



NJCU to Inaugurate Dr. Sue Henderson as 12<sup>th</sup> President on Friday, September 20; A Celebration of NJCU Planned



Dr. Sue Henderson, a mathematician and educator whose career includes extensive experience in public service and the academic world, will be formally inaugurated as the twelfth president of New Jersey City University (NJCU) on Friday, September 20.

The inauguration ceremony and celebration will begin at 9:30 a.m. on campus and continue with a community tour that will travel to the Jersey City waterfront for the launch of a series of free jazz concerts, “Six Decades of Jazz at NJCU,” presented in honor of President Henderson at the J. Owen Grundy Pier at Exchange Place, 6:00-8:00 p.m. The inaugural concert will feature acclaimed trumpeter Jon Faddis and the outstanding NJCU Alumni Jazz Big Band under the direction of Professor Dick Lowenthal, who taught many of the professional musicians in the Band in the 1960s and later. The public is welcome.

Dr. Henderson, the first woman to lead NJCU, assumed the presidency on August 6, 2012. She was appointed by the Board of Trustees following a national search. Dr. Henderson had previously served Queens College as both chief operating officer and vice president of institutional advancement.

During her first year in office, Dr. Henderson has met frequently with all members of the University community and attended countless events, programs, and student activities. She has played a major role in advancing numerous institutional initiatives in the past year, including the honing of NJCU's Strategic Plan, securing funding for the improvement of facilities on the Main Campus as well as projects on the West Campus, the creation of an Honors Program, expansion of study abroad opportunities, increased number of scholarships, increased fundraising efforts, the hiring of 17 new full-time tenure-track faculty members, and the launch of NJCU's Ed.D. in Educational Technology Leadership Program.

### **Inauguration Ceremony**

About 1,000 faculty, students, staff, alumni, trustees, members of the higher education community, special guests from across the nation, elected officials, and members of the University community will participate in the inauguration ceremony, which will be held in Margaret Williams Theatre of Hepburn Hall. Festivities will begin with an academic procession at 9:30 a.m. followed by the inaugural ceremony at 10:00 a.m.

Dr. Mohammad H. Qayoumi, president of San Jose State University, will deliver the keynote address on “Reinventing Higher Education: A Call to Action.”

President Henderson will be feted with a month-long series of programs and cultural events which will showcase NJCU's deep roots in the Jersey City community, its 84-year tradition of academic excellence, its broadly diverse campus

community, and its proud heritage expressed in the NJCU motto—"Enter to learn, exit to serve."

In addition to the President's Inauguration Jazz Series, events will include: several concerts on campus; art exhibitions featuring student and faculty work; panel discussions on various topics, including issues of sustainability and transformative experiences of graduate assistants; a students' day of service in the community at Audubon Park and Liberty State Park; talks on study abroad and great cities for students; several sports events; a discussion of social justice proposals; a walking tour of Liberty Island and the Statue of Liberty; the opening of Hispanic Heritage Month; and several events organized by NJCU Greek organizations and campus clubs. For a detailed listing visit [www.njcu.edu/inauguration13](http://www.njcu.edu/inauguration13).

### **Biographical Sketch of President Sue Henderson**

A mathematician who has extensive public service experience in higher education, Sue Henderson, Ph.D., has served as president of New Jersey City University (NJCU) since August 2012. In that capacity, she is responsible for advancing the mission of an exceptionally diverse institution that provides unparalleled opportunities and transformational experiences for its students. She works with a dynamic faculty and staff who challenge students to achieve scholarly excellence, professional competence, and personal growth in the pursuit of meaningful careers and lives as productive global citizens.

In her previous position as chief operating officer at Queens College, City University of New York (CUNY), Dr. Henderson managed key priorities, including the completion of facilities projects, curriculum development, and a zero-based budgeting model. She spearheaded the strategic planning and implementation process, and created the Global Education Office as well as the Year of Programs, which was designed to engage faculty, staff, students, alumni, and the community in programming and the study of selected countries.

Dr. Henderson is an experienced fundraiser, having successfully cultivated and obtained funding from various corporate sources and alumni to support the higher-education mission of Queens College. She played a major role in the successful \$100-million capital campaign. Dr. Henderson spearheaded the building of the College's first residence hall and was leading the next \$150-million capital campaign when she was chosen to serve as president of NJCU.

At the national level, Dr. Henderson is a member of the Board of Directors of the International Commission on Education of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) and the Commission for Internationalization and Global Engagement of the American Council on Education (ACE). Dr. Henderson was appointed to the Society for College and University Planners Academic Council and serves on the International Women's Forum.

In New Jersey, Dr. Henderson was appointed to the Task Force on the Alignment of Higher Education Programs and Workforce Development, and co-chairs the Hudson County Alliance for Action. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Hudson County Chamber of Commerce and of the Board of Directors of NJEDge.net, a research and education network. Recently, Dr. Henderson was appointed co-chair of the Hudson County Vicinage Advisory Committee on Minority Concerns.

Dr. Henderson holds a Ph.D. in Higher Education from the Institute of Higher Education at the University of Georgia (UGA) as well as undergraduate and master's degrees in math education from Georgia State University. She presents frequently at professional conferences nationwide and has published on effective teaching practices in the collegiate mathematics classroom, organizational change, and strategic planning. Dr. Henderson has received numerous awards for her work as an educator and administrator.

### **'Six Decades of Jazz'**

## **NJCU Alumni Jazz Big Band Featuring Trumpet Great Jon Faddis**

Acclaimed trumpeter Jon Faddis will perform as a special guest with the NJCU Alumni Jazz Big Band in Six Decades of Jazz at NJCU, a free concert series launched in celebration of the inauguration of Dr. Sue Henderson as New Jersey City University's twelfth president. The concert will take place at the J. Owen Grundy Pier, Exchange Place in Jersey City on Friday, September 20, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

The NJCU Alumni Jazz Big Band will feature musicians who have attended the school going back to the sixties and will be under the direction of longtime faculty member Dick Lowenthal. Some of the performers will include drummer Rich DeRosa, sax players Mark Friedman and Bob Magnuson, trumpet players Vinnie Cutro, Freddie Hendrix and John Pendenza, and trombonists Danny Hall and Doug Rothauser.

Guest soloist Jon Faddis is best known for his association with trumpet legend Dizzy Gillespie. He leads the Dizzy Gillespie Alumni All-Stars Big Band as well as his own groups. In addition to a successful playing career, Mr. Faddis is a noted educator, currently teaching at the Conservatory of Music at Purchase College – SUNY.

"This concert serves as a tribute to the ongoing quality of the students and faculty," said Mr. Lowenthal. "NJCU was a trend setter in New Jersey with its degree program in jazz. Over the years, University ensembles have toured the United States, performed worldwide, made several recordings and won many major jazz competitions."

NJCU offers an outstanding program in jazz studies featuring a faculty of world-class New York-based jazz artists. Both undergraduates and graduate students take part in a rigorous program designed to develop their improvisational, compositional and ensemble skills. The program also offers courses in the business side of the industry. NJCU alumni have an impressive list of credits including Broadway, television, the recording industry and symphony orchestras. Alumni have worked with some of the biggest names in the music industry including Buddy Rich, Maynard Ferguson, Gerry Mulligan, Ray Charles, Peter Nero, Marian McPartland, Lionel Hampton, Johnny Mathis, Aretha Franklin, Natalie Cole, Frank Sinatra, Jr., Horace Silver, Nancy Wilson, Mel Torme and Tony Bennett.

The concert will be free and open to the public. The J. Owen Grundy Pier is conveniently located near public transportation and there are parking lots in the area.