

# Passaic County Community College



## Honors Day 2011

Outstanding students from all four PCCC campuses received awards and recognition in the annual Honors Day program on April 20. PCCC President Dr. Steven Rose, administrators, and faculty members gathered with friends and family of the honorees in the PCCC Theater on the Paterson campus for the ceremony to honor students from:

### **The Honors Program 2010-2011**

**2011 E.O.F. (Educational Opportunity Fund) Academic Achievement Awardees**

**2011 S.S.S. (Student Support Services) Academic Achievement Awards**

**Who's Who in American Junior Colleges 2010-2011**

**PCCC's All-USA Academic Team for Community and Junior Colleges**

**The Dean's List**

In addition 57 students were inducted into **Phi Theta Kappa**, the national honor society for two-year colleges.



Leonel Cantillo, EOF/SSS Speaker with  
Ms. Marva Cole-Friday, Assistant Director,  
Trio Student Support Services



Brionne Ramsingh, Honors Program speaker  
with the Honors Program faculty advisor,  
Professor Alexandra Della Fera.

In her inspiring speech, Phi Theta Kappa speaker Cynthia Retuerto stressed the importance of “integrity, ambition, and resilience” to one’s personal and professional success. She also urged her fellow PTK members to “immerse yourself in leadership opportunities,” describing the contacts and travels she enjoys as a member of PTK.

Brionne Ramsingh, commended the Honors Program for allowing him to “showcase my abilities and exceed my goals.” The speaker drew laughs from the assembly when he described a challenging assignment for his fashion marketing class. “I felt as though I woke up in a reality show I was not prepared for.” He discovered, though, that he could meet the challenge. “Community college is a stepping stone to an enriching career,” declared Ramsingh who won a scholarship to Pace University in New York.

A high school dropout who now plans to attend Seton Hall University, EOF speaker Leonel Cantillo declared, “I am on the road to success and have the EOF program to thank for this.” Cantillo told of his first test in a college math class. “I got a 46,” he said. Turning to PCCC’s math lab and tutoring support, he earned a 95 on his next test. “I scored all A’s on every test after that. My final grade in the class was a B-plus,” he said.

In closing remarks, President Rose congratulated all the honorees and their guests and commended the speakers, including EOF speaker Natascha A. Gleabes. “These are among the finest speakers we’ve had,” he said.

[Click here to see the Honors Day program and a list of all honorees](#)