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**SUFFOLK COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION'S *SALUTE TO EXCELLENCE* GALA
HONORS COMMUNITY LEADERS' SUPPORT FOR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS**

Selden, NY – On Friday evening, April 5, 2013, the Suffolk Community College Foundation hosted its annual *Salute to Excellence* Gala at historic Oheka Castle on the Otto H. Kahn Estate in Huntington, New York.

The SCC Foundation honored: Dr. David J. Steinberg, President - Long Island University with the Leadership in Education Award; Terri Alessi-Miceli, President - Hauppauge Industrial Association with the Community Partner Award; Robert A. Isaksen, Long Island Market President - Bank of America with the Industry Leadership Award; and Mary Reid, community organizer from Bay Shore, with the Community Leadership Award.

In their acceptance remarks, each honoree praised the College for its mission to higher education and the value it brings to the Long Island region. During the program, guests enjoyed a video featuring current scholarship recipients enrolled at the College who expressed the impact on their lives as a result of scholarship funding. Many of these featured students stated that without scholarship support, they would not have been able to pursue their education. Student Trustee Anthony Mangual shared the inspirational story of his path to Suffolk County Community College and how he overcame all of the statistics any expert would have assumed would preclude his success, to become the highest scoring student in New York State as ranked by the All-USA community college academic team.

In a room filled to capacity with hundreds of guests in attendance, Dr. Shaun L. McKay, President of Suffolk County Community College, stated, "Tonight is a very special event for the College. As you viewed the transformational stories our students shared in tonight's video, it certainly became clear how important it is for our Foundation to have a healthy and growing scholarship initiative. The student stories yet to be written are equally important and I thank you for your generous support of our current and future students."

Dafny J. Irizarry, Chairwoman of the Board of Directors of Suffolk County Community College, pledged the Board's continued commitment to govern the College in a manner that ensures confidence in its academic, financial, and strategic priorities. "On behalf of my fellow members of the College's Board of Trustees, we will continue to embrace the College's educational mission and will seek to take advantage of every opportunity to build financial support for this institution of excellence."

The next *Salute to Excellence* Gala will take place on Thursday, April 3, 2014. Proceeds from the Foundation's annual gala, support the mission of Suffolk County Community College by providing funds for student scholarships, emergency student loans, special projects for professional staff development, and support for unique academic enrichment programs.



Photo Caption: On Friday evening, April 5, 2013, the Suffolk Community College Foundation hosted its annual Salute to Excellence Gala at historic Oheka Castle on the Otto H. Kahn Estate in Huntington, New York. (Left to Right) Edward Boughal, Chairman of the SCC Foundation Board of Directors; Dr. David J. Steinberg, President, Long Island University; Terri Alessi-Miceli, President, Hauppauge Industrial Association; Mary Reid, community organizer from Bay Shore; Dr. Shaun L. McKay, President of Suffolk County Community College; Dafny J. Irizarry, Chairwoman of the Suffolk County Community College Board of Trustees; Robert A. Isaksen, Long Island Market President, Bank of America.

About Suffolk Community College Foundation

The Suffolk Community College Foundation is a nonprofit organization founded to raise money to support the mission of Suffolk County Community College - the largest community college in the State University of New York (SUNY) system, enrolling more than 26,000 students at its three campuses in Selden, Brentwood and Riverhead. While scholarships comprise the largest use of the assets of the Foundation, contributions also help fund emergency student loans, staff development, academic enrichment programs, and activities to enhance the community's awareness of the College.

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