The Long Island Council of Student Personnel Administrators (LICSPA) Award Five Towns College Office of Student Life "Best Social Programming" at the Annual Conference in February

## **Program Overview**

The Student Talent and Grand Entertainment (STAGE) program has become a valued tradition at Five Towns College. Each STAGE event gives students the opportunity to showcase their talents in an encouraging and supportive environment. This tradition gives students the experience to perform on stage and also behind the scenes and everything in between! The student participation is all encompassing. Since Five Towns College is a performing arts school, students can apply what they learn in the classroom to real life situations. Mass Communication, Film/Video, Business Management with Audio Recording Technology, Music Performance & Music Business concentrations, Music Education and Theatre Arts students apply their skills throughout their programs. Students have the opportunity to stage manage, mc/host, apply audio live sound, and film the performances. Distinguished alumni and industry professionals in the field attend the event as judges to critique and network with students. The popularity of this semester-long event has grown each year for the last seven years as students have invited friends and family to their performances, too.



## **Basic Construct**

A preliminary STAGE event is held every other Thursday in the Student Center during Common Hour. Common Hour is a time when no classes are in session. The preliminary rounds start from early September through November each fall semester. Students who wish to perform in the event are asked to sign up in advance in the Office of Student Activities. Each STAGE event hosts five acts of talent including, spoken word, dance, magic, and other performing arts. Two students each semester host the event and they become the familiar "face" of the program. Students are asked to stay throughout the duration of the program so that they can vote on the best performances of the evening. Votes are then tallied, each STAGE event yields one winner who receives a \$50 prize and who automatically qualifies to go on to compete in the final STAGE; one runner-up gets a chance to perform in the final "preliminary" STAGE event reserved for all of the second place winners, the winner of which goes on to compete in the final event. The final STAGE is held in the Five Towns College Performing Arts Center and is judged by industry professionals. The winner of the final STAGE receives a grand prize of \$500.

## **Effectiveness of Program**

Historically, the STAGE program is one of the most popular competitions on campus. A great number of talent collaborations result from this event as students become familiar with their peers' artistic visions. Each semester, the ongoing STAGE competition facilitates the ability of students to work together for a unified goal and on occasion, 2 0 students who have worked together to submit one singular act for the competition. Many great performances have been created in the name of STAGE! This program is perfect for students who wish to network and showcase their talents.

## **Future Plans**

This program will grow with the addition of new talent each year. Hosting an Alumni STAGE event that includes previous Main STAGE winners will bring together FTC Alumni and keep the tradition alive.