



SUNY OLD WESTBURY

# “IN THE NEWS”

JANUARY TO FEBRUARY 2016

Prepared by  
The Office of Public and Media Relations  
SUNY College at Old Westbury

## PRESIDENTS' FORUM

### SUNY Old Westbury Students Own Their Future

Students who attend SUNY Old Westbury discover quickly that our college is a place of big thinking, big ideas and big opportunities. Here, we speak with you about our big goal – to help you own your future.

In saying we help you to "Own Your Future," we mean that we are dedicated to creating an atmosphere where you can learn and grow to be the person you want to be. We prepare you for the career you want, but it's much more than that. Our faculty members work to help you think critically about the world around you and your role in it, so you can chart your own course to the successful life you want to lead. "Owning your future" also means having this important educational and growth experience without incurring significant debt, thanks to our affordable SUNY tuition.



Calvin O. Butts, III,  
D.Min., President

While we promote big ideas and big opportunities, our campus offers a small, close-knit community of 4,400 motivated students and more than 300 full- and part-time faculty members. Our small class atmosphere is a large part of what makes time spent at Old Westbury so valuable.

#### Dynamic Academic Programs

No matter the career path you hope to pursue – accountant, teacher, corporate leader, scientist, journalist, therapist or artist – Old Westbury's programs are geared to provide students with the strong foundation they need.

From education to psychology, communications to computer science, Old Westbury's more than 60 undergraduate and graduate majors are designed to provide the skills students need to achieve their career and personal goals. How strong are Old Westbury's programs? Our School of Education is one of only 50 in New York State to earn approval from the prestigious National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education. Our chemistry program holds accreditation from the American Chemical Society. And students of the accounting program in our School of Business have won the annual Long Island College Accounting Challenge every time they entered.

At the graduate level, Old Westbury offers 16 master's programs that are designed both for professionals seeking to advance in their fields and those seeking a new career. Our programs in Accounting, Adolescence Education, Liberal Studies, Mental Health Counseling, and Taxation are taught by members of the Old Westbury faculty and working professionals, providing an excellent mix of academic and real-world insight for students.

#### Putting the Liberal Arts to Work

Of course, Old Westbury is about more than career preparation and skills development. Yes, with a location convenient to both Long Island's commercial centers and metropolitan New York City, Old Westbury offers students an array of internship experiences at leading organizations like CBS News, Grant Thornton, Sony Music and more.

However, our commitment to the liberal arts keeps us focused on helping students become well-rounded, critical thinking members of society, which are the characteristics of true leaders no matter the era, issue or industry. Our goal is to provide the social, practical and analytical tools that enable you to become a pillar in your community and to flourish as part of an increasingly diverse, internationally savvy marketplace.

Put simply, SUNY Old Westbury's combination of challenging coursework, personal attention, community engagement and student activities create a very rich, productive educational environment – and one that is surprisingly affordable. If you have big ideas and dreams about what your future might hold, I invite you to learn more about how SUNY Old Westbury can help you own your future.

For more information, contact the Office of Enrollment Services at 516-876-3200 or visit [oldwestbury.edu](http://oldwestbury.edu).



SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher delivers her State of the University Address in Albany yesterday.

AP / MIKE GROLL

# \$18M for SUNY

- **Chancellor:** Grants to boost retention, completion
- **LI campuses** to share \$3.5M for student programs

BY CANDICE FERRETTE  
candice.ferrette@newsday.com

State University of New York Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher announced \$18 million in grants yesterday designed to boost student retention and completion rates at the public system's three Long Island campuses and 19 others statewide.

Stony Brook University, Farmingdale State College and the College at Old Westbury will share \$3.5 million for various initiatives aimed at keeping students on track to graduate sooner.

"College competition isn't just that degree framed on the wall but what that degree means," Zimpher said in her annual State of the University Address in Albany. "More than ever, they must stand for skills learned and knowledge acquired."

With nearly 460,000 enrolled undergraduate and grad-

uate students, the 64-campus SUNY system is among the largest in the nation. Zimpher pledged to increase the number of degrees from 93,000 to 150,000 by the year 2020.

In her sixth address as chancellor, Zimpher called for an extension of NYSUNY 2020, which allows for capped tuition increases, and talked about making cultural inclusion a top priority with the designation of chief diversity officers on each campus. Zimpher also spoke about the increased use of student data to identify at-risk students earlier so educators can intervene to help them academically and socially.

She also announced a partnership with the Business Council of New York to provide exclusive internships to SUNY students and graduates. She reiterated her campaign "Stand with SUNY," which

calls for more base funding at the individual campuses in Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo's state budget proposal, expected to be released tomorrow.

SUNY Board of Trustees in November sent an \$8.7 billion budget request for the 2016-17 academic year to Cuomo and the State Legislature. It includes \$1.5 billion to support its capital plans for educational facilities, community colleges, residence halls and hospitals; \$164 million in direct state tax support for base costs; and \$109 million in direct state tax investment for all SUNY institutions.

SUNY's board has also called for raising the investment and performance fund — from where the retention and competition grants are paid out — from \$18 million to \$50 million.

Lou Reinisch, dean of arts and sciences at Farmingdale State College, says the \$13 million for his school will launch a multifaceted approach aimed at retention called "Students First & Foremost" in the next few weeks.

At Farmingdale, where many of the students commute, jobs

and family obligations get in the way of their courses, he said.

The school has a freshman retention rate of 81 percent and a six-year graduation rate of 48 percent.

With more faculty mentoring, flexible and online course schedules, senior-year advising and 24/7 online tutoring, Reinisch said "I'm sure it will work."

The grant money, paid over five years, will be matched by the college's institutional funds allowing him to hire tutors and advisers for students, he said.

Stony Brook University will receive \$1.75 million to increase by 60 percent the four-year graduation rate for entering freshman by 2020. The College at Old Westbury will receive \$500,000 to support a digital campus, SUNY officials said.

"Chancellor Zimpher outlined several meaningful initiatives and programs that will have a positive impact on Stony Brook University students, and we are grateful for her vision and fortitude," said Stony Brook University president Samuel L. Stanley Jr.



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# Long Island Business NEWS

FEBRUARY 19-25, 2016 | VOL. 63 | NO. 8 | \$2.00 | LIBN.COM

## Four LI state schools get funds to boost graduation rates

Byline: Claude Solnik

The State University of New York system has awarded \$18 million to 22 SUNY schools including a little more than \$4.5 million to four on Long Island.

The system hopes to boost the number of degrees awarded annually to 150,000 by using “evidence-based programs. ”

The money comes from the Investment and Performance Fund created last year to provide money for programs designed to increase and speed graduation.

“Whether it’s working with area high schools to get students ready for college, supporting students at risk of falling behind, or providing an applied learning opportunity to ensure career success, SUNY is committed to improving student outcomes at every stage,” SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher said.

Stony Brook University will receive \$1.75 million, the biggest grant on Long Island, to fund programs to boost its four-year graduation rate for freshman by 60 percent by 2020.

Farmingdale State College will receive \$1.3 million to launch “Students First & Foremost,” a program designed to accelerate student success rates through tutoring, mentoring, advising and other tools.

SUNY Old Westbury will receive \$500,000 to support help develop a digital curriculum and otherwise use the Web as a learning space.

Downstate Medical Center and Nassau Community College will receive \$375,000 to create a joint Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.

Stony Brook University, SUNY Albany, SUNY Binghamton and SUNY Buffalo also will receive \$250,000 each to develop a system for student assessments and increase completion of undergraduate courses.

SUNY received 211 proposals for help from the fund, which has grown to \$100 million. The system plans to announce additional awards in upcoming months.

<http://www.libn.com/be-the-first-to-know/> Click here for more from this resource.

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# Newsday

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White Candlelight Ball," will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Trailblazer honorees will be Monique Nelson, chairwoman and CEO of UniWorld Group Inc., a multicultural advertising agency; Dr. Dara Richardson-Heron, CEO of YWCA-USA; and Elinor Tatum, publisher and editor-in-chief of the New York Amsterdam News.

Alisha Laventure, weekend anchor and reporter, News 12 Long Island, will emcee the event.

"The event will also feature a tribute to two unsung 'sheroes,' Marian Johnson of Nassau County and Sandra Hawkins Thomas of Suffolk County, for their commitment to their respective communities," a news release about the event said.

It also said that the ball is "the organization's signature event, which recognizes outstanding African Americans and

has raised more than \$150,000 in scholarship dollars for college-bound women of African descent."

For additional event information, sponsorship opportunities and/or to RSVP, send an email to [info@li100bw.com](mailto:info@li100bw.com).

—SID CASSESE

## MELVILLE Autism center to host conference Jan. 29

The Regional Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders at SUNY Old Westbury is holding its third annual conference this month in Melville, bringing the latest techniques for dealing with behavioral issues to Long Island families, educators and experts.

The "Teaching to Successful Outcomes" conference will be held 7:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m., Friday,

Jan. 29, at the Melville Marriott, 1350 Old Walt Whitman Rd. Last year's conference drew about 150 attendees.

The event will cover various topics for working with children on the spectrum, including how to deal with challenging behaviors, increasing verbal interaction, and the transition to adulthood.

The conference is billed as broadly accessible, with information appropriate for families, as well as research and strategies applicable to experts and educators working in the field, said Sanja Cale, director of the center and associate professor in SUNY Old Westbury's School of Education.

It's designed "to be relevant for all attendees regardless of whether the subject is applicable at home or at work," Cale said in an email.

For the first time the event

will offer a presentation in Spanish, which will help non-English-speaking parents learn how to navigate New York's special education system and advocate for their children's rights.

The Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders was founded in 2013 to connect the latest research with current practices in caring for people and children with autism. It's the only state-university-affiliated autism resource center on Long Island.

The center is funded by the state Education Department, which allows it to provide free, individualized workshops on autism spectrum disorder to school districts, churches, libraries and other community organizations, Cale said.

The conference is \$60, and more information is available at [owautism.com](http://owautism.com).

—VALERIE BAUMAN



## SUNY Old Westbury Autism Spectrum Conference

FEBRUARY 8, 2016

Disclosure: I was invited to this informative conference and my entrance ticket was covered. This is a topic that is already highly discussed here on MommyTeaches therefore, all opinions are 100% my own.

I was elated when I received an invitation to attend the SUNY Old Westbury Conference Teaching To Successful Outcomes: A Conference on Supporting Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder. The Regional Center For Autism Spectrum disorder, the only one in downstate, hosted its annual conference for parents, educators, school personnel and family members which provides the latest information on evidence-based supports for children with autism spectrum disorders in the home, school and community. I was even more overjoyed when I was told that MommyTeaches was discovered by a group of students. It made me feel so happy to know that others can use what I write as a resource. This was the main reason why I created this platform. I try to help as many as I can as I learn along the way.

This conference was right up my alley because my oldest son is diagnosed with both ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder) and ADHD. It's been a rough road but honestly I don't remember having conferences like these about ten years ago. A lot of what I have learned has been through observing him, when I was the Director of his day care, as well as talking with his teachers and doing my own research. I loved that the conference was complete with a variety of people; parents, educators, family members and the list goes on. I learned so much on January 29th and I, of course, just had to share.

