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**SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S EDWARD W. STEVER
NAMED SUFFOLK COUNTY POET LAUREATE**

Riverhead, NY – Rocky Point's Edward W. Stever, Adjunct Professor of English at Suffolk County Community College's Eastern Campus in Riverhead, has been designated as Suffolk County's Poet Laureate. His two-year tenure began on June 1, 2011.

Professor Stever is a poet, playwright, actor, and director. He has published two collections of poetry with Writers Ink Press: *Transparency* and *Propulsion*, and has published extensively since 1983. Professor Stever has garnered numerous writing awards, including a National League of American Pen Women's Award. In 1998, the White Eagle Coffee Store Press nominated his poem "The Purge" for the Pushcart Prize. Since the '90s he has written and performed with the Poetry Theater Ensemble and appeared with the Poetry Repertory Theater's 1998 Inaugural Series: "Voices from the Interior." In 1996, he received an Emerging Writers Award for poetry at the SoHo Arts Festival, and in that same year, a Distinguished Graduate Award from Empire State College for poetry, performance and writing.

The most recent production of one of his plays was *The Third Pulpit*, a semi-finalist in the Riant Theater's Strawberry One-Act Festival in February of this year in New York City. The play then ran again at the Manhattan Repertory in April. Another Manhattan-based company, Brass Tacks Theatre, in addition to producing several of his plays, sponsored submission of his one-act play *Airports and Hinduism*, to the Samuel French Festival in 2003. In 2000, he took top prize in Theatre Oxford's Ten-Minute Play Competition for *Shakespeare, Time Warps & Black Holes*. As an actor, he has appeared in 33 plays and he has also directed numerous productions of his own plays and the work of others. Professor Stever is an alumnus of Suffolk County Community College's honors program.

"I was so pleased to be nominated by current Poet Laureate Tammy Nuzzo-Morgan and to have the approval of former Poets Laureate David Axelrod and George Wallace," Professor Stever noted. "My intent is to dovetail poetry with theater, highlighting poetry by Long Island poets. My hope is to bring poetry to people in a palatable manner, so they might better appreciate it as an approachable art form."

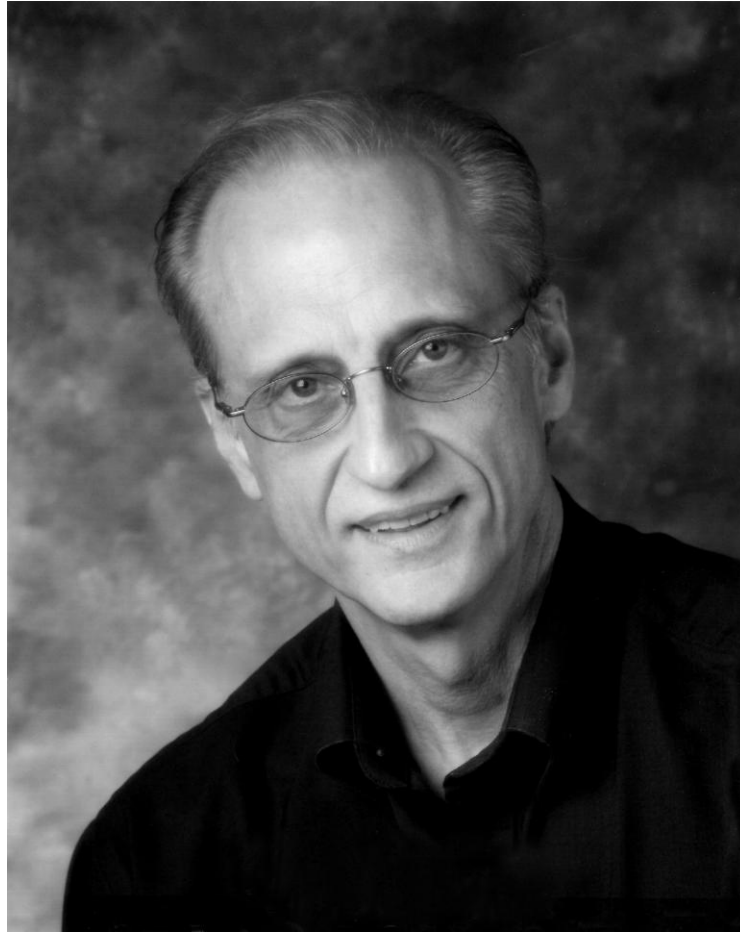


Photo Caption: Rocky Point's Edward W. Stever, Adjunct Professor of English at Suffolk County Community College's Eastern Campus, has been designated as Suffolk County's Poet Laureate.

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 the lowest college tuition on Long Island, 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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