

Mercy University Launches Art Exchange to Connect Campus and River Towns Communities

New initiative kicks off September 25 with free screening of an award-winning film on Mercy's Westchester Campus.

DOBBS FERRY, NY, UNITED STATES, August 17, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Today, Mercy University announced the launch of the Art Exchange at Mercy University ("ArtEx"), a new cultural hub designed to connect the campus with neighboring River Towns arts communities through public programming and faculty collaboration. The initiative aims to host visiting creators, showcase faculty artists and provide students with expanded access to professional arts programming beyond the classroom.



Mercy University logo

"ArtEx represents our commitment to being an active cultural partner in Westchester," said Susan L. Parish, Ph.D., M.S.W., president of Mercy University. "This initiative bridges our campus with the broader community, showcasing the exceptional creative work happening here while inviting our neighbors to engage with the arts in new and accessible ways. By creating this cultural exchange, we're strengthening our ties with local arts organizations and giving our students front-row access to professional artists and diverse creative perspectives that will enhance their education."

Mercy faculty members Dr. Kristen Keckler and Professor Marc Palmieri, who will serve as co-directors of the initiative, will lead the effort to strengthen ties between the university and local arts organizations while enhancing student cultural experiences.

"ArtEx represents a significant milestone in our commitment to vibrant campus life and meaningful community outreach," said Dr. Keckler. "We look forward to ArtEx becoming a signature creative experience for our students and a welcoming hub for our neighbors."

ArtEx will mark its public debut on September 25 with a free screening of “Martyr of Gowanus,” an award-winning independent film by Brian Meere starring Sawyer Spielberg. Meere will participate in a Q&A session following the screening.

Community Launch Event

- When: Sept. 25, doors open 6:30 p.m.
- Where: Lecture Hall, Main Hall, Mercy University Westchester Campus, 555 Broadway, Dobbs Ferry
- Admission: Free and open to the public

Community members, media and representatives from local arts organizations are invited to attend the Sept. 25 event.

For more information about ArtEx programming, contact artex@mercy.edu.

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About Mercy University

Mercy University is an independent, coeducational institution serving more than 9,000 students each year across campuses in Westchester, the Bronx, Manhattan, as well as online. It is a federally designated minority-serving institution and the largest private Hispanic Serving Institution in the state of New York. Mercy offers more than 100 undergraduate and graduate degree programs and certificate programs within six schools: Business, Education, Health and Natural Sciences, Liberal Arts, Nursing and Social and Behavioral Sciences. Mercy was founded in 1950 by the Sisters of Mercy whose mission of transformative education remains strong. For more information, visit www.mercy.edu.

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