The first speaker was Dr. Jed Baker presenting: All Students Can Succeed: Effective Interventions For Challenging Behaviors, Frustration and Anxiety. Dr. Baker discussed a lot of what happened in my household. Honestly, my husband's parenting style is different from mine. I am teaching him that he has to manage his own emotions because he can make or break the situation presented by our son. He credits my "on point" parenting style and skills to my background and degrees in education but I am not so sure as I have seen some pretty upsetting situations with educators. Dr. Baker continued to stress that we have to "understand" our students and children. I loved this statement that he shared, "Sometimes when you escalate the discipline you escalate the problem," and he is so right. There are times that I have to just pick and choose my battles with my son.

Dr. Baker shared a piece from *The Super Nanny* and we discussed all the things that were wrong with that episode. He reminded us that we have to ask ourselves, "Why is it happening?" He shared a ton of books with us to assist us with our parenting during difficult times with children diagnosed with ASD. He verified what I always knew, "No kid is bad." Instead of doing what many of us do, placing them in time-out, he reminded us to "teach and model to our children what that appropriate behavior looks like." He placed a lot of parents at ease drilling into them that it's not their fault and never to care about what anyone thinks. I have been there so it was great to hear this from him. I will share some more of my takeaways in a periscope in the coming weeks because there is just such a wealth of information.

The second panel I attended was based on *Social Skills Training For Youth With Autism* by Bonnie Schwartz and PEERS. PEERS was largely based upon the Children's Friendship Training program developed at UCLA. It's an empirically supported treatment and parent facilitated intervention. It's a 14-16 week small group format and parents and their children attend group meetings simultaneously. The groups are based upon the principles of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT). Tons of videos and role plays are used by group leaders but they also do perspective taking questions, behavioral rehearsals and practice, prompting, facilitation, feedback homework assignments, as well as parent instruction and involvement.

The final panel that I attended was of Dr. Julio Gonzalez, PhD in which he discusses *Navegando el System de education Especial-Guia Practica para Familias/Navigating the special education system guided practice for families*. We were able to speak very closely about what we thought were the gaps with our Latino children. We know that the language barrier is huge but we also know that many Latino families fear the label and are in denial when it comes to an ASD diagnosis. I suffered from this with my own family. Several times I was told, "stop being an educator and just be a parent" or the good ole', "he's a boy he will grow out if it! You just spoil him too much!" I took matters into my own hands and chose to educate myself. Of course it was an added bonus that I have a Master's Degree in Education from New York University but I am still learning as I go. The public school system still has a tremendous amount of gaps and not enough services for our children. I have witnessed these deficiencies in the school system with my own two eyes as both a teacher and as a parent of a child on the Spectrum. Unfortunately, I still face them. We, as parents, need to remember that we are our child's first and true advocate and I think the conference at SUNY Old Westbury really does a great job reminding us of this.

I hope to attend many more conferences focused around Autism Spectrum Disorder. I am always learning and I love to share with you, my readers. I hope you found my coverage on Twitter, Instagram and in this post informative. You can always count on me and know that what I know, you know!

Let's share: Do you feel there is enough information on Autism Spectrum Disorder for parents?

## TOP STORIES

# STUDENTS TOLD TO EYE THE PRIZE

### Education official encourages: Plan for college early

BY JOIE TYRRELL  
joie.tyrrell@newsday.com

A White House official charged with expanding higher education opportunities for minority students offered these lessons yesterday to Roosevelt High School teens: It's never too early to plan for college; and it's up to you to achieve your goals.

"Don't wait until you get to your senior year to figure out how to get into the college you want to get into," advised Khalilah M. Harris, a Brooklyn native who is deputy director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for African Americans.

"Don't wait on the adults to come and hold your hand to get there," she said. "You have to be proactive."

During the candid forum, Harris shared practical tips, such as how to access federal financial aid forms, but also spoke to the personal aspirations of students.

In asking teens about their career goals, some said they want to be a doctor, police officer or journalist.

Chukwuma Ukwu, an 18-year-old senior, said he



Khalilah M. Harris, right, deputy director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for African Americans, speaks to students at Roosevelt High School yesterday.

wanted to be a presidential candidate. He appreciated Harris' "words of wisdom" encouraging his goal of going to college.

Harris is on Long Island for a teen summit at Adelphi University today, organized by the Nassau County chapter of Jack and Jill of America Inc., a nonprofit

that encourages philanthropic awareness in children. The group helped organize Harris' talk in Roosevelt.

The White House initiative was launched by President Barack Obama in 2012 to address the lack of equal access to high-quality education for

African-American students. The goal is to identify practices to improve student achievement and develop a national network to share techniques.

Roosevelt schools have made efforts to boost college readiness in one of Long Island's poorest areas. The district par-

ticipates in the national Smart Scholars program that helps students obtain free college credit and tutoring while in high school. Roosevelt's students have partnered with SUNY Old Westbury.

Roosevelt High seniors attend an October ceremony where they commit not only to graduating but applying to a four-year college.

Harris also detailed two of first lady Michelle Obama's education outreach efforts: the Reach Higher initiative and the Better Make Room public-awareness campaign. The initiative aims to inspire every student in America to continue their education past high school. The campaign, targeting teens ages 14-19, reaches students through social media.

Part of the efforts call for a sign-in rally day for seniors who have been accepted by a college, Harris said. Roosevelt officials agreed to host such a rally in the spring.

Harris emphasized that students do not need to be accepted to an Ivy League school for validation. She graduated from Morgan State University in Baltimore and earned a law degree from the University of Maryland.

Instead, she encouraged Roosevelt students to make the most of their college experience.

"Harvard does not make you brilliant," she said.

HOWARD SCHNAPP

# ROOSEVELT SCHOOL MAKES

Taken off the state's 'struggling' list, district on track to be in 'good standing'

BY JOE TYRRELL  
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Roosevelt Middle School is being taken off the state Education Department's list of "struggling" schools and will shed its receivership status by June 30, officials said this week.

That means all five of the district's schools will be in "good standing" with the state, a designation that administrators in the 3,224-student system said it has not enjoyed in decades. Roosevelt was under state control from 2002 to 2013, the only public school district in New York history to be taken over.

Roosevelt educators were ecstatic at the development. "We are very excited and this is very good news," interim Superintendent Marnie Hazelton said. "This is just the beginning of our journey."

She credited "the hard work of the staff and the community," saying teachers and other employees pulled 12- to 14-hour days and worked on weekends to bring up stan-

dards. The middle school had to satisfy certain criteria in an improvement plan it was required to submit to the Education Department.

Officials confirmed the middle school will be removed from receivership and the entire district is in good standing. In addition, officials confirmed that none of Roosevelt's five schools will be listed as "priority" or "focus" schools when the agency releases its accountability list, which is expected today.

Roosevelt Middle School, with 423 students in the seventh and eighth grades, was one of four schools on Long Island designated as "struggling" in July under the new state receivership law adopted in April. The others were Ralph G. Reed Middle School in Central Islip, Alberta B. Gray Schultz Middle School in Hempstead and Milton L. Olive Middle School in Wyandanch.

Officials wouldn't say whether any of the other middle schools would be removed



Interim Superintendent Marnie Hazelton, left, with Natesha McVea, Roosevelt Middle School principal.

from the list.

In working to right the middle school's performance, Principal Natesha McVea said educators focused on its culture and structure. McVea has been principal for three years, since the district emerged from state control.

"We took a look at school culture and made it a point to make sure that what we did was

student-focused," she said, adding that the staff took a "team approach" to bolster instructional support in four core areas — English, math, social studies and science. They targeted specific student needs and took advantage of partnerships the district has developed with community-based organizations and local universities, such as The College at Old

Westbury. For Roosevelt, the ability to satisfy the improvement requirements carries special meaning. During the years of state control, authorities in Albany named the district's top administrators and approved its budgets.

The receivership law was the state's first major attempt to intervene in local school manage-

# THE GRADE

ment since the Roosevelt takeover. The middle school was one of 144 schools statewide placed under receivership.

Under the law, such schools are put under control of superintendents or other managers with special administrative powers. At least temporarily, superintendents have the same clout that a receiver later brought in from the outside would wield.

By the state's definition, schools identified as "struggling" had fallen short of standards for three consecutive years. They are given two years to show improvement under their superintendents before further management steps are taken. Schools that do not demonstrate improvements in test scores and other criteria could be turned over to an outside manager.

One school on the island, Hempstead High School, was designated "persistently struggling," a more severe category. That meant it had failed to meet state and federal standards for at least a decade, "persistently struggling"

schools have one year to show progress under local superin-

tendents before being turned over to outside managers.

Educators in Roosevelt succeeded in keeping Roosevelt High School from being placed in receivership in July, after Education Department officials were convinced by improvements in the graduation rate over the previous four years. That boosted the status of a school that had languished on state rosters of failing schools for more than 20 years.

Hazelton, who first came to the district in 1996, said she could not recall a time when all Roosevelt schools were held in good standing by the Education Department.

Over the years, individual Roosevelt schools have been given "priority" status on the state's accountability lists — meaning that they rank within the bottom 5 percent academically of all schools statewide. An older system labeled districts and schools as "in need of improvement."

"It was one school came off and another came on," Hazelton said. "But now this news puts us in a better position to take the district to the next level."

MANGANO POLICE SAY REPORT OF SEXTING WAS 'A HOAX' A2-3

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# Newsday

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# Liberal arts colleges where students are eager to enroll



U.S. News & World Report

Kelly Mae Ross  
1/25/2016

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© AlbertHerring/Wikimedia Commons National Liberal Arts Colleges are schools that place an emphasis on undergraduate education and award at least 50 percent of their degrees in the liberal arts.

While college officials can control which applicants they admit to their campuses, they can't know for sure who will ultimately choose to enroll. Even well-known and highly ranked schools, such as Williams College in Massachusetts, may find that less than half of accepted students start taking classes.

The percentage of applicants accepted by a school who end up enrolling at that institution in a given year is known as yield. More in-demand schools have higher yields, while those with lower yields may not have been students' first-choice institutions.

Of the 221 National Liberal Arts Colleges that provided fall 2014 yield data to U.S. News, three U.S. service academies reported the highest numbers. The United States Naval Academy enrolled 85.2 percent of accepted students in fall 2014, followed by the United States Military Academy, which had a yield of 84.6 percent, and the United States Air Force Academy, where 80.5 percent of accepted students chose to attend.

National Liberal Arts Colleges are schools that place an emphasis on undergraduate education and award at least 50 percent of their degrees in the liberal arts. The average yield among all of the schools in this category that provided data was 28 percent, lower than the 33.6 percent average yield for research-oriented National Universities for the same year.

At Williams, the top-ranked National Liberal Arts College in the 2016 U.S. News Best Colleges rankings, 44.8 percent of the 1,220 students accepted for fall 2014 studies chose to enroll.

