SCCC exhibit looks at clothing, power

"Trappings," a multimedia project by Two Girls Working, will be featured in a solo exhibition at Sussex County Community College.

The exhibit will be on display at the SCCC Gallery from Oct. 19 to Nov. 23. There will be an opening reception during the Women's Weekend on Oct. 19 from 7 to 9 p.m.

The reception is free and open to the public.

Two Girls Working is the collective team of artists Tiffany Ludwig and Renee Piechocki.

"Trappings" explores the connections and relationships between clothing, power, and women. Ludwig and Piechocki met with groups of women and girls, talking about what they wore that made them feel powerful. Those interviewed ranged from diesel engine mechanics, stay-at-home moms and fashion industry mavens to artists, nurses, and women returning to the workforce. Their images and audio interviews became part of the "Trappings" exhibit.

The presentation gives the viewers the opportunity to question their own ideas about power, as well as expectations, beliefs, and assumptions that are created on appearance.

The installation at SCCC has two parts. In the main gallery, 11

women are presented in large scale prints. The audio section presents the women in dialogue with each other on topics including clothing, power, work, social status, sex and gender, transformation, and money. Gallery viewers will listen to the interviews on a personal CD player. In the second part of the installation, smaller portraits of other participants and their interviews will be presented

As part of the Women's Weekend, Two Girls Working will be interviewing women about what they wear to make them feel powerful. These interviews may become part of future installments of the project.

Registration is required to participate.

The SCCC Women's Weekend will be held on Oct. 19-20. In addition to Trappings, the weekend event features a diverse number of workshops, seminars, speakers, and entertainment. Registration is required