

## SPRING OPEN HOUSE



FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE, SUNY

FIVE TOWNS COLLEGE

LIU/LEARN AMERICA

MANHATTAN COLLEGE

MOLLOY COLLEGE

ST. FRANCIS COLLEGE

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

SUFFOLK COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SUNY EMPIRE STATE COLLEGE

SUNY THE COLLEGE AT OLD WESTBURY

## The Two-Year Story: Best-Kept Secrets

Forty-five percent of the college students in the United States now attend two-year colleges. Okay, so that's not really such a big secret. But you might be surprised to learn just how much two-year colleges have to offer prospective students. Everybody knows that community colleges are less expensive than four-year schools. But there is much more to the two-year college story. Here's a look at some of the "best-kept secrets" of America's dynamic two-year schools.

### Top-Notch Instructors

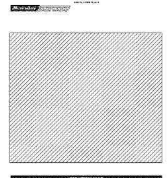
People who are concerned about the skyrocketing costs at four-year institutions may view the lower cost of going to their local community college as the main benefit. What they quickly discover when they enroll, is a consistent level of high-quality instruction.

"Community is the heart of community college," says Shaun L. McKay, Ed.D., president of **Suffolk County Community College**. "Community colleges have top-notch instructors who devote their time to teaching and to helping students achieve their goals. They thrive on direct contact with students and focus their energies on the classroom experience."

In fact, most community college faculty members have at least a master's degree, and many hold doctorates. Many also have real-life experiences in the fields in which they teach and tend to regard themselves as professional teachers rather than researchers.

### Small Classes

Two-year colleges come in all sizes, but a common denominator is a commitment to limiting class size. Small classes in community colleges mean a lower instructor-to-student



ratio. At Suffolk, average class size is about 23 students. Instructors know everyone's names, and they keep up with students personally. The smaller classes help students get more involved, and student involvement is shown to be an important factor in retention and degree completion.

### **Transfer Opportunities**

Community colleges are an excellent place to start if earning a four-year or graduate degree is the goal. For instance, Suffolk currently has articulation, joint admission and "two-plus-two" agreements with more than 34 institutions, including SUNY colleges, and private and out-of-state colleges and universities.

### **Full College Experience**

Community college students can participate in athletics, student government, student organizations, theatre activities, music performance groups and other activities. Suffolk has more than 90 student clubs and organizations, intercollegiate and intramural athletics, leadership development, theatre productions, musical performances, art exhibits, films, lectures and concerts.

### **Convenience and Flexibility**

With campuses in Brentwood, Selden and Riverhead – and downtown centers in Sayville and Riverhead – Suffolk makes it easy and convenient to achieve the future that you deserve. That's in addition to flexible scheduling options that give you the choice of classes in the early mornings, evenings, weekends or online.

