

Experiential and Community Engaged Learning (ExCEL)

Creative Inquiry Expo

The 2025 Research and Creative Inquiry Expo hosted 290 student participants who presented 168 research and creative projects.

The 2024 Research and Creative Inquiry Expo hosted 181 student participants who presented 101 research and creative projects.

The percentage increase of student participants is 60.22%; the percentage increase of research and creative projects is 66.34%.

ExCEL Forward

From Classroom to Community Impact

ExCEL Forward turns classrooms into catalysts for change. By pairing faculty and students with organizations across New York City, ExCEL Forward creates hands-on learning opportunities that advance students' skills while benefiting local communities.

How it works: The Experiential and Community Engaged Learning office (ExCEL) collaborates with public, private, and nonprofit partners across New York City to address local problems that require creative solutions. We pair community partners with Baruch faculty who co-create semester-long or short-term projects for students in credit-bearing courses (project hours and credits vary). These projects give students the opportunity to work directly with community stakeholders while applying theories and skills they learn in the classroom to the real world. More than typical class projects, ExCEL Forward encourages impact-driven learning that inspires students to go beyond the classroom to gain practical and professional skills while making New York City a better place.

ExCEL Forward benefits its participants!

- Partners: engage the talents of Baruch's outstanding student problem solvers with academic support and mentorship from our world-class instructors
- Students: become more involved in community problem-solving while they enhance their academic journeys, professional skills, and career prospects
- Faculty: forge ties with community stakeholders to develop curricula that address authentic, "real-world" challenges while they expand their teaching portfolios

An ExCEL Forward Success Story:

- ExCEL Forward recently partnered with the Van Alen Institute—a community-led design organization that has served New Yorkers for 140 years. With guidance provided by a

dedicated faculty mentor, students from CIS 5800, Information.Technology.Development.and.Project.Management.developed a proof-of-concept for a survey tool that's accessible on people's handheld devices. The Van Alen Institute plans to use the tool to improve its understanding of how visitors interact with New York City's public spaces. Following its successful launch in Spring 2025, the project continues in the fall semester. Baruch College students are now transforming their peers' survey tool and piloting an app that delivers real-time information to urban planners and designers interested in enhancing experiences of belonging, inclusivity, and civic engagement in New York City's built environments.

Looking.to.solve.authentic.challenges.and.create.success.stories.in.your.course.or.community?.
Then.please.consider.partnering.with.ExCEL.Forward.by.contacting;

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