

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 30, 2012

No. 28/11-12

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**ORIGINAL WORK BY THE SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
THEATRE ARTS PROGRAM SELECTED BY THE KENNEDY CENTER
AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATRE FESTIVAL**

Selden, NY –The Kennedy Center American College Theatre (KCACTF) selected *The Icarus Project*, an original work produced by the Theatres at Suffolk County Community College, to be showcased at its Region I Festival in Massachusetts. As it was chosen to represent the New England Region, *The Icarus Project* was seen in its entirety on Friday, January 27th, as the closing performance of the Festival. More than 600 people were in the audience for the closing performance. Approximately 60 of Suffolk’s students and faculty attended the Festival to mount or perform in the production.

Participants and productions were eligible for awards in a number of categories recognizing excellence within the theatrical arts. The following Suffolk County Community College students won awards: Salvatore Nicosia and Rudolf Mikkleson received Honorable Mention for Lighting Design; Spencer Batho won Honorable Mention for Sound Design; Elizabeth Smith won the National Award for the Region in Allied Crafts and will be presenting again at United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) in California; Tommi Mae McNally was awarded Best Comic Actor from New England Theatre Conference (NETC), and National Partners American Theatre (NAPAT) awarded her Best Classical Actor for the Region.

Individual awardees and a representative from the award-winning productions will be brought to Washington, D.C. for the national festival, taking place April 16-21 at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

The Icarus Project was first seen in the Shea Theatre in the Islip Arts Building on the Ammerman Campus of Suffolk County Community College in Selden during the spring 2011 semester. It tells the story of Icarus and his father Daedalus the famous Greek architect, inventor and master craftsman. Adventures from the Acropolis in Athens to the Labyrinth of the Minotaur at Knossos, as well as their famous escape with wings of wax and feathers are told by employing a wide variety of styles of puppetry and performance. *The Icarus Project* is directed by Charles Wittreich and Andrew Wittkamper.

The Kennedy Center American College Theater is a national theater program involving 18,000 students from colleges and universities nationwide. It was started in 1969 by Roger L. Stevens and has served as a catalyst for improving the quality of college theater in the United States. The KCACTF has grown into a network of more than 600 academic institutions throughout the country, where theater departments and student artists showcase their work and receive outside assessment by KCACTF respondents.

About Suffolk County Community College

Suffolk County Community College (SCCC) is the largest community college in the State University of New York (SUNY) system, enrolling approximately 26,000 students at its three campuses in Selden, Brentwood and Riverhead. SCCC offers the Associate in Arts (A.A.), Associate in Science (A.S.), and Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degrees, as well as a variety of certificate programs. Offering affordable college tuition, a highly respected Honors program, extensive extracurricular activities, championship athletic teams, and numerous unified transfer programs, SCCC is a first-choice college for Long Island students. Visit us online at sunysuffolk.edu.

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