

APRIL 1, 2018 - JUNE 30, 2018

# PRE-K-16 COLLEGE READINESS NEWS



MAKING STATEN ISLAND STRONGER

30000degrees.org

*A quarterly local resource celebrating the latest and greatest accomplishments of students, educators, and community partners committed to developing more college-ready young people*

## PS 21- LAUNCHING THE STATE'S FIRST CAREER & COLLEGE READINESS CENTER IN AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

On March 8th, PS 21 demonstrated the organizational skills and pursuit of excellence, they seek to instill in their students with a memorable ribbon cutting ceremony of their career and college readiness center – the first of its kind in New York State! This center will host Wagner College’s third leadership academy for civics and college readiness in Port Richmond – completing their innovative vision for a K-12 pipeline, under the 30,000 Degrees initiative. Present were Deputy Commissioner of Education for NYC Phil Weinberg, Staten Island’s Superintendent Anthony Lodico, Deputy Borough President Ed Burke, representation from Councilwoman Rose’s Office, fellow K-12 principals of Port Richmond schools, and the school’s non-profit community partners – Change for Kids, Literacy Inc., New York Center for Interpersonal Development, NYC Art Cypher, The Sports & Arts Foundation, and United Activities Unlimited. 30,000 Degrees thanks the students and planning team at PS 21, for an inspirational event!



Collage by Pat Wong, PS 21 Media Librarian

## FEATURED SCHOOL PORT RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL

On March 8<sup>th</sup>, Port Richmond High School hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the school's new state-of-the-art STEM lab! The lab features robotics, engineering, construction, computer science, arts, an arcade, iPads, and a woodworking area. This new edition will diversify curriculum and instruction with hands-on, real-world learning experiences needed for college and career. The STEM Lab was the vision of 2 teachers: Mike Spaventa & Zach Rosch. According to Corrine Birchard, Wagner College Adolescent Ed. graduate student volunteer, this projects' success was made possible by Principal Swinton, AP Greenfield, Angel Dejesus, the PRHS PTA, and the PRHS alumni association.

Photo taken by: Crystal Montalvo, Executive Director



## FEATURED STUDENT KATHARINE ACEVEDO

30,000 Degrees celebrates Katharine Acevedo, a senior at the College of Staten Island, and an alum of New Dorp High School, IS 2, and PS 13. Through CUNY Service Corps & UAU, Katharine has returned to New Dorp as a College Bridge Coach, assisting graduating seniors through college advisement. Ms. Acevedo has served approximately 110 students! As a double major in English and Art, she intends to stay on as a College Bridge Coach, and enroll at CSI for a fifth year to further strengthen her abilities and credentials as a future educator. Katharine said, "I believe education should be the forefront of any individual's life, because through education we can inspire others to go further."

Photo taken by Katharine Acevedo





## COLLEGE MINDEDNESS

*Collaborations & stories that have helped our students, parents & residents to develop a college-going identity*

On February 26<sup>th</sup>, St. John's University/Staten Island Campus hosted the 4th Annual CareerCon! Developed in partnership with The NYC

Department of Education, The Staten Island Chamber of Commerce, The Sisterhood of Women's Organizations, United Activities Unlimited, The College of Staten Island, Wagner College, and many others. This day is intended to engage Staten Island's high school students with the local colleges and work force sectors, to forge meaningful future connections. In addition to tabling, various workshops and panels were held to expose students to topics such as STEM careers, the private and public sector, professionalism, and networking. Approximately 750 students from 13 high schools were in attendance, with an estimated 90 on-site vendors, and 50 supervising staff. This year's turnout was the best to date!



Collage by Briana Marino, SJU Graduate Assistant

### UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

**The CSI Undergraduate Research Conference:** Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>; 11AM-4PM; in the Center for the Arts (1P)



## COLLEGE PREPAREDNESS

*Collaborations & stories of academic success*

On January 29th, President William Fritz of the College of Staten Island/CUNY (CSI), hosted the entire administration and faculty of Staten Island Technical High School (SITHS) for an exclusive visit,

intended to build relationships by subject-area, for innovative high school and college collaborations. Faculty from CSI and SITHS sat side-by-side over lunch for this exclusive visit, followed by customized campus tours of newly renovated facilities, as part of the 30,000 Degrees initiative. Leadership from each institution opened the day with presentations showcasing institutional legacy, their history of partnership, and opportunities for continued growth.

**IN 2017, TOGETHER THE 3 HIGHER ED. INSTITUTIONS...**

**OFFERED 220 PRE-COLLEGE COURSES TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

**HOSTED 565 VISITS TO CAMPUS FROM K-12 STUDENTS**



## COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE

*Collaborations & stories of support during the college admissions and financing process*

On March 16th, the School of Education at St. John's University (SJU) hosted a luncheon to celebrate the most recent collaborations with McKee High School and community-based organizations through the 30,000 Degrees partnership. During the spring 2018

semester, two of SJU's graduate-level Counselor Education students will be working with a cohort of McKee sophomores to provide additional support for the academic, socio-emotional, and career development. The SJU graduate students are receiving a generous scholarship from United Activities Unlimited. Moreover McKee will host our first round of faculty research fellows, sponsored by the Northfield Bank Foundation & The Richmond County Savings Foundation! This publicly engaged scholarship will assist high school students, educators, and parents to improve messaging and communication for college, and to provide hearing services and career exploration in the field of audiology for McKee's students.

**WE ADVANCED COMMUNITY PROGRAMS BY PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR...**

**20,389 HOURS OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

**124 COLLEGE STUDENTS SERVING AS MENTORS IN K-12 SCHOOLS**

### SHARE YOUR STORY

Tell us what you've been doing to bring Staten Island closer to 30,000 degrees! Send an email to [crystal.montalvo@csi.cuny.edu](mailto:crystal.montalvo@csi.cuny.edu)

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