



SUNY SULLIVAN

22 / 23

ANNUAL REPORT



Mother and Son,
Ramona and Trevon Gray,
share the college experience
and earn business degrees
together pg. 5-6

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MESSAGE FROM DR. KATHLEEN CRABILL

This past May, SUNY Sullivan held its 59th Annual Commencement Ceremony on campus. Among the 181 students who were awarded degrees that day were Smallwood residents Ramona and Trevon Gray, mother and son, who walked across the stage together, both earning associate degrees in Business Administration and beaming with pride at their shared accomplishments.

Trey headed to Morris College in South Carolina this fall on a full basketball scholarship and plans to complete his business degree. Ramona hopes to become a human resources manager at her company.

The Grays' hard work and journey is a story that captures so much of what SUNY Sullivan looks to achieve. On the broadest level, the College's mission is to be the leader of innovative higher education and a catalyst for workforce development in the Sullivan Catskills. At its core, our mission is to provide learners of all ages – from high school students looking to get ahead on college credits to adult learners returning to college or going for the first time – with the opportunities, skills, training, and support for personal growth and professional advancement.

Accessibility and Affordability:

At the forefront of SUNY Sullivan's mission is offering higher education opportunities that are affordable and accessible to Sullivan County residents of all ages. Heading into its second year, The Sullivan Promise Scholarship, established by the Sullivan County Legislature in 2022, continues to be a major draw. Started as a one-year program, the Promise Scholarship Program now provides eligible 2023 Sullivan County high school graduates and GED recipients the opportunity to receive free tuition and fees at SUNY Sullivan for up to two years of full-time study. Applications for and recipients of the scholarship are up significantly heading into this fall, and College admissions staff say the scholarship is a gamechanger for many students and parents.

At the same time, SUNY Sullivan's early college programs continue to thrive with 796 students now earning college credit from SUNY Sullivan in high schools throughout Sullivan County, including students in Fallsburg and Eldred school districts who, beginning this past year, have had the opportunity to earn an associate degree from SUNY Sullivan in addition to a high school diploma when they graduate from high school.

Professional Development:

In 2022-2023, SUNY Sullivan continued to build on its longstanding commitment to workforce development and expanding career and personal growth opportunities for students and Sullivan County residents, through a variety of events, lectures and new programs. In addition to the College's annual Career and Job Fair, SUNY Sullivan launched a new healthcare conference in the spring, as well as a clean energy summit that focused on green technology jobs.

More than 100 people attended the inaugural healthcare conference, which provided professional development, networking, and recruiting opportunities to the College's Health Sciences students and regional health care employers. The event gave Respiratory Care, Nursing, Emergency Medical Technician, and Medical Assistant students a valuable opportunity to build relationships across disciplines as they enter the workforce.

Workforce Initiatives:

Alongside offering more professional development opportunities for students and residents in 2022-2023, SUNY Sullivan worked to create new workforce-focused courses and programs for to support students and residents. SUNY Sullivan launched two new workforce development initiatives this fall: a new truck driver CDL training program, as well as a new Microcredentials Program offering a series of courses that provide professional training in phlebotomy and tax preparation. Dr. Jennifer Wrage, Dean of Student Success and Workforce Development said the College's CDL training program will be a major benefit to Sullivan County residents and students who are looking to step into a new career in as little as three weeks.

These new courses build on the success of the College's Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) courses and recently established Construction Technology degree program (in partnership with the North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters), both of which continued to thrive in 2022-23 and into the current school year.

Looking Ahead:

Going forward, all of us at SUNY Sullivan are committed to finding new ways to better reach and serve students and county residents. Departments across the College and working to improve the College's communications and admission process to support diversity, equity, and inclusion on campus and better serve and engage underrepresented county residents and adult learners. We are excited for what's to come at SUNY Sullivan and we are #SullivanUnstoppable.



Dr. Kathleen Crabill
 Officer in Charge



VISION

**SUNY Sullivan is the
heart of higher
education and culture
in the Catskills.**

MISSION

SUNY Sullivan is the leader of innovative higher education and a catalyst for workforce development throughout the Sullivan Catskills and beyond. Our diverse community cultivates personal growth and professional advancement, preparing students for success in a sustainable and interconnected world.



59TH Annual Commencement



SUNY Sullivan held its 59th annual commencement Saturday, May 13, on campus in the Paul Gerry Fieldhouse. Former SUNY Sullivan trustee Dr. Larysa Dyrszka, MD, delivered the commencement address. SUNY Sullivan Officer in Charge Dr. Ellen Galligan, Board of Trustees Chair Dr. Nancy Hackett, and Interim Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs Rose Hanofee conferred 181 degrees on students from the May and August classes of 2023 and the December class of 2022. Pastor Ken Ronk gave the invocation and benediction. Sullivan County Legislature Vice Chair Michael Brooks, Dr. Hackett, and Dr. Galligan delivered welcoming remarks. Student Government Association President Roxanne Dastparvardeh '23 was the class speaker.

"I wanted to be certain to communicate how very proud the faculty and staff here at SUNY Sullivan are of each and every one of you and your tremendous accomplishments. We are grateful to be inspired by you in our work each day," said Dr. Galligan. "You join prior SUNY Sullivan graduates as the embodiment of our work here at SUNY Sullivan: educated, inspired, empowered citizens who will now apply your skills and knowledge to improve the lives of your families and your community."

"You've become role models for our community," Hackett told the graduates. "Be proud of your success and excited for your future. To all of you, your families, proud parents, grandparents, faculty, staff and administration, well done!"

"Thank you for allowing me to share this day with you. It's special, and I wish you the best as you move to the next phases of your lives, full of hope, love, knowledge, and understanding skills that will make this world a better place," said Dr. Dyrszka, a Bethel resident, retired pediatrician, and a community and health advocate. "If I can offer you one piece of advice, as you continue your journey, it's to defend your beliefs. Never take them for granted. Be the change that you wish to see in the world. Congratulations, class of 2023!"

Brooks discussed the other financial challenges facing students today, and

said that it was fantastic news that students have embraced the Sullivan Promise Scholarship opportunity created by the Legislature last year which now heads into its second year with great support.

"Graduates continue to do the work required and be disciplined about it, and the path to success becomes a much easier one to navigate," said Brooks. "Enjoy today, celebrate the achievements of your loved ones and respect the opportunities our country provides to each and every one of you."

Dastparvardeh congratulated her classmates on overcoming obstacles and hurdles on their journey to achieving academic success and gave thanks to her family and college community for always being there for her.



I want to thank my mom and my dad for always pushing me to work hard, and for always supporting me. I really would not be here without them.

My journey here was the start of a brand new chapter in my life in which I was able to grow, mentally and emotionally ... From students to faculty and staff members, there were numerous people that aided me during times of need and guided me through hardships. Whatever the case I always had someone in my corner and for that I am forever grateful to have an amazing community such as ours.

– Roxanne Dastparvardeh '23
Class Speaker

In a separate ceremony Saturday morning, SUNY Sullivan also held its Health Sciences Pinning Ceremony for graduates of the College's Nursing and Respiratory Care programs.

Dr. Galligan and Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther delivered welcoming remarks. Thomas R. Harvie, Ventilator Program Director/Director of Respiratory Care at Northeast Center for Rehabilitation & Brain Injury, was the guest speaker. Valedictorian Sean Resto '23 gave the Respiratory Care graduate address. Valedictorian Angelina Pacella '23 gave the Nursing graduate address.

The 2023 SUNY Chancellor's Awards for Excellence are:

Haddy Gai '23 and Roxanne Dastparvardeh '23
(Student Excellence)

Jessica Lopez-Barkl
Professor, Liberal Arts, Sciences and Health Sciences
(Faculty Service)

Andrew Becker
Director of Institutional Research and Acting Director of Institutional Technology (Professional Service)

Lou Russell
Buildings & Grounds Maintenance Worker (Classified Service)

"Your graduation and future work will have a positive impact on our community," said Galligan, who stressed the challenging health care metrics facing the local community. "You are now part of the solution. Congratulations!"

"I'm very proud of your accomplishments. You've done well," Respiratory Care Director Tom McManus told respiratory care graduates. McManus presented graduating students Sean Resto '23 and Rosalie Felice '23 with Awards from the Lambda Beta Society, the National Honor Society for the respiratory care profession. Resto and Felice, in turn, presented McManus, who is retiring this year, with an award and gifts in appreciation of his devotion to students in the respiratory community.

Nursing Program Director Dr. Chryse Taylor encouraged Nursing graduates to acknowledge the army of people who helped get them to this point and, as they build their own army of support in their careers, to seek out people who exhibit excellence.

"You want to seek the people who are practicing your profession at the highest level," said Taylor, who advised the graduates to stay away from negativity and drama. "Please, stay away from anyone who is going to hold you back."



Mother and son, Ramona and Trevon Gray, share college experience and earn business degrees together



It was scary to go back at 55, but having Trevon with me made it so much easier and eventually super comfortable and even great. I wouldn't have had that much courage to go back without him. It was nerve-racking to begin with but doing it with my son was extraordinarily exhilarating.

– Ramona Gray

Forty years after last attending college, Smallwood resident Ramona Gray needed some extra courage going back to school. She found plenty in her son Trevon. After two years of attending SUNY Sullivan and taking many of the same courses, Ramona and Trevon Gray walked across the stage together at the College's commencement on May 13, both earning associate degrees in Business Administration and beaming with pride at their shared journey and accomplishments.

"It was scary to go back at 55, but having Trevon with me made it so much easier and eventually super comfortable and even great," said Ramona. "I wouldn't have had that much courage to go back without him. It was nerve-racking to begin with but doing it with my son was extraordinarily exhilarating"

"We are pretty close and going to school together was unlike the usual mom-son relationship," said Trevon or "Trey," a Monticello High School graduate, who was also a guard for the men's Generals basketball team. "We were mom-son friends and classmates. We did assignments and homework together, and if either of us struggled, we could really help because we were both in it."

Trey said attending college with his mom pushed him to work harder and do better. Ramona said her son made the experience less daunting.

"She showed me how to hand in quality work, push myself beyond the norm, and think outside my comfort zone," said Trey, who added that he's especially proud of his mom for graduating with honors. "I'm proud of myself but beyond proud of her! Graduating with my mom was extra amazing."

"Being with Trey helped me feel young again and not out of place or awkward," said Ramona. "I'll be forever grateful, and I will hold this time close to me when he leaves home for the first time ever for his next chapter."

The Grays both earned Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees in Business Administration. Ramona earned her degree with honors. Trey is heading to Morris College in South Carolina next fall on a full basketball scholarship and plans to complete his business degree. "It's over-the-top exciting," said Trey, adding that he plans (after playing in the NBA) to open his own sports management company.

While she had been aiming to become store manager at her job at Dunkin Donuts, Ramona said her SUNY Sullivan degree and courses have empowered her to aim higher.

"My plan for the future is to become an HR manager," said Ramona, who took a Human Resources Management course as part of her degree program.

