Wagner College gets top rankings

Wagner College on Grymes Hill was ranked number 337 out of 744 colleges and universities across the country on Money.com’s sixth annual list. (Staten Island Advance file)

Grymes Hill school also appeared on the Forbes America’s Top Colleges list for seventh year in a row; list includes just 15% of all U.S. colleges and universities

Annalise Knudson

Wagner College ranked on Forbes America’s Top Colleges list and ranked among the “Best Colleges for Your Money 2019” by Money.com. The Grymes Hill school ranked first among Staten Island’s three colleges on both Forbes’ and Money.com’s annual lists.

Wagner was ranked number 337 out of 744 colleges and universities across the country on Money.com’s sixth annual list.

In New York State, Wagner ranked 53rd of 89 state schools, and ranked 16th out of 23 schools in New York City.

“To find the schools that successfully combine quality and affordability, Money.com weighed more than 19,000 data points, including tuition fees, family borrowing and career earnings,” according to Money.com’s editors.

The ranking was based on those three categories, which are comprised of 26 factors.

Wagner also appeared on the Forbes America’s Top Colleges list for the seventh year in a row. The executive list includes just 15% of all colleges and universities in the United States.

Wagner ranked number 338 out of 660 schools on the Top Colleges list. It ranked 44th among the 68 colleges and universities in New York State.

The list is a “uniquely consumer-focused directory of 660 universities and colleges focused on one measurement: outcomes,” according to Derek Saul, a higher education contributor to Forbes magazine.

The rankings are based on five categories:

- Alumni salary (20%), a combination of early and mid-career salaries as reported by the federal College Scorecard and PayScale data and research;
- Student satisfaction (20%), which includes results from niche surveys about professor quality and data, and freshman retention rates from the federal IPEDS website;
- Debt (20%), which rewards schools for low student debt loans and default rates;
- American leaders (15%), which is based on the Forbes database of successful people, including billionaires, powerful women, Forbes “30 Under 30” honorees, leaders in public service and in private enterprise, and more;
- On-time graduation rate (12.5%), which accounts for both four- and six-year rates; and
- Academic success (12.5%), which rewards schools whose alumni win prestigious scholarships and fellowships, like the Rhodes and the Fulbright, or have earned Ph.D.s.

“Wagner’s college ranking is distinguished by its consumer-centric approach,” said Caroline Howard, director of editorial operations for Forbes.

“The evaluation of the 650 undergraduate institutions is based exclusively on the quality of the education they provide, the experiences of the students and their post-graduate success and financial well-being.”

Earlier this month, Wagner College was 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.