



July 2018 | Volume 12 Issue 7

AlumniConnections

The monthly newsletter for alumni and friends of **Montclair State University**

Alumni News



Adulting 101: Real life topics you did not learn in college!

The Office of Annual Giving and Alumni Engagement and the Center for Leadership Development have teamed up to provide a summer series of webinars entitled the Adulting 101 Series. Join Jill Ploskonka '05, Center For Leadership Development, as she shares real life tips and pointers about topics such as: Savings and Credit, A Place to Work and a Place to Live, and Student Loans and Overall Financial Literacy. [\[View full story\]](#)

Featured Events - Summer Fun Series

July 29

[Family Fun at The Liberty Science Center](#)

August 18

[A Night with the New Jersey Jackals](#)

August 26

[Family Fun at The Turtle Back Zoo](#)

Upcoming Events

July 19

[Information Session: MA in Public and Organizational Relations](#)

July 24

[Information Session: MA in Counseling](#)

July 31

[Webinar: Master of Business Administration \(MBA\)](#)

August 22

[Webinar: Transferable Skills: What They Are and How to Market Them](#)

Full Event Calendar

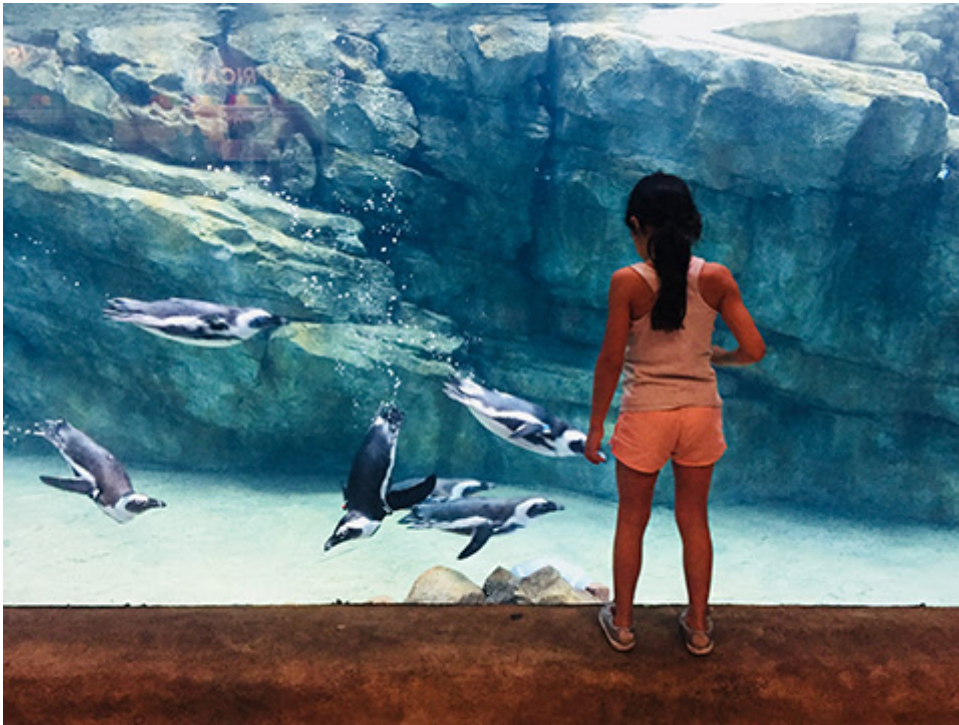
Plan ahead, mark your calendar, and tell a friend..

Peak Performances

Check out the upcoming calendar of events.

Carpe Diem

Tune in to the School of Communication and Media's weekly show.



The Summer Fun Series continues! Register Today!

We're announcing a fun and exciting series of events throughout the summer months to bring Montclair State alumni together! From an afternoon at the races to a day at the zoo, there is something for everyone at these family-friendly activities. Celebrate summer and your alma mater by spending a day with fellow graduates and friends. Our first event of this series was a Day at the Races at Monmouth Park. Alumni and friends gathered on Sunday, July 15, for a day of family fun at Monmouth Park to enjoy a day at the races and barbecue fare in an exclusive picnic area just for Montclair State. [\[View full story\]](#)

University News



[Montclair State Athletics](#)

View the entire athletics schedule and cheer the Red Hawks on to victory!

Homecoming 2018

Save the date for Homecoming 2018! Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 6! There is something for everyone at Homecoming! Enjoy the campus carnival and get ready for the big game at our pep rally! At 6:00 p.m., under the lights, it's game time! Cheer the Red Hawks onto victory as they take on TCNJ!

[\[Learn more\]](#)

Save on Auto Insurance with GEICO!

As a graduate of Montclair State University, you could receive an exclusive discounted rate on auto insurance from GEICO. Find out how much you could save. Fifteen minutes could save you 15 percent or more on car insurance.® [\[Learn more\]](#)

Exclusive Alumni Benefits through PerksConnect!



Sign on to PerksConnect to find local and national deals and discounts! Search for event tickets, cash back rewards, and much more! You will be asked to sign on to access your alumnibenefits. [\[Learn more\]](#)

Support Montclair State with Amazon Smile!