Trey and Ramona said their favorite professor was Simon Clement, an assistant professor at the Catskill Hospitality Institute and an assistant coach for the men's basketball team. The Grays took courses together with Clement in each of their four semesters. "He really helped us both out so much," said Trey.

Clement said it was unique and inspiring to see a mother and son working towards their degrees and furthering their education at the same time.

"Both Ramona and Trevon were the type of students a teacher could get excited about teaching; they would work well in groups together, but individually they also brought conflicting views to the classroom that would initiate passionate and entertaining debates on different topics," said Clement. "Early on in my classes, I would notice many of the younger students referring to Ramona passionately as 'mother' when working together or getting advice, but I was completely surprised when she told me that Trevon was in fact her son and not just a fellow student who looked up to her. It was great to see them push each other to do better and take a similar interest in each other's education and success."



She showed me how to hand in quality work, push myself beyond the norm, and think outside my comfort zone. I'm proud of myself but beyond proud of her! Graduating with my mom was extra amazing.

– Trevon Gray

Ramona also wanted to acknowledge Liberal Arts, Sciences & Health Sciences Professor Amy Colon. "She was our history teacher for two different history classes, and she and I really hit it off and related to one another," said Ramona. "She made me feel super comfortable and welcomed me sharing my wisdom and experiences with her students, some of who I tutored. She is amazing."

Catskill Hospitality Institute Director Justine Hoskin said that the Institute offers many in-person classes throughout the week and also many online courses to accommodate students' individual needs and busy schedules.

"The programs within the Catskill Hospitality Institute are created to keep the thought of 'ongoing education' in mind," said Hoskin. "Whether you just graduated high school and know you want to start at SUNY Sullivan with a hireable and transferable degree, or you have decided to pick up classes to further yourself once you have entered the workforce, we are here for just that. We have many adult learners in the program who are here on their own accord or through their employer, supporting their growth."



One of SUNY Sullivan LPP's first students, Enrique Velasquez '23, is now its superhero tutor and greatest ambassador



When Enrique Velasquez '23 moved to South Fallsburg from Honduras in 2017, he didn't know any English. He was struggling but determined to learn.

"When I got here, I didn't know any English," said Velasquez, who was born in New Jersey and moved to Honduras with his mother at a young age. "I felt helpless. It was a hard time for me. I'm the kind of person who always tries to do my best, but, when I got here, I couldn't do anything. Then I met Valerie."

Valerie Brescia, then a tutor and coordinator for the newly established SUNY Sullivan Liberty Partnerships Program, is now Director of the Program, which is part of the statewide Liberty Partnership Program (LPP). SUNY Sullivan LPP and its community-based partners help underserved and underperforming area youth become college- and career-ready.

LPP provides a Summer Program, as well as year-round mentoring, tutoring, study skills classes, ESL support, field trips, and admissions and financial aid workshops. In 2023, SUNY Sullivan LPP served 300 plus students in Liberty and Monticello school districts and Sullivan County BOCES.

After meeting Brescia in 2017, Velasquez became one of SUNY Sullivan LPP's first students.

"She spoke to me in Spanish, and it was such a relief to me to have someone speaking Spanish to me," said Velasquez,



SUNY Sullivan has brought me the opportunity to have a career. I will always be grateful for that.

- Enrique Velasquez '23

who was determined to learn English. "I remember staying after school till 7:30 at night. Val really helped me. She was so nice to me and so patient with me. If I didn't receive that help from LPP, I don't think I would be speaking English that much."

Fast forward six years, and Velasquez is now a SUNY Sullivan graduate, and has been a bilingual mentor and tutor for SUNY Sullivan LPP for two years. He earned his Liberal Arts and Sciences degree while going to school full-time, living on his own with a younger brother, and working two jobs. He also often works as a translator at SUNY Sullivan admissions, orientation, and other events. This past April, Velasquez attended the statewide Liberty Partnership Program's Empire Promise Youth Summit in Albany as a mentor and LPP program alumnus.

"He's become everything and more than I thought he could become when I met him in 2017," said Brescia. "He's a self-made person who knows when to ask for help but who puts the legwork and miles in to make himself successful."

"SUNY Sullivan has brought me the opportunity to have a career," said Velasquez. "I will always be grateful for that."

This summer, Velasquez is working with local students in LPP's six-week Summer Program, which provides career and academic support, tours of the College, and financial literacy, nutrition, team-building, healthy relationships, and other programs to local middle and high school students. More than 50 students from Liberty and Monticello school districts and Sullivan County BOCES are participating this summer.

In addition to being a model for students, Brescia and others in the Summer Program say Velasquez has a great personal impact on the students' experiences in the program, getting them to open up and engage in activities,



especially students who know little English.

"I think he's a hell of a mentor," said Junior Sanchez, a facilitator with Follow Us to Success, one of the Summer Program's partners. "He gets these kids to understand that he's been there before, and, if he can do it, they can do it. He's paved the way for a lot of them."

"I feel like I'm giving back what I once was given," said Velasquez, who said he understands what it's like to struggle. "It's not easy to get rid of that feeling that you don't fit in. Maybe I can make a tiny small change in one person's life or mindset."

During the school year, Velasquez has worked for LPP as a bilingual, science, and math tutor in local school districts. This past year he worked with students in Liberty Central School District. Markella Nikolis, a school counselor at Liberty High School, said Velasquez's kind and helpful approach has had a big impact on Liberty students.

"Enrique easily became part of our school community," said Nikolis, a school counselor at Liberty High School, "He understands how to reach all of our students no matter their learning style, background, or ability."

Liberty Superintendent Dr. Patrick I. Sullivan said the benefits of the district's partnership with LPP go beyond the classroom.

"The impact of our collaboration with SUNY Sullivan's Liberty Partnership Program goes beyond the years our students attend Liberty Central Schools," said Sullivan. "We appreciate the collaborative relationship with LPP, and all that it does for our students within our hallways and beyond."

Looking to the future, Velasquez said he will likely take

a semester off, but that he hopes to pursue a four-year degree, likely in sciences, especially astronomy. For now, he will continue working for LPP and at his night and weekend job at Walmart in Monticello. Always eager to learn more, he's also been studying French in the evening through an online program.



"It's just a great opportunity, like a key to open up a door for more knowledge," said Velasquez, who said he is eager to learn more about other cultures. "My way of thinking is why not learn something? Why not read a book? Why not become the better version of yourself?"

Brescia calls Velasquez the "tutor who wears a cape."

"He's a lot of people's hero. He's one of my heroes," said Brescia, who is quick to say that all her staff wear capes. "I'm blessed with a great staff."



Haddy Gai and Roxanne Dastparvardeh receive 2023 SUNY Chancellor's Awards for Student Excellence



State University of New York Chancellor John B. King, Jr. awarded SUNY Sullivan students Haddy Gai '23 and Roxanne Dastparvardeh '23 SUNY's highest honor for academic excellence and leadership in a ceremony on April 24. Gai and Dastparvardeh were among 193 students from 63 campuses to be awarded the 2023 Chancellor's Awards for Student Excellence (CASE), which recognizes students for their outstanding achievements throughout their SUNY experience in areas including academics, leadership, campus involvement, community service, and the arts.

"There is a place at SUNY for every New Yorker, and each of the students recognized today is an example of our extraordinary student body and their rich and diverse 'SUNY stories,'" said Chancellor King. "Student success is at the core of everything we do, and I am honored to celebrate students from 63 SUNY campuses who are receiving this year's Chancellor's Awards for Student Excellence. Every student can find their community at SUNY, and I congratulate each of the CASE winners for making the most out of their college experience."

Dastparvardeh, a criminal justice major from Hurleyville, is President of SUNY Sullivan's Student Government Association (SGA) and is involved in numerous student activities, including theater productions, and Phi Theta Kappa. She is a founder of the College's Art Club. Gai, a Liberal Arts major from Fallsburg, is SGA Secretary, involved in numerous clubs, including Art Club and Phi Theta Kappa. She is a founder of the College's Black Student Union.



I would recommend SUNY Sullivan to anybody. It was a huge growing experience for me. It definitely changed me.

– Roxanne Dastparvardeh '23

"I was excited," said Dastparvardeh, who said receiving the Chancellor's award was the realization of all her hard work and accomplishments. She said her number one goal is to attend Syracuse University, and that she was grateful for her time and experiences at SUNY Sullivan, especially her work with the SGA. "I would recommend SUNY Sullivan to anybody. It was a huge growing experience for me. It definitely changed me."

Gai, who plans to attend SUNY Albany in the fall to study business management, said SUNY Sullivan gave her the opportunity to take time to decide what she wanted to study.

"I think a place, big or small is what you make of it," said Gai, whose brothers attended SUNY Sullivan and encouraged her. "I really got involved and I made great friends here who influenced me and made me want to be better. I was able to create what I wanted here."



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– Haddy Gai '23

Haddy Gai '23

is a Liberal Arts and Sciences from South Fallsburg and is Secretary of the Student Government Association. At age 11, Haddy's family emigrated from Gambia to Fallsburg. She had an adequate grasp of the English language; however, due to her accent, it was difficult for others to understand her. She navigated increasing her English skills while not losing her love for her native language. She speaks Mandinka, Wolof, and English fluently. Haddy is a first-generation college student and a legacy student, as two of her brothers are SUNY Sullivan alums. Though Sullivan was not her first choice, Haddy is now its most prominent champion, sharing with others her life-changing experiences at Sullivan.

Roxanne Dastparvardeh '23

is a Criminal Justice major from Hurleyville and is President of SUNY Sullivan's Student Government Association. Roxanne grew up in an underserved community in the Bronx. Raised by her Iranian father and her mother, who emigrated from the Dominican Republic, Roxanne recognized the pressure to become successful early on. At 12, her family moved upstate to Monticello, an unfamiliar place. Roxanne successfully adapted by becoming actively involved in school and community. The pandemic allowed Roxanne to reflect on herself and her goals, including attending college. SUNY Sullivan was initially outside Roxanne's plan, but once she became a student there, she has been a dynamic leader and student advocate.

SUNY Sullivan psychology student Mauro David Cortina wins award at Biomedical Research Conference



I chose psychology because I have seen mental and psychological damage more often than physical (damage). I want to be able to help people heal.

– Mauro David Cortina

Science majors wondering what research opportunities are available to them at SUNY Sullivan need only spend a few minutes talking to sophomore psychology major Mauro David Cortina, who received an award in November at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Students (ABRCMS) in Anaheim, CA.



Cortina, a Monticello resident, traveled to the ABRCMS conference to present the results of his research paper, "The Effects of Interracial Interactions on Executive Functioning." The paper was the result of the hands-on research he did during the summer, 2022, in the Bridges to the Baccalaureate Program at SUNY Purchase, an eight-week summer research program funded by the National Institutes of Health.

Cortina said the Bridges program gave him the opportunity to learn first-hand how studies are conducted.