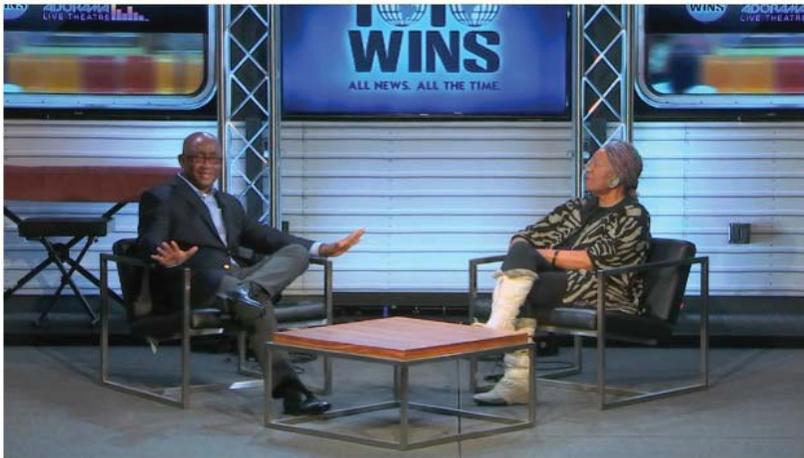
Below are the fall 2014 yield rates for every National Liberal Arts College that reported data to U.S. News. The rate can be affected by a school's early decision or early action options, as some of those programs bind students to attend if accepted. The data reflect first-time, first-year, degree-seeking students only.

Virginia Wesleyan College	1,845	406	22%
Lyon College (AR)	1,199	262	21.9%
Lake Forest College (IL)	1,905	416	21.8%
Kalamazoo College (MI)	1,648	357	21.7%
Austin College (TX)	1,652	357	21.6%
Centre College (KY)	1,785	386	21.6%
Earlham College (IN)	1,291	276	21.4%
Occidental College (CA)	2,552	546	21.4%
SUNY College—Old Westbury	2,176	463	21.3%
Alma College (MI)	1,683	356	21.2%
Central College (IA)	2,024	429	21.2%
Ripon College (WI)	1,007	211	21%
Doane College (NE)	1,291	268	20.8%
Hiram College (OH)	1,326	274	20.7%
Castleton State College (VT)	1,868	382	20.4%
Monmouth College (IL)	1,969	396	20.1%

## Black History Month One-On-One: Marcia Ann Gillespie

February 22, 2016 8:32 AM

Filed Under: [Black History Month](#), [George Jones](#), [Larry Mullins](#), [Marcia Ann Gillespie](#)



*Anchored By 1010 WINS' Larry Mullins  
Produced for 1010 WINS Radio by Sharon Barnes-Waters*

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Black History Month honoree Marcia Ann Gillespie is a trailblazer in the magazine industry and a leader in the women’s movement.

But the former Editor-In-Chief of Essence and Ms. magazines said her rise among national magazine editors was no easy page turn.

“So much of that success was really a reflection of how hungry we were to see ourselves,” Gillespie told 1010 WINS’ Larry Mullins.

More: [Black History Month Photo Gallery](#) | [Larry’s Blog: Marcia Ann Gillespie](#)

She said as a 26-year-old black woman, the stakes were high. She recalled what one of her aunts told her when she first took over Essence.

“You know baby, this is just a one cup of coffee magazine. You’ve got to make this at least last for two cups,” Gillespie said.

And she did, making Essence one of the most powerful and influential women’s magazines of our time.

“We were in a struggle and it was incumbent upon me as a black woman to be engaged in that struggle for the betterment of our people,” she said.

Under Gillespie, Essence became known for its award-winning think pieces, writing about issues facing African-American women.

“Black women deserved to have a magazine they felt proud of,” she said.

And this coming from a girl who was told by a counselor at her mostly white school to forget about college and apply to a secretary school.

“I got a great high school education, let me be very clear,” she said. “But it was also an education about race.”

Gillespie now teaches others how to follow in her successful footsteps at SUNY Old Westbury on Long Island.

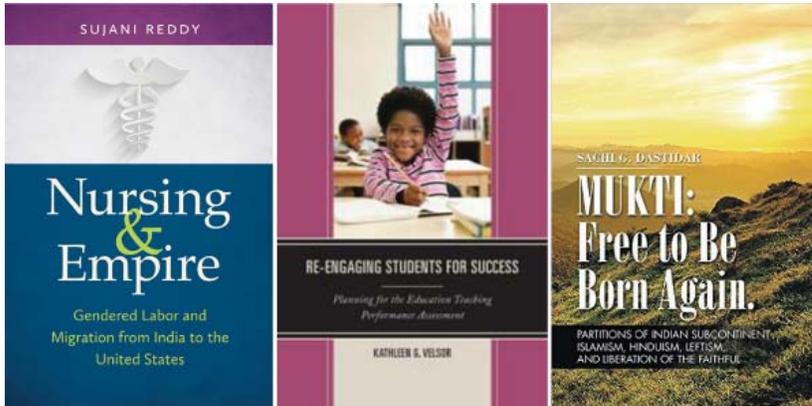
“I was born and raised in Rockville Centre, so it’s like going back to the roots,” she said.

She’s also continuing her work empowering all women when it comes to breaking through the glass ceiling.

“That you know, it is important to raise the roof but it means nothing if we don’t lift the floor,” she said.



## THREE SUNY OLD WESTBURY PROFESSORS PUBLISH RECENT STUDIES, BOOKS



SUNY Old Westbury is announcing three recent publications from their full-time faculty:

Dr. Sujani Reddy, associate professor of American Studies, recently authored the interdisciplinary study: “Nursing and Empire: Gendered Labor and Migration from India to the United States.” Published by The University of North Carolina Press, the 290-page book examines the lives of female Indian nurses, their migration to the United States during the Cold War, and the contexts of empire, familial relations, race and gender. Culminating years of extensive archival research and interviews, Reddy illustrates the compelling story of gender and labor history in the personal and working lives of the professional Indian women.

SUNY Old Westbury is announcing three recent publications from their full-time faculty: Dr. Sujani Reddy, Dr. Kathleen Velsor, and Dr. Sachi Dastidar. Photo Credit: SUNY Old Westbury.

Planning for the Education Teaching Performance Assessment,” a guidebook to assist students nationwide pass the new Education Teaching Performance Assessment (edTPA). The 101-page book published by Rowman & Littlefield, is designed to assist elementary teacher candidates with an educational methodology to pass the exam, which was implemented in 2014 by New York.

Dr. Sachi Dastidar, distinguished service professor in Politics, Economics and Law has published the autobiographical nonfiction work “Mukti: Free to Be Born Again – Partitions of Indian Subcontinent, Islamism, Hinduism, Leftism and Liberation of the Faithful.” The 684-page book, published by AuthorHouse, examines the history of Muslim-majority Bangladesh and Hindu-majority West Bengal/India in post-1947 Partition of India.

### About the College

SUNY Old Westbury is a selective public liberal arts college with more than 4,500 students studying in more than 40 undergraduate degree opportunities in its liberal arts and professional programs and 16 graduate programs in business, education liberal studies and mental health counseling. On the College’s 604-acre campus, students are challenged to take ownership of their futures through an environment that demands academic excellence, fosters intercultural understanding, and endeavors to stimulate a passion for learning and a commitment to building a more just and sustainable world. For more information on SUNY Old Westbury, visit [www.oldwestbury.edu](http://www.oldwestbury.edu).

## **Grossman Appointed to CHDC Board**



Karl Grossman of Noyac has been appointed to the board of directors of the Suffolk Center on the Holocaust, Diversity and Human Understanding. The organization is sponsored by Suffolk County Community College to promote cultural understanding and respect for human dignity, and to encourage human rights awareness and foster the values of respect and diversity. Its activities include providing a collection of artifacts, memoirs, documents and photographs on the Holocaust and an exhibit on slavery on Long Island and enslaved people that offers visitors the opportunity to contemplate the dignity and sanctity of life, and to recognize and respect each person as a unique individual entitled to freedom and human rights. The college's trustees approved the appointment of Mr. Grossman to the CHDU board last month. He is a journalist and full professor of journalism at the State University of New York/College at Old Westbury.

## The Black Vote: African-Americans See Their Influence Grow In Politics

Posted on February 19, 2016 BY DOMENICK RAFTER

U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders dines with Rev. Al Sharpton in Harlem, while campaigning with rapper Killer Mike and academic Cornel West and running ads featuring Eric Garner's daughter. Meanwhile, his opponent for the Democratic nomination for President, Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton speaks to voters in Harlem this week, promising to end racial inequality if she gets the keys to the Oval Office.

The message is clear, African-American voters are vital for either's victory.

In the 2008 Democratic primary, the focus on black voters was front and center. Both Sen. Hillary Clinton and Sen. Barack Obama were popular with black voters, but as a bloc, they turned toward Obama after his victory in the Iowa Caucuses. Obama's lead with Black voters were key to his victories in the South Carolina primary, where a majority of registered Democrats are African-American, and in later states such as Virginia, North Carolina, Missouri and Georgia.

### "The Black Vote"

Since the 2008 Democratic Presidential primaries, the focus on "the Black vote," especially in Democratic primaries, has been front and center.

The appearance of Dante de Blasio, and his trademark afro, in his father's campaign ads in 2013 is widely credited with allowing de Blasio to break into a key demographic who, up to that point, was largely uncommitted. Dante's appearance, where he spoke of his father's promise to curtail stop and frisk, helped connect the candidate, who at the time was polling fourth, with the Black community.

Though he and fellow candidate Bill Thompson, who is Black, tied with African-American voters, that demographic helped de Blasio secure the Democratic nomination. In November, de Blasio won the mayor's race in a landslide, buoyed by taking 96 percent of Black voters.

By comparison, Thompson, in his 2009 run for mayor, where he lost to Mike Bloomberg by 5 points, took only 76 percent of Black voters.

In 2014, Gov. Andrew Cuomo fended off a primary challenge from Fordham professor Zephyr Teachout, who defeated him in many upstate counties, but lost Queens in a landslide. Cuomo's strongest areas in that race were Black communities, including Southeast Queens, when he won over 75 percent of the vote.

"I think our influence is certainly growing," said former Councilman Archie Spigner, a Democratic leader from Southeast Queens. "I definitely believe that."

### Moving Up The Ranks

Spigner credited Black politicians "moving up the rank" and gaining influence and power as a major reason the Black vote has grown in importance.

"As we grow in seniority in the various political bodies that we're in, that's most important," he said.

Indeed, besides President Obama himself, African-Americans hold a number of high ranking positions across the country: two U.S. Senators – one Democrat and one Republican – four federal Cabinet jobs; several high ranking members of Congress. In New York, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie (D-Bronx) is the first African-American Speaker of the State Assembly.

"We have quality politicians representing our area," Spigner explained.

U.S. Rep. Greg Meeks (D-Jamaica) is a high ranking member of the Foreign Affairs and Financial Services committees in Congress. His role makes him a key figure in financial issues, including Wall Street regulations, and on foreign issues, where he has often traveled abroad on diplomacy trips.

As the Ranking Member of the United States House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia and Emerging Threats, Meeks is a key figure in Congressional debates over sanctions against Russia and Congress' policy toward Ukraine and other former Soviet Republics.



*Democratic Presidential Candidate and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton with Rev. Al Sharpton and other Black leaders in Harlem this week.*

*Photo Courtesy Hillary for America/flickr - See more at: <http://queenspress.com/the-black-vote-african-americans-see-their-influ->*

### Catching The Eye Of The GOP

In 2012, a young Haitian-American woman stepped onto the stage at the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla. As a candidate for Congress, she was an unlikely choice for a prime speaker spot, but she had a message: Dump Obama and embrace conservatism.

That woman was Mia Love, the 36-year old Mayor of Saratoga Springs, Utah and a candidate for Utah's Fourth Congressional District. Though she lost her race narrowly in 2012, in 2014, she became the first Black woman elected to Congress as a Republican.

