



NEWS

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Turn 2 Foundation and Monroe University Partner to Expand Educational Pathways for Jeter's Leaders, Their Families, & Communities

Collaboration aims to create lasting opportunities for higher education, leadership, and community advancement through career-connected programs, financial support, and outreach

New York, NY – November 17, 2025 – Derek Jeter's [Turn 2 Foundation](#) today announced a partnership with [Monroe University](#) that will open doors to higher education for high school students in Turn 2's signature Jeter's Leaders program, as well as for their families and communities. The collaboration builds on both organizations' shared mission of fostering leadership, academic success, and civic responsibility, creating meaningful and sustainable pathways to college through career-connected programs, financial support, and culturally responsive outreach.

"At Turn 2, we are committed to helping young people reach their greatest potential – not only as students, but as true changemakers," said **Sharlee Jeter**, president of the Turn 2 Foundation. "This partnership with Monroe University builds on that commitment, ensuring our Jeter's Leaders, along with their families and communities, have access to the resources, mentorship, and support they need to thrive."

As part of its partnership with Turn 2, Monroe University has launched the Jeter's Leaders Presidential Partnership Scholarship, which covers the cost of tuition and books for eligible full-time Jeter's Leaders from families with annual incomes of \$70,000 or less. Additional partial scholarships are available for students from families with higher incomes. Parents and guardians of eligible students may also benefit by pursuing undergraduate study through the Jeter's Leaders Generations Scholarship, which offers the same generous institutional aid and support.

"Great things happen when great teams come together, and that is certainly true of the partnership between Monroe University and The Turn 2 Foundation," said **Marc Jerome**, President of Monroe University. "Working together, we can bring greater resources and capacity to support Jeter's Leaders scholars and their families, expanding the array of opportunities available to them."

Beyond financial assistance, the partnership emphasizes wraparound support focused on students' mental well-being, community-building, and academic preparedness. Through intentional programming, students and families alike will gain tools, knowledge, and encouragement to navigate the college journey together, laying the groundwork for long-term educational and community success.

"We're honored to partner with The Turn 2 Foundation on this inspiring initiative," said **Dorothy Toran**, Executive Director of Entertainment Media & Strategic Initiatives at Monroe University. "Monroe is proud to offer a diverse, inclusive environment where students thrive academically, socially, and emotionally, gaining the skills and confidence to achieve their career goals. We look forward to welcoming Jeter's Leaders scholars to our community!"

Today's announced partnership builds on a decade of success with Monroe University's Presidential Partnership Program, which was originally established by President Marc Jerome to expand college access, affordability, and completion rates for local New York students. Predating New York State's Excelsior Program, the Presidential Partnership Program enables selected students to pursue a post-secondary education -- often with no student loan debt for tuition or books -- at a private institution that has been educating New York students since 1933.

Monroe University offers a robust academic and personal support system, designed to empower students to excel not only during their college years but also in their future endeavors. This partnership will include a series of exclusive events aimed at fostering meaningful connections between Jeter's Leaders, their families, and the Monroe University campus community, including personalized campus tours, open houses, application assistance, instant decision sessions, and dedicated mentorship programs, ensuring that each participant receives individualized attention and guidance.

The first step for interested Jeter's Leaders scholars (or their parents/guardians) is to apply to Monroe, which can be [done online](#). Any admissions-related questions about Monroe, its academic programs, campus life, and the Jeter's Leaders Presidential Partnership Scholarship (or the Jeter's Leaders Generations Scholarship) may be addressed to Lisa Scorca with Monroe's Admissions team at 914.740.6807 or lsorca@monroeu.edu.

Derek Jeter established The Turn 2 Foundation during his rookie year with the New York Yankees in 1996. Since its launch, Turn 2 has worked to help young people reach their full potential by creating and supporting initiatives that promote leadership development, academic achievement, positive behavior, healthy lifestyles and social change.

About The Turn 2 Foundation

Since its launch in December 1996, The Turn 2 Foundation has created and supported programs and activities that motivate young people to turn away from drugs and alcohol and "Turn 2" healthy lifestyles. Through various specialized programs and events, the Foundation works with youth in New York City, West Michigan and Florida, empowering them to reach their full potential. Its signature Jeter's Leaders initiative is a four-year leadership development program that fosters academic achievement, positive behavior and social change among high school students. During its 29-year history, Turn 2 has given back more than \$45 million, funding its signature programs as well as organizations that support its mission.

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.

Monroe educates more than 9,000 students each year, offering Certificate, Associate, Bachelor's, and Master's degree programs from New York campuses in the Bronx and New Rochelle, as well as in the Caribbean nation of Saint Lucia. Students may also pursue degree programs through Monroe Online. Programs are offered through Schools of Allied Health Professions, Business and Accounting, Criminal and Social Justice, Education, Hospitality Management, 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>.

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