"I only ran experiments before in a lab setting for school, so going through the process with (Bridges mentor) Dr. (Krystal) Perkins was an enlightening experience," said Cortina. "I learned a

lot from it and feel more confident in looking for a career that would have a similar setting."

Cortina's research investigated the effects of interracial interactions on flexible thinking, behavioral displays of anxiety, and physiological arousal. His preliminary data showed that interracial interactions can be challenging and are experienced differently than same-race interactions. His results suggested that interventions and social climates that promote and expose positive interactions across racial, ethnic, and religious groups are imperative in an increasingly diverse world.

Cortina said he plans to continue his psychology studies after SUNY Sullivan and transfer to a four-year school to earn a bachelor's degree. His hope is to someday become a psychology professor. "I chose psychology because I have seen mental and psychological damage more often than physical (damage)," said Cortina. "I want to be able to help people heal."

SUNY Sullivan Bridges Program Coordinator Kathryn Scullion said that Cortina works in the College's biology and chemistry labs and has tabled on campus to help other students learn more about the opportunities available through the Bridges program.

"I'm so happy that he participated in the Bridges program and I'm extremely proud of how he excelled at his research and was awarded for his effort at a national conference," said Scullion. "Through the program and the conference, he was exposed to a whole new world of academic and career possibilities, and has made invaluable connections and lifelong friends."



The Bridges to the Baccalaureate Program

An intensive eight-week summer research program at SUNY Purchase for underrepresented community college students interested in science seeking hands-on research experience. The program includes on-campus housing, a \$4,800 stipend, professional development, workshops, and off-campus field trips.

Local students making most of free-tuition opportunity provided by the Sullivan Promise Scholarship

After graduating from Tri-Valley High School last year, Reese Shelmandine was planning to go to SUNY Cobleskill to pursue a four-year degree. The Sullivan Promise Scholarship, which offers free-tuition to Sullivan County high school graduates, helped change his mind.



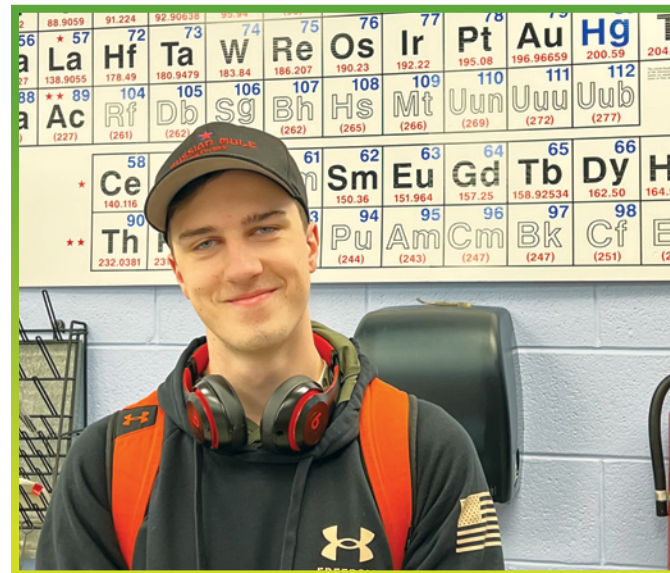
Once I saw that they had environmental majors (at SUNY Sullivan), it caught my interest, and then when I qualified for the Promise Scholarship, it made me want to come here.

– Reese Shelmandine, Environmental major

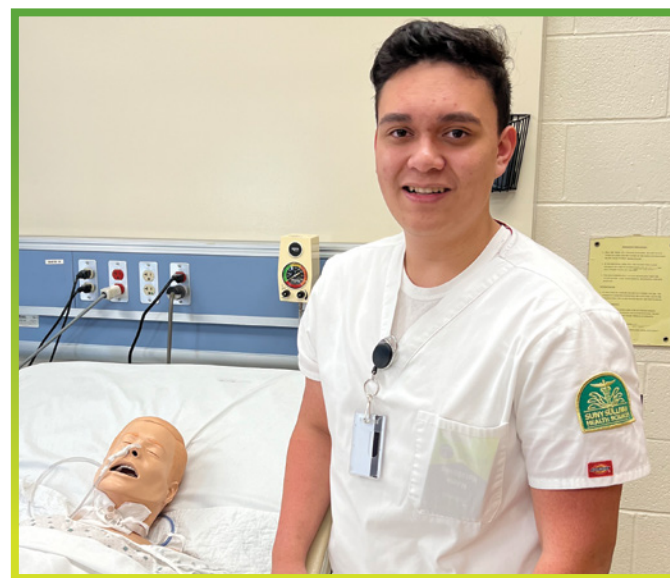
Shelmandine said the Promise Scholarship has enabled him to take advantage of affordable opportunities at SUNY Sullivan so he can transfer to a four-year school. “I haven’t taken some of the base classes I need for an environmental major, so I’m taking them here, and it feels a lot more comforting taking them here and not being so far from home.”

Shelmandine is one of 64 Sullivan County high school graduates from the class of 2022 who have taken advantage of the Promise Scholarship, which was established last spring by the Sullivan County Legislature. The Legislature has pledged to continue the Promise program for 2023 high school graduates and GED recipients applying to the College in 2023-24.

“Student debt in the US represents the largest single consumer debt held, at approximately \$1.7 Trillion. While colleges work very hard to contain the costs and community colleges represent the best ‘bang for the buck,’ we are very fortunate that Sullivan County recognizes that access to affordable college is a game changer for communities,” said former SUNY Sullivan President Jay Quaintance. “Communities with higher levels of educational attainment benefit in many ways. Greater earning opportunities, greater economic opportunities, increased rates of home ownership, improved public health outcomes. The list goes on. Congratulations to the students who chose to stay close to home and attend SUNY Sullivan as a result of the Promise Scholarship. I know they will go on to great careers and be the next generation of change agents in their communities.”



Reese Shelmandine
Environmental major



Antony Waite
Nursing major



Getting the Promise Scholarship has taken a lot of the stress out of how to pay for college.

– Kailyn Minckler, Liberal Arts and Sciences/Biology major



Kailyn Minckler
Liberal Arts and Sciences/Biology major

Minckler, a Sullivan West graduate, plans to pursue a degree in forensic science after she graduates from Sullivan. The scholarship didn’t change my plans at all, (but) it helped me save a lot of money for when I transfer to a four-year college.”

Graphic Design major Kathryn Widman said her plan was always to study two years at SUNY Sullivan and then pursue a four-year degree in art education at SUNY New Paltz, but the Promise Scholarship has allowed her to go to school full-time and save the money she earns in the summer to put toward a four-year degree in the future.

“It’s helped me a lot,” said Widman, a Sullivan West graduate. “The promise scholarship takes the burden of tuition off your mind. I can focus on school. During the summer, I can save up for when I do transfer and have to pay for tuition.”

Like Shelmandine, many Promise recipients took advantage of the scholarship to stay close to home, save money on credits toward a four-year degree, try out classes before committing to a four-year degree program, or take the financial pressure off attending college.

“The Promise Scholarship allows me to stay close to home and receive an education that is free of debt,” said Nursing major Antony Waite, a Sullivan West graduate who still plans to get a four-year nursing degree, but is taking advantage of the savings gained as a Promise Scholar.



As a nursing student, there are tons of stressors, and I am relieved that paying for education is not one of them.

– Antony Waite, Nursing major

“The scholarship is what helped me choose to pursue my education at SUNY Sullivan, it is a great opportunity for any Sullivan County graduate.”

County leaders and local school officials are excited to see the impact the Promise program is having on local students.

“Our local high school graduates have plenty of obstacles to higher education – tuition being one of the biggest,” Legislature Chairman Robert A. Doherty noted. “So, this Legislature is proud to offer our residents a clear path to a successful future, free of a crushing debt burden and appreciative of the quality education they’ll receive at SUNY Sullivan.”

“The Promise Scholarship is a game changer for our students,” said Fallsburg Junior Senior High School Principal Kyle Roddey. “By providing free tuition and fees to county residents, this eliminates a major barrier for our learners who aspire to attend college. Fallsburg students are absolutely incredible in so many ways, and we encourage them to utilize this program to supercharge their futures. College can open up limitless opportunities and this program will allow these students to develop skills to reach their goals for now and well into the future.”



Inaugural SUNY Sullivan healthcare conference a big success

The SUNY Sullivan Health Sciences Program hosted a two-day healthcare conference on campus and at Resorts World Catskills in March 23–24.

The conference offered continuing education, professional development, and recruiting/networking opportunities to students and healthcare practitioners in all medical fields.

More than 100 people attended the conference, which offered students and medical practitioners – including respiratory therapy, EMT, nursing, and medical assistants – the opportunity to learn firsthand from experts in the field about topics that are vital to the delivery of quality patient care, and to receive Continuing Education Units and Continuing Medical Education Units. The event also included a networking and recruitment reception Thursday evening at Resorts World Casino.

Brandon Bedenbender, Director of Clinical Education of SUNY Sullivan's Respiratory Care Program and organizer of the conference, said he hopes the conference will become an annual event, and that he's already received requests for next year.

"While SUNY Sullivan offers outstanding programs in Respiratory Care, Nursing, Emergency Medical Technician, and Medical Assistant; all of these disciplines will have to work together as a team when students enter the field as professionals," said Bedenbender.



I think it is important for our upcoming graduates to build these relationships now so they will be even more prepared for entering into the workforce.

– Brandon Bedenbender, Director of Clinical Education of SUNY Sullivan's Respiratory Care Program

"This type of teamwork is what distinguishes the SUNY Sullivan graduates and why we have such strong support from the community and our clinical affiliates."

Vendors at the conferences included The Center for Discovery, Crystal Run Health, Sunset Lake Rehab, Roscoe Rehab, Binghamton University, Post University and many others. Lectures and presentations included "Life on a Ventilator After Acute Care," "Respiratory Protocols & Patient Advocacy," "Legal & Ethical Dilemmas of the Practitioner," "Patient Safety, Lessons Learned from the Aviation Industry," and others.

Adjunct Assistant Professor Kayla Gardiner said the conferences allow

people to learn from leading experts in the field, see and touch the latest equipment, and spend one-on-one time networking with potential mentors and/or employers.

"Building and fostering these types of relationships from the beginning of their careers will give the students a better reputation, increased visibility, a stronger support network, improved business growth, and more impactful connections," said Gardiner, who is also a 2015 graduate of the Respiratory Care Program. "Through both the conference, and expansion of clinical sites that Brandon has brought to SUNY Sullivan, at least half of the graduating respiratory students have received employment offers upon licensing and a few have already accepted full time positions."

Tom McManus, Director of the Respiratory Care Program and a conference speaker, said he thought the conference was an excellent opportunity for students and successful in bringing attention to the College and the programs it offers.

"When our students graduate, they will need to continue to attend conferences such as this one for their professional license requirements," said McManus. "I have to give congratulations to Professor Bedenbender, who coordinated this project, and to the students who were key contributors to the planning and implementation of the logistical operations."