Indeed, the party of Donald Trump has noticed the importance of black voters, even if their campaigns don't seem to be appealing to them in terms of policies. In 2004, George W. Bush focused a socially conservative agenda on Black communities, especially in places such as Ohio, and received the highest percentage of Black voters among Republicans since Ronald Reagan. Recently, the Republican governors of Maryland, Kentucky and Florida each chose African-American running mates. South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley named a Black Republican, Tim Scott, to represent the state in the U.S. Senate in 2013. The party itself named Michael Steele, the former Lieutenant Governor of Maryland, as its chairman for several years starting in 2009.

But it was Steele who, in 2015 said he believed the Republican Party didn't want to win Black voters.

"It's just I don't see the viability. It's hard to go to a Black audience and say legitimately we want you when everything we do says we don't," he said in an NBC interview.

### Struggles Ahead

In the case *Shelby County v. Holder*, the United States Supreme Court ruled in a 5 to 4 decision that two sections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 were unconstitutional.

In the majority decision, Chief Justice John Roberts said the law made great strides in giving African-Americans fair representation, but essentially ruled it that the sections of the law that were deemed unconstitutional – Section 4b and Section 5, which required the U.S. Department of Justice to "pre clear" changes to voting laws in certain jurisdictions, notably in the South, where Jim Crow laws were still in effect to keep Blacks from voting.

"Regardless of how to look at the record no one can fairly say that it shows anything approaching the 'pervasive,' 'flagrant,' 'widespread,' and 'rampant' discrimination that faced Congress in 1965, and that clearly distinguished the covered jurisdictions from the rest of the nation," Roberts wrote in his opinion.

But some fear that Roberts is too optimistic and that the ruling was a first step in chipping away of voting rights for Blacks just as the demographic became nationally influential in elections.

For years after slavery, the Black vote was marginalized. Much of this changed during the Civil Rights Movement and the LBJ era," explained Aubrey Bonnett, professor emeritus at SUNY Old Westbury. "Recently however these gains are being challenged by Supreme Court decisions. The Black vote and that of other progressives will be important in reversing these negative trends."

Indeed, Democrats and some Republican candidates, especially in urban areas, have been backing stronger voting rights laws to roll back the *Shelby County v. Holder* decision in their campaigns.

- See more at: <http://queenspress.com/the-black-vote-african-americans-see-their-influence-grow-in-politics/#sthash.ei5PSXw.dpuf>



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# Black History Month

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**ONGOING**  
**BRENTWOOD**  
**BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION**  
Students from the Brentwood School Registrar display their artwork during regular library hours, Feb. 1-25, Brentwood Library, 34 Second Ave., 631-273-7883, brentwoodlibrary.org

**ART DISPLAY**  
Highlighting the legacy of civil rights activists Harriet Tubman and Julian Bond, incorporates books, photos and African artifacts from the collection of resident and library board president Frances Bell, viewable during regular library hours, Feb. 1-29, Bay Shore-Brightwaters Library, 1 South Country Rd., free, 631-665-4550, bswliblibrary.org

**DIX HILLS**  
**BLACK VOICES**  
Works in a multitude of styles and mediums by African-American artists of Long Island, 11 am-4 pm, Saturday-Sunday, 9 am-9 pm, Monday-Friday, 10 am-4 pm, of Frida Kahlo through Feb. 21, Art Institute of Long Island, 107 E. Deer Park Rd., free, 631-462-5400, artinstituteoflongisland.org

**AFRICA: SUB-SAHARAN DIVERSITY**  
Museum exhibition exemplifying the diversity of cultures across West and Central Africa, themes of protection, prestige, and masquerade are illustrated through masks, weapons, sculptures, textiles and jewelry from 25 ethnic cultures, noon-4 pm, Saturday-Sunday, 10 am-4 pm, Tuesday-Friday, through Aug. 12, Hickstra University Museum: Emily Lowe Gallery, Hempstead Turnpike, free, 516-403-5692, hickstra.edu/museum

**STATEN ISLAND EXHIBIT**  
The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation hosts a cultural art display featuring paintings from Black artists, posters, newspaper clippings and prints on display Feb. 1-29, 10 am-4 pm, Monday-Friday, Long Island Parks Regional Headquarters lobby, Bay Beach State Park-Feld 4, Central Mall, 8:30 am-4:30 pm, daily, Jones Quogue-River State Park administration building, Kings Park, 11 am-4 pm, Sunday-Thursday, Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park

**FRIDAY**  
**FRIDAY**  
An African-American family struggled to survive in a time of racial terror, based on a play by Loraine Hansberry, (1963), not rated, 2:08, drama starring Sidney Poitier, Adelphi University Performing Arts Center, 1 South Ave., 516-871-4000, aipaac@adelphi.edu

**WEDNESDAY**  
**BRENTWOOD**  
**READING**  
Library staff will read "The Good Lord Bird," the story of a young boy who was born a slave and joins abolitionist John Brown's antislavery crusade and must pass as a girl to survive, 7 pm, 34 Second Ave., Brentwood Library, 631-273-7883, brentwoodlibrary.org

**THURSDAY**  
**PATCHOGUE**  
**HISTORY OF HIP HOP**  
Presented by guest speaker Kane Smego, an international spoken word poet, hip-hop artist, cultural diplomat and educator, 1-2 pm, MC Carin

**FRIDAY**  
**BRENTWOOD**  
**SOUL FOOD**  
Learn how to make a soulful batch of green onion and cheddar bread, bring a large and medium bowl, a rolling pin and a 10-inch x 14-inch baking sheet, 1:30 pm, Brentwood Library, 34 Second Ave., free, 631-273-7883, brentwoodlibrary.org

**SATURDAY**  
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Learn how to make a soulful batch of green onion and cheddar bread, bring a large and medium bowl, a rolling pin and a 10-inch x 14-inch baking sheet, 1:30 pm, Brentwood Library, 34 Second Ave., free, 631-273-7883, brentwoodlibrary.org

**SUNDAY**  
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Ruby Dee and Sidney Poitier in "A Raisin in the Sun," to be shown at Adelphi University on Tuesday.

and Lucie Armstrong will be highlighted, 12:30 pm, Central Islip Library, 700 Highway 116, free, 516-584-5280, ahrentliblibrary.org

**FILM: 'WOODLAWN'**  
A gifted high school football player must learn to embrace his talent and his faith while battling racial tensions (2015), rated PG, 2:03, drama starring Caleb Casille, Sean Astin and Jon Voight, 7 pm, South Huntington Library, 145 Palgoun Hill Rd., free, 631-569-4471, a3plinfo

**SATURDAY**  
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Learn how to make a soulful batch of green onion and cheddar bread, bring a large and medium bowl, a rolling pin and a 10-inch x 14-inch baking sheet, 1:30 pm, Brentwood Library, 34 Second Ave., free, 631-273-7883, brentwoodlibrary.org

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**LEARN TO MAKE GREEN ONION AND CHEDDAR COMBREAD AT A COOKING SESSION AT THE BRENTWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY ON FRIDAY.**

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**WESTBURY**  
**RUNNING SCARED, RUNNING FREE: ESCAPE TO THE PROMISED LAND**  
Theatrical performance depicting the role that Long Island's Native Americans played in the Underground Railroad, 2:30 pm, Westbury Library, 445 Jefferson St., free, 516-333-0716, westburylibrary.org

**HUNTINGTON**  
**ANYTHING BUT SILENT**  
Screening of the near-released "Lines Kin Club Field Day" (1913), thought to be the oldest surviving feature film with an African-American cast discovered in the Museum of Modern Art's collection and restored, followed by guest speakers from the museum, starring Bert Williams, 7:30 pm, Cinema Arts Centre, 423 Park Ave., \$15, 631-423-7611, cinemaartscentre.org

**BRENTWOOD**  
**CONCERT**  
Reading of "The Patchwork Path" by Bethy Stroud, a story about the Underground Railroad, set to show on the Underground Railroad, messages make a freedom quilt containing your own secret message, for ages 7-10, 7-8 pm, Brentwood Library, 34 Second Ave., free, register, 631-273-7883, brentwoodlibrary.org

**HUNTINGTON**  
**LIVE MUSIC: PAIGE PATTERSON**  
Performance of songs from the sound of the Harlem Renaissance, a movement that spanned the 1920s, 8:30 pm, Cinema Arts Centre, 423 Park Ave., \$15, 631-423-7611, cinemaartscentre.org

**AFRICAN CULTURAL EXPERIENCE**  
An interactive storytelling, music and dance performance, presented by The Uganda

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On Tuesday, Kathleen Volsor will speak on the Underground Railroad on Long Island.

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 114th Congress, 2nd Session  
 Issue: Vol. 162, No. 26 — Daily Edition

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RECOGNIZING LIFELONG EDUCATOR DR. AUBREY W. BONNETT

**HON. KATHLEEN M. RICE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 12, 2016*

Miss RICE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Aubrey W. Bonnett, a resident of New York's Fourth Congressional District and a life-long educator.

Throughout his 43-year career in higher education, Dr. Bonnett has achieved tremendous success as a scholar of immigration, race, sociology and diasporic studies, particularly with relation to our nation's vibrant African American, West Indian and Caribbean communities.

Dr. Bonnett currently serves as a professor emeritus in the department of American Studies at the State University of New York (SUNY)—Old Westbury, where he also previously served as the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost. Dr. Bonnett is also the dean emeritus of the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences at the California State University—San Bernardino and was the first black Dean hired at the University. Having authored and coauthored four books and more than one hundred scholarly articles, Dr. Bonnett is truly one of the preeminent sociologists in the state of New York. Dr. Bonnett has dedicated his life to exploring and shedding light on the immigrant experience in the United States, and as a native of British Guyana, he is a testament to the incredible and critical contributions that immigrants have made to American academia.

I'd like to congratulate Dr. Bonnett on his retirement and on an incredible career. It is truly an honor to serve as his representative in Congress.





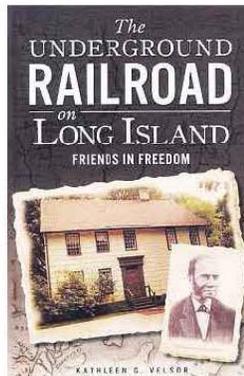
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[newsday.com/recreation](http://newsday.com/recreation)

## secretnetwork

**Kathleen Velsor**, SUNY Old Westbury professor and author of "The Underground Railroad on Long Island: Friends in Freedom," talks about the **journey of fleeing slaves** who came through the Long Island portion of the Underground Railroad, at 7 p.m. tomorrow at the South Country Library in **Bellport**. Velsor will take guests on a virtual tour of the location of safe houses on the Island. Free admission, 631-286-0818, [sctylib.org](http://sctylib.org)



THE HISTORY PRESS

# Depression and Social Media

By Mikel Theobald Reviewed by Farrokh Sohrabi, MD

Tweets, Facebook status updates, and Instagram photos may keep you in the loop, but beware: Too much social media can have negative effects if you have depression.

Social media deserves a big thumbs up for helping people network for jobs and stay connected to friends and family. But did you know that it can also feed into the unhappy feelings that haunt you when you're dealing with depression?

Becoming wrapped up in social media can create a negative cycle, says Stephanie Mihalas, PhD, a psychologist and a clinical instructor in the department of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Some people may spend time surfing Facebook to try and escape their depressive symptoms. However, social media can actually become a root of unhealthy emotions.

