



# NEWS RELEASE

Capital Region Career & Technical School 1015 Watervliet-Shaker Rd., Albany, NY 12205 [www.bocescareertech.org](http://www.bocescareertech.org)  
**Contact:** Monique JH Jacobs, APR, Communications Coordinator, (518) 862-4754; fax (518) 862-4818 [mjacobs@gw.neric.org](mailto:mjacobs@gw.neric.org)  
**For immediate release: April 24, 2008**

## **New Visions: Law & Government student Andy Swab of Glenville wins \$20K Syracuse University's Maxwell Citizenship Scholarship**

### **Swab's public policy proposal for installing solar panels at his high school wins top prize of more than 100 SU scholarship applicants**

Andy Swab of Glenville, a senior in the New Visions: Law & Government program of the Capital Region BOCES Career & Technical School, and at Scotia-Glenville High School, has won Syracuse University's \$20,000 Maxwell Citizenship Scholarship. Competing against more than 100 students from across the country, Swab's first-prize-winning entry was a public policy proposal he wrote about installing solar panels on his high school's roof. The scholarship competition was open to students who have been accepted into Syracuse University (SU), where Swab received his award on April 19.

Upon winning the scholarship, Swab told his New Visions teacher, Richard Bader, Esq., "I was extremely surprised I won; my face was like Macauley Culkin's in 'Home Alone!'"

To apply for the scholarship, Swab had to submit for grading by SU Public Affairs professor and chair William D. Coplin a three-page public policy proposal aimed at improving his community and society. Coplin graded the proposals using standards employed in his freshman course at SU, with the grade making up half of a student's final score in the scholarship competition.

Swab and 106 other finalists were then invited to the April 19 conference at SU, where they had to present their public policy proposals to their peers for judging and scoring based on the degree to which their peers saw them as leaders. As the student with the highest total score, Swab was awarded a four-year annual scholarship of \$5,000. The second-highest scorer received a \$4,000 annual scholarship and the third-highest scorer a \$3,000 annual scholarship. The next 22 highest scorers were awarded \$2,000 annual scholarships.

Career & Tech's New Visions programs are recognized by colleges and universities, including SU, as an asset on student transcripts. After winning the scholarship, Swab spoke about his New Visions class with SU's dean of Policy Studies. Swab related that, "Professor Coplin said his classes [at SU] are taught very much in a 'new Visions-style' of real world learning and curriculum."

New Visions: Law & Government is an honors-level program for college-bound high school seniors that is taught in downtown Albany across from the State Capitol. Students in the half-day program learn firsthand about the executive, legislative and judicial branches of state government, as well as about the private legal sector through focused study, field trips, internships and job-shadowing rotations. Students have interned and job-shadowed at the state Attorney General's office, courts, the state Legislature and a wide range of public and private interest advocacy organizations. New Visions students earn honors, Advanced Placement and college credit.

New Visions programs are also offered in Health Careers, Journalism & Media Studies, and Human Services & Special/Elementary Education. The New Visions programs are four of more than 40 courses offered to high school students by the Capital Region Career & Technical School. With campuses in Albany (Colonie) and Schoharie, the school is operated by the Capital Region Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) and serves the residents of Albany, Schenectady, Schoharie and southern Saratoga counties. For more information, visit [www.bocescareertech.org](http://www.bocescareertech.org).