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News Release

For Immediate Release

**Broome Community College Foundation
Funds New Scholarship with Aid from
New York Propane Gas Association**

Albany, NY (May 25, 2011) – The New York Propane Gas Association (NYPGA) is pleased to announce a gift of \$6,000 to the Broome Community College Foundation that will establish the Elbert Stillwaggon Memorial Scholarships for Broome Community College (BCC) students enrolled full-time in the college's Fire Prevention Technology Program.

Two \$3,000 scholarships will be awarded for the 2011-2012 academic year to enhance the general understanding of professional firefighters in propane emergencies through a curriculum which includes fundamentals, behavior and combustion fires, hazardous materials, rules of OSHA and the standards of the National Fire Protection Association and the rules and regulations of the Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code of the State of New York.

Recipients will be full-time fire prevention technology students, having completed at least 24 credits at the end of their spring semester, and having a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.50. Eligible students will be identified by BCC faculty who will select award recipients.

Approved as an alternative clean fuel by both the National Energy Policy Act of 1992 and the Clean Air Act of 1990, propane is currently in use in nearly five million households in the U.S. for heating. That number is growing nationwide and especially in New York State, according to NYPGA. Propane gives off minimal emissions when burned and is not harmful in the ground or waterways.

BCC's fire prevention technology program, known for its unique combination of lecture and hands-on training, prepares students to enter the industry with a background in the complex technology of fire prevention and protection.

"We are delighted to have the support of the New York Propane Gas Association. These scholarships will not only help our students continue and finish their programs, but also increases understanding of the benefits of propane gas," stated Dr. Judy U. Siggins, Executive Director of the BCC Foundation.

"The New York Propane Gas Association Scholarship at BCC represents one of many awards that we are establishing at community colleges to train new technicians in the safe storage, handling and use of propane so they can join hundreds of industry personnel educated under the industry's extensive training programs throughout the country," said Joseph Porco, president of the association. He credited the industry's Propane Education and Research Council (PERC) for funding that provides each state with rebates based on its use of propane and its contribution to PERC. "More funding will be forthcoming if New York approves a similar program known as Empire PERC," Porco continued.

For more information on the value and safe uses of propane, visit www.nypropane.com and www.usepropane.com. For additional information about Broome Community College's fire prevention technology degree program, please visit www.sunybroome.edu or call BCC's Admissions Department at 607-778-5001.

New York Propane Gas Association

NYPGA is a member-focused trade organization providing services that communicate, educate and promote the propane industry in New York. The association was formed in 1948 to offer opportunities for training and networking with peers, and to aid with legislative issues that contribute to operating a safe and successful industry.

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