

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Welcome

Dear Alumni,

Happy Summer! We're excited to welcome our newest alumni and celebrate the achievements of our distinguished graduates. Whether you're just joining or have been with us for years, we're proud to have you in the SON community.

In this issue, you'll find updates on recent events, continuing education opportunities, and highlights of the amazing work being done by our alumni, students, and faculty.

We're also seeking new members to join the Alumni Board, if you're interested in staying connected and making an impact, we'd love to hear from you.

Enjoy the season, and don't forget to share your stories with us!

Warmly,

Your School of Nursing Alumni Board

Summer 2025

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- Meet the 2025 Distinguished Alumni
- News and updates from the SON
- Catch up on the latest from our SON community
- See the latest achievements from our alumni community



Message from our Alumni Board President

Barbara Mills
DNP, ACNPC, ANPC, PNP, CCRN, PCCN



Dear SON Alumni and Friends:

As we are all enjoying the summer break with family and friends, would like to invite you to take the time to read our summer newsletter.

I am so proud of the accomplishments of the Dean and her faculty who have worked tirelessly to support the continued growth of the SON including a substantial grant for a state-of-the-art Simulation Center.

The success rate of our online graduate program has continued to be recognized as in the top 10 Schools of Nursing by US News and World Report. As alumni, we should be proud of their continued success.

My goals for the upcoming fall season include continued engagement with our alumni members, increasing our membership base, and networking opportunities for all graduates. We look forward to an active fall season and please reach out to me or members of the board with your ideas and interest.

Have a safe and healthy summer break and look forward to engaging with you all in the fall.

Barbara Mills, DNP, ACNPC, ANPC, PNP, CCRN, PCCN DNP '09
Alumni Board President

2025 Distinguished Alumni Recipients

2025 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient, **Dr. Kenya V. Beard, EdD, AGACNP-BC, ANEF, FAAN, FADLN**

Kenya V. Beard, EdD, AGACNP-BC, ANEF, FAAN, FADLN is the inaugural Dean and Chief Nursing Officer at Mercy University's School of Nursing and the past chair of the New York State Board of Nursing. An esteemed health equity expert and transformational leader, she consults with organizations nationwide to build inclusive healthcare environments that expand access and improve the quality of care for all. Her visionary approach has reshaped nursing education, policy, and practice, making her a highly sought-after speaker and global leader in the field.

Dr. Beard's influence extends beyond academia into public and policy spheres. As a 2012 Macy Faculty Scholar, she established the Center for Multicultural Education and Health Disparities, a pioneering hub for research and scholarship aimed at improving health outcomes among culturally diverse populations. She has partnered with institutions across the country, including the Harvard Macy Institute, where she delivers sessions on negotiations and transformational leadership in their Leading Innovations in Health Care & Education program. Her sessions have empowered educators and executives to drive impactful change.

Her contributions also extend into media and public health. Dr. Beard co-produced healthcare disparity segments on WBAI-FM, reaching over 400,000 listeners, and served as a Senior Fellow at the Center for Health Policy and Media Engagement, where her expertise informed national conversations around health equity. She currently serves on the board of Public Health Solutions, the largest non-governmental nonprofit public health organization in the U.S., which delivers essential services to underresourced communities.

A policy influencer, Dr. Beard served as a reviewer for the Future of Nursing 2020-2030 report and co-edited the book, *Future of Nursing 2020-2030: Global Applications to Advance Health Equity*, offering key insights into integrating global equity frameworks in nursing. She also led the development of one of the nation's first national nursing faculty residency programs, designed to support and prepare faculty in building innovative learning environments. Her current initiatives include integrating artificial intelligence into nursing education to advance health equity and equip future nurses with cutting-edge tools for patient care and learning.

A fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, the Academy of Nursing Education, and the New York Academy of Medicine, Dr. Beard serves on the editorial board of the *American Journal of Nursing* and the American Academy of Nursing's Institute for Nursing Leadership. She also co-founded the Academy of Diversity Leaders in Nursing (ADLN), a national organization committed to improving the delivery of equitable healthcare. Dr. Beard's exemplary leadership and unwavering dedication to equity, education, and innovation continue to shape the future of nursing and healthcare. Her work as a consultant, educator, and national thought leader leaves an enduring legacy of impact and transformation.



