the Neuberger Museum of Art, the exhibition is now on tour to the Musée d'art de Joliette in Québec, Canada.

Janet Langsam: Improbable Feminist celebrated the multifaceted artistic practice and career of one of the region's most influential artist-advocates.

Several collection-based exhibitions were also produced in early 2025, showcasing the museum's holdings through new thematic lenses:

- ***Molten Metals*** – exploring how artists use industrial materials to create expressive forms that blend organic elements with mechanical precision
- ***Stephen Antonakos: Proscenium*** – a monumental neon installation created in 2000 that fills the Museum's Theater Gallery with glowing color, spatial rhythm, and architectural line
- ***Liminal in Nature*** – examining transitional states of being through contemporary works that dwell in ambiguity and change
- ***Then and Now: Selections from the Collection*** – an ongoing exhibition featuring rotating highlights from the Neuberger's permanent collection of nearly 7,000 objects

Education and Community Engagement

In addition to serving the Purchase College community, the museum promotes learning and engagement for people of all ages and backgrounds.

During the academic year, the museum and its team of Volunteer Museum Educators welcomed approximately fifty (50) school tours serving Pre-K through 12th grade students. Supported by the NEU Kids Art Access Program, nearly 1,500 students from Title I schools received subsidized or fully funded tour admissions, round-trip transportation, and lunches.

Through summer and fall 2024, the Neuberger continued its NEU Vitality Art Workshop Series for adults aged 55 and older, supported by E.A. Michelson Philanthropy. Three in-person workshop series were held, followed by two virtual sessions in spring 2025 that explored how creative aging can foster more inclusive and age-friendly environments. In summer 2025, the program was transitioned to School of Continuing Education, ensuring its integration within the broader Purchase College community.

Much of the work highlighted in this report has been made possible through the generosity of alumni and donors who believe in the museum's mission and the transformative power of the arts.

During the 2024-2025 academic year, **The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College** invited audiences to find inspiration and connection through a series of "extraordinary experiences."

True to the PAC's legacy of sharing new work alongside established virtuosity, the 2024-2025 professional presenting season included familiar audience favorites, Purchase alumni, innovative emerging artists, and opportunities for creative encounters and engagement. It consisted of twenty performances by sixteen artists and successfully balanced artistic excellence and innovation with educational merit and financial viability.

Professional Presenting Series Highlights:

The 2024-2025 season was notable for the expansion of programming in the Concert Hall, The Purchase PAC's largest theatre, which has been underutilized since the COVID closure. Designed for orchestra performances, the 1,200 seat Concert Hall also allows for the presentation of artists in a variety of genres that have the potential to draw larger audiences. In fact, the 2024-2025 season saw an increase in audience numbers by 50% over the previous year; an increase largely fueled by the decision to increase our programmatic use of the Concert Hall.

The Concert Hall line-up included the opening night concert by the world-renowned Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, joined by pianist and White Plains native Garrick Ohlsson, an evening with humorist David Sedaris, well-received dance performances by Dance Theater of Harlem, Paul Taylor Dance Company, and MOMIX, and the triumphant return to campus of Grammy Award-winning Purchase College alum Samara Joy (Jazz Studies, '21).

Samara Joy has already won Grammy Awards for Best New Artist in 2023, Best New Jazz Vocal Album in 2023 and 2025, and Best Jazz Performance in 2024 and 2025. She performed at The PAC to a full house, including a student-only section in the top balcony. In addition to the performance, Joy offered current students a master class and an open rehearsal with Q&A, and generously attended a post-show reception with donors and faculty members.

Other highlights included the first Purchase performance by Manual Cinema, a company that melds theater, shadow puppetry, and projection into a unique theatrical event, and a return visit by dance company RUBBERBAND, who fuses the grace of ballet with the energy of Hip Hop. They presented an evening-length work originally developed during an on-campus residency at Purchase in 2019.