That negative cycle begins when you spend long periods of time on social media, time taken away from other activities that might encourage better emotional health, like exercising, meeting up with friends, and engaging in other activities that provide pleasure. In fact, according to the 2010 Proceedings of the SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, social media users who consume the highest amounts of content report a decrease in social bonding and an increase in loneliness.

Dr. Mihalas points out several possible negative outcomes from a dependence on social media:

It furthers the vicious cycle of sitting at home by yourself and being remote.

You become a victim of your own thoughts as you become less attuned to the outside world around you.

You might get steered into chat rooms with people who prompt negative thoughts, feelings, and emotions instead of engaging with people who are living a more positive, healthier lifestyle.

Additionally, an element of depression is that it can lead you to process information with a negative bias and have dysfunctional beliefs, says Natascha M. Santos, PsyD, a psychologist and an adjunct assistant professor at NYU and SUNY Old Westbury. Participating in social media through the lens of depression can enable this type of negative thinking and validate faulty beliefs. For instance, you might process photos, Tweets, and posts in a way that glamorizes the lives of others, which may or may not be what they seem, she says. This negative bias can lead you to minimize the positives of your own relationships when held up in comparison to relationships presented to you through a set of photos and carefully crafted status updates.

## A Loss of Face-to-Face Interactions

A study published in the journal *Computers in Human Behavior* in 2011 tested the impact of both face-to-face and computer-mediated social support. While both types of support were found to be beneficial, face-to-face support showed a greater impact on buffering life's disruptions. When you're battling depression, Dr. Santos says, in-person interaction is especially important. Real-world, non-digital settings provide the environment in which faulty beliefs can be countered with evidence that proves them wrong, she says.

"When you're socially withdrawn, there's a greater tendency to ruminate about what's wrong," Mihalas says. "When you're with other people, you have a chance to talk about what's right, or at least what's going on with them. Your brain's stress response decreases when you're able to talk about other things rather than focus on your problems."

Plus, face-to-face interactions present opportunities for physical touch — a proven mood booster, she says. According to a study in the *Journal of Family and Children Studies* in 2010, interpersonal touch is an important human need.

## Redefining Healthy Boundaries

Think about the cost versus benefit of using social media, Santos says. What do you get out of it and how do you feel when you use it? Evaluate why you're on specific websites and ask yourself if you could be using them in a more productive way.

"Try to limit the noise of social media," she says. "Let it serve an appropriate function — networking on professional websites, keeping in touch with distant relatives, or staying on top of current events. If you find that you tend to log in when you're bored or feeling particularly unhappy and you end up feeling worse afterwards, then it's not serving a positive function for you."

Also be mindful of who you reach out to through social media. "Often people who are depressed or anxious set themselves up to feel worse by falling prey to their self-fulfilling prophecies that they're worthless or not liked," Mihalas says. "The habit of contacting too many people can cause this circular dynamic to dovetail an anxiety attack or depressive episode." Instead, connect just with people you consider to be actual friends, she says.

For some people, social media serves as an important support system, so suddenly removing it could be detrimental, Mihalas says. But if you feel you're using social media to escape from reality or to avoid interactions with people who are trying to help you, talk to your doctor or a mental health professional about the function of social media in your life. Together you can come up with a plan to use it more effectively as a healthy tool to help you manage depression.

Last Updated: 5/29/2014

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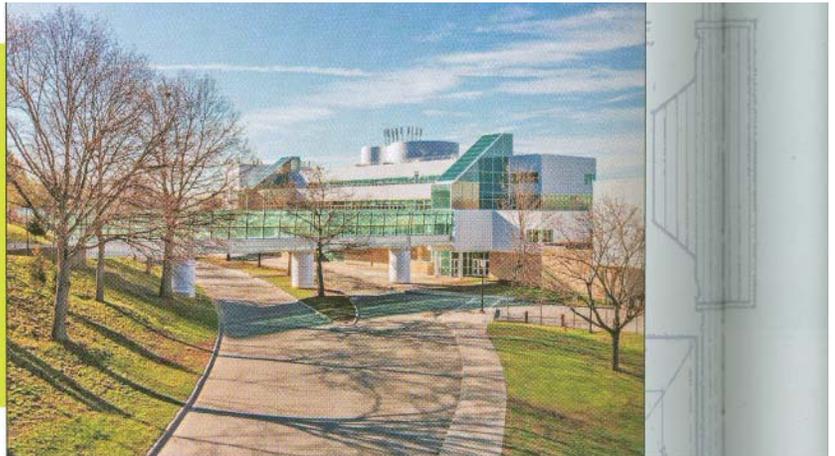
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Education

Spector Group  
SUNY College at Westbury  
Old Westbury, NY



# Spector Group Completes Renovation For SUNY Old Westbury

Use of Modern Materials Adds Aesthetic Appeal, Increases Energy Efficiency

1/11/16

Spector Group, a LEED accredited, leading metropolitan New York-based architecture, interior and master planning firm, today announced that it has recently completed the renovation of the Campus Center building exterior envelope of SUNY Old Westbury, NY.

The State University Construction Fund (SUCF) awarded the contract to Spector Group to provide full design services to enhance and renovate the building exterior envelope of the 350,000 square foot, multi-story building. Spector Group was awarded the contract due to its exceptional experience in revitalizing fatigued or technically deficient exterior facades.

Spector Group created a completely new image for the Campus Center, the largest single building on the 604-acre SUNY Old Westbury campus. Metal panels, glass curtain wall, window systems and skylights created a fresh, exciting theme. “We’ve brought an iconic building back to what it once was,” says Spector Group Principal Marc Spector, AIA, NCARB. “The building is now what it was designed to be: the gateway to the school.”

SUNY Old Westbury College President Calvin O. Butts, III agrees that the renovation has heightened the appeal of this important building. “In real estate it is often said that curb appeal can be critical. The Campus Center is a focal point for all who come to SUNY Old Westbury, students, faculty, and visitors alike. This renovation has re-energized this important part of our campus core.”

Three primary materials were used in the renovation: brilliant pearlescent white metal panels, aquamarine-green tinted glass, and gemstone masonry applied to the foundation. In addition to the pleasing modernization, the materials add to the building’s energy efficiency. “Today’s products are much better and more energy efficient than the original materials,” explains Michael Mannetta, AIA, Lead Designer for the project. “They’re also aesthetically brilliant. The building now has warmth and a more striking appeal.”

The scope of the project was originally limited to repair and replace. However, Spector Group saw the potential for a more thorough makeover, while staying within the original budget. The firm worked economically and found money in the budget to do a complete image makeover. “Our mission was to replace the existing façade in kind. Spector Group went beyond to create an energy efficient, timeless design so that the Campus Center will be the centerpiece of the SUNY Old Westbury Campus for years to come,” says Joseph Randazzo AIA, Project Manager.

Spector Group also provided architectural design services to create new entry bridges and pedestrian portals to complement the renovation of the building envelope. “After a challenging beginning that required solution driven initiatives, the entire team delivered a product that realized the Spector Group’s vision,” says Paul Anderson, RA, Spector Group Field Office Supervisor.”

About Spector Group

The award-winning international architecture, master planning and interior design firm was founded 50 years ago by Michael Harris Spector FAIA, one of the industry’s most respected figures. Marc B. Spector AIA, NCARB, and Scott E. Spector AIA, his sons, today lead the New York-based company. Ranked number seven in 2014 by Crain’s New York Business and 40th in Architect magazine, the firm has affiliate locations nationally and internationally. Spector Group has been featured in the media, including outlets such as the New York Times, Crain’s New York Business, Business Insider, MarketWatch Radio Network, Long Island Business News, Newsday and the New York Post. Marc Spector is a columnist for The CEO Magazine. To date, Spector Group has received over 100 awards from the American Institute of Architects and has completed over 2,000 projects in 12 states, five foreign countries and four continents.

To learn more about Spector Group, follow them on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, You Tube and LinkedIn.

- See more at: <http://newyork.citybizlist.com/article/326768/spector-group-completes-renovation-for-suny-old-westbury#sthash.lzVIHKAy.dpuf>

🏠 [City & Region](#)

## Graduation gaps persist between black and white students at area colleges

By Jay Tokasz | News Staff Reporter | on February 20, 2016 - 2:45 PM, updated February 20, 2016 at 2:50 PM

Black college students continue to graduate at lower rates than white students at all of the four-year campuses in Western New York.

The graduation gaps are generally narrower at the public colleges and universities in urban areas, a Buffalo News analysis of 2014 federal higher education data found.

The disparities tend to be larger at the more expensive private colleges. And colleges in rural areas also tend to have wider gaps, although SUNY Fredonia stands out as an exception, the analysis found.

Disparities in college graduation rates by race have persisted here and across the country for years.

But colleges are under greater scrutiny now for their graduation rates as campuses grapple with student unrest around racial justice concerns. Large-scale protests led to the resignations of presidents at the University of Missouri and Ithaca College. At SUNY Potsdam, students called for resignations of administrators, an increase in the number of minority faculty and a strategic plan for the college aimed to raise retention rates of "marginalized" students.

Students have walked out of classes on dozens of campuses and submitted "lists of demands" to more than 80 institutions.

Students have protested at local campuses, too, although not as intensely as those outside the region. Dozens of Niagara University students marched across campus in November, demanding curriculum changes and more faculty of color. At the University at Buffalo, two dozen members of the Black Student Union walked out of President Satish K. Tripathi's State of the University address in October to protest the university's handling of a provocative student art project.

"Students are speaking up now in a way that has not been the norm for some time," said Micah Oliver, a senior at UB.

Most area colleges and universities are more racially diverse than a decade ago, although for some, just barely so.

SUNY Buffalo State and Medaille College enroll the highest percentages of black students. At Buffalo State, 22 percent of the students are black, up from about 15 percent in 2009.

At Medaille College, one of every five students is black, up from about 13 percent in 2009.

At the other extreme, SUNY Geneseo increased its black student population to 3 percent in 2014 from 2 percent five years earlier.

Nine of the 13 area colleges and universities had graduation gaps of at least 15 points.

The gaps ranged from two percentage points at Buffalo State to 25 percentage points at Canisius College. The divide at UB was 10 points.

In 2014, Geneseo boasted the region's highest overall graduation rate at 78 percent, but its black students graduated at a rate 24 percentage points lower than its white students.

Across the region, the average graduation rate for African-Americans was 47 percent - or 15 points lower than the average graduation rate for white students.

Nationally, black students graduated at a rate of 41 percent, which is 22 percentage points lower than white students.

The disparity helps perpetuate the country's racial divide.

"College graduates make a lot more money than people who don't graduate," said Bruce Slater, managing editor of the Journal of Blacks in Higher Education. "It's the college diploma that really makes the difference in earning potential."

CS

Student activism has prompted higher education officials to look closer at the racial climate on their campuses and how it supports or impedes the progress of black students and other underrepresented minorities toward degrees.

The Journal of Blacks in Higher Education has tracked the racial graduation gaps at the nation's most selective schools since 1992.

"Some schools are better at providing retention programs, like tutoring and mentoring and having cultural activities on campus geared to African-Americans, and that can make a difference," said Slater, the publication's managing editor.

Administrators know hiring more faculty and senior staff members who better reflect the growing student diversity on their campuses is one area their institutions can do better.

