

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**TWO SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE HONORED
WITH THE ELAINE MERENDA CONSTRUCTION, ENGINEERING AND
TECHNOLOGY COMPUTER SCHOLARSHIP**

Selden, NY –Suffolk County Community College students Christi Hatcher, a resident of Massapequa , and Georges Gagneron, a resident of West Babylon, were recently honored with the Elaine Merenda Construction, Engineering and Technology Computer Scholarship. This scholarship is funded through a generous donation by Scott Erath, President of Wm. Erath & Son, Inc., and recognizes the students for their dedication to their studies, strong work ethic and perseverance. Both students are enrolled in the College’s Construction/Architectural Technology Program.

At a special ceremony, the scholarship was named for Suffolk County Community College Professor of Engineering Technology, Elaine Merenda, an alumna of the College. The scholarship will provide state-of-the-art laptops to two students each year for the next ten years.

Over the past ten years, Professor Merenda has mentored numerous engineering science and informational technology students and assisted them in acquiring internships as well as full-time employment.

Scott Erath stated, “Over the past two years, Wm. Erath & Son, Inc. has awarded two of Suffolk County Community College’s best students with brand new laptops, loaded with the software needed to succeed in their studies and industry. Going forward, we are presenting a plaque to the department to list the past and future recipients for the next ten years, to honor Professor Elaine Merenda for her success in providing companies with students who have become outstanding employees.”

Since 1912, Wm. Erath & Son, Inc., located in Copiague, has been a full-service commercial ceramic tile, marble and granite contractor for the tri-state area. Over the years, the company has provided internship opportunities and continued employment to Suffolk County Community College engineering science and information technology students. The company also offers their interns full- and partial-tuition assistance in recognition of strong character, determination and work ethic on the part of the student.

For more information about the 2013 scholarship, please contact Peter Maritato at (631) 451-4277 or maritap@sunysuffolk.edu.



Photo Caption: (left to right) Michael Simon, SCCC Associate Professor of Construction Technology; Natalie Niemann, SCCC Assistant Professor of Construction Technology; Christi Hatcher, SCCC Student and winner of the Elaine Merenda Scholarship; Georges Gagneron, SCCC Student and winner of Elaine Merenda Scholarship; Elaine Merenda, SCCC Professor of Engineering and Technology; Scott Erath, President of Wm. Erath & Son, Inc.

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 transfer programs, SCCC is a first-choice college for Long Island students. Visit us online at sunysuffolk.edu.

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