



## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Kayla Mannion – West Babylon High School Class of 2011  
(Equine Studies)



Kayla graduated from West Babylon High School and completed the Western Suffolk BOCES two-year Equine Studies training program in 2011. Kayla excelled in the program receiving final grades of over 95% for both years. In addition to doing extremely well academically, Kayla was a two-year member of the Future Farmers of America club, serving as President in her senior year. As president, Kayla's responsibilities included problem solving and conflict resolution. She assisted with organizing the students and activities as well as writing two papers about the program. Kayla loved the program! She got along well with her teacher/trainer Ms. Donovan and liked the fact that she was easy to talk to and that there was plenty of one on one time with her. She enjoyed spending time in the barn and riding arena at Tech where she and her classmates were able to ride the horses two days a week. Kayla says she learned a great deal of information about horses including grooming, horse anatomy, hoof care, feeding and nutrition, health and maintenance, reproduction, bandaging, horse emergencies as well as stable management, recordkeeping, shipping, jumping and dressing, locomotion and the proper use of horse equipment including tack and supplies. Kayla liked the fact that she was taught business skills as well as riding skills as both have helped her to succeed in college. She is currently a student at Delaware Valley College in Pennsylvania majoring in Equine Management. After completion of her second year, Kayla will decide which track to choose; the training track or the business track. In addition to being a full time student Kayla works part time at the on-campus barn which is home to over 60 horses. Here she is a staff member who feeds the horses, provides exercise by walking them, brings them out to turnout and in to turnout as well as keeping the stalls clean. Kayla's future plans include staying in Pennsylvania after graduation and eventually becoming a successful horse trainer. It seems as though Kayla and Wilson Tech were a perfect fit. She always liked horses and enjoyed riding them but unfortunately she had to stop as it was becoming too expensive. When she learned Tech had an Equine Studies program she was elated. Kayla and her family are grateful for the quality education she received at Western Suffolk BOCES.

