Marquette Firsts

























1881

First Catholic institution of higher education in Wisconsin, led by Marquette's first president, Rev. Joseph Rigge, S.J.

1909

First Catholic university in the world to admit women as undergraduates

1910

First Catholic university to offer journalism courses

1928

First Marquette presidential inauguration, Rev. William M. Magee, S.J., the university's 15th president

1937

Football team plays in the first Cotton Bowl

1955

Men's basketball team plays in its first NCAA tournament

1969

Educational Opportunity Program is established and later becomes the model for the formation of the nation's Council for Opportunity in Education (COE)

1977

Men's basketball team wins its first NCAA championship

2008

First university in Wisconsin to offer a doctorate in nursing practice

2014

First lay president, Dr. Michael R. Lovell, the university's 24th president

2024

First person of color to serve as Marquette's president, Dr. Kimo Ah Yun, the university's 25th president