SUNY Sullivan Career and Job Fair draws crowd of employers and job seekers

The SUNY Sullivan Career Center's Career & Job Fair attracted a crowd of regional businesses and job seekers on Wednesday, April 5. Open to students and the public, participants included some of the region's largest employers. SUNY Sullivan Career Development & Transfer Advisor Klu Padu said more than 30 regional businesses participated in the event on campus and estimated that 78 students and job seekers attended.

"It was a good turnout and we had job seekers come from Pennsylvania over four hours away and stay in a local hotel overnight to make it here. The group indicated they really wanted to find a job in New York," said Padu.

Local business representatives said the job fair was a great opportunity to connect with students and others at the College, as well as the local community.

"We definitely want to encourage local students to apply to The Center for Discovery," said Center for Discovery Field Recruiter Toni Castillo, who said the job fair provided a more direct and personal way of reaching potential applicants. "There are immense career growth opportunities at The Center for Discovery, right here in Sullivan County."



The job fair is super helpful, it allows us to get into the community, (and) it allows us to speak to students, faculty, and staff.

– Lauren Jones, Bethel Woods Human Resources Manager

"We've had a few students come in just to see what was happening at the job fair, which is really great and exciting to see," said Bethel Woods Human Resources Manager Lauren Jones.

The SUNY Sullivan Career and Job Fair participants included:

- Center for Discovery
- Bethel Woods
- Garnet Health
- LEGOLAND New York
- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- Allbright Electric
- Granite Associates
- NYS Department of Corrections
- The Kartrite
- Crystal Run Healthcare
- New Hope Community
- Sullivan County Public Health
- Sullivan County Cornell Cooperative Extension
- Spectrum
- many other leading local and regional businesses



30
regional businesses participated in the event on campus

78
students and job seekers attended.



Approx. **60** students from Liberty and Monticello school districts took part



Earth Day celebration puts focus on sustainability for local students



SUNY Sullivan hosted its annual Earth Day Celebration on April 28, welcoming local high school and middle school students to the campus to learn more about sustainability at the College and in their community. Approximately 60 students from Liberty and Monticello school districts took part in presentations and tabling from local environmental and sustainable development organizations, workshops on birdwatching and beekeeping, an ecology walk on the College's trail network, and a sustainability tour of Hope Farm and the College's renewable energy systems.

The students began the day with a keynote talk by Sullivan County Acting Commissioner of Planning, Community Development & Environmental Management Heather Brown, and Dwayne R. Norris, Chief Operating Officer and Co-Founder of Soulful Synergy. They also enjoyed some time outside in the courtyard with farm animals from BeaverWood Farm.

The celebration was sponsored by the SUNY Sullivan Liberty Partnership Program, SUNY Sullivan's Sustainability Committee, and Student Activities.

Part of the statewide Liberty Partnership Program, SUNY Sullivan LPP and its community-based partners help underserved and underperforming area youth become college- and career-ready, through year-round mentoring, tutoring, study skills classes, ESL support, field trips, and admissions and financial aid workshops, as well as a Summer Program at the College. Civic responsibility, leadership skills, and volunteerism are also highlighted, and LPP students participate in service-learning projects that improve their communities.

SUNY Sullivan LPP Project Director Valerie Brescia said the Earth Day Celebration, Summer Program, and other field trips are aimed at broadening the students' horizons, sparking their interests, and becoming more familiar with college.

The Earth Day event included raffle prizes for the students, a lunch-packaged in eco-friendly materials, and reusable water bottles with SUNY Sullivan and LPP's logos.

Organizations tabling at the event reported that the students were



more engaged than ever this year, said Community Garden Coordinator Kathryn Scullion, who is a member of the College's Sustainability Committee and a coordinator of the event.

Participants included:

The Basha Kill Area Association, Catskill Mountainkeeper, the National Park Service, SUNY Sullivan Admissions, SUNY Sullivan Career Center, Sullivan County Audubon Society, Sullivan Alliance Leading Together, Sullivan County Division of Planning, Sullivan County Public Health, Sullivan County Recycling, Sullivan County Office of Sustainable Energy, SUNY Sullivan Garden Club, SUNY Sullivan Apiary, SUNY Sullivan Green Building Program, New Hope Community's Hope Farm, Friends of the Upper Delaware River, Morgan Outdoors, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Story's Neversink Plant Co., Cornell Cooperative Extension, Sullivan 180, Fidelis Care, the Watershed Agricultural Council, LaBella Associates, New York Power Authority, New Yorkers for Clean Power, C.R. Wolfe, Communities for Local Power, and the New York State Department of Labor.

Green Job Fair focuses on surge in clean energy jobs

As part of the College's annual Earth Day celebration, SUNY Sullivan hosted a green job fair and stakeholder summit on April 28. Presented in partnership with Clean Energy Careers NY, New Yorkers for Clean Power, and Mid-Hudson Valley Clean Energy Hub, the summit focused on workforce development for solar energy, weatherization, energy auditing, heat pumps, geothermal, insulation, and other green industries.

According to Clean Energy NY, the number of clean energy jobs in New York is predicted to increase by more than 200,000 this decade, greatly accelerating the need for an educated



and skilled workforce. The majority of these jobs are in the building sector.

In addition to a keynote talk by Sullivan County Acting Commissioner of Planning, Community Development & Environmental Management Heather Brown, and Dwayne R. Norris, Chief Operating Officer and Co-Founder of Soulful Synergy, the event included a job fair walk-through, local workforce expert panel, networking lunch, and breakout



This job fair and summit directly ties in with the mission and goals of SUNY Sullivan, including the College's Green Building Technology AAS degree program.

- Larry Reeger, SUNY Sullivan Sustainability Coordinator

sessions, which explored workforce skills and ways to reach untapped and underserved populations and increase awareness of green job opportunities.

Other participants in the event included the SUNY Sullivan Green Building Technology Program, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Sullivan County Office of Sustainable Energy, LaBella Associates, New York Power Authority, C.R. Wolfe Heating and Cooling, and New York State Department of Labor.

New Construction Technology degree program is thriving

Founded in partnership with the North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters (NASRCC), SUNY Sullivan's two-year Associate of Occupational Studies (AOS) in Construction Technology degree program is thriving as the program heads into its second year this fall.

Specifically designed to meet growing state-wide need for a skilled labor force in construction, the Construction Technology Program offers graduates of and participants in ASRCC's apprenticeship programs the opportunity to earn an AOS degree from SUNY Sullivan after completing green building technology, accounting, communications, computer literacy and other courses at the College.

"It has been a pleasure working with highly motivated students," said SUNY Sullivan Green Building Technology Professor Larry Reeger, who said 40 students are enrolled in the Construction Technology Program for

fall 2023. "Every student has their own individual story as they work toward earning their degree."

Graduates of the Construction Technology program will have a mastery of the skills and knowledge required to find immediate employment or advancement in the residential construction industry and are eligible to use SUNY Sullivan credits toward a Bachelor of Technology (BTech) in Construction Supervision at Alfred State College.

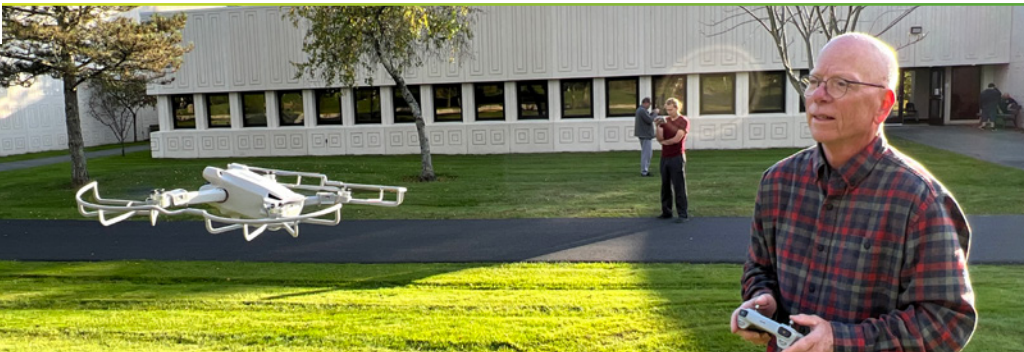


Having a program like this will help develop 'green-conscious' architects, project managers, developers, contractors, and tradespeople enabling the 'green movement' in construction.

- Kaycee McGovern

Minisink Valley resident Kaycee McGovern, who has completed her NASRCC apprenticeship, said the Construction Technology Program will not only help her advance in her career and move into project management and higher-level work, but it has also given her eye-opening insight into green construction practices.

"This program gives me the knowledge needed to create a healthier and more sustainable environment while developing infrastructures for future generations," said McGovern, who said she plans to pursue her bachelor's degree at Alfred State.



NEW: Unmanned Aerial Systems Course provides in-demand drone skills

Responding to the commercial demand for workers with drone skills and experience, SUNY Sullivan has launched a new Science, Technology, and Math elective course this fall that will train students to use and maintain unmanned aerial systems (UAS). Upon completion of the course, students will be eligible to take the FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot—Small Unmanned Aircraft General exam.

Drones are used increasingly by law enforcement agencies for investigations, by engineers as part of infrastructure inspections to collect pictures and data of hard-to-reach areas such as wind turbines, and by videographers in fields such as media arts, computer graphics, and marketing.

The new course, Unmanned Aerial Systems: Drones, will teach students

many of the aspects of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), including their various technologies, sizes, capabilities, and limitations, as well as the Federal Aviation Administration governing (UAS). The course covers the basic principles of flying UAS (drones). Different UAS systems and concepts will be covered, as well as the maintenance aspects of associated support equipment. Students will maintain and fly different flight systems and learn basic troubleshooting techniques for ground control stations and maintenance.

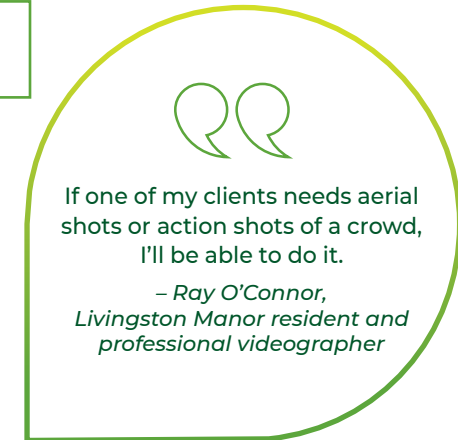
“This new drone class will be extremely valuable to future law enforcement officers as they are used for apprehensions, search and rescue, missing persons, and other important missions,” said Professor Criminal Justice Program Coordinator Robert Eiler. “The importance and value of this new technology cannot be understated.”

