

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 8, 2012

No. 40/11-12

MEDIA CONTACT:

Mary M. Feder, Director of College Relations
Suffolk County Community College (631) 451-4256
feder@m@sunysuffolk.edu

**SUFFOLK COMMUNITY COLLEGE ALUMNA CARISSA SCARFI IS SELECTED
TO REPRESENT SUNY IN CAMPAIGN ON HOW COMMUNITY
COLLEGES TRANSFORM LIVES**

Brentwood, NY – Carissa Scarfi, an alumna of Suffolk County Community College, has been selected by the State University of New York (SUNY) system to be featured as a part of their postcard campaign to the New York State Legislature on how community colleges transform lives.

Carissa, a resident of Deer Park, stated, “My life was changed for the better through my education at Suffolk County Community College. I never thought I was going to attend Suffolk, but I did and my experiences were unique and invaluable. I am so thankful for that. Through my education at Suffolk, I became a student leader and met people from all walks of life.”

Carissa started at Suffolk in 2009 on the Michael J. Grant Campus in Brentwood. She joined Music Society, the Peer Mentoring Program, and then became President of the Student Government Association. She credits Suffolk with the cultivation of her leadership skills including public speaking and learning how to conduct efficient meetings.

With the help of Lisa Hamilton, Director of Campus Activities, and Tara Fagan, Campus Activities Counselor, Carissa managed the Student Government Association, served as a Peer Mentor, and attended a Leadership Retreat to Shelter Island.

“I was very hesitant to go on the leadership retreat because it was for three days and two nights, and during that time I would have to face some personal and physical challenges. Tara and Lisa told me what to expect, answered any questions, and listened to my concerns about the trip. Through their encouragement and support I decided to go and I am extremely glad I did. The trip was a milestone in my personal development.”

Carissa graduated from Suffolk in May 2011 and transferred to SUNY Farmingdale to study Professional Communications.

“If it were not for my involvement and experiences at Suffolk, I would not have considered Professional Communications as a major or a potential career,” she noted. “Having previous college experience prior to attending Farmingdale helped me to be more prepared and confident. Today, I am not afraid to take on challenges, try new things, and step outside of my comfort zone. I owe a lot of my success to starting at Suffolk.”



Photo Caption: Suffolk County Community College alumna, Carissa Scarfi of Deer Park, (center) has been selected to represent SUNY on a postcard to the New York State Legislature depicting how SUNY schools transform lives. She is photographed here with Director of Campus Activities for the Michael J. Grant Campus, Lisa Hamilton, (left), and, Michael J. Grant Campus Activities Counselor, Tara Fagan (right).

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.

###