As has been the case since the 2014-2015 season, the cornerstone of The PAC's classical and chamber music programming was a three-concert series from the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. Each performance included a pre-performance artist talk, giving audience members an opportunity for deeper engagement with the music.

Education & Engagement

The Purchase PAC continued to expand its creative community by strengthening relationships with Broadview, the Neuberger Museum, and other campus units, broadening the opportunities for collaboration.

For example, Manual Cinema's presentation of *Frankenstein* was followed by an on-stage meet-the-artist encounter. Audience members could speak directly to the artists, handle the puppets, ask questions, and take photos. Manual Cinema also offered a hands-on shadow puppet workshop for students and residents of Broadview Senior Living on the day before the performance.

The PAC supports the development of emerging talent or new work through extended artist residencies built around public performances. Rehearsal space, as well technical and design support is provided, allowing artists to create, rehearse, and try out new works in a professional stage setting. On-campus residencies also provide vital engagement opportunities for the campus and broader community. This season, Dance Theater of Harlem, a visionary company that celebrates the belief that ballet belongs to everyone, was in residence at The PAC for a week to utilize theater space and production expertise for technical rehearsals of *Firebird*. While in residence, the company held master classes for the Conservatory of Dance, set dance choreography for the Purchase Dance Company to perform in the 2025 spring concert at The PAC, and worked with Arts Management students to offer hands-on experiential opportunities.

Throughout the year, The PAC's four stages provided vital space for Purchase College School of the Arts Conservatory performances, including Fall and Spring Dance, performances by the Purchase Symphony Orchestra, Purchase Opera, and Studio Composition.

The PAC's Education and Engagement Office presented four popular school time performances for PreK-12 audiences. The line-up included the STEM-focused *Doktor Kaboom!*, *Sugar Skull! A Dia de Muertos Musical Adventure*, *The Gruffalo's Child*, and Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia's *Goodnight Moon and the Runaway Bunny*, an introduction to the performing arts and the excitement of reading for the youngest audiences.

Large scale rental and theatrical rental activity continued to provide an important revenue stream; much of this activity also served The PAC's larger mission to engage, enlighten, and educate. In June, American Modern Opera Company (AMOC*) was on site rehearsing *Music for New Bodies* in The PAC's Black Box theatre. Composed and conducted by Matthew Aucoin and directed by Peter Sellars, this new work ran at Lincoln Center in July. Additionally, Purchase College's long relationship with Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute continued in the summer of 2025 with the National Youth Orchestra residency.

In addition, PAC staff have given guest presentations and lectures to students in the Arts Management, Design Tech, and Communication fields, and student internships and job opportunities continue to grow.

Looking ahead, the 2025-2026 professional presenting season has been announced, and tickets are on sale. Early sales indicate that it will be a strong season of continued growth for The PAC.

Building Bridges: Advancing Intergenerational Learning at Purchase College

Purchase College's partnership with Broadview at Purchase College continues to thrive, fostering a vibrant, age-diverse community that enriches campus life and promotes lifelong learning. Broadview's Independent Living residences are now fully occupied, with a growing waitlist - a strong testament to its appeal and integration into the broader campus. The Broadview Learning Commons has become a dynamic hub of connection, creativity, and intellectual exchange, fully embodying the college's mission and values.

Following recent licensure by the Department of Health, Broadview's High Point Center for Care and Assisted Living areas have begun welcoming residents. The Intergenerational Learning and Program Planning (ILPP) team looks forward to expanding programming into these new areas, further extending intergenerational learning opportunities across the Broadview continuum.

