Meet New York's future.



They got their start at LaGuardia.







LaGuardia is New York's launchpad.

How do you turn someone who just arrived to New York City without speaking English into a computer scientist?

How do you help a single mother get a degree while working and taking care of her children?

How do you support a young person who is working three jobs to pay for college?

The answer: Send them to LaGuardia Community College.

- LaGuardia uplifts exceptional New Yorkers from all walks of life to better futures in the best city in the world.
- A community college that focuses on affordable, two-year academic programs, LaGuardia launches students who would otherwise be unable to access higher education to four-year colleges, universities, and into the workforce.
- At LaGuardia, you'll find students with the strongest work ethic, most diverse backgrounds, and the greatest drive in New York.

42% of students come from a family income lower than \$25,000/year.

We are ranked #5 in the nation among two-year colleges in economic mobility.

Want to invest in the future of New York?

Invest in LaGuardia.



"I often ask—why me? Why did a guy with a felony get a second chance? It's because I found LaGuardia."

Matthew Wilson's path to LaGuardia was neither straight nor narrow.

The school-to-prison pipeline funneled him to Rikers Island when he was just a kid. While incarcerated, he took college courses, where he learned how to articulate his thoughts and fell in love with Shakespeare. It was the first time Matthew had access to higher education.

Upon his release, Matthew enrolled at LaGuardia. He joined the film and TV program, where he thrived and was chosen for a competitive internship at NBC. An invitation to join the President's Society followed.

The President's Society is a year-long development program that teaches high-potential LaGuardia students professional skills and provides them with networking

opportunities, career planning, cultural outings, and mentorship.

Matthew went on to win the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship, enabling him to finish his BA at St. John's University and pursue a graduate degree in sociology.

Matthew's passion for making higher education accessible to all led him back to LaGuardia. He worked with the CUNY Fatherhood Academy, which provides academic support to young fathers.

Today Matthew serves as Program Coordinator for the LaGuardia Correctional Education Partnership. Here he helps currently and formerly incarcerated students get the education they deserve.



"Moving to America has been hard, but LaGuardia has given me the support I need to find my way."

When Ling Lin immigrated to New York from China, she knew one thing: College was the best way to succeed in America.

After all, she had seen it firsthand. Her cousin graduated from LaGuardia and now works as a financial analyst. Ling was determined to follow in his footsteps.

At first, everything felt unfamiliar, but LaGuardia staff have been by her side every step of the way. With their support, Ling dove into her studies grateful to have access to LaGuardia's robust science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programming. Ling is part of the CUNY Research Scholars Program, which provides students with access to research opportunities, skillbuilding workshops, and mentoring from faculty over a one-year period.

She is also a member of a women in STEM group that provides students with a support network to navigate the challenges of entering a male-dominated profession and ultimately diversify the STEM workforce.

Computer science is the area of study that Ling has decided to pursue. Her goal is to become a software tester—and thanks to LaGuardia's STEM training, she is well on her way.



"I was a nurse in Ecuador. When I couldn't help during the pandemic, I was heartbroken. But then LaGuardia gave me back my life's purpose."

When Irene Huachi immigrated to the U.S., her Ecuadorian nursing degrees and certifications did not allow her to work in New York.

During the pandemic, it pained her to see so many patients in need and be unable to help.

So Irene applied to be trained and certified as a nurse through the NYC Welcome Back Center at LaGuardia. The program helps internationally trained healthcare professionals get licensed to practice in New York State while improving their English language skills.

Upon graduation, internationally trained nurses like Irene help to fill New York's critical labor shortage and are paid up to \$100,000/year.

LaGuardia's healthcare programs provide students with vital hands-on education and job training to become New York's next generation of nurses, EMTs, mental health peer specialists, community healthcare workers, pharmacy technicians, and medical interpreters.

In 2022, LaGuardia launched 3,000 Heroes, an initiative committed to train and graduate 3,000 frontline workers by 2027—continuing the college's longtime commitment of training our city's healthcare professionals.

LaGuardia graduates like Irene will help keep New York healthy for generations to come.

Let's build a legacy of uplifting New York.

Learn more and donate by visiting laguardia.edu/about/laguardia-foundation

LaGuardia serves as a critical launchpad that lifts students out of poverty while shaping our city's future.

With access to a community college like LaGuardia, low-income New Yorkers have the opportunity to take the first steps of their academic journey and learn the skills to succeed in the workforce or at a four-year college.

If you want to leave a legacy that is bigger than your name inscribed on a plaque.

If you want to help launch generations of low-income New Yorkers into the middle class.

If you want your gift to be woven into the fabric of New York's future.

Donate to the LaGuardia Community College Foundation.