"A diverse faculty nurtures a diverse student body," said Carol Long, Geneseo's provost. "We have work to do there as well."

But progress on that front, they said, will take years, in part because the pipeline of African-American academics is more a trickle than a flow. In many academic fields, the few doctoral degree earners of color who hit the labor market usually end up being hired by colleges and universities that have more prestige and can pay the most, said Gary A. Olson, president of Daemen College in Amherst. So campuses try other ways, like adding staff in multicultural affairs offices, raising more money for scholarship programs that aid minority students and connecting students of color to student, staff and faculty mentors.

The SUNY board of trustees last fall adopted a new diversity policy that aims to make SUNY the "most inclusive" state university system in the country. The policy requires all of the state-operated campuses to appoint a chief diversity officer by 2017. The policy also directs campuses to develop strategic plans to close any gaps in student completion rates. Geneseo asked the University of Southern California's Center for Urban Education to do an in-depth study to determine why it was losing some students before they graduated. The college also received a \$275,000 grant from SUNY to create an "honors transfer path" with Monroe Community College, which has a more diverse student body. The grant will make it easier for MCC honors students to transfer into the honors program at Geneseo.

SUNY Fredonia this month joined a consortium of 44 public colleges and universities across the country participating in a three-year initiative to remake the first year of college as a way to improve student success rates.

"Our student body and the demographics are changing," said Terry Brown, provost at Fredonia. "We know it's changing, and we want to be leading in that change and not responding to an unacceptable graduation rate down the road."

The consortium will focus on re-inventing the gateway courses — the large, introductory classes that serve as building blocks for more advanced courses.

"Research is showing us if we're able to go in and recreate those courses, there's a much better equity of outcomes," Brown said.

### Buffalo State's climate

Less than three miles from Canisius, SUNY Buffalo State has made greater strides in diversifying its student body. Over a decade, Buffalo State doubled the number of black students on campus. They now make up 22 percent of the overall student population, a proportion putting it second in the state system behind only SUNY College at Old Westbury, where 29 percent of students are black. Buffalo State's overall graduation rate ranked near the bottom in Western New York. More than half the students who attended Buffalo State qualified for Pell grants. Yet, the gap in Buffalo State's completion rates by race was the region's smallest. A study released in December by the Education Trust analyzed the graduation rates of 255 public colleges and universities and found that Buffalo State and UB placed among the top 20 in narrowing gaps between whites and underrepresented minorities from 2003 to 2013. College President Katherine S. Conway-Turner attributed the improvements to a welcoming climate on campus for students of all backgrounds and races.

"Students really seem to be at home, regardless of what their own personal identity is," Conway-Turner said.

The diversity of the campus also helps students of color feel as if they belong, and that sense of belonging helps students persist until graduation, she said.

"What we have that benefits us is a long history of diversity on campus and being in a city that's diverse," said Conway-Turner. "I believe we create a real inclusive environment that lifts all boats."

Buffalo State's graduation gap narrowed from 4 percent in 2009 to 2 percent in 2014.

Conway-Turner said the data for 2015 shows more improvement in the college's completion rates, especially for underrepresented minority students. While not yet released by the federal government, the graduation rates for underrepresented minorities now outpace rates for whites at Buffalo State, Conway-Turner said.

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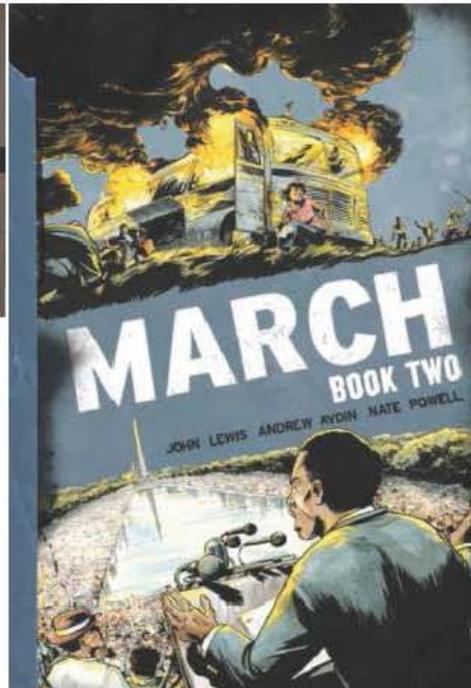
## More To Come 188: Nate Powell's 'March' Interview

Produced by Kate Fitzsimons on 01/15/2016

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00:35

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This week on More to Come, Calvin Reid interviews comics artist Nate Powell about his work on 'March: Book One' and 'March: Book Two', recorded before a live audience of students at SUNY College of Old Westbury in October 2015. 'March' is the acclaimed graphic memoir of civil rights leader and congressman John Lewis, written with Andrew Aydin.

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## Bethpage Federal Credit Union Offers Free Tax Filing Assistance for Eligible Long Islanders

Jan. 26, 2016 - PRLog -- For the 13th year, Bethpage Federal Credit Union will help low- to moderate-income households on Long Island prepare their tax returns at no cost. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, is offered through 12 of Bethpage's designated branch locations including Bay Shore, Central Islip, Elmont, Farmingdale, Freeport, Hempstead, Massapequa, Patchogue, Riverhead, Roosevelt, West Babylon and Westbury.

VITA services will be available on Saturday afternoons starting February 6th through April 9th. No appointments needed. Over 300 IRS certified volunteers, including bilingual taxpayer assistants, will be available to meet with eligible taxpayers with 2015 incomes of \$55,000 and below to file tax returns. Bethpage's VITA Program is open to all eligible Long Islanders, including non-Bethpage members.

As part of its VITA program, the largest across Long Island, Bethpage will also partner again with the Health and Welfare Council of Long Island to educate eligible working families about the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), an anti-poverty program available to four out of five eligible Long Island households. Eligible households can claim up to three years back of Earned Income Tax Credits.

"Last year, 27 million taxpayers claimed more than \$65 billion in the earned income tax credit. This was due largely to the presence of VITA sites throughout local communities. Bethpage's VITA sites were the most successful and impactful sites for Long Islanders—helping working families access the credits that they were eligible to receive," states Gwen O'Shea, President and CEO, Health & Welfare Council of Long Island. "HWCLI commends Bethpage Federal Credit Union for their stellar VITA leadership over the past decade. Their efforts have put millions in the pockets of Long Islanders and in the Long Island economy."

"Every year, we're thankful to see more and more Long Island families taking advantage of our free tax filing program which families can easily access at any of the 12 Bethpage branches across both Nassau and Suffolk Counties," said Robert Suarez, Assistant Vice President, Bethpage Federal Credit Union. "We thank all of our volunteers who make this program possible. The majority of who are trained accounting, finance and business students from local partnering colleges and universities." This year's volunteers include students from NYIT, SUNY Old Westbury, Farmingdale State College, Touro Law School, LIU Post, Briarcliffe, and Stony Brook University."

In 2015, Bethpage completed 2,516 VITA tax returns and helped secure IRS total refunds of nearly \$2.8 million. Bethpage also helped secure \$344,991 back in child tax credits in 2015 and \$713,557 in Earned Income Tax Credits, with the average credit being \$8,293. Since the program's inception in 2004, more than 12,500 individuals have filed their tax returns through Bethpage, resulting in nearly \$15 million given back to Long Islanders.

Qualifying taxpayers planning to take advantage of Bethpage's VITA program need to bring the following materials with them for review: photo identification, social security cards for you, your spouse and dependents, current year's tax package if you received one, wage and earnings statement(s) Form W-2, W-2G, 1099-R from all employers, interest and dividend statements from banks (Forms 1099), a copy of last year's Federal and State returns if available, bank routing and account numbers for tax refund direct deposit, total paid for daycare and provider's tax ID.

To file taxes electronically for a joint tax return, both spouses must be present. For more information on VITA and paperwork needed, please visit Bethpage's "Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program" page located under the Community section at [www.bethpagefcu.com](http://www.bethpagefcu.com) or call 1-800-628-7070.

Bethpage Federal Credit Union is a not-for-profit cooperative, existing solely to serve its members and has experienced rapid growth in recent years to become a strong alternative to banks. Bethpage was approved for the largest federal community charter in the U.S. in 2003 and is now the largest credit union in the Northeast region and Long Island's primary community financial institution with 275,000 members, 33 full service branches and more than 60 shared branches throughout Nassau and Suffolk Counties. As a financial cooperative, Bethpage offers the best-in market rates, low fees and world-class service, and a full menu of personal and commercial financial services.

# Long Island Business NEWS

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## **Cerini & Associates announces staff changes**

Cerini & Associates in Bohemia announced the promotions of Edward McWilliams to manager and Jacob Lutz to senior tax accountant within the tax and business advisory practice. The accounting firm also bolstered its tax and business advisory practice with the hires of staff accountants Joshua Williams and Kayla Vigorito. Williams is a graduate of the SUNY College at Old Westbury while Vigorito graduated from Dowling College. Within the education practice, Albert Borghese was promoted to supervisor while Lindsey Johansen moved up to staff II accountant and Danielle Skura, a graduate of LIU Post, came aboard as a staff accountant. In the firm's nonprofit audit practice, Nicholle Mezier made the leap to staff III accountant and Peter Ramondi moved up to staff II accountant. Kristina Laino, a Briarcliffe College graduate, joined the firm's marketing department as a marketing assistant/graphic designer.

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## Boy Scouts Names Ruthann Eagen Berkshire County District Executive

BusinessWest on February 1, 2016 in **Daily News**

PITTSFIELD — The Western Massachusetts Council, Boy Scouts of America, welcomed Ruthann Eagen to its professional team. She will serve as the district executive for the Appalachian Trail District, which serves the communities in Berkshire County as well as several of the surrounding hilltowns.



Eagen is no stranger to scouting. At 14 years old, she joined the Nassau County (N.Y.) Law Enforcement Exploring Program, a career-exploration program run through the Learning for Life division of the Boy Scouts of America. During her time as an Explorer, she gained leadership skills and attained the rank of two-star chief before aging out and becoming an adult advisor.

“I also got to experience scouting by watching my brother rise through the ranks of his troop to become an ordeal member of Order of the Arrow and earn the rank of Eagle Scout,” said Eagen, who hopes to bring her experience and knowledge from both Explorers and Boy Scouts to her role as district executive.

She has an associate degree in liberal arts from Nassau Community College, a bachelor's degree in criminology from State University of New York (SUNY) at Old Westbury, and a business administration certificate from Nassau Community College, and she is currently working on her master's degree in human services and leadership from St. Joseph's College in Patchogue, N.Y.

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## HONOREES: Detectives Tanya Duhaney and Dorrin Ferguson: Bridging Gaps Between Cop and Community

Posted on February 19, 2016 BY TRONE DOWD

Unl the last five months, the 113th Precinct has become a model for the rest of the New York City Police Department. Since the introduction of the Neighborhood Coordination Officer Program, which is bringing back community policing in select areas of the city, the sense of trust between the community and the police has never been stronger, particularly in majority black neighborhoods.

A big part of that newly formed relationship has to do with the work of the 113th Precinct Community Affairs Unit. Both Detective Tanya Duhaney and Detective Dorrin Ferguson have been head of Community Affairs during the precinct's recent transition to community policing and has played a big part in their monumental turnaround over the last two decades.

