

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 13, 2013

No. 47/13-14

MEDIA CONTACT:

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

**SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESIDENT DR. SHAUN L. MCKAY
PARTICIPATES IN EMBRACING OUR DIFFERENCES PROGRAM**

Selden, NY –On Friday, November 8th, Dr. Shaun L. McKay, President of Suffolk County Community College, presented remarks to over 400 students at the South Ocean Middle School in Patchogue. His visit was part of the ceremonies to unveil the *Embracing our Differences* display in the Village. Student essay winners from each grade presented their papers as part of the program.

Dr. McKay thanked Patchogue Village Mayor Paul Pontieri, a member of the College's Board of Trustees, for providing the College with this invitation to be visible on an issue that has such an important impact within Long Island's communities.

Dr. McKay engaged the audience with his story of coming to the United States from Trinidad and Tobago. He added, "At Suffolk, we believe education transforms lives. In order for such transformation to occur, individuals must have access to opportunities - equal opportunities. By embracing inclusion and supporting diversity, we will strengthen our communities by developing an appreciation for the value of each person. I hope you will all be motivated to engage with each other in making sound and just choices for the common good."



Photo Caption: (left to right) Patchogue Village Mayor Paul Pontieri; South Ocean Middle School students Dylan Lucchese, Eric Corrado, Nolan Crean; Suffolk County Community College President Dr. Shaun L. McKay, and South Ocean Middle School Principal Linda Pickford.

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.

###