Farmingville, NY - On the evening of February 27, Councilwoman Valerie M. Cartright participated as a guest speaker in the annual Stony Brook University Black History Month Committee Closing Program. This student-led event looks at the educational, cultural, and social activities of the past month. This year's Black History theme at Stony Brook is Sankofa! Many People...One Voice. Sankofa is the idea of returning to one's roots in order to move forward.

During the program, a scholarship was presented to Danielle Meyers, and awards were given to Aleyiah Skelton and Gregory Marseille for their top placement in the Spoken Word/Open Mic Competition. Doloresse Cham and Vladimir Piersaint, Black History Month Committee Student Co-Chairs, along with other students, spoke about "The Unsung Heroes of Black History" and "Black History Month Event Highlights."

"It is important that the community continues to host these events to remember those who blazed a trail before us, give weight and credence to those who lead us now, and embrace and re-energize the potential for greatness in each and every one of us," Councilwoman Cartright said to the students.