Dr. Kenya V. Beard, '04

2025 Distinguished Alumni Recipients

2025 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient, **Dr. Frankie Hamilton, MBA, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, FACHE**

Frankie Hamilton is a dual master's prepared, board-certified nurse leader with extensive experience in both clinical and administrative roles. He taught high school chemistry and biology for four years before he decided to pursue a career in nursing. He began his journey as a med/surg nurse and has since progressed through various leadership positions, including: Assistant Nurse Manager, Quality Management Specialist, Assistant Director of Nursing, Nursing Administrator, Deputy Chief Nursing Officer, Senior Director of Ambulatory Care, and presently, Vice President of Nursing Operations at Maimonides Medical Center, a level one academic, tertiary care hospital in Brooklyn, NY, where he oversees all nursing initiatives alongside his CNO.



Dr. Frankie Hamilton, '11

In addition to his clinical and leadership experience, Frankie is deeply involved in various professional organizations. He serves as a board member at large and President of the Local NYC Chapter of the American Association for Men in Nursing. He is also the Clinical Inclusion Advisor for the Healthcare Leaders of New York chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives and an advisor on the Sepsis Advisory Board through the Sepsis Alliance. Frankie is a member of the Dean's Advisory Board for the Hofstra School of Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies, and serves as a member of the awards committee for the American Nurses Association, New York chapter.

Frankie serves as a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy Reserves Corps where he works to ensure the medical readiness of Sailors in preparation for deployments and mobilizations. He is also the Assistant Training Officer for his unit, and the Assistant Awards Officer for his command based in Bethesda, Maryland.

On the education front, Frankie is adjunct faculty at the University of Mount Saint Vincent in the Bronx and is pursuing his PhD in Nursing at Seton Hall University, as well as his DNP in Nursing Leadership at Quinnipiac University. His book of work is focused on improving the delivery of safe, quality patient care, and to elevating practice and nursing excellence within our profession.

2025 Distinguished Alumni Recipients

2025 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient, **Sarah Pesce, ANP, MSCDL**

Sarah Pesce, ANP, MSCDL, is the Chief Operating Officer at Radence. She previously served as the COO of Thorne Lab, a pioneering division of Thorne HealthTech, where she led the development of an innovative clinical platform providing a comprehensive, 360-degree view of individual health.

Before her tenure at Thorne HealthTech, Sarah was the COO of Lab100 at Mount Sinai Medical Center, where she played a key role in shaping clinical operational strategies for developing advanced digital screening assessments for the Mount Sinai Health System. She also served as the Senior Director of Business Development and Clinical Operations for the renowned Executive Health Program at Mount Sinai Hospital.



Ms. Sarah Pesce, '00

In addition, Sarah worked as the office Nurse Practitioner for Dr. Valentine Fuster, Physician-in-Chief of Mount Sinai Health System, managing complex cardiology patients and leading the design and launch of several impactful ambulatory programs.

Student News

Stony Brook School of Nursing Faculty and Students Showcase Research Excellence at the 37th Annual Eastern Nursing Research Society (ENRS) Scientific Sessions.

The Stony Brook School of Nursing proudly participated in the 37th Annual Eastern Nursing Research Society (ENRS) Scientific Sessions this April, a premier event that brings together nursing scholars, clinicians, and students from across the region to share groundbreaking research and advance the science of nursing practice.

This year, 18 abstracts were accepted and presented by a dynamic group of faculty, undergraduate, and doctoral students, a powerful testament to Stony Brook's culture of academic rigor, innovation, and mentorship. The projects covered a wide spectrum of topics including clinical practice improvement, health disparities, mental health, community health, nursing education, and the integration of technology into patient care.

These contributions not only reflect the high level of scholarly activity within the School of Nursing, but also demonstrate the collaborative spirit that defines our academic community. Faculty worked closely with students to guide their research, fostering a learning environment where inquiry, critical thinking, and real-world application are central to the educational experience.

The visibility and impact of Stony Brook's presence at the conference underscore our commitment to shaping the future of healthcare through evidence-based practice, interdisciplinary collaboration, and the development of nurse leaders prepared to meet the complex challenges of today's healthcare environment.

We extend our congratulations to all presenters for their dedication, hard work, and for representing Stony Brook with distinction on a regional stage.



Current PhD Students Margaret Wichrowski, Lisamarie LaPoma, Michael Davison, Jennifer Patel and Sheeba David.



L to R: Dr. Tina Abbate with Undergraduate Students Jeeyoon Kang, Jordan Romanacce, Ryan Murphy, Dean Dr. Patricia Bruckenthal, Antonio Bello, Sara Tarquino, Amanda Gildersleeve, Neurchelange Antoine presenting their poster on Pain Assessment for Patients Diagnosed With Dementia: A Student-Led Evidence-Based Practice Project.