Graphic Design/Computer Graphics Associate Professor Joe Poon said graphic arts students would benefit from taking the drone class because

Microcredentials Program offers accelerated training for high-demand jobs

SUNY Sullivan is launching a microcredentials program offering a series of courses and professional training in Phlebotomy and Tax Preparation. Microcredentials are a short sequence of courses that are designed to provide individuals with in-demand skills, know-how, and

experience. Typically completed in one or two semesters, microcredentials, can help individuals enter the workforce, or switch careers, they can help with meeting continuing education requirements, or enable individuals to learn additional skills for a promotion or in programs such as as SUNY Sullivan’s Phlebotomy microcredential, can prepare students directly for professional certification. Microcredentials are also stackable and can lead to earning a 1-year certification or a full associate’s degree.



If one of my clients needs aerial shots or action shots of a crowd, I'll be able to do it.

– Ray O'Connor, Livingston Manor resident and professional videographer

of the strong interest these days in drone footage and “floating camera” angles in the commercial, design, and marketing fields. Poon added that aerial photography skills are needed for many jobs, including real estate photography, promotional event photography, weddings, journalistic photography, and even the filming of commercials.

“Graphic designers also are involved in presenting scientific data in a concise, user-friendly and visual manners so drone flying skills can be applied to a designer who can retrieve and seek visual data for environmental, ecological, scientific, and natural aesthetic purposes,” said Poon.

Green Building Technology major Dominique Etienne said the course is fun and that’s she’s seen GIS (geographic information systems) mapping jobs online that pay pretty well.

“I think it will be good to have with my sustainability and green building background,” said Etienne, who said the course will enable her to map out and take aerial photos of buildings.

“The College is very excited to offer new pathways for individuals to gain employable skills if they are looking to change careers or enter the workforce” said SUNY Sullivan Dean of Student Success and Workforce Development Dr. Jennifer Wrage.

Microcredentials help individuals advance their educational, professional, and personal goals in the same way as traditional degrees and certificates but are generally offered in shorter or more flexible time spans and tend to be more narrowly focused.



NEW: CDL Course responds to national shortage of commercial truck drivers

In response to regional needs and the national shortage of CDL-licensed truck drivers, SUNY Sullivan, in partnership with Ancora Education, is launching a CDL (Commercial Driver’s License) Training Program this fall. After completing the CDL Training Program, students can earn their commercial driving license and the qualifications for an in-demand career.

“Bringing a robust, respected CDL Training Program to SUNY Sullivan is another great example of the college responding to employers’ workforce needs in the county,” said SUNY Sullivan Dean of Student Success and Workforce Development Dr. Jennifer Wrage. “There continues to be a huge demand for truck drivers across the state and companies are eager to hire licensed drivers. This program helps prepare students with the skills

and knowledge that are foundational to a successful career as a professional driver.”

“The College’s CDL training program will be a major benefit to Sullivan County residents and students who are looking to step into a new career in as little as three weeks. For individuals who need fast training in order to support themselves and their families, earning a CDL license enables students to enter an in-demand, well-paying career,” said SUNY Sullivan Dean of Student Success and Workforce Development Dr. Jennifer Wrage.

SUNY Sullivan’s CDL Driver Training Program offers three levels of training: a 160-hour course Class A CDL Course, a 120-hour Class B CDL Course, and a 10-hour Refresher course. The training curriculum for both the Class A and Class B (for non-combination vehicles) courses meets Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) theory requirements and prepares students for the required knowledge and skills tests to obtain a Commercial Driver’s License. Topics covered include Basic Operation, Safe Operating Procedures, Advanced Operating Procedures, Vehicle Systems and Reporting Malfunctions, and Non-Driving Activities.

The Refresher course provides training in the safe operation of Class A or B Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV). Topics include, but may not be limited to, vehicle inspections, backing maneuvers, and public roadway

driving. It is designed to strengthen existing knowledge, skills, and driving techniques for drivers lacking driving experience and/or who have not operated a CMV for an extended period of time. Emphasis is placed on DOT regulations, vehicle systems, backing maneuvers, defensive driving, and accident prevention. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate the proper skills required for safely operating a CMV in the public roadway environment.

Loreen Gebelein, Director of Sullivan County’s Center for Workforce Development, shared, “If a county resident is currently unemployed or underemployed, they may be eligible for financial assistance.”



There is a huge demand for truck drivers across the nation, and companies in New York and beyond are eager to hire CDL-A and B license holders. This program helps prepare students with the skills and knowledge that are foundational to a successful career as a professional driver.

– Natalie Williams, Ancora’s Vice President of Client Operations

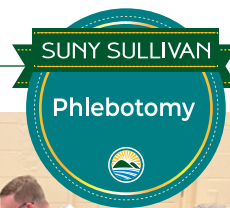
Endorsed by SUNY and SUNY Sullivan, microcredentials verify, validate, and attest those specific skills, and/or competencies have been achieved and are of high quality. Students who complete the required course sequence with a grade of C in each class or higher earn a digital badge that can be shared with employers or listed on professional sites such as LinkedIn.

Upcoming Microcredentials include: Event Planning, Restaurant Management, and Bookkeeping.



By bundling essential skills employers are seeking in an accelerated format, it allows students to quickly earn the training needed to obtain a job or be eligible for a higher paying position.

– Dr. Jennifer Wrage, SUNY Sullivan Dean of Student Success and Workforce Development





“This visit helps our Theater Program by showing dance/choreography developed from the African-American experience, which is utilized at the top of our industry.

– Jessica López-Barkl, Theater professor

Camille A. Brown Dance Company visits theater arts students/Seelig Theatre

SUNY Sullivan Theater Arts students got some firsthand choreography and dance experience this semester when teaching artists from the Camille A. Brown Dance Company visited Seelig Theatre.

Theater professor Jessica López-Barkl said the visit, arranged through a Bethel Woods education program, gave her musical theater class a perspective and experience they can't get in the classroom.

“This visit helps our Theater Program by showing dance/choreography developed from the African-American experience, which is utilized at the top of our industry,” said López-Barkl. “Seeing dance/choreography from a culture that is largely told through

orality is the only way to introduce it to our student body. I believe it inspires and compliments our program to give a perspective that is not the perspective that I'm capable of teaching and offering. The partnership with Bethel Woods allows us to have more of these opportunities with our students.”

SUNY Sullivan's vibrant Theater Arts Program is a two-year theater program that prepares students to transfer to any SUNY four-year college as a junior with training in acting, voice and speech, musical theater, physical theater, design, and stagehand work. One musical, one contemporary and one classical play are produced each year in the college's Seelig Theatre.

Award-winning Journalist Peter Maddens talk to Communications and Media Arts students

Communications and Media Arts students got some behind-the-scenes insight this semester on what it's like to be an investigative journalist when Peter Madden, an award-winning producer, reporter and editor for the ABC News Investigative Unit, spoke on campus with Media Arts Professor Kenneth Luck.

Madden, a Sullivan County resident, discussed his work leading ABC's groundbreaking investigation of the use of race-norming in the NFL's Concussion Settlement Program, which resulted in the league's abandonment of the practice and the payment of millions of dollars in additional compensation to ailing former players and their families.

ABC News Investigative Unit contributes coverage of national

security, political corruption and human rights to Good Morning America, World News Tonight with David Muir, Nightline and 20/20. Previously, Madden was a senior producer at Sports Illustrated, where he co-reported the magazine's “First Golfer” feature about President Donald Trump's global golf business. He is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and the Columbia Journalism School. He is also chair of the WJFF-Radio Catskill Community Advisory Board.

SUNY Sullivan's Media Arts Program offers students the opportunity to turn their creativity into a career in film, television, or digital media storytelling in the College's state-of-the-art media lab. The world of digital video, audio, multimedia, computer graphics, and the web is providing increasing opportunities for Communications and Media Arts students. In addition to traditional positions in broadcasting and film, graduates find employment in cable, webcasting, industrial, and multimedia presentation production.

Chef, author, entrepreneur, and Catskill Hospitality Institute graduate Marcus Guiliano '94 talks to culinary arts students

Chef, author, entrepreneur, and SUNY Sullivan graduate Marcus Guiliano recently talked to students on campus about his experiences as a restaurant owner and shared tips for being successful after graduation.

Guiliano, who owns Aroma Thyme Bistro in Ellenville and is a 1994 graduate of the Catskill Hospitality Institute at SUNY Sullivan, talked about the values of hard work and continued learning, encouraging students to take advantage of free online learning opportunities like YouTube that he didn't have when he was their age.

“Opening a restaurant is no joke,” said Guiliano, who earned a Professional Chef AAS degree with honors from SUNY Sullivan. “It's one of the hardest things to do, (but) it's also one of the most rewarding things to do.”

Catskill Hospitality Institute Director Justine Hoskin said the values of ambition and confidence that Guiliano brought to the students as a successful entrepreneur and SUNY SULLIVAN alumnus were very well received.

“By stressing the importance of passion, good work ethics, and other fundamental skills we teach here, Chef Marcus reinforced core elements of our Culinary programs and shared valuable insights with our students as they continue to work toward completing their degree and think about their next steps in the industry,” said Hoskin.



Chef Marcus reinforced core elements of our Culinary programs and shared valuable insights with our students as they continue to work toward completing their degree and think about their next steps in the industry.

– Justine Hoskin, Catskill Hospitality Institute Director



Halloran Farm owners give culinary arts students hands-on education in preparation of venison

Culinary Arts students recently got some hands-on education in the preparation and uses of venison, thanks to Glenn and Ann Halloran, owners of Calicoon's Halloran Farm.

As part of their Theory and Development class, the second semester students learned about the trials and tribulations of deer farming and the culinary uses of venison. They also got a chance to try their hand at cooking venison for the first time – cooking up some adventurous dishes, including braised venison shanks, venison kielbasa, and venison steaks.

“Thanks to the gracious contribution of product and time from Halloran Farms, our students were exposed to red tail deer raised here in Sullivan County,” said Catskill Hospitality Institute Director Justine Hoskin. “Having access to this high-quality product allows for students to not only

work with something they may never have had exposure to before, but also to let their creativity run wild while they prepare and taste it. The time that the Hallorans spent with our students emphasized the value and importance of working closely with local farmers as a chef, and how fortunate we are to have so many in our community.”

Big thanks to Glenn and Ann for sharing their knowledge! And congratulations to all the students who ventured into new culinary territory!



The time that the Hallorans spent with our students emphasized the value and importance of working closely with local farmers as a chef, and how fortunate we are to have so many in our community.

– Justine Hoskin, Catskill Hospitality Institute Director



Chancellor's Visit



Thank you to SUNY Chancellor John B. King, Jr., Senior Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges Johanna Duncan-Poitier, and Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther for taking time to visit our campus this month. Chancellor King and his staff met with College faculty, staff, and leadership; talked with students; and toured the campus. Chancellor King even donned beekeeping gear to get a close look at the College's apiary.

Chancellor King met with student leaders from the College's Student Government Association (SGA) and Black Student Union, student activities staff, and Assemblywoman Gunther, asking each about themselves, their journey to college, and what they would like to see more of at SUNY Sullivan.

"I found the conversation with Chancellor King to be thoughtful in that he wanted to hear the true, real experiences of our students," said Associate Dean of Student Engagement Debra Waller-Frederick. "His questions were thought-provoking and allowed for our students to share topics of concern and opportunities for improvement on our campus."

