

Over its six-plus decades of establishing and supporting the management of New York's community colleges, The New York Community College Trustees, Inc., established an awards program to recognize outstanding accomplishments of trustees, community members, and/or business-industry-corporations that have advanced the unique mission of our institutions. And now, in 2022, NYCCT is delighted to be recognizing outstanding accomplishments of SUNY community colleges as well.

The NYCCT awards program has evolved over the years to highlight these examples of excellence on behalf of New York's community colleges through a series of nine (9) awards.

Please note: an award is not necessarily presented every year in all categories.

***All nomination forms (fillable) for the NYCCT awards can be found on our website [CLICK HERE](#)**

Awards That Recognize Trustees

These awards have been established in honor of four remarkable community college pioneers across New York who were instrumental in establishing community colleges in the state.

Anne M. Bushnell Memorial Award for Special Achievement

Scope: *This is the highest accolade that NYCCT awards to a trustee. It recognizes extraordinary leadership and achievement as demonstrated by the incomparable Trustee Bushnell, throughout or in part of the term of his/her service as a trustee, to the trustee's local college or the community college system.*

Frequency: *Only one (1) award in any given year*

Alice Holloway Young Awards for Distinguished Service by a Retired Trustee

Scope: *This award recognizes the gift of continuing involvement and achievements of dedicated trustees after completing their terms of service, following the 50-plus year legacy of the tireless work in education by Trustee Holloway Young.*

Frequency: *Up to three (3) awards in any given year*

Donald M. Mawhinney Trustee Leadership Award

Scope: *This award celebrates trustees who demonstrate a significant commitment to the community college mission through exceptional leadership, inspired vision, and outstanding professional contributions to the goals and accomplishments of their local campus, following in the tradition of Trustee Mawhinney, one of the longest continuously serving community college trustees in North America.*

Frequency: *Up to three (3) awards in any given year.*

Marvin A. Rapp Award for Distinguished Trustee Service

Scope: *This award recognizes dedication by trustees with a minimum of five years on their Board. It honors Trustee Rapp, whose extensive work in establishing and leading community colleges is legendary. Because of the geographic reach of his work, this award honors multiple individuals who go above and beyond to contribute time, effort, and/or ideas that offer opportunities to students, faculty, and/or staff at the local community college, or the regional or statewide level.*

Frequency: *Up to five (5) awards in any given year.*

Awards That Recognize Supporting Partners

These awards have been established to acknowledge the exceptional support that our Trustees and colleges receive from the communities we serve.

Friend of Community College Award

Scope: *This is the highest accolade NYCCT can award to a non-trustee. It is specially designed to recognize the actions of individuals who have, over an extended period, significantly advanced the cause of community college education throughout the state of New York.*

Frequency: *Only one (1) award in a given year, and awarded only in special circumstances*

Benefactor Vision for Tomorrow Award

Purpose: *This award is a relatively new NYCCT award and is the only award that NYCCT presents to a local benefactor. It is designed to recognize innovation by an individual or organization for fostering the establishment or growth of a newly evolving technology or field of study that distinguishes the local community college from its peer institutions.*

Frequency: *Only one (1) award in a given year*

Edward J. Pawenski Business-Industry Partnership Award

Purpose: *This is the only award that NYCCT bestows on a business/industry/corporation, or an individual from a business/industry/corporation. The award recognizes a unique partnership developed with the local community college in a concerted effort to stimulate increased worker training and retraining activity. It is given to a nominee who actively supports economic development and the community college mission in New York and the United States, in the tradition of community college pioneer Trustee Pawenski, businessman and government official.*

Frequency: *Only one (1) award in a given year*

Distinguished Alumni Award

Purpose: *With student success being the most important goal of community colleges, NYCCT has created this award to highlight contributions made by graduates of our community colleges and to showcase the exceptional value of a community college education. Two nominations may be submitted per college: one for professional contributions and the other for civic contributions. Any graduate of a degree or a certificate program of a SUNY community college is eligible for nomination.*

- The **professional award** is presented to someone who has reached the pinnacle of one's professional career or has achieved great success in one's field of study.
- The **civic award** is presented to an individual whose contributions have improved their community and made the world a better place through volunteerism and community service.

Frequency: *Two (2) alumni awards may be presented in any given year, with only one (1) award based on civic contributions and only one (1) other award for professional contributions*

Award That Recognizes a SUNY Community College

This new award (2022) has been established to recognize extraordinary and creative groundbreaking action by a SUNY community college designed to improve student success or college effectiveness in any area.

Community College Innovation Award

Purpose: *This award was established in 2022 to recognize a community college that has introduced a unique idea, project, process or procedure that has resulted in significant improvements in student success. It was established due to the confluence of numerous factors, especially: an increased focus on ensuring our community college students succeed; the devastating impact on our students and colleges due to the global COVID pandemic; national, state and local events that highlighted our need for improved diversity, equity and inclusion; and the serious concern for the sustainability of our community colleges.*

Frequency: *One (1) award for innovation will be presented in any given year, although the awards committee has the discretion to provide honorable mention for up to two (2) additional colleges in any given year.*