

A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE

This is a special issue of *NJIT Magazine* for two reasons. First, this issue's cover story acknowledges the stellar achievements of a select group of our alumni. "30 Top Influencers from NJIT" highlights a diverse contingent of women and men whose success in a wide range of professional fields has merited inclusion in this listing. We know there are many more who deserve recognition for their accomplishments, and we invite you to share your suggestions by contacting Michael K. Smullen, executive director of alumni relations, at msmullen@njit.edu. The second item that makes this issue special is our annual Honor Roll of donors. The generosity demonstrated by the many friends of NJIT listed in this magazine's pages underscores their enduring commitment to this university and makes it possible for NJIT to continuously strive for greater heights.

Below is a small sampling of accomplishments since the last issue of *NJIT Magazine*:

- **NJIT is ranked #1 nationally.** *Forbes* very recently released its latest Best Value Colleges ranking and published a new list of the Top 10 Best Value Colleges with the Highest Upward Mobility, combining their rankings with data from the Equality of Opportunity Project. NJIT took the #1 spot by exceeding all other colleges and universities in the percentage of students from the bottom 20% of income distribution who reach the top 20% post-graduation. We also jumped 99 spots in the overall the Best Value Colleges list.
- *The Princeton Review* has named NJIT among the top national "Colleges That Pay You Back."
- At a recent visit by New Jersey Governor Philip Murphy, he spoke glowingly of NJIT, saying, "This is an institution that has opened the doors to the middle class for countless graduates and their families. It is where our innovation economy takes root."
- As part of the ongoing boom in development throughout the City of Newark, we launched the NJIT Campus Gateway MLK project, which will redevelop a tract of land along Dr. Martin Luther King Boulevard between the NJIT campus and the Broad Street Station. This will be completed in at least three phases. Phase I will include construction of one building with 99 market rate apartments consisting of studio, one-, and two-bedroom units. In addition, 1,300 square-feet of ground floor retail space will be built and 100 parking spaces for tenants and patrons will be established.

On behalf of all at NJIT, I thank every Honor Roll donor for making possible the successes described in this issue. The support you provide to NJIT, as well as its students and faculty, is what enables us to aspire to even greater achievements.

Thank you. ■

