Executive Summary- New York Institute of Technology

New York Institute of Technology is committed to ensure that the students on both campus communities (Long Island and Manhattan) have a full understanding of the political process. The political processes that will be focused on consist of voting, civic engagement, and being knowledgeable of what is happening locally, statewide and federally, and how they directly impact the daily lives of the student.

As we approach the 2022 Midterm Election, there are a myriad of questions about the direction of the country. While some students may focus mainly on their major and are not fully concerned or aware of what is happening around them, our activities are designed to bring a level of reality to understanding what impacts their present and future scopes.

As part of the Campus Voter Project, NYIT’s scope of activities will have two objectives, the first being to get students to vote in the upcoming elections. In addition to the federal election, there will also be efforts to concentrate on educating students on major issues. We will work to define these issues on all levels of government, but hone in on understanding that the impact of politics starts on the local level. It’s not just about who we elect as President, Congressman, Senator, Governor, etc….. It’s our local Councilmembers, Judges, Commissioners, and those whose decisions impact our daily lives. We need to understand basic civics and be engaged with causes that are most important to us. Everybody can have different opinions and support different causes, but it’s about being enthused, engaged, and energetic to make effective change for our communities and our future generations.

NYIT is primarily a commuter campus, with students usually coming to campus and leaving shortly after. With COVID 19, it has created challenges with engaging students even more than previously with classes and events being virtual. However, with both campuses going back to being fully in-person, we hope to take advantage of the in person opportunities to engage students and promote the importance of being politically and civically engaged.
Partners/Engagement Agents

- Jamel Vanderburg
- Deanna Bertini
- Jennifer Griffiths
- Askia VanOmmeren Briggs
- Adrienne McNally
- Patricia Napolitano
- Hannah Berling
- League of Women Voters
- New York City Campaign Finance Board
- WABC TV
- Turbovote

Planned Schedule of Events and Expected Outcomes (please note the dates listed are subject to change pending final review of scheduled activities from all partners. There will be several meetings between partners throughout the summer to finalize schedule and activities. Changes may also occur based on COVID policies. There will also be consideration of in person/virtual/hybrid activities.

- New Student Orientation (presentation) - new students will be made aware of upcoming primary in New York State and Election Day 2022 (November 8). There will be an opportunity for students to vote
- First day of class (September 7) - students will be able to register to vote
- Constitution Day (September 15) - students will participate in a campus wide discussion on the political process
- Voter registration activities - students in the Social Science and Civic Engagement courses taught by Professors Vanderburg and Griffiths will participate in organizing activities around registering students to vote and educating them on the upcoming election. This outreach will encompass both the Old Westbury and Manhattan campuses.
- Conversation around Elections and the Media - date to be announced