Waller-Frederick said Chancellor King sharing his personal story on how he arrived at SUNY as Chancellor resonated in particular with students. "It was very compelling."

Student Dayanara Olan, who was recently elected President of the College's SGA, agreed.

"He spoke about his life journey to becoming the SUNY Chancellor which was very heartwarming and made us all want to push through and continue on our own education journey," said Olan, who appreciated that King wanted to get to know students and ask why they chose SUNY Sullivan. "He accepted every answer with gratitude and made us all feel welcome as a whole. I was very inspired and grateful he took the time to visit SUNY Sullivan."

Art Riegel, SUNY Sullivan Professor Emeritus and founder of the College's Apiary, said he was grateful Chancellor King took time to visit the apiary. "It was an honor to show Chancellor King the only apiary on a SUNY campus," said Riegel. "I was duly impressed that he actually put on a bee jacket and joined me to do a hive inspection up close and personal."

Lieutenant Governor Antonio Delgado and Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther meet with SUNY Sullivan students



Many thanks to Lieutenant Governor Antonio Delgado and Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther for stopping to meet with SUNY Sullivan students this afternoon. Delgado and Gunther answered questions about their work in government and talked about their backgrounds and education and the paths and choices that led them to pursue careers in public service.

"We were so fortunate to welcome Lt. Governor Delgado and Assemblywoman Gunther to campus today," said former SUNY Sullivan President Jay Quaintance. "They provided a bit of a master civics lesson to students regarding public service and following your own personal truth. Students were very engaged and had great questions about the important work that elected officials do in the course of supporting a civil society for everyone."

NYS awards SUNY Sullivan
\$1 million
 to expand childcare center



SUNY Sullivan has been awarded \$1 million in state funding to support the expansion of the College's on-campus childcare center. The funding is part of a \$15.6 million state investment to expand childcare access at the State University of New York and the City University of New York announced this week by New York Governor Kathy Hochul.

Run in partnership with the Healthy Kids Early Child Learning Program, SUNY Sullivan's on-campus childcare center provides students, employees, and community members with a preschool childcare program for children



My administration remains committed to ensuring all parents have access to quality childcare, and this funding is a critical step toward ensuring parents have the support they need to pursue a quality education and build a better future for themselves and their families.

— Kathy Hochul,
 New York Governor

aged 3-5 during on-campus class hours. The state funding will support renovations that will allow the College to expand the program to infants and toddlers.

At some State University of New York campuses, about 80 percent of students with dependents reported that they had trouble meeting their childcare needs. The State University of New York is expanding on-site childcare services with \$7.6 million for campuses with the greatest demand, which includes: Alfred State, SUNY Canton, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Jamestown Community College, SUNY Old Westbury and SUNY Sullivan.

"Expanding high-quality, affordable child care options is an essential piece of creating a more equitable and accessible higher education system for New Yorkers," Governor Hochul said.

"We have a holistic approach to student success and have made great progress in New York State thanks to Governor Hochul and our Legislature, and the expansion of childcare is critical for many students and faculty alike," said State University of New York Interim Chancellor Deborah F. Stanley.



Dr. Ellen Galligan appointed to SUNY Sullivan Board of Trustees

SUNY Sullivan announces that Dr. Ellen Galligan has been appointed, effective immediately, to the College's Board of Trustees. A Forestburgh resident, Galligan is vice president emeritus at Sullivan County Community College, where she worked from 1989–2010 in a variety of positions, including vice president for academic affairs and student services and dean of workforce development. She will be sworn in at the College's Board of Trustees meeting on February 16. Galligan was appointed to the Board by Governor Kathy Hochul, and her term expires in 2027. She succeeds longtime Trustee Phyllis "Penny" Coombe.

"I am honored to be appointed to the SUNY Sullivan Board of Trustees," said Dr. Galligan. "I began my studies at a community college and believe in its mission to provide opportunity for students to achieve their educational goals. I thoroughly enjoyed working with the students, faculty, and staff at SUNY Sullivan, and I look forward to serving the College in this role."

"I welcome Dr. Galligan back to an active role in the SUNY Sullivan community!" said former SUNY Sullivan President Jay Quaintance. "We are

fortunate that Governor Hochul has chosen a new trustee who brings a great deal of history and experience to the table. Ellen was a great asset here in the past and I look forward to working with her as she brings her experience to bear in a new role!"

Dean of Liberal Arts, Sciences and Health Sciences Rose Hanofee said she worked with Dr. Galligan for several years and was excited to learn of her appointment.

"Her years of experience at SUNY Sullivan in workforce development and in administration will be an asset to the College," said Hanofee. "I remember her as a down-to-earth leader who offered me good advice and in a way where she genuinely wanted me to learn. I'm looking forward to working with her again."

Appointed to the Board of Trustees on September 9, 1997 by Governor George Pataki, Coombe's 25 years on the board included working to raise matching funds to build a new dorm, develop a new strategic plan for the College, and establish new academic programs. She served on numerous committees and chaired the presidential search and the Middle States accreditation committees. Her awards include a Marvin A. Rapp Award for Distinguished Trustee Service from New York Community College Trustees, in 2005, and a "2012 Women Who Make a Difference" award for Higher Education.

"I believe that my professional career in secondary education enhanced my Board service," said Coombe. "I also believe in the power of education to change lives and in the importance of our community college to provide relevant opportunities for all ages. My 25 years of service has been an honor and a privilege and mostly a pleasure! There have been significant challenges, but SUNY Sullivan is positioned for further success."

"I want to thank Trustee Coombe for going above and beyond in her service to the College," Quaintance said. "Her 25-year tenure on the board has been

marked by many changes, and the board has long relied on her wisdom and experience. To say Penny will be missed is an understatement. She has made a lasting impact on the college and the county and will be missed. I just hope she will still take my calls when I need guidance!"

About Dr. Ellen Galligan:

Dr. Ellen Galligan is the former owner and operator of Galligan's Forestburgh Store and is vice president emeritus and former vice president for academic affairs and student services at Sullivan County Community College, where she worked from 1989–2010. During her tenure at the College, Galligan also worked as technical assistant, Developmental Studies; director, the Learning Center: tutoring, services to students with disabilities, developmental education, and Freshman Seminar; assistant dean of student services; assistant to the vice president for academic affairs and student services; and dean of workforce development, continuing education, and lifelong learning. A Forestburgh resident, Galligan is the board president of Friends of Hospice of Orange and Sullivan Counties, board member of Paradise Island Towers Condominium Association, a tutor for Literacy Volunteers of Sullivan County, former Forestburgh chairperson of the Sullivan County Democratic Committee, and former board member of the Delaware Valley Arts Association.



Longtime SUNY Sullivan Professor Art Riegal earns Professor Emeritus Status

SUNY Sullivan's Board of Trustees granted Art Riegal, a 37-year professor at SUNY Sullivan and alumnus of the College, Professor Emeritus status.

During his 37 years at SUNY Sullivan, Riegal served as the bursar, facilities coordinator for and director of the Culinary Arts Department, chair of the Division of Health, Social and Behavioral Sciences, interim Dean of Students, and ultimately full professor, teaching business courses in the Catskill Hospitality Institute. He is also the founder of SUNY Sullivan's Apiary, which he partially funded and continues to maintain. Riegal began his career at the College in 1985 and officially retired from teaching on August 31 this summer.

"What I find most surprising and rewarding in this profession is the number of times the teacher learns from the student," said Riegal. "I've been blessed to learn from four generations of students over the decades."

The Board's resolution praised Riegal as a hard-working mentor and advisor whose passion for teaching and inspiring students has not faded. "Colleagues portray (Riegal) as a professor who made a difference in the lives of our students and excelled in supporting the mission of the College with grace and dignity," the resolution states.



I've been blessed to learn from four generations of students over the decades.

- Art Riegal '81



Phyllis "Penny" Coombe Awarded Trustee Emeritus Status by Board of Trustees

professional commitment to further the goals of College."

"The Board and the College have long relied on (Coombe's) wisdom and experience," states the Board's resolution. "Trustee Coombe served SUNY Sullivan with dedication, commitment, and distinction for more than 25 years. During her time on the Board, Trustee Coombe was a part of several transformations that occurred within the college such as the construction of the Residence Halls, the athletics change from Division III to Division II, the creation of new degree programs, increased funding from Sullivan County Government, and many more."

"I believe that my professional career in secondary education enhanced my Board service," said Coombe, a retired Tri-Valley Secondary School Family and Consumer Sciences teacher and longtime Grahamsville resident. "I also believe in the power of education to change lives and in the importance of our community college to provide

relevant opportunities for all ages. My 25 years of service has been an honor and a privilege and mostly a pleasure! There have been significant challenges, but SUNY Sullivan is positioned for further success."

Coombe said she was especially pleased to see the development of more opportunities, such as the Sullivan Promise Scholarship, that make courses and programs at the College more accessible and affordable to Sullivan County residents and students.

"I'm excited to watch the Promise Scholarship program develop and thrive and to see increased college-in-high-school programs, as well as new degree and certificate programs to meet the needs of our students and people in the county," she said. "I'm extremely grateful to have been honored for my Board service, and I look forward to seeing the college move forward and plan to continue supporting the College as much as I can."



Computer Graphics/Graphic Design Alumni Douglas Shindler '17 and Michael Davis '16 talk to current students and open the Black Library in Monticello




 There are ways to create opportunities from small schools and institutions without necessarily leaving the area.
 – Michael Davis '16

Computer Graphics/Graphic Design Alumni Douglas Shindler '17 and Michael Davis '16 shared insights about their experiences and work as professional visual artists and photographers with current SUNY Sullivan Computer Graphics/Graphic Design students.

Shindler and Davis – Monticello residents who met as students at SUNY Sullivan – showed images of their work and discussed the evolution of their careers, the process and inspiration behind their work, and opportunities in the local area. The artists also discussed the history and progress of their efforts to launch the Black Library, a library and community art space in Monticello that will focus on celebrating Black history and culture.

“Douglas and Michael were really gracious and generous with their time and their advice to the students,” said Computer Graphics/Graphic Design Professor Joseph Poon. “They tailored an artists’ talk that really inspired students to feel like they were in the ‘right’ major and made them feel that there was an attainable light at the end of the tunnel.”

“To think that Michael got his first big break from someone who saw a photograph on one of his Instagram posts is pretty amazing,” added Poon. “And for Douglas to candidly admit that he took some time off from studying because sometimes it’s important to take your time and give oneself a break was cool especially when many of our students worry under financial stress and family constraints.”

Shindler and Davis’s talk left an impression on students and on themselves.

“It’s cool to see how people move on from the College and pursue their dreams,” said Graphic Design major Kathryn Widman, who was impressed by the artists’ confidence and courage.

“It inspires me back that people are so inspired by just having us talking to them,” said Shindler.

“You can land in really great situations just kind of keeping your head up and staying true to your work,” said Davis.



