THE INVESTITURE OF

JONATHAN GS KOPPELL

THE NINTH PRESIDENT OF
MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY
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September 15, 2022
1 p.m.

Memorial Auditorium
Montclair State University
THE INVESTITURE CEREMONY

AMPHITHEATER

Fanfare
John J. Cali School of Music students

Presentation of Colors by the Police Honor Guard
Officers from University Police and the Montclair, Little Falls and Clifton police departments

Call to Order
Angelo J. Genova ’75
Member, Montclair State University Foundation Board

Opening Remarks
Faith Victor ’22
Student Member, Board of Trustees, 2020-2022

Angelo J. Genova ’75

Past President Remarks
Irvin D. Reid
President, 1989-1997

Susan A. Cole, President Emerita
President, 1998-2021

Greetings
Jonathan GS Koppell
Ninth President

Academic Procession
Sandra Adams
Professor, Biology
Grand Marshal

Processional
Emperata Overture
Claude T. Smith
Montclair State University Wind Symphony
Thomas McCauley, Conductor
MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

Processional
*Procession of the Nobles*
Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov
Transcription by Erik W.G. Leidzén
Montclair State University Wind Symphony

National Anthem
Harrison Smith '23

Land Acknowledgement
Mark Clatterbuck
Associate Professor, Religion

Welcome
Francis M. Cuss
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Video Presentation
*Soaring into the Future*

Remarks
Richard Steiner-Otoo '24
President, Student Government Association

Choral Performance
*How Can I Keep from Singing?*
Arranged by Gwyneth Walker
Montclair State University Singers
Heather J. Buchanan, Conductor

Keynote Speakers
Félix V. Matos Rodriguez
Chancellor, City University of New York

Investiture of the President
Mary A. Comito
Secretary, Board of Trustees

Bestowing of the Medallion
Maria Cavero Muñoz '23
Voting Student, Board of Trustees

Investiture Address
Jonathan GS Koppell

Closing
Francis M. Cuss

Recessional
*Festive Overture*
Dmitri Shostakovich
Arranged by Donald Hunsberger
Montclair State University Wind Symphony
Montclair State University’s ninth president is a nationally recognized scholar of policy, organization and management with a reputation as a visionary leader in higher education emphasizing public service and solutions-oriented engagement in the community.

Before taking office at Montclair on August 2, 2021, Koppell served as dean of Arizona State University’s Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions, the nation’s largest comprehensive public affairs college, and university vice-provost for public service and social impact.

Under his leadership, Watts College nearly tripled its majority-minority enrollment, launched numerous innovative programs and community service initiatives, dramatically expanded externally funded research, hired dozens of distinguished faculty, and rose substantially in rankings. Koppell created the nation’s first Public Service Academy and is working with the Volcker Alliance to scale this concept to universities across the nation, including Montclair.

Koppell earned doctoral and master’s degrees in political science from the University of California – Berkeley and a baccalaureate degree in government from Harvard University. He was previously a professor at the Yale School of Management, a fellow at the New America Foundation and a Fulbright Lecturer in Shanghai, China. He is the author of books and articles on global governance institutions, public-private hybrid organizations and corporate governance and is a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration.
Montclair State University defines what it means to be a university with a public purpose – one that not only creates transformational opportunities for students, but also partners with communities to make a difference in the lives of others.

We invite our students to imagine the world they want to live in, and we empower them to develop the skills and knowledge to create it. As a solutions engine, we ask: How can we harness the power of 21,000 students and 1,800 professors to be a force for good in the world?

Our distinctive approach continues to draw students to us, propelling us to become New Jersey’s second largest institution of higher learning, and one of its most diverse. Under President Koppell, our enrollment has grown to nearly 21,700 students, the largest student body in our 114-year history.

As New Jersey’s second-largest university, we are big enough that we can offer more than 300 programs across 10 colleges and schools at all degree levels – and yet, with a student to faculty ratio of 17 to 1, we are small enough to give our students personalized attention from professors and staff who truly care. Students have numerous opportunities to conduct research with professors who are respected leaders in their fields.

More than 50% of our students identify as underrepresented minorities. We are one of New Jersey’s two Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and we serve more Latinx students than any other university in the state.
Students from highly diverse backgrounds thrive in our supportive, welcoming environment. Their graduation rates outperform state and national benchmarks and predictions. We are consistently recognized as one of the most inclusive and best value universities and ranked No. 19 in the country in social mobility.

Many of our students are working and raising families, and we offer flexible programs that give them the opportunity to learn in ways that work best for them, on campus or online, in real time or asynchronously.

Our faculty includes winners of a MacArthur fellowship, Fulbright grants and Emmy awards, NSF, NEH and NIH grants, and many other distinctions. These highly respected researchers, scholars and creators are dedicated to student success, and they are always innovating to meet the needs of our learners and our state. We have launched dozens of new degree and certificate programs, and we offer more combined bachelor’s and master’s degree programs than any other university in New Jersey – empowering our students to enter the workforce faster, with stronger skills and for less cost.

At Montclair, our mission is to elevate our students and our partners, and in so doing, help make the world a better place. We don’t just equip students to raise their earnings – we empower them to raise their sights. Here, we encourage students to dream, to imagine and to ask “How can I become the person I need to be to transform the world into the place I want to live?”
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David Watson Daly Dickson, 1973-84
Thomas Henry Richardson, 1966-73
Ernest DeAlton Partridge, 1951-64
Harry Alonzo Sprague, 1924-51
Charles Sumner Chapin, 1908-24
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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We respectfully acknowledge that Montclair State University occupies land in Lenapehoking, the traditional and expropriated territory of the Lenape. As a state institution, we recognize and support the sovereignty of New Jersey’s three state-recognized tribes: the Ramapough Lenape, Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape, and Powhatan Renape nations. We recognize the sovereign nations of the Lenape diaspora elsewhere in North America, as well as other Indigenous individuals and communities now residing in New Jersey. By offering this land acknowledgement, we commit to addressing the historical legacies of Indigenous dispossession and dismantling practices of erasure that persist today. We recognize the resilience and persistence of contemporary Indigenous communities and their role in educating all of us about justice, equity, and the stewardship of the land throughout the generations.
Universities and colleges represented in the academic procession

In keeping with academic traditions, universities are listed in order of the date each was founded.