Lisamarie LaPoma, PhD Student and Sanjib Dey, DNP student, presenting their respective posters on Parental Psychosocial Factors and Glycemic Control in School-Age Children with Type 1 Diabetes using Continuous Glucose Monitoring and Improving Advance Care Planning (ACP) in Primary Care.

Student News

15th Annual Scholarship and Awards Ceremony Summary Stony Brook University School of Nursing

The Stony Brook University School of Nursing proudly hosted its 15th Annual Scholarship and Awards Ceremony, a special evening honoring the academic achievements, leadership, and service of our exceptional nursing students, esteemed alumni, and generous supporters. The event brought together students, faculty, staff, donors, family, and friends to celebrate the continued excellence and growth of the School of Nursing community.

This year, we are delighted to recognize the accomplishments of our outstanding student scholarship recipients, whose hard work, resilience, and dedication exemplify the highest standards of nursing education. Their success reflects the School's unwavering commitment to developing the next generation of compassionate and skilled nurse leaders.

We also proudly honored three Distinguished Alumni for their exceptional contributions to the field of nursing and their lasting impact on healthcare and the Stony Brook community. These individuals serve as an inspiration to our students and faculty alike, representing the legacy and leadership that define Stony Brook Nursing.

In addition, we recognized one of our featured donors, whose generosity and vision continue to make a profound difference in the lives of our students. Their support not only provides critical financial assistance but also affirms the importance of investing in the future of nursing.

The 15th Annual Scholarship and Awards Ceremony was an inspiring evening, celebrating the collective achievements and bright future of Stony Brook University's School of Nursing. The success of our students is a reflection of the entire community, faculty, alumni, donors, and staff, working together to shape the future of nursing through excellence, service, and innovation.



Student Veterans, Krystal Robinson, Yahui Ding, Ryan Murphy, and Matthew Killian receiving their Veteran Recognition.



School of Nursing Dean, Dr. Patricia Bruckenthal and Associate Dean Dr. Ann Margaret Navarra with 2025 Distinguished Alumni recipient, Dr. Frankie Hamilton.



Dr. Ramon Ferrand, one of three recipients of the School of Nursing's Preceptor Recognition Award.

Alumni Updates

Dr. Patricia Hodge, DNP, NPP, '97, '10, has launched a new YouTube channel, DoctorNursesRock, where she shares insights from her 44-year nursing career. After stepping away from clinical practice in 2016 to care for her family, Dr. Hodge found healing through writing and reflection. Now, with her grandsons thriving, she's returned to her passion for education and advocacy.

Her channel features evidence-based content, self-care tips, and encouragement for viewers to make informed health decisions. Already reaching audiences as far as England, Dr. Hodge is building a supportive, engaged community. To learn more or subscribe, visit [DoctorNursesRock](https://www.youtube.com/DoctorNursesRock) on YouTube.



Kristan Probeck, MS, RN, BC-CV, ANP-C, '03, '10, of Stony Brook Surgery's Vascular Division, has been named Nurse Practitioner of the Year for Region 7 (Long Island) by the Nurse Practitioner Association of Long Island (NPALI).

Starting her career as a CNA, Probeck advanced through the nursing ranks, becoming an Adult Nurse Practitioner in 2010. Since joining Stony Brook in 2013, she has led efforts in VTE care, research, and helped establish the Pulmonary Embolism Response Team (PERT).

A published researcher and national presenter, Probeck thanked NPALI, saying the award motivates her continued advocacy for nurse practitioners and better patient care.



Dr. Silvia Tuthill, DNP, ANP-C, '11, '15, '17 a Stony Brook University alumna (BS, MS, DNP), is the founder of Tenth Avenue Aesthetics Artistry and Institute and Medspa, with locations in East Northport and Islip, NY. A national trainer and speaker, Dr. Tuthill offers an Introduction to Botulinum Toxins and Dermal Fillers course, providing AAFP-accredited continuing education for healthcare professionals.

Dedicated to promoting safe, evidence-based aesthetic practices, she is passionate about equipping nurses and other clinicians with the skills needed to succeed in this growing field.



