Do you know who’s been here?

75 years of Intriguing people who have visited Hofstra, 1943-2018.

Information from the University Archives
Over the course of Hofstra’s history we have been visited by many different sorts of people. Presidents, First Ladies, celebrities, athletes, musicians, dramatists, writers and even royalty have all visited to perform, to give speeches, accept awards or walk our campus. Here are just a few of the famous people who have been here!
Alicia Patterson, the founder of *Newsday*, became a Hofstra Trustee in December 1943. This photograph shows her at commencement.
Robert Moses was on Hofstra’s Board of Trustees and was the first person to get an Honorary Degree from Hofstra in 1948. Here with two of his grandchildren.
Dwight D. Eisenhower received an Honorary Degree from Hofstra in 1950 while Eisenhower was president of Columbia University.
In 1955 Lt. Col. Charles Dryden, a Tuskegee Airman, completed his graduate education at Hofstra while stationed at Mitchel Field Air Force Base. He later came back to receive an Alumni Achievement Award.
Dan Ingram, a New York disc jockey for 40 years, graduated from Hofstra in 1956.
Ellie Greenwich an esteemed songwriter, was a student at Hofstra in 1960.
Margaret Meade visited Hofstra in 1963 to discuss how to connect the north campus with the south campus and have commuting students feel more like Hofstra was their "home."
Madeline Kahn who graduated in 1964 is shown here in “Love’s Labour’s Lost.”
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was honored by Hofstra University at commencement in 1965.
Roy Campenella, a former Brooklyn Dodger’s baseball player and Hall of Famer, helped to promote Hofstra’s initiative for physically challenged students in the 1960s.
Actor Joseph Morton attended Hofstra in the 1960s as a drama major.
William Shea, who brought National League baseball back to NY, was a Hofstra trustee from 1967 until 1972.
Diahann Carroll, first African-American actress to play a title role in a television show came to Hofstra to sing at a fundraiser in 1968.
Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt Jr. and her daughter in law, Eleanor Butler Roosevelt at the Shakespeare Festival, April 1968.
Jets quarterback Joe Namath on Hofstra’s north campus with Axinn Library in the background. Namath and the Jets practiced at Hofstra until 2008. This photo is from 1969 – the year the Jets won the Superbowl.
In 1971 Hofstra hosted a special weekend sponsored by the Organization of Black Collegians (or OBC.) Poet LeRoi Jones later known as Amiri Baraka, and heavyweight Muhammad Ali spoke to over 500 students.
Stevie Wonder came to Hofstra in 1973 and tickets cost $6.00.
Francis Ford Coppola received his B.A. from Hofstra in 1960 and came back to receive an Honorary Degree in 1977.
First Lady Betty Ford visited Hofstra in 1981.
President Gerald Ford attended the Hofstra Presidential Conference on his presidency in 1989.
President Jimmy and First Lady Rosalynn Carter visited Hofstra during the Carter Presidential Conference in 1990.
Associate Justice Antonin Scalia (center in gray suit) visited in 1991.
Marilyn French who graduated from Hofstra in 1951, received an Honorary Degree from Hofstra in 1992. She was most known for her book, *The Women’s Room* which was considered a feminist treatise.
Shari Lewis, actress and ventriloquist, shown with “Lamb Chop” received an Honorary Degree in 1993.
First Lady Barbara Bush read to the children at Hofstra’s Child Care Center during the Bush Presidential Conference at Hofstra in 1997.
Billy Joel sang his acceptance speech for his Honorary Degree at commencement in 1997.
First Lady Hillary Clinton gave a speech in the Multi-purpose Room during an appearance at Hofstra in 2000.
Margaret Thatcher, England’s first woman Prime Minister, attended the Thatcher Conference at Hofstra and received an Honorary Degree in March, 2000.
Pulitzer Prize winner and Hofstra alumnus Stephen Dunn ’62, who played on Hofstra’s basketball team, returned to Hofstra for a poetry reading in 2003.
President William Clinton spoke to a full house during the Clinton Presidential Conference at Hofstra in 2005.
Anderson Cooper was one of a large number of media people who covered the debates at Hofstra in 2008.
John and Cindy McCain (left) with Barack and Michelle Obama (right) after the Presidential Debate at Hofstra, 2008.
Joan Jett performed at the “Vibe Live” event at Hofstra in 2011.
Jimmy Fallon at “Vibe Live” performed in the Mack Arena, 2011.
Hofstra Professor Leonard (in front kneeling) performed with original members of Sha-Na-Na at “Vibe Live,” 2011.
Jeb Bush, Governor of Florida, spoke with students before the Presidential Debate at Hofstra, 2012.
Cory Booker, Mayor of Newark, spoke to students before the Presidential Debate at Hofstra, 2012.
Mitt Romney and Barack Obama after the 2012 Presidential Debate held at Hofstra.
Snoop Dogg, performed at Fall Festival, 2012.
Kesha performed at Fall Festival in 2013.
Soccer great, Pele, received an Honorary Degree in 2014.
Candidates Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton at Hofstra for the 2016 Presidential Debate.
Mr. and Mrs. Hofstra came back to “life” and entertained students during the “Haunted Ghost Tour,” on Halloween, 2017.
Astronaut Mike Massimino was honored at Commencement on May 20, 2018. He was the first person to tweet from space! He also appeared on several episodes of “The Big Bang Theory” and was born on Long Island.
This was not meant to be an exhaustive list of ALL of the individuals who have visited Hofstra! Certainly there will be many additional names to add to this exhibit.