

## GRYMES HILL

# Princeton Review names Wagner College a top school

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Wagner College has been named one of America's top colleges in the Princeton Review's 2020 "Best 385 Colleges" guide.

The Wagner College Theatre Program was ranked number three in the nation, ahead of Brown, Elon, Florida State and Drew universities, and Stephens and Emerson colleges.

"It is gratifying to see Wagner receive recognition from a well-regarded, independent organization," said Wagner College President Joel W. Martin, who began his work at Wagner this summer. "This honor is a tribute to the hard work of our faculty and students, and the staff members who support them. I am proud to be a part of this mission-driven, student-focused community."

Only about 13% of America's 2,000 four-year colleges are profiled in the "Best 385 Colleges" book, which is the Princeton Review's flagship college guide. It includes detailed profiles of the colleges with rating scores for all schools in different categories, based on the Princeton Review's surveys of students attending the colleges.

Wagner College students describe the Grymes Hill school as a "tight-knit and fun, yet academically challenging" liberal arts school. The school is "in the perfect location with a surplus of unique resources" and is composed of "an excellent and vibrant community that supports its students every step of the way." Students also said Wagner "lets you experience all different types of subjects by following the concept: learning by doing."

Wagner's theater department has been ranked among the top five collegiate theater programs in the United States by Princeton Review for more than a decade. The department, created in 1968, has a long list of distinguished alumni, from Tony Award winner Randy Graff '76 to "Jersey Boys" film star Renee Marino '04.

"We are so pleased to learn that Wagner College Theatre has again been ranked so highly on the Princeton Review's Best College Theaters list," said Felicia Ruff, chairwoman of the college's Department of Performing Arts. "This is a testament to the strength, talent, resilience and success of theater students working beautifully with our faculty and guest artists as they create productions on the main stage and in our black box that make our audiences — including our student audience members — proud."

Wagner College has several programs in the performing arts, including majors in arts administration, dance education, theatre performance, a dual major in theatre and education, and minors in theatre and dance.

Wagner alumni are found onstage in current Broadway shows like "Dear Evan Hansen," "Fiddler" in Yiddish, "Aladdin," "Come From Away," "Pretty Woman" and "Moulin Rouge." Alumni are working behind the scenes at major venues like Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Met and Brooklyn Academy of Music. Some are serving in key roles in casting and producers' offices, public relations firms, touring productions, festivals, cruises and educational settings.