You shop. Amazon gives. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same

NSF Award Lets Professor Look Back to the Future

Earth and Environmental Studies Professor Sandra Passchier is a pioneering polar scientist in the relatively young, 60-year-old, field of internationally coordinated Antarctic research. She made her first polar trip to Greenland in 1992, as the only woman on a field team and has since visited Antarctica five times. She is planning her sixth trip in early 2019. The Antarctic ice sheet (AIS) covers 5.4 million square miles, or 98 percent, of a continent roughly the size of North America – and Passchier’s research efforts are devoted to exposing the secrets of AIS dynamics. A recent \$323,113 award from the National Science Foundation (NSF) supports her three-year project that will help scientists forecast sea level rise the world over. [\[View full story\]](#)



New Animation/Illustration Class is a Game Changer

For senior Richard Guzman, video, computer and online games have been a big part of his college life, but he’s not just a gamer. Guzman is one of the creators of new games designed by Montclair State students for the University’s Game Con ’18. A BFA major in Animation/Illustration, Guzman was among the students who accepted the challenge of creating a game in Montclair State’s new Interactive Game Development course. The class covered every aspect of the game development pipeline, including ideation, game asset preparation, visual aesthetic, game programming, user experience and deployment. [\[View full story\]](#)

Giving News

products, same prices, same service. Support your alma mater by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com. [Support Montclair State!](#)

Alumni Benefits & Services

Some of the great things about being a graduate of Montclair State, are the discounts available to you on and off campus. Take advantage of a discount at the University bookstore when you pick up your alumni gear, and get fit at the Recreation Center with a discounted rate. Learn more about these on-campus discounts.

Shopaholic? No problem! Shop online with Working Advantage, and search for local and national discounts through PerksConnect.

We’ve made spring and summer fun affordable! Receive discounted tickets to Six Flags Great Adventure, Hurricane Harbor, and Wild Safari.

Save on the things that matter most. Your alumni benefits include a special discounted rate on auto, home, and renters insurance from Geico.

[\[Learn more\]](#)

Montclair State University Conference Center

Consider hosting your next event at The Conference Center at Montclair State. Alumni receive a 10% discount! For more information, [visit the website](#) or call 973-655-3391. You can also email conference@montclair.edu.

Montclair State University Continuing and Professional Education (CAPE)

Montclair State University Continuing and Professional Education (CAPE) offers non-credit courses and certificates designed to refresh professional skills, build credentials and support career development. CAPE programs include innovative certificates in the rapidly expanding fields of



blockchain and analytic linguistics. Other courses, such as professional sales, professional writing, office and technology fundamentals, and ESL for managers, provide additional career-enhancing opportunities.

Alumni receive a 5% discount. Use code ALUM05 when registering.

Learn more at an Alumni Open House:

- [Wednesday, July 25, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.](#)

Join us on campus or online. To register, visit montclair.edu/cape.

Career Corner

By Adam Mayer, MA, GCDF, CPRW, Director of Career Development
[The Center for Career Services and Cooperative Education](#)

Webinar: Transferable Skills: What They Are and How to Market Them

August 22, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Major doesn't dictate your career, which means you have more choices than you might think. Attend this webinar to find out how to represent your transferable skills in the job search, including the attributes employers want to see on your resume. Free and open to all students and alumni.

[\[Learn more and register\]](#)

Connect with us!



Impact Montclair State

Check out Montclair State's new crowdfunding initiative, Impact Montclair State. Support a campaign, team, or fund that means the most to you and your Montclair State experience. Whether you were a student athlete or want to support the Red Hawk Pantry, there are several ways to make an impact. Active projects include the Emergency Book Fund and NJ Water Algae Incubator. Help students gain access to the tools they need to succeed in the classroom. You can also help battle a critical problem that is hurting our drinking and recreational waters in NJ! [\[Learn more and make your gift\]](#)

Athletics News



Jumping for Joy

With his jump of 7.92 meters, or 26 feet, George Alexandris leapt to victory – and made Montclair State history – at the NCAA Division III Outdoor Track and Field Championships at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse on May 24. The first Red Hawk male to win an NCAA title in 25 years, Alexandris broke the 44-year national championship meet record, which was set in 1974 at the first Division III championship. He also broke the Roger Harring Stadium at Veterans Memorial Field Sports Complex record and shattered his own Montclair State record that

he had set the week before. In addition, he registered the second-best mark in Division III history. [\[View full story\]](#)



Support Montclair State Athletics - 6th Annual Red Hawk Open

Proceeds from the Red Hawk Open support the more than 500 student athletes and 18 varsity athletic programs of the Montclair State University Athletic Department. Proceeds from last year's event helped purchase state-of-the-art fitness equipment for our student athletes and provided supplemental funds for team travel. Your support of the Red Hawk Open helps our students excel athletically and it demonstrates to our athletes that their effort and commitment is valued by Montclair State alumni, community members and colleagues. [\[Learn more and support!\]](#)

Alumni Spotlights



Judy Graef '66, '69 MA

Judy Graef's path has led her along many exciting adventures, and Montclair

State University was the first step. Graef, who graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from the College of Education and Human Services and earned her master's degree in Education, says she chose Montclair State for its highly regarded Home Economics program at the time. She got her first taste of travel as a junior when six students from different departments participated in a domestic exchange program to California, and then traveled to Europe after graduation, exploring abroad on \$5 a day. Since then, she's traveled across the seven continents – seeing the penguins in Antarctica, polar bears in the Arctic and tigers in the wild in Nepal. [\[View full story\]](#)



James W. Merli '83

Alumnus Jim Merli hadn't returned to campus for close to 20 years after graduation, but he has become quite a force since he has been back. Jim was awarded the Margaret and Herman Sokol Award for Alumni Achievement and Civic Engagement at the Annual Scholarship Dinner held March 3. He is an adjunct professor at the Feliciano School of Business, a member of its Business Advisory Board, an executive in residence and a donor. He and his wife, Sandy, recently made a gift to the School to name the James W. Merli Executive Conference Center. [\[View full story\]](#)

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