

# ***Borough Sports***

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

# Wagner-CSI game puts focus on education

**Cormac Gordon** *gordonc@siadvance.com*

When the College of Staten Island heads over to Wagner College tomorrow night for a 7 o'clock game, it will mark the second year in a row the Island schools have met in basketball following a 16-year series intermission.

It will also be "30,000 Degrees Night," an event meant to make Islanders more aware of a college readiness partnership among the three borough colleges (CSI, Wagner and St. John's) and local schools.

The purpose of the collaboration is to encourage the idea of education in Island kids who might not ordinarily consider going on to college.

The goal is to eventually see 30,000 more Island residents earn college degrees.

As part of the quest, Wagner has an ongoing relationship with Port Richmond HS, and CSI with New Dorp HS.

Island students are supported with mentoring, tutors and other programs as a way to help them find a path to college.

They are given access to college labs, workshops and on-campus courses.

Part of the strategy is to familiarize Islanders with the next step so that once they begin life as a college student they do so with a foundation that will give them a better chance to succeed.

Local individuals and businesses can chip in by purchasing game tickets for kids to attend the game.

For more information on the ticket-match program go to [www.Wagnerathletics.com/30Kdegrees](http://www.Wagnerathletics.com/30Kdegrees).