Congratulations to our 2025 Graduating Class

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE PROGRAM

Eva Asamoah
Shannon Benesh
Jeanine Carnival
Sanjib Dey
Laureen Diot
Melissa Johnson
Matthew Killian
Beatriz Makhouljian
Tami Robitsek
Brian Schrage II Brian Schrage II

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Michelle Adetola Premna Alexander Paige Marie Allison Yoori An Tara Anello Mariam Arache Astajia Joanne Auguste Emily Baird Ebony Baker Natasha Balashova Toni Barbarino Erin Beatty Jessica Becerra Melissa Benbanaste Annalisa Benz Nicole Bluethgen Huba Brown Serena Buckholz Raychel Buda Katelyn Burns Jacqueline Calero Amanda Cannizzaro Olivia Carroll Ashley Casella Ashley Casella Talya Cedeño Nancy Chen Yunxia Chen Mingxing Chi Elizabeth Coccoaro Ben Cohen Toni-Anne D'amico Danielle D'amico-Dekenipp Joel Daniel Alex Dasilva Tova Davatgar Amilcar David	Jillian Davidman Elliot Debrosse Benedetta Delia Caroline Delyra Taylor Denninger Dominique Desilus Marlou Desir Katherine Diamandis Chellzea Edgar Matthew Esposito Jacob Esses Alyssa Fabrizi Jessica Falcon Alexis Fall Alessandra Fazzolari Leah Feierman Jenna Feraco Cara Finkle Nicole Forman Dana Frascino Ann Gallagher Danielle Gamba Tommi-Ann Gangi Paulina Gauger Amrit Ghara Jeanette Gibbs Christine Gilbert Jennifer Gillespie Laurie Glasgow Nina Goldrich Angela Gong Mackenzie Haff Dorota Hajduk Angelina Hall Karlie Herrera Arianna Hill Shina Hom	Hamed Hossainian Ma Hsieh Christine Hughes Vicente Imperial Sarah Ingrao Nicole Jensen Rachel Johnson Jennifer Kadlubowski Victoria Kelliher Ananta Khellawan Julie Kim Lauren Kollar Barbara Leyva Meghan Lides Dominika Ligeza Andy Lin Alissa LoBianco Lauren Logoza Dana Lorme Jacqueline Luerssen Danielle Lutrario Thomas Maher Patricia Mahoney Geetanjali Malik Keriann Mason Victoria Matedero Geeta Mazzara Jodi-Kaye McGhie Briana Mendoza Kimberly Meserole Ava Meyer Jolene Millo Julie Milner Angela Milone Gina Misuraca Sonja Mohammed-Abdool Aryel Momplaisir	Aryel Momplaisir Kristen Monteiro Carmelina Mottola Alexandra Muro Stefanee Murphy Kristen Murphy Monicah Mwangi Rena Nanan Dana Neeman Chreslene Nestor Darren Ngan Tuyet Nguyen Megan Nikin Anastasia Ninos Alexandra Novelli Linda On Cameron Onorato Marisha Orenstein Stephanie Pantelidis Miriam Parnes Amanda Pendergast Jill Phelan Nicole Piasecki Sonya Ponton Nina Prakope Denah Prince Simone Reid Kelly Reis Nicole Rice Elin Rina Brianna Riordan Dalimar Rodriguez Juan Rodriguez Taylor Ross Melissa Scala Carlee Schnellenbach Amanda Schule	Caitlin Schwagerl Kelly Serra Ellen Siciliano Lisette Singh Michelle Skidmore Tara Smith Cori Solomon Angela Sposato Courtney Stanley Emily Stella Amanda Teeple Neetha Thomas Kyle Thompson Isabella Trolle Fabienne Turenne Chinenye Ugonabo Caitlin Vega Jordan Vidal Liana Viola Alicia Vivona Samantha Walsh Chaoling Wang Alean Watson Patrice Westenberger Rachel White Elizabeth Wildes Lucas Willenbrock Shaniek Winborne Amanda Winters Brian Wood Wen Yin
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Congratulations to our 2025 Graduating Class

ADVANCED GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Joseph Brennan
Renee Chase
Allyson Crisci
Rosita Defino
Kara Donato
Janika Emmanuel
Leslie Hertling
Jessica Kenney-Biggin
James Mahoney
Teresa Manning-Carter
Ariana Pazmino
Christian Routh
Joanna Rusk
Jessica Zito

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Omar Aguilar
Ray Alarcon
Elizabeth Albers
Musa Almiggabber
Ruth Amador Sierra
Jin Woo An
Neurchelange Antoine
Emily Araco
Liliana Ayer
Lilliam Baez
Jessie Bakanic
Brittney Bautista
Ivan Begonja
Antonio Bello
Stefania Belloisi
Dhiya Binu
Veronica Bolton
Harrison Bower
Jenna Brett
Elizabeth Burkard
Suzanne Burton
Brittney Canada
Karina Canales
Gabrielle Castaneda
Nicholas Robert
Christensen
Cheryl Covington
Emily Czarnecki
Kathryn D'Alessandri
Abigail DeLaCruz
Dorian Deleon
Jonathan Delman
Justin D Deng
Mackenzie Der