### A Queens Native

Duhaney was born and raised in the borough of Queens. She grew up in Springfield Gardens, one of the many neighborhoods covered by the 113th Precinct. Duhaney attended PS 37 and IS 231 in the neighborhood and then Far Rockaway High School. After high school, Duhaney was accepted to the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, where she would graduate from in 1992.

She quickly followed her dream of being a police officer after college. In 2001, Duhaney began her field training with the NYPD. By the following year she started her work as an officer with the 104th Precinct where she, like many new officers, worked patrolling the street of her sector.

It wasn't until the following year that Duhaney would find herself at the 113th Precinct, bringing her back home where she grew up. She spent six years as a patrol cop working the beat before moving onto the NYPD School Unit. Here should would work directly with the kids in several of the Southeast Queens schools.

In 2007, with the skills she built up both as a patrol cop and as a School Unit officer, Duhaney was then asked to be a part of Community Affairs. It would be here that she and her colleagues would be able to create a big impact on the neighborhoods they protect and serve.

### Hailing from the Caribbean

Ferguson's upbringing was a little different. Born in raised in a town called Clarendon on the island of Jamaica, it was wasn't until the age of 19 that she moved to the U.S. When she arrived stateside, she settled in Hempstead, L.I. where she still lives today, and rounded out the rest of her higher education.



Det. Dorrin Ferguson. Photo by Bruce Adler

"I went to Hempstead High School for six months," Ferguson told the Press of Southeast Queens. "I went to Nassau Community College and then [SUNY] College of Old Westbury."

After graduating from Old Westbury in 1985, she then decided to follow her long time dream of being a police officer. In 1991, Ferguson she would start her career with the NYPD, completing basic field training and preparing for the job. She would start the following

January, beginning her career as an officer working in the 113th Precinct.

During her career, Ferguson would spend 14 years on as a patrol officer starting out. She then moved to the COMPSTAT unit for a year. As an officer working COMPSTAT, Ferguson said she worked doing logistics and crunching numbers and statistics for the department. In 2007, the same year as her good friend and fellow officer, Det. Duhaney, she would be moved to Community Affairs.

### Work In The 113th

Both Duhaney and Ferguson have been working community affairs at the precinct long enough to see how the issues in the community have shifted in the last decade. In fact, Ferguson recalled some of the issues that the police faced in previous years compared to today.

"It has changed alot since I started," Ferguson recalled. "There was a lot of drug problems. You'd often find it along Sutphin Boulevard and Hollis. There's been so many changes, changes for the better."

And she said that many of those changes are manifested in the way the community as a whole has united in their willingness to work with the cops and clean up the streets.

"I see the cops and the community working together more now," she said. Ferguson also praised the NCO program as another key factor in the precinct's recent successes.

"Neighborhood policing is really coming back," she said. "The officers know the community, know the areas, know the doors, know the business and the community knows you for patrolling the area."

Duhaney expressed her happiness with the precinct and its work with the community thanks to the more strategic NCO program.

"It was a well needed program that is definitely going to work because that's what people want to see," she said. "They want to know their officers. They want to have that special connection with them where they're able to call the NCO's and get the answers that they need to their questions."

Both Duhaney and Ferguson said that Community Affairs as a whole is most proud of their work with the seniors.

"Working with our seniors is such a priority for us," Ferguson said. "We have a lot of them that we actually get to know, many of them in their 90's or even 100's that we really work closely with now."

Duhaney also said that being able to organize events for the entire community to enjoy is a great part of the job. Recently, the 113th Precinct has had Christmas parties, magic shows for the youth and workshops to spread awareness of everyday household safety for seniors.

"I have such a passion for it," she said. "I love what I do. I love being with the seniors, I love working with the youth I love working in the community. I just love giving back."

# Eastern Consolidated Promotes Famularo, Sparks To Principal

1/14/16



*James Famularo and Matthew Sparks*

Daun Paris, President of Eastern Consolidated, has announced that Senior Directors James Famularo and Matthew Sparks have been promoted to Principal.

Famularo, one of the top retail leasing brokers in the industry, has arranged over 600 leases for food and beverage establishments during his career, and Sparks, an investment sales specialist, has successfully negotiated more than \$1 billion of real estate transactions during his career.

“James and Matt are outstanding, energetic deal-makers and highly respected professionals who also serve as mentors for our rising stars,” Paris said. “They are trusted and valued members of our team—true leaders. And now, by serving as Principals, they will further enhance our operation by contributing to the firm’s overall strategy and direction.”

A Senior Director in the Retail Leasing Division, Famularo is a veteran dealmaker with a vast network of contacts that enable him to close on average one deal a week. In recognition of his successful track record, he was named Eastern Consolidated’s Retail Broker of the Year in 2015.

Famularo’s recent deals include arranging a 10,000-square-foot lease for the Hunt and Fish Steakhouse in the AKA Hotel, which is thriving at 125 West 44th Street; placing Zuber & Company, a French-based design firm used by Jackie Kennedy in the White House, at 4 West 19th Street; arranging a lease in record time for Seoul Bistro restaurant in the new Holiday Inn in Downtown Brooklyn; and helping turn Tribeca’s Reade Street into a kid-friendly block by arranging leases for Jacadi, Livly, Reade Street Prep Academy, Miss Rachel’s Ballet School, and the Language Center.

Famularo has over 15 years of commercial real estate experience representing both owners and tenants and his distinguished track record of success runs the full gamut of restaurants, retail, and building properties. As a native New Yorker, he has an intimate knowledge of the New York metropolitan area and is frequently interviewed by local and national news organizations. Famularo is a member of the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) and the Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY) and serves on the REBNY Retail Committee.

Sparks is a Senior Director in the Investment Sales Division focusing on the sale and purchase of all property types throughout Manhattan.

Sparks’ recent deals include the Washington Heights Portfolio, containing nine mixed-use elevator apartment buildings with 413 apartments and 48 retail stores, which had an asking price of \$185 million; the sale of a 13-building package on Frederick Douglass Boulevard and 115th Street for \$47 million; the sale of a 49-unit HUD building on West 109th Street for \$18 million; and the sale of two multifamily buildings on 114th Street and Saint Nicholas Avenue for \$24 million. In addition to several off-market deals, Sparks is currently marketing the Upper Manhattan Portfolio, which consists of 14 mixed-use buildings with 357 apartments and 10 retail stores.

Sparks has an impressive track record in skillfully analyzing the financial angles of prospective deals on behalf of his clients, and is widely known in New York real estate circles as a powerful negotiator and off-market specialist for high profile clients. Sparks studied accounting and finance at SUNY Old Westbury and is a member of the Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY). Eastern Consolidated

Powered by a highly skilled team of over 75 brokers with a fluency in 15 languages, Eastern Consolidated is one of the country’s preeminent full-service commercial real estate firms. Through three core divisions—Investment Sales, Capital Advisory, and Retail Leasing—Eastern Consolidated serves an impressive roster of international and domestic institutional and private investors on real estate transactions of all sizes and across all property types. For more information, visit [www.easternconsolidated.com](http://www.easternconsolidated.com) and follow us on Twitter @EasternConsol.

# College basketball player shines despite hearing loss

January 21, 2016 7:15 PM



*Raven Pentz suffers from progressive hearing loss, which was discovered when she was 5 years old. (1/21/16)*

OLD WESTBURY - She's won two gold medals representing the United States, leads the SUNY Old Westbury Panthers women's basketball team in assists per game and just so happens to barely hear anything on the court.

Raven Pentz suffers from progressive hearing loss, which was discovered when she was 5 years old. She compares her perception of sound with trying to speak underwater -- sounds are muffled and difficult to discern.

Pentz has used a hearing aid to help her in everyday situations, but she doesn't use the device at practice since it doesn't help much. Instead, she says she reads her coaches' lips and uses hand signals to communicate.

Hearing loss has given the Panthers slight edge on the court, in the form of Pentz reading lips. For example, she can tell when the opposition changes its plays.

Pentz's father, who is deaf, taught her the beneficial skill.

This past summer, Pentz won her second gold medal at the World Deaf Basketball Championships in Taiwan.

When asked if she considers herself a role model, Pentz said that although she hasn't been told that personally, people can do what's needed to succeed no matter what is holding them back.

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL REPORT

## Seton Hall rolls over No. 5 Xavier

Desi Rodriguez had 27 points and 12 rebounds and Seton Hall all but clinched its first NCAA Tournament berth in a decade with a stunning 90-81 victory over visiting No. 5 Xavier yesterday. Isaiah Whitehead had 22 points, Angel Delgado added 17 and the Pirates (21-7, 11-5 Big East) used a suffocating defense in knocking off Xavier (25-4, 13-4), just four days after it upset No. 1 Villanova.

"They were amped up and played really hard," Xavier coach Chris Mack said.

**MSU 88, Penn State 57:** Denzel Valentine started slow and finished strong with 19 points, eight rebounds and six assists to help host No. 6 Michigan State. The Spartans (24-5, 11-5 Big Ten) have won four straight and eight of nine.

**Pittsburgh 76, Duke 62:** Jamel Artis scored 17 points and Pittsburgh gave its NCAA Tournament hopes a needed jolt as the host Panthers dominated No. 15 Duke. James Robinson added 14 points, seven assists and three rebounds as the Panthers (20-8, 9-7 Atlantic Coast Confer-



AP / MEL EVANS

**Desi Rodriguez's double-double likely gives Pirates NCAA berth.**

ence) overwhelmed the Blue Devils (22-8, 10-6).

#### ■ Old Westbury clinches

SUNY Old Westbury clinched its first Skyline championship since 2004 on Saturday. Old Westbury (19-8, 16-4 Skyline) earned the conference's automatic bid into the NCAA Division III tournament, which begins March 3.

#### WOMEN

**Hofstra 66, Charleston 54:** Darius Faulk, Anjie White and Jakelle King-Gilchrist combined for 40 points for host Hofstra. The Pride improved to 21-7 overall and 12-5 in the CAA with one game remaining in the regular season.

**Vermont 44, Stony Brook 37:** Visiting Stony Brook (16-13, 8-8 AE) dropped its final game of the regular season, but still locked up the third seed in the America East Tournament by virtue of losses by UMBC and Hartford.

**Creighton 64, St. John's 57:** The Red Storm lost at home as Creighton's Sydney Lamberty scored 11 of her 18 points in the fourth quarter. With the loss, St. John's fell to 20-9 on the season, 11-7 in the Big East.

#### ■ Old Westbury in tourney

With its win over The Sage Colleges on Saturday, SUNY Old Westbury (23-5, 13-3) clinched its first ever Skyline Championship and earned the automatic bid into the NCAA Division III Tournament which begins March 3.



# Barnes earns conference, MBWA honors

Posted: Thursday, January 28, 2016 1:54 pm

SUNY Old Westbury women's basketball senior center Crystal Barnes is picking up honors as fast as rebounds.

The Brooklyn native was named both the Metropolitan Basketball Writers Association (MBWA) Division II-III Player of the Week and Skyline Conference Co-Player of the Week honors for games played January 18-24.

Barnes, who was recognized last week as an MBWA Division II-III Honorable Mention selection, claimed a share of the Skyline Conference Player of the Week award for the fourth time this season.

Barnes led the Panthers to a pair of conference wins by averaging 14.0 points, 19.5 rebounds, 2.0 blocks and 2.0 steals last week.

She opened the week by leading the Panthers to a 68-56 win over St. Joseph's (L.I.), totaling 14 points, 13 rebounds, two blocks and two steals to register her eighth double-double of the season.

