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**Monroe University Hosts Yonkers High School Seniors  
for Presidential Partnership Program Celebration**

*Innovative Scholarship and Mentorship Program Increases  
College Access, Affordability, and Attainment*

**BRONX, NY, May 12, 2025** – Monroe University proudly hosted prospective Fall 2025 students from Yonkers high schools on its New Rochelle campus today, offering them an immersive preview of student life, campus resources, and the unique opportunity for generous tuition support through the Presidential Partnership Program (PPP).

Soon-to-be graduates from Barack Obama School for Social Justice (formerly Palisades Preparatory School), Charles E. Gorton High School, Lincoln High School, Riverside High School, Roosevelt High School - Early College Studies, and Saunders Trades & Technical High School attended the event held at Gaddy Hall.

Monroe University President Marc Jerome addressed the students, highlighting the enduring partnership between Yonkers and Monroe and emphasizing the educational avenues available, particularly the PPP. Launched in 2016, this initiative has empowered hundreds of students to enroll and graduate from Monroe University without incurring student loan costs.

"The PPP program is of strategic importance to Monroe University, especially for our Yonkers community," said President Jerome. "As a leader in educating first-generation and low-income students in New York, we are always looking for ways to expand our ability and reach to serve students who want to attain a higher education but do not necessarily have the means to do so."

Celso Alvarez, Assistant Vice President of High School Enrollment, underscored the vital role of partner support in making the PPP possible. "We appreciate the partnership as most students who choose Monroe may not have thought of a private university as an option during their college plans," Alvarez stated. "The PPP program was started in 2016 to improve access, affordability, and outcomes for New York high school students."

The strong collaboration between Monroe University and the City of Yonkers is designed to foster student success from high school through college. Events like this are crucial in demonstrating to Yonkers applicants and their families the comprehensive support system awaiting them at Monroe.

Alvarez further explained the advantages for Yonkers students, noting, "Monroe provides an amazing opportunity for students who may qualify to attend tuition free via the PPP scholarship. Also, if a student follows their academic plan, they complete an Associate degree in as little as one-and-a-half years and a Bachelor's in as little as three years. This can save a student time and money."

Anibal Soler, Jr., Yonkers Superintendent of Schools, attended the event and commended the long-standing partnership and Monroe University's dedication to the high schools in the community.

The PPP initiative offers more than just tuition support; it includes a dedicated mentor who serves as an advisor, advocate, cheerleader, and coach throughout the student's journey at Monroe, providing pre- and post-enrollment support services. Participants also benefit from specialized "bridge to college" programming and events, designed to help them forge strong connections with the University and their peers, ensuring a smooth transition to college-level studies and responsibilities.

## **ABOUT MONROE UNIVERSITY**

Founded in 1933, Monroe University is a recognized leader in urban and international education. The University is proud of its innovative programs to increase college access, affordability, and completion outcomes, especially among first-generation students, and for the national recognition it receives for its strong impact on graduates' social mobility.

Programs are offered through Schools of Allied Health Professions, Business and Accounting, Criminal and Social Justice, Education, Hospitality Management and the Culinary Institute of New York, Information Technology, and Nursing, as well as through its King Graduate School. Liberal arts and continuing education programs are also available. For more information and admissions criteria, please visit <http://www.monroeu.edu>.