Building on its mission to connect learners of all ages, ILPP has developed a range of dynamic programs that strengthen intergenerational bonds and enrich community engagement. Some recent examples include:

Broadview Resident Engagement in Campus Life

Broadview residents participated in a wide range of academic and cultural experiences designed to foster shared learning and mutual enrichment:

- Academic Courses in disciplines such as Cinema Studies, Political Science, Mathematics, Sociology, and Environmental Studies were hosted in the Broadview Learning Commons. These classes encourage deep dialogue between students and residents, expanding perspectives on themes like democracy, ecology, and society.
- Mentorship and networking panels brought students together with Broadview residents and faculty in areas such as Theatre Arts, Law and Justice, and social impact careers. These events offer meaningful professional development and intergenerational mentorship.
- Community Engagement Events, including scholarship receptions and service activities such as a collaborative blanket-making project, foster a shared sense of purpose and responsibility.
- Interactive Learning opportunities such as honey extraction demonstrations (linked to biology coursework) provide hands-on, cross-generational learning.
- Informal gatherings such as “Thirsty Thursday” happy hours offer a casual setting for residents, faculty, and staff to connect.

Broadview Learning Commons as a Programmatic Hub

The Broadview Learning Commons has emerged as a cornerstone of interdisciplinary and intergenerational programming, including:

- Narrative 4 Story Exchanges, where students and residents share personal stories to build empathy and mutual understanding.
- A legal career panel featuring Broadview residents with law backgrounds. This event led to the formation of a student Prelaw Club and expanded opportunities for mentorship.
- Performing arts collaborations including backstage discussions, open rehearsals, and faculty-led lectures from the Conservatories of Dance and Theatre Arts, giving residents insider access to the creative process.
- Academic lectures and conversations, covering political science, literature, and economics invite residents to contribute their insights, deepening students’ understanding through lived experience.
- Music and Jazz Studies performances and discussions bring residents into direct engagement with faculty and student artistry.

Age-Friendly University Designation

A dedicated work group composed of faculty, staff, and a student led the effort to seek Age-Friendly University (AFU) status. Purchase College has officially joined the Age-Friendly University Global Network, recognizing the institution’s commitment to age inclusion and lifelong learning.

The 10 AFU principles have been integrated into the college's unit assessment process, underscoring their importance across departments.

Global Intergenerational Week

As part of Global Intergenerational Week, Purchase College highlighted a series of campus activities that brought together individuals of all ages in learning and creative exchange.

In partnership with the Neuberger Museum of Art and Lifetime Arts, the college presented public programs exploring creativity and aging, including: "Creative Aging: Enhancing the Lives of Older Adults" and Creative Aging: A Tool for Undoing Ageism."

A Transformative Experience for All Ages

Faculty, students, and residents consistently describe these intergenerational programs as intellectually enriching and socially meaningful. Students value the opportunity to learn from older adults' lived experiences, while residents find the interactions energizing and transformative.

Purchase College's ongoing commitment to intergenerational learning is creating a unique community where all ages come together to learn, mentor, and share. The ILPP team remains dedicated to expanding these opportunities and continuing to build programs that enhance the educational and social fabric of the college and its extended community.

Notable Accolades:

Purchase College has been included on many significant ranking lists.

Purchase is listed as one of the "Top 391 Colleges" in the nation by the Princeton Review in the 2026 edition of their college guide. Purchase is also listed as a Best Northeastern College and a top Green College for its commitment to sustainability. Home to the acclaimed Performing Arts Center, Purchase was also ranked on the list of Best College Theaters. This is significant as only 15% of four-year colleges are selected for Princeton Review's book.

Purchase is listed as one of the 8 Top Public Schools and among the best 131 National Liberal Arts Colleges by U.S. News & World Report in the 2026 edition of their college guide. Purchase is also listed as a top performer in the nation on social mobility, which evaluates how well colleges serve low-income students. The college is ranked 30 on that list. Also, the college's psychology program has been included among the list of top undergraduate psychology programs.

- *The Hollywood Reporter* has named Purchase as one of the top 25 Acting Programs in the World for 2025.
- *The Fiske Guide to Colleges* selected Purchase as one of the 300 "best and most interesting colleges in the U.S., Canada, and U.K." in their 2025 guide.