She followed with her ninth double-double of the season (19th career), recording 14 points and a career-high 26 rebounds (14 offensive) to go with two blocks and two steals in the 73-48 victory at Farmingdale State.

On the season, Barnes is averaging 14.5 points, 11.2 rebounds, 1.9 blocks and 1.6 steals per game while shooting 46.7 percent (98-of-210 FG) from the field and 68.5 percent (50-of-73 FT) from the free-throw line.

Nationally, Barnes ranks among the NCAA Division III leaders in offensive rebounds per game (21st, 4.8 per game), rebounds (27th, 191), double-doubles (34th) and rebounds per game (39th).

She also ranks among the conference leaders in scoring (6th), rebounding (3rd), blocked shots (2nd), offensive rebounding (T-1st), defensive rebounding (3rd, 6.4 per game), field goal percentage (2nd) and free throw percentage (9th).



*Crystal Barnes*



*Jamail Stanley*

## Stanley named to conference honor roll

SUNY Old Westbury men's basketball junior guard Jamail Stanley has been named to the Skyline Conference Weekly Honor Roll for the first time this season, the conference announced Monday for games played January 18-24. He was previously named the conference's top player for the past two reporting periods.

Stanley, a native of Syracuse, provided 23 points (9-of-19 FG), 10 rebounds, four steals, three assists and one block in Old Westbury's 79-65 win at Maritime. In the Panthers' lone contest of the week, Stanley recorded his team-leading sixth double-double of the season.

On the season, Stanley is averaging 21.0 points, 8.9 rebounds, 2.7 steals, 2.7 assists and 1.2 blocks per game while shooting 51.8 percent (101-of-195 FG) from the field and 70.5 percent (62-of-88 FT) from the free-throw line. He leads the conference in scoring and offensive rebounds (4.5 per game), and ranks among the leaders in steals (2nd), rebounding (6th), field goal percentage (7th) and minutes played (4th, 34.8 per game).

## BASEBALL

### OLD WESTBURY

26-13, 10-4 Skyline Conference

The sixth time was the charm for Old Westbury. After falling to Farmingdale in the previous five Skyline Conference title games, the Panthers won their first championship last year. Senior righty Jeremy Charles is tasked with replacing Tim Ingram, a 31st-round selection by the Tampa Bay Rays in the 2015 Major League Baseball Draft. Charles posted a 2.76 ERA and 66 strikeouts in 91 $\frac{1}{3}$  innings at Hartford before transferring to Old Westbury.

### LI PLAYERS TO WATCH

#### JAKE DECARLI

LIU Post, RHP, Sr.

After posting a 6-1 record, 0.76 ERA and 60 strikeouts in 71 innings, DeCarli was named the 2015 ECC Pitcher of the Year.



#### TOMMY ZIEGEN

Old Westbury, SS, Jr.

A Skyline first-team selection, the Glen Cove product hit .328 with 29 RBIs, 31 runs and 22 stolen bases last season and led Old Westbury to a conference championship.



#### NICK GIRARDI

St. Joseph's, LHP/OF, Sr.

Girardi, a Manhattan College transfer, hit .383 with a .455 on-base percentage and had 23 RBIs and 25 runs. He posted a 2.70 ERA in 16 $\frac{2}{3}$  innings and was the Skyline Conference Player of the Year.



#### JONATHAN MULFORD

Adelphi, RHP, Sr.

Mulford went 7-1 with a 1.76 ERA and 50 strikeouts in 66 $\frac{1}{3}$ . The Massapequa High School grad held batters to a .192 average and was a NE-10 first-team all-conference selection.



#### RJ GOING

Dowling, INF, Sr.

The Islip product hit .284 with a .400 on-base percentage and was named an all-conference first-teamer in the ECC. He led Dowling with 16 stolen bases and had 21 RBIs and 30 runs.



## SOFTBALL

A57



LIU POST ATHLETICS

**LIU Post's Ashley Martin went 18-6 with a 1.61 ERA.**

### **DOWLING (17-28-1, 9-19) ECC**

Third baseman Arianna La Puma is the offensive motor for Dowling, having led the team with a .369 batting average and 25 RBIs in 130 at-bats. Vanessa Juengerkes threw nine com-

plete games with 69 strikeouts in 140<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings. She went 9-15 with a 4.64 ERA.

### **FARMINGDALE STATE (22-15, 10-4) Skyline**

The Rams are coming off their fifth consecutive Skyline

Conference title. First baseman Lori Michalowski hit .419 with 18 RBIs. Senior catcher Meagan Anderson leads off after hitting .396 with 34 runs scored in 2015. Together, they're the two top batters on a team that lost players to graduation. Coach Chris Mooney said he's hoping to mitigate that loss with impactful freshmen Jaxie Collard (pitcher), Christina Rayfield (shortstop) and Aleysha Midgett (centerfielder).

### **ST. JOSEPH'S (18-18, 9-5) Skyline**

Coach Lisa Jusino leads a new staff in its first season and said she's looking to bring a new outlook to St. Joseph's. Senior centerfielder Lindsey Corriss should be a tough out with her speed. Senior Malory McClafferty pitched to a 7-6 record and 3.52 ERA in 2015, and Jusino said her experience in big games will be an important factor this year.

### **OLD WESTBURY (8-24, 2-12) Skyline**

Junior outfielder Gabriella Valdes leads the Panthers with speed, versatility and a strong bat. She hit .360 with 19 runs scored and three triples last season. Sophomore infielder and pitcher Amanda

Fucci hit .333 with 14 RBIs. She had four wins and struck out 61 batters in 87<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings.

### **NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE (14-2, 18-7) Region XV**

The defending Region XV champions are led by sophomore shortstop Valerie Fisher, who hit .552 with five home runs last season. Nassau will rely on an influx of freshmen to replace last year's region player of the year, Ashley Davis. She led the team in pitching and hitting. Freshmen Nicole Lang and Danielle Trotta will take over the pitching duties, coach Bob Cozzetto said.

### **SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE (7-17) Region XV**

SCCC enters its second season under coach Joseph Kosina and this time there's a roster of returning players to lead the way. He had one returner when he took over, but now has six, plus a quality recruiting class. Sophomore Samantha Magerovich leads the offense after hitting .532 with six doubles, four triples, three home runs and 21 RBIs. Courtney Lawrence is part of the incoming class and is expected to be the go-to pitcher.

## LACROSSE | 2016 PREVIEW

A45



Defensive leader Ryley Weber had 85 draw controls and team-high 57 ground balls last year.

controls (171), save percentage (.401) and GAA (12.07). Returning is Sara Bey, a dynamic midfielder with playmaking ability. Courtney Gallagher led the Skyline Conference with 3.07 caused turnovers per game and set single-season program records for points (57), goals (40), assists (17), ground balls (54) and caused turnovers (46).

### USMMA

USMMA, in its final season in the Landmark Conference before moving to the Skyline Conference, returns Madeline Thibeault, who led the team in points after tallying 25 goals and two assists, and also had a team-high 40 draw controls. Improvement is expected for a team that went 1-11 last season in what was the program's third season. Coach Kyle Simensky brings in his largest recruiting class, led by attacker Meredith Willard.

### NASSAU CC

The Region XV champs lose two NJCAA All-Americans but return quality defenders in Cristal Rengifo and Taylor Cussen. Karen Downes is also back in goal. Nicole Moniello moves well off the ball and will have an expanded role on the attack. She will be joined by Gabrielle Casanova, a transfer from Queens, in what first-year coach Maria Varricchio expects to be a fast-moving, give-and-go offense.

### SUFFOLK CC

Though Suffolk CC fell to Nassau CC in the Region XV championship game, its regular-season victory over Nassau was viewed as a big step for a team that was in just its second year of existence. Michelle MenDell, an assistant for the program's first two seasons, takes over as head coach. Returning is Nina Soto, a midfielder whom MenDell described as a player who will "run through the wall for you." She will have an expanded role on the attack, along with Casey Martin. The defense is anchored by Chelsea Tarazona and goalie Paige Hubbard. Said MenDell: "The program is only going to keep getting bigger and better every season."

had 46 goals and 16 assists last season. Markowitz, a sophomore attacker, was named ECC rookie of the year after scoring 39 goals last season. The back line is anchored by Chelsea Bauer, who had 21 ground balls and 13 caused turnovers. Newcomers who are expected to make an impact include Michaela Siegler, an attacker who at 5-9 is a big target to feed the ball, and Brianna Wilson, a midfielder who will be a key on draw controls.

### ST. JOSEPH'S

The Golden Eagles are coming off a season in which they captured their first Skyline Conference championship and got their first NCAA Tournament victory in what was just the program's fourth season. With their high-pressure defense, they finished first in the nation in caused turnovers at 14.37 per game. But with many departures, including Nicole Lyman, St. Joseph's career leader in caused turnovers, ground balls and draw controls, there will be holes to fill.



Cooper Sesselman of Molloy.

Nicole Danisi, Kelly Walsh and Brianna Mascia will step up on the defensive end. Heather Ferchland, the program's all-time leading scorer, has scored 60-plus goals in each of the last three seasons. Other weapons capable of generating offense include Jess Cordano,

Kristin Carroll, Meaghan Haber, Jenna Kelleher and Nicole Stopelli.

### FARMINGDALE

Farmingdale, the runner-up in the Skyline Conference, gets everyone involved, evident by the Rams finishing third in Division III in assists per game last season. On the receiving end of those passes will be Brittany Rosino, a midfielder with great stick skills who had the highest shooting percentage on the team last season (.844). She is joined on the attack by Kristen Keller and Kristen Ranaldo. Sara Rivadeneyra and Ali Pavese, feisty defenders who force turnovers, and goalkeeper Krista Spagnoletta leads a defense that had the lowest goals-against average (7.98) in the conference last year.

### OLD WESTBURY

Last season, Old Westbury set single-season program records for wins (6), points (211), goals (163), assists (48), shots (366), shots on goal (290), ground balls (289), draw

ADELPHI UNIVERSITY

MOLLOY / PAUL NORTH

## Cameron Russo Hired As Assistant Swim Coach by SUNY Old Westbury

13 January 2016, 09:06am



SUNY Old Westbury men's and women's swimming head coach Sigitas Rudokas announced the appointment of Cameron Russo to the position of assistant swimming coach for the remainder of the 2015-16 season. Russo earned his bachelor's degree at Old Westbury in Sociology in Spring 2015 following four seasons (2010-14) as a member of the Panthers' men's swimming team.

During his time at Old Westbury, Russo was a four-time All-Skyline Conference selection in the 200 and 400-yard medley relay events. As a freshman, he was a member of the first-place 200-yard medley relay team at the 2011 Skyline Conference Championships. Russo also competed at the 2012 and 2013 ECAC Championships in the 200-yard medley relay. Individually, Russo recorded a total of five third-place finishes at Skyline Conference Championships in the 50-yard freestyle, 100-yard freestyle and 100-yard butterfly events.

Since 2009, Russo has worked at Saf-T-Swim of Bellmore as a swimming instructor and pool operations technician. Russo has also coached boys and girls ages 4-12 at Saf-T-Swim of Bellmore for the past three seasons.

Russo, a native of Massapequa, New York, is a 2010 graduate of St. Dominic High School.

SUNY Old Westbury contributed this report.