Yahui Ding
Timothy Doner
Amy Dong
Marly Edouarzin
Munachi Egbuziem
Erin Fechtig
Brooke Ferrara
Bryanna Foster
Desaree Fraser
Hunter Frederick
Melanie Friedman
Christina Gao
Christopher Garcia I
Juan Garcia Lopez
Zachary Gennaro
Fallon Gilbert
Amanda Gildersleeve
Michelle Ging
Erin Goldrick
Jose Campos
Jessica Gravier
Kayla Grunenberg
Nataly Guerrero
Christina Guiffre
Miriam Hafisov
Julianne Hilcken
Kerrin Himberger
Aliyah Hosein
Julia Hunt
Sana Jamal
Edwina Joseph
Isabella Justino
Nicole Kaczmarek
Matthew Kalinsky

Jeeyoon Kang
Regina Khezri
Catherine Kirshak-Trypaluk
Linda Kornreich
Keith Krupa
Simon Kwok
Dukanya Labranche
Alexa Lacher
Matthew Larkin
Jerry Li
Nina Li
Sijia Li
Kevin Liang
Ruyi Liang
William Lin
Alice Liu
Vicky Lou
Thomas Loverdi
Fuxia Ma
Michelle Mahoney
Avina Mai
Chris Maldonado
Dominique Marchand
Kristofer Martin
Raul Martinez
Tuan Mather
Gina Mauro
Kira Maxwell-Williamson
Courtney Medrano
Irene Mei
Caitlin Meier
Josephina Miller
Kate Modica
Ryan Murphy

Selena Muzac
Claudia Najmula
Alana Neria
Lisa Nnadi
Taylor O'connor
Chinedu Okorom
Sidne Okray
Ashley Olagbemi
Melissa Olman
Elizabeth Orlovetska
Ellen Oster
Caitlin Paider
Elizabeth Pak
Joie Pang
Alexia Papagiannis
Nathalia Pappas
Hanna Park
Ji Yeon Park
Mansi Patel
Rhea Persaud
Alexandria Peters
Dylan Poulos
Julia Pugliese
Susan Qayumi
Bonnie Qi
Jillian Radesca
Amy Ramon
Elaina Rasco
Kevin Reifert
Hannah Reyes
James Rivard
Krystal Robinson
Jordan Romanacce
Krista Romano

Lise Saint- Jean
Claudia Saint-Gerard
Kyle Samuel
Danielle Santana
Samantha Santiago Ramirez
Ma Rodezsa Santillan
Kamala Sapkota
Sophia Savvides
Megan Schaal
Delilah Selya-Hammer
Rawan Shafi
Jaclyn Sherrill
Angeline Sikorski
Ali Simonetti
Emma Smith
Gabriel Sotek
Jacqueline Stapelkamp
Shannon Sullivan
Lan Sun
Johanne Sypien
Temidayo Taiwo
Sara Tarquino
Katarina Trapanotto
Moneca Tremans
Linzee Turner
Melanie Vail
Rachel Vasquez
Dellree Williams
Christopher Wone
Destiny Woolward
Tammy Yang
Katlyn Ye
Velika Zaitseva
Eric Zambuto

Kenneth Zantilaveevan
Aleksandar Zdravkovic
Matthew Zender
Helen Zhang
Ashley Zheng
Sandy Zhu
Jacqueline Zorn

Have you recently changed jobs? Earned another degree? Published research? Traveled around the world? Celebrated a milestone? Share it with your Stony Brook University School of Nursing Alumni! Share stories and pictures - your accomplishments may be featured in a future newsletter!

Please email:
LeighMarie.Regan@stonybrook.edu

The School of Nursing Alumni Board, 2024-2025

Executive Board

President: Barbara Mills MS '93 DNP '09

Past President: Jeanne Martin MS '96, DNP '16

Alumni Relations: Janet Masini

Ex-Officio: Dr. Patricia Bruckenthal

Board Members: Adriann Combs, Kathleen Csillag-Klein, Charles Davis, Michael Davison, Kathleen Dhundale, Tracy Dourdonas Larontonda, Debra Grimm, Kellie Gummersel, Samara Kravtiz, Rachel Landau, Jeanne Martin, Joan Nathan, Margaret O'Donnell, Ramona Ramdeo-Persaud, Smitha Thotam