- *Backstage* named Purchase among the 27 Acting Colleges You Should Know in 2024.
- *Money* included Purchase in their list of 732 Best Colleges, which evaluates colleges based on “graduation rates, cost of attendance, financial aid, alumni salaries, and more.”

Over the past year, faculty and alumni have been nominated for and/or awarded Grammy, Tony, Drama Desk, and Emmy awards. Faculty and Alumni from a wide range of programs and areas of study screened their work in various prestigious film festivals such as the Provincetown International Film Festival, appeared on Broadway and on prestige television and streaming shows, published acclaimed books, created new, groundbreaking works, been awarded grants from the NSF and from New York State for innovative work, been highlighted by the *New York Times*, *PBS*, *Dance Magazine*, and *Paste Magazine*, among many other accolades and achievements across the sciences, arts, liberal arts, and humanities. Please see purchase.edu/news for highlights.

Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work

The achievements of our students, alumni, and faculty continue to demonstrate the exceptional quality of our educational programs and creative environment:

Notable Achievements:

- Samara Joy '21 has established herself as a prominent figure in jazz, earning Grammy Awards that highlight the excellence of our music programs
- Sculpture faculty member Liz Philips received the prestigious US Artists Award, recognizing her significant contributions to contemporary art
- Opera Studies graduate Brian Jagde achieved international recognition with his selection to perform at La Scala's Opening Night Gala, one of the most prestigious events in the opera world
- Our Rehabilitation Through the Arts (RTA) program gained significant visibility through the Oscar-nominated film "Sing, Sing," demonstrating our commitment to arts as a vehicle for social change

These accomplishments enhance our institution's reputation as a leader in arts education, creative exploration, and social innovation. They serve as powerful evidence of our success in nurturing talent and fostering artistic excellence that resonates on national and international stages.

Additional Student, Alumni, and Faculty Recognition

The past academic year has witnessed remarkable accomplishments across our entire community, including students, faculty, staff, and various organizations that have contributed tirelessly to our shared success and growth.

Purchase Alumni Awards

Our Alumni Association expanded its recognition program with new award categories honoring outstanding contributions across disciplines. Nine distinguished alumni received recognition, strengthening our community connections and highlighting the diverse impacts our graduates make in their fields. This initiative reinforces our commitment to celebrating alumni achievements and fostering ongoing engagement with our institutional community.

U.S. Department of Education Grant

The college secured a nearly \$3 million grant distributed over five years to support programs specifically designed for Hispanic and low-income students. This substantial funding underscores our institutional commitment to diversity and educational accessibility. The grant will enable expansion of support services and academic programs that enhance educational opportunities for underrepresented populations, contributing to a more inclusive campus environment.

National Board of Review Awards

Two alumni from our film program received prestigious recognition through the National Board of Review's Student Grant Program. This acknowledgment validates the exceptional quality of our film education and mentorship, elevating our program's visibility within the competitive landscape of creative industries. Such distinctions create valuable professional opportunities for our students and strengthen our connections with industry partners.

These achievements collectively enhance our institutional reputation, attracting prospective students and faculty while enriching our academic community. They demonstrate our success in preparing graduates who make meaningful contributions across diverse fields and securing resources that advance our educational mission.

Suggested Areas for System Administration Help:

On behalf of the College, I thank the Chancellor for his leadership and Governor Hochul and State Legislators for their recognition of SUNY as a major asset for the State of New York as reflected in their continuing and additional support to SUNY campuses in this year's budget allocation.

This year Purchase is focusing on elevating awareness of its brand in Westchester and beyond, building back its campus culture, and ensuring a fiscally sustainable future. SUNY and the Board have already been extremely supportive of these initiatives and we respectfully ask for your continued support. Please continue to think of Purchase for new opportunities, collaborations, and initiatives.

The Purchase College Annual Report for 2024-25 respectfully submitted to the SUNY Board of Trustees, Chancellor King, The Purchase College Council, and the faculty and staff of Purchase College on this day November 3, 2025.

Dr. Michael E. Steiper
President