

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**UNIQUE FRESHMAN ORIENTATION PROGRAM  
INCORPORATES TECHNOLOGY AND FINE ART**

**Macaulay Honors College Class of '17 takes over the Brooklyn  
Museum on Tuesday, September 3, 7:00 - 10:00pm.**

NEW YORK, NY (August 29, 2013) – While the average college student learns how to navigate the campus, eat a lot of pizza and kiss their parents goodbye, Macaulay Honors College at CUNY has a different view of new student orientation.

"Macaulay scholars represent the most innovative young minds in New York City. And we want to inspire their critical thinking as well as stimulate their connection to New York in new ways," says Dean Ann Kirschner. "Our orientation kickstarts the intellectual process and sets a unique backdrop for our students to network with their new Macaulay community."

One such orientation program is the second annual Macaulay Night at the Museum. 566 members of the Class of 2017 -- 12% of whom have never visited a museum -- will gather after hours at the Brooklyn Museum for an exclusive program of discovery and discussion. Macaulay's unique curriculum utilizes important New York City cultural institutions as resources for study, and the Macaulay Night at the Museum program will inspire a new generation of museum-goers to incorporate art into their professional and personal lives.

Facilitated by Smarthistory at Khan Academy, students will roam the museum's permanent galleries, select works of art that inspire them and create unique digital essays as part of their coursework.

The program is required for all freshmen and, according to Associate Dean Joseph Ugoretz, some of its most poignant moments come from students who have never studied art. "It's wonderful to watch a group of business students in an intense conversation about the emotional tone and cultural relevance of an Albert Bierstadt landscape, or a pair of science-oriented students arguing about the contemporary political relevance of a carved monkey from the 18th Dynasty of Ancient Egypt. These kinds of crossovers and exchanges are intrinsic to a Macaulay Honors College education."

Macaulay Night at the Museum will take place on Tuesday, September 3, 2013 from 7:00 – 10:00 pm at Brooklyn Museum, 200 Eastern Parkway, after a reception for students, parents, donors and alumni. (Pizza will *not* be served!)

For more information about Macaulay Night at the Museum, watch the video posted here: <http://youtu.be/XRWu8cR4Mnk>

### **About Macaulay Honors College**

Macaulay Honors College at The City University of New York offers an exceptional academic and co-curricular environment for the best and brightest students, who come from all parts of New York and around the world. Macaulay students enroll in one of seven CUNY senior colleges (Baruch, Brooklyn, City, Hunter, John Jay, Lehman, Queens and Staten Island). Through the unique Macaulay advising program, each student develops a coordinated, individualized academic program that includes research, global learning, graduate and professional mentoring, community engagement, and close faculty-student collaboration. Selected for their top high school records and leadership potential, every Macaulay student receives a full-tuition scholarship, a laptop and technology support, a \$7,500 study grant to pursue global learning and service opportunities, and a Cultural Passport that provides access to more than 200 museums, libraries, and other treasures around New York City. For more information about Macaulay Honors College, visit [macaulay.cuny.edu](http://macaulay.cuny.edu).

### **About Smarthistory at Khan Academy**

Smarthistory at Khan Academy is the leading open educational resource for art history. We make high-quality introductory art history content freely available to anyone, anywhere. Smarthistory is a platform for the discipline where art historians contribute in their areas of expertise and learners come from across the globe. We offer over 500 videos and these are being translated into dozens of languages. Dr. Beth Harris and Dr. Steven Zucker created Smarthistory and are the Executive Editors. Videos are also available on [Khanacademy.org](http://Khanacademy.org) and the Khan Academy app. Smarthistory and Khan Academy are 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporations. For more information visit [www.smarthistory.org](http://www.smarthistory.org)

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