

# Distinguished Alumnus Nicholas Ferroni, LC'03, Mentors by Shining a Light on History

Educator and historian Nicholas Ferroni, LC'03, was honored as a Livingston College Distinguished Alumnus in 2013. 

Ferroni has received national attention for his unique and innovative methodology in successfully mentoring and reaching contemporary and urban students, and has been featured in various academic and scholarly journals.

Ferroni, a former actor turned teacher, writer, and host, was named one of the 100 most influential people in America for his commitment to education reform as well as for developing a “Teach the Truth” campaign to incorporate more minority figures and groups into the high school social studies curriculum.

Ferroni was also named one of *Men's Fitness* magazine’s “25 Fittest Men in the World,” “The Man of Appeal” by *Rutgers* magazine, and “The Sexiest Teacher Alive” by *People* magazine. As of 2021, Ferroni is a history teacher at Union High School in Union, New Jersey.

He has written for *HuffPost* about education, diversity, and his pride in New Jersey, among other issues.

Ferroni has said that since he can't do history, he teaches it.

His activism inside the classroom, in the media, and online, though, promises to change the history of those he teaches.

His continuing lessons to his students include:

- Advocating for the LGBT community.
- Conducting a social experiment to teach about the underrepresentation of women in Congress.
- Organizing a crowdfunding campaign to help a student and his family recover from a housing crisis.

“Most teachers, including myself, see our students as our ‘kids,’ ” Ferroni told *People* in 2018. “They are not just students to us, and we care as much about their success in life as their success in class.”

Follow Nicholas Ferroni on X (Twitter).

*Videos: (Center) Ferroni discusses his career and passions. (Bottom) Ferroni's*

*acceptance video. Or open the videos in a new window.*