The Black Library

Cofounded by Monticello-based artists and SUNY Sullivan Computer Graphics/Graphic Design Alumni Douglas Shindler '17 and Michael Davis '16, the Black Library – located at 418 Broadway in Monticello – is a library and community art space celebrating Black history and culture.

“After over a year of hard work, planning, and endless support from our community, we’re finally ready to share this evening with you,” said Shindler and Davis in a social post. “Join us as we launch this space of Black culture and history, continuing our journey of advocating for racial justice in our county & beyond and acting as a beacon for up-and-coming local artists.”

The Black Library’s opening featured artwork by Davis, Shindler, and local artists James Ivory, Malik Bridges, and Amelia Williams, as well as a live DJ set by @gteaze. Shindler and Davis signed a lease earlier this year with the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre to house the Black Library in the historic Key Bank Building on Broadway in Monticello. The Black Library is a program of Hurleyville Arts.



Graphic design/computer graphics students support museum exhibit

SUNY Sullivan Graphic Arts students helped bring lost towns back to life as part of a museum exhibit at Time and The Valleys Museum in Grahamsville. As part of Professor Joe Poon's Digital Graphics class, his students used digital technology to help enhance the experience of the Time and the Valleys Museum's upcoming spring exhibit, Bittersweet Memories: Lost Towns of the Catskill Watersheds.

Poon's students supported the museum's efforts to explore the history of residents who were displaced when their towns were flooded in the 1950s as part of the construction of the Rondout and Neversink reservoirs. Although many of

the histories were lost with the floods, many families keep them alive with spoken word and the help of the Time and the Valleys Museum.

Museum Director Donna Steffens recruited Professor Poon and his digital graphics students to help enhance the experience of this exhibit with augmented reality.

In participating in this project, the students are introduced to the future of museum experience.

SUNY Sullivan's Spring 2023 Student Art Show

The Spring 2023 art exhibition showcased the work of the College's Computer graphics, photography, and studio students. Family, friends, and faculty gathered for a reception for the show, which features computer graphics, typography, drawings, photography, and other works by SUNY Sullivan students, as well as photography by Liberty High School students who participate in the College-in-the-Classroom Program for digital photography. Wednesday's reception also featured a live figure drawing demo session where any student and visitor was welcome to experience drawing from a cosplay model.

Computer Graphics and Graphic Design Associate Professor Joe Poon said the College's library staff chose several works from the show to be on permanent display in the library.



Artive helps you feel the work; like you're one with the painting, diving into different forms of art helps us be more well-rounded for our future as well.

– Anthony Brasington
Art Student

Catskill Hospitality Institute Fall Culinary Lunch series opens to the community

This fall, the Catskill Hospitality Institute resumed its Fall Culinary Lunch series, offering opportunities for the community to enjoy a great meal and learn more about the Institute and its programs. The series also provided Culinary and Pastry Arts Program students with essential hands-on experience.



The Lunch Series gives our Culinary students a chance to showcase their work and get the hands-on experience of preparing and serving food and drinks for a luncheon.

– Justine Hoskin
Catskill Hospitality Institute Director

"These dining experiences satisfy the students' curriculum needs, while allowing College staff and community members to enjoy a lunch with insight into our Culinary Arts Program."

The Lunch Series is part of a Culinary Arts Restaurant Operations course that is designed to introduce kitchens and dining rooms in the hospitality industry. Students practice concepts and skills learned in the Culinary Arts program at SUNY Sullivan in a restaurant setting and are introduced to the dining room and beverage service. Preparation, production, menu planning, costing, personnel needs, dining room arrangements, and various types of service are all covered in the course. Students work all stations in the kitchen, dining room, and beverage service areas on a rotating basis.

In another event in 2022-2023, Culinary Arts students honored the Men's and Women's Generals Basketball Teams with a celebratory reception for their NJCAA Region 15 championship seasons. Students in the Banquet and Catering course served up stir-fry, crepes, and numerous hors d'oeuvres

and desserts to coaches, players, and staff giving students a chance to recognize both teams and their classmates for their great seasons, while getting more experience preparing and serving food and drinks for a banquet reception.

Further developing their skills and in preparation for entering the workforce, Culinary Arts and Computer Graphics/ Graphic Design program students partnered up in the spring semester to work on their communication and teamwork skills and support one another on their program projects, which they presented side-by-side at a community networking event with local employers from both areas of concentration.

The Hospitality Institute is continuing these events and hands-on opportunities in Fall 2023 with a Fall Culinary Dinner series, food truck takeover events, and re-opening of the Bakery Café on campus.






2022-2023 Sullivan Theater Arts Program presented the Sueñito/Little Dream Season

The SUNY Sullivan Theater Arts Program presented three performances on campus in 2022-2023 as part of its Sueñito/Little Dream Season. The season opened in December with performances of *In the Heights*, music and lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda and book by Quiara Alegria Hudes. The program's next offering was *Casa Valentina*, by Harvey Fierstein, which ran in the College's Seelig Theatre in March.

"The season name was inspired by the students we serve at SUNY Sullivan and the strong community we have created in our theater program that helps nurture dreams," said Theater Program professor Jessica López-Barkl. "This little community banded together during the pandemic to keep us busy and inspired. Without our little dreams, our sueñitos, we would not have survived the pandemic. We are honoring our community and our dreams this season."

The season concluded in May with outdoor performances of William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* at Hope Farm/SUNY Sullivan Community Garden. The Theater Program also included a performance of *V-Day One Billion Rising* on Valentine's Day.


 The season name was inspired by the students we serve at SUNY Sullivan and the strong community we have created in our theater program that helps nurture dreams.
 — Jessica López-Barkl
 Theater Program professor

over 1000 people turned out for SUNY Sullivan's 30th Kite Festival

The free festival, which made its return to campus for the first time since 2019, featured a professional kite festival, gigantic active bubble show, candy drop, live DJ, food and craft vendors, kids' inflatable and bouncy houses, and student art show. The College gave out over 400 free kites to children who attended.

"The Kite Festival is one of the most talked about and beloved events at SUNY Sullivan," said Dean of Communications and Admissions Eleanor Davis. "For many of the College's students and graduates, the festival marked their first visit to campus. We're thrilled to be hosting the event again and look forward to continuing the tradition."

Big thanks to the Sullivan Catskills Visitors Association, which sponsored the festival, and to everyone who participated and turned out!





SUNY Sullivan's thriving Esports program looks ahead to 2023-2024 season

SUNY Sullivan's Esports program thrived in 2022-2023, with a regular crowd in the College's state-of-the-art Esports arena, regular NJCAA and NECC matches, the program's first playoff appearance, and three players acknowledged for their academic achievements.



I think it was a very successful year. We had a good amount of success in Super Smash Bros. Ultimate. All three players were super committed, and they all did very well in the league. We hope to continue that success into other games as well.

– Ben Kirch
SUNY Sullivan Esports Coordinator

Kirch said SUNY Sullivan Esports competed in two different leagues this year, NJCAA and NECC, in Super Smash Bros. Ultimate. Players were Andrew Palmarini, a freshman liberal arts major; Felix Hall, a freshman liberal arts major; and Andy Zheng, a sophomore business major who graduated in May. Palmarini, from Latham, NY, went 7-1 during the NECC Metropolitan Division season and made a playoff appearance. (The NJCAA is the esports league for all junior colleges. The NECC is

the national league for any college in the country.)

"I had a lot of fun playing for the Smash team in the spring," said Palmarini, a Latham, NY, resident, who said that he's excited to try out a new game, Mario Kart, and is looking forward to having more players to practice with in the fall. "My playoff run was a little frustrating, but I'll bounce back next season."

All three Esports players matched their success in the arena with strong achievements in the classroom. Palmarini, Zheng, and Hall were each awarded Mid-Hudson Conference, Academic All-Conference and NJCAA Region XV Academic All-Region awards.

In addition to Mario Kart, Kirch said the program will be adding at least three more games to the Esports Program in the fall – Overwatch, Rocket League, and Tekken 7 – and is exploring adding three other games, Rainbow 6 Siege, Call of Duty, and Valorant.

Kirch said the program is gaining a lot of interest, helping draw students to the College, and, in a few cases, keeping some student-players enrolled in classes. He said the program has two returning players, seven new players coming in, and more than ten who have expressed interest in playing next year.

"The new Rocket League team has been practicing every Monday at 7:30 over the summer break to get ready for the year," said Kirch, adding that he expects the Smash and Rocket League teams to be good and that

some high-ranking players will make a for a strong Valorant team if they can get it going for fall. "We're still a very new team and program, but now is the perfect opportunity to get into esports at the ground level, gain some experience, and use it as you continue your education or go into a career."

SUNY Sullivan Director of Athletics & Recreation and Dean of Student Development Services Chris DePew said he is very pleased with the growth and success of the Esports program.

"I am extremely happy with the work that Ben has accomplished in advancing our Esports program in year two," said DePew, who said the program is growing each day and the College's teams have been extremely competitive in various game titles. "Ben has a strong group of new recruits locked in for the fall of 2023 and we are looking forward to fall NJCAA competition. Preseason scrimmages are already taking place and our results are promising."

DePew added that the popularity of Esports continues to surge.

"As I stated when we started the program and opened our state-of-the-art arena in late 2021, esports is the fastest growing intercollegiate sport in America and we are seeing interest levels rise to what we expected. It is our hope that SUNY Sullivan Esports will compete for NJCAA National Championships in multiple games titles in 2023-2024."

Generals Baseball Team Wins NJCAA DII Region XV Baseball Championship



SUNY Sullivan Men's Baseball Team finished their 2022-23 season strong, winning the 2023 NJCAA DII Region XV Championship, making it to the final game of the Northeast District Championship Tournament, and falling just a game short of advancing the 2023 NJCAA College Baseball World Series.

The Region XV championship was the Generals' third regional championship in school history and the first since 2011. It also coincided, on May 13, with the College's graduation ceremony. After celebrating on the field in Suffern, NY, the Generals took their trophy back to the Paul Gerry Fieldhouse, where the team and family members celebrated the graduation of four teammates who had missed the College's commencement earlier in the day.

"It was a great day," said SUNY Sullivan Director of Athletics & Recreation and Dean of Student Development Services Chris DePew, who called it a "special doubleheader-win a regional baseball championship in the morning and a graduation just a few hours later."

Head Coach Randy Delaney said the team, which finished the season 23-19, worked hard to make it to the region championship and were thrilled to win all three tournament games. "The guys came together to pull off three consecutive wins against two higher-seeded teams," said Delaney.



I am extremely proud of this group. The way they support each other and pick each other up is something special. They deserve this opportunity, and I'm extremely happy for all of them. Their accomplishments this season have made us proud.

– Chris DePew, SUNY Sullivan Director of Athletics & Recreation and Dean of Student Development Services



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Men's and Women's Generals win NJCAA DII Region XV Championships

SUNY Sullivan Men's and Women's Basketball teams continued to achieve at the highest level in 2022-23, with both teams winning NJCAA DII Region XV championships, and players Deivejon Harris and Jay Alvarez named to the NJCAA Division II All-America Teams.

