



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Palm Beach Community College awarding 1,929 degrees at commencement**

(Dec. 13, 2007 – Lake Worth) Palm Beach Community College will issue 1,929 degrees to summer and fall term graduates at commencement ceremonies at 1 p.m. Dec. 19 at the Palm Beach County Convention Center.

The majority of the degrees earned are the associate in arts transfer degrees, which means that 1,628 graduates have completed the first two years of their bachelor's degrees.

Among those earning associate in science and associate in applied science degrees, registered nurses are the largest group, with 119 graduates—most of whom will go directly to work to ease the nursing shortage at local health care facilities. Radiographers are the next largest group of graduates. One of the newest and most popular programs at PBCC, Crime Scene Technology, is graduating 12 students with degrees and 30 students in the certificate (non-degree) program.

Student speakers for the ceremony are David Lavenhagen from PBCC's Boca Raton campus and Matthew Lipsman from PBCC at Palm Beach Gardens.

Lavenhagen, who was a house painter before he began college at age 25, has a 4.0 grade point average and has been active in the Phi Theta Kappa honors society at PBCC. An Honors graduate, he has been accepted by the Civil and Coastal Engineering College at the University of Florida.

Lipsman enrolled at PBCC after graduating from the Dreyfoos School of the Arts in vocal music. Also an Honors graduate, he plans to pursue degrees in medicine. Lipsman was on the President's Honor List for the last three years and was selected for the National Dean's List for the 2006-07 academic year.

Leading the alumni induction is Jonathan Marc Davis, the student activities coordinator at PBCC in Boca Raton, and a 2003 PBCC graduate. Davis is currently a graduate student in Educational Leadership in Higher Education at Florida Atlantic University.

**About Palm Beach Community College:** Serving more than 45,000 students annually, Palm Beach Community College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing associate degrees, professional certificates, career and customized training and lifelong learning. Florida's first public community college, PBCC offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

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