

Wagner College scores high in Princeton Review survey

Bouquets for the theater program and the newspaper

By Diane C. Lore

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Wagner College scored high marks in the 2015 Princeton Review survey of the nation's top colleges and universities out Tuesday.

Wagner's theater program regained its No. 1 spot in the nation, and its student newspaper, the Wagnerian, ranked among the country's top 20 collegiate news publications, in the annual Princeton Review "Best 379 Colleges" guide.

The theater program on the Grymes Hill campus has been ranked among the top five col-

legiate theater programs in the United States by the Princeton Review for the last decade, but this is the first time since 2005 that the program has claimed the top spot.

The department, created in 1968, has a long list of distinguished alumni, from Tony Award winner Randy Graff '76, to "Jersey Boys" film star Renee Marino '04.

"Wagner's tradition of doing theater, particularly musical theater, clearly remains strong," said theater department chair Felicia Ruff.

This was the first time the Wagnerian, Wagner College's student newspaper, appeared on the Princeton Review's list of the top 20 college newspapers in the country. First published in 1934, the Wag-

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nerian is marking its 80th anniversary this fall.

Other schools appearing on this year's list of top newspapers include Yale, Syracuse, Cornell, UCLA, Penn State, Howard and Dartmouth.

"This is a well-deserved recognition for the student editors and reporters who work 24/7 at the Wagnerian to keep the campus informed," said Wagner journalism professor and Advance associate editor Claire Regan, faculty moderator for the Wagnerian.

Wagner offers a minor in journalism, she noted. A number of its journalism students, including 2014 graduates Alexandria Greco and Alyssa Brown, who were co-editors of the Wagnerian, are now working in the media.

Only about 15 percent of America's 2,500 four-year colleges and three colleges outside the U.S.A. are profiled in the "Best 379 Colleges" book, which is the Princeton Review's flagship college guide. It includes detailed profiles of the colleges with rating scores for all schools in eight categories, based on the Princeton Review's surveys of students attending the colleges.

The various top 20 lists included in the "Best 379 Colleges" book — such as the Best College Theater and Best College Newspaper — are compiled from student surveys about many aspects of campus life, coursework and administration at their own institutions.