The Men's Generals, who were 22-8 for the season, earned their fourth straight NJCAA Division II Region XV championship, and the Women's team, who were 19-10, earned their second consecutive Region XV Championship. Both teams competed in the NJCAA DII East District Championships, which were hosted in the Paul Gerry Fieldhouse.

Alvarez, who played in the NJCAA All-Star game in May in Las Vegas, was named to the First Team on the Men's side, and Harris, who received a full scholarship to play for NCAA Division I Grambling State University in 2023-24, was named to the Third Team for the Women's side.

Other highlights for both Generals teams this season: Alvarez became the 8th player in Generals program history to reach the 1,000-point plateau, Harris was named Region XV Player of the Year for the second year in a row, and Women's Head Coach Ben Newburg was named Region XV Coach of the Year.

Sullivan Dean of Student Development Services and Director of Athletics Chris DePew praised both teams for winning back-to-back regional championships and competing year in and year out at the highest level. "It is not done very often at any school," said DePew.



Three SUNY Sullivan student-athletes named to NJCAA All-Academic Teams

SUNY Sullivan is proud to share that three SUNY Sullivan student-athletes were named to the NJCAA All-Academic Teams for their outstanding accomplishments in the classroom over the course of the full 2022-2023 academic year.

David DePew (Men's Baseball), Haley Peck (Women's Basketball), and Naquan Pounder (Men's Basketball) were all named to the NJCAA All-Academic Third Team. Congratulations to our student-athletes for their hard work and outstanding achievement!



We are thrilled that these three SUNY Sullivan student-athletes have been awarded this incredible honor for 2022-23. They embody the true definition of a Sullivan General student-athlete.

– Chris DePew, SUNY Sullivan Director of Athletics & Recreation and Dean of Student Development Services



– IN MEMORIAM | DARIUS LEE '19 –

First Annual Darius Lee Memorial Classic

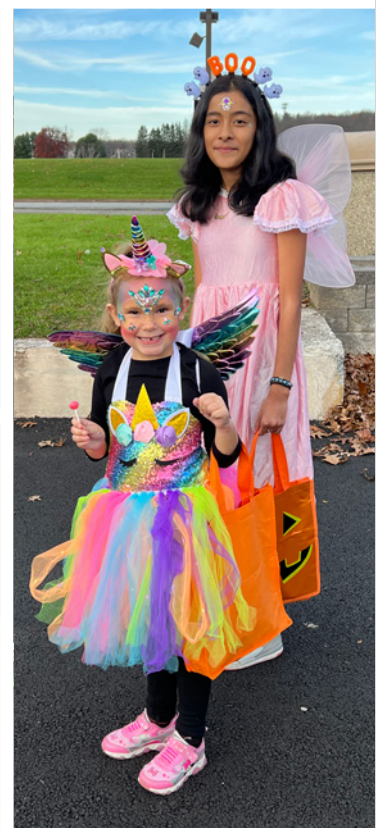


The first annual Darius Lee Memorial Classic honored Darius Lee '19, a former All-American player who tragically lost his life last June. A ceremony prior to the Generals' game against Community College of Morris, recognized Darius and his family.



We are excited to celebrate Darius and his family. His contributions to our program were immeasurable. He was a joy to coach and his tragic passing this summer was devastating. I am looking forward to spending some time with his mom (Taren), sister (Tiara) and extended family this weekend while we honor Darius.

– Brent Wilson, Generals Men's Head Coach



Annual Heart-A-Thon raises \$103,198 to support community efforts to combat heart disease

The 98.3 WSUL Annual Heart-A-Thon celebrated its 45th year with a 12-hour fund drive and live broadcast from Resorts World Catskills. With the theme “The Beat Goes On,” this year’s Heart-A-Thon rallied the community to raise an impressive \$103,198 to support the prevention, education, and treatment of heart disease in Sullivan County.

SUNY Sullivan is once again proud to be involved as a sponsor and funds recipient of the Heart-A-Thon. The College sponsored the heart cards, the proceeds from which will be donated to Sullivan County organizations dedicated to cardiovascular health. SUNY Sullivan is also one of the recipients of funds raised through the 98.3 WSUL Heart-A-Thon. Proceeds from this year’s drive will fund ten \$1,000 Building Sullivan’s Healthcare Workforce scholarships for students in the College’s Health Sciences programs.

“For 45 years Sullivan County has supported heart health through the Heart-A-Thon. SUNY Sullivan is proud to be a continuous supporter of this effort!” said former

SUNY Sullivan President Jay Quaintance. “By addressing prevention, education, and care, the 45th Heart-A-Thon is a milestone event. This year, a portion of the funds raised will help us to educate tomorrow’s heroes by providing scholarship money to ten students. Thank you!”

Proceeds from this year’s Heart-A-Thon will also benefit a treadmill for the Cardiac Rehab and some portable Cardiac Monitors, both for the Garnet Medical Center Catskills Campus; the Warrior Teens Program and an Outdoor Fitness Pad in Monticello with Sullivan 180, and Single Bite’s Real Food School Education Program.

With the help of hundreds of organizations, businesses and individuals throughout the Sullivan Catskills, the 98.3 WSUL Heart-A-Thon has raised over \$3 million toward the treatment of heart disease locally.

A big thank you to WSUL, Resorts World Catskills, and all of this year’s Heart-A-Thon sponsors and volunteers and to everyone in the community and all the students, faculty, and staff at the College who supported this year’s Heart-A-Thon.

Food Pantry and partners lead Thanksgiving food drive

Huge thank you to New Hope Community, Liberty Rotary Club, Episcopal Diocese of New York Campus Ministry, and The Delaware Catskill Episcopal Ministry for their gracious donations and to all the students, faculty and staff who supported SUNY Sullivan Food Pantry’s Thanksgiving food drive this season.

“We are so proud of and grateful to our community – both on campus and off – as they have come together to help us provide a full Thanksgiving meal to 41 students and staff, which in turn will feed 175 people in our community,” said Associate Dean of Student Engagement Deb Waller-Frederick. “Thanksgiving is all about spending time with family and friends. No one should have to worry about being able to provide a holiday meal during this special season. From the monetary donations, to the turkeys and hams and cans of yams, every donation has contributed toward this effort. When our clients come to retrieve their meals, their smiling faces and words of thanks make this all worthwhile.”



Community Trick-or-Treating on Campus

Big thank you and Happy Halloween to all the trick-or-treaters who turned out Friday for SUNY Sullivan’s 9th annual “Trick-or-Treating” community event, sponsored by SUNY Sullivan Admissions. So many great costumes! And thanks to all the students, staff, faculty, administration and board members for making Friday’s event possible.

A full Thanksgiving meal was provided to **175** people in our community

Diversity is our strength

SUNY Sullivan has been designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution. Through grant opportunities, we currently creating supportive services to assist Hispanic students in attaining their educational goals.

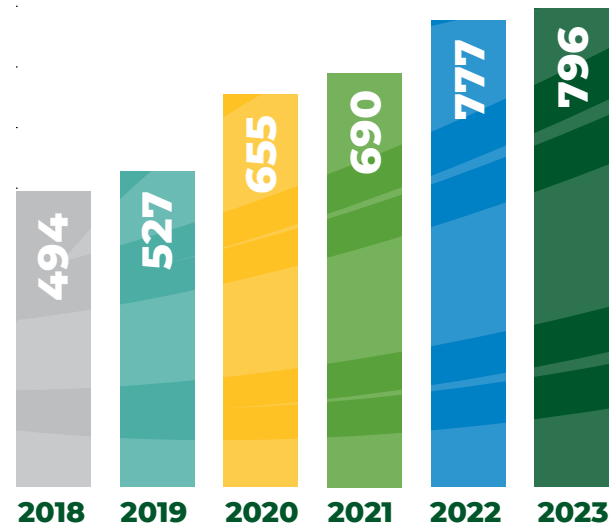
Diverse student body

46.87% White	27.01% Hispanics of any race	13.38% Black or African American
4.07% Race & Ethnicity unknown	3.97% Two or more races	2.25% Non-resident Alien
1.93% Asian	0.31% American Indian or Alaska Native	0.21% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander



SUNY Sullivan College in the high school enrollment

SUNY Sullivan's College in the High program has seen tremendous growth over the past six years. High Schools across provide college courses built specifically for adolescent learners so that students can finish high school having earned some college credits, helping to ease the transition into college. And since 2022, Fallsburg and Eldred high school students have had the opportunity to enroll in an early college pathway that will allow their students to pursue SUNY Sullivan's Liberal Arts: Humanities Associate of Arts degree to be completed at the same time they graduate high school. All courses are taught at the respective high schools by high school faculty and with a curriculum approved by the College.



IN MEMORANDUM

DR. RICHARD K. GREENFIELD

Founding President of Sullivan County Community College



1963 to 740 full-time students, 27 full-time faculty, 10 adjunct faculty, and six administrative and support staff members by the time he left.

In addition to his leadership in opening the College and overseeing its early growth, including the development of its hotel management program, Dr. Greenfield led efforts to develop academic requirements and curriculums for a permanent campus for the College and secured support from the Board of Trustees to appoint the famous architect Edward Durell Stone to design the College's campus in Loch Sheldrake.

"I remember our initial concern was to make the most out of the limited facility that we had, a vacant school building in South Fallsburg, which had to be renovated and renewed to make it ready within three months, because our first students were going to come in September 1963," Dr. Greenfield said in the 2006 interview. "Even now, I marvel over how we managed to spruce up the building, get furniture and equipment and have everything ready in such a short time."

In the same interview, Dr. Greenfield paid tribute to the founding members of the Board of Trustees, in particular his good friend Harold Gold, whom he called "an invaluable member of the board and a key member in the Sullivan County community."

According his obituary, Dr. Greenfield was also a professor and dean of faculty in history and social science at the New York City Community College in Brooklyn; founding president of Mercer County Community College in West Windsor, New Jersey; chancellor for St. Louis County Community College District; and executive director for the College Consortium of International Studies in New York City. He earned his undergraduate degree in American history from Cornell University and a Master's degree in American history and Ph.D. in Education from Columbia University. Dr. Greenfield was a World War II veteran, serving as a 2nd lieutenant in U.S. Army in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater.

The SUNY Sullivan community mourns the passing of Dr. Richard K. Greenfield, founding president of Sullivan County Community College. Dr. Greenfield was president of Sullivan County Community College from its opening 1963, in the former South Fallsburg High School, until 1966, when he left to become president of Mercer County Community College in New Jersey. Dr. Greenfield passed away August 7, 2022 in Boulder, Colorado.

According to a 2006 interview with Dr. Greenfield, the College grew from 78 full-time students, eight full-time faculty and a skeleton administrative staff when it opened in September



Photos from Sullivan County Community College's 1966 Gemini yearbook.



SUNY SULLIVAN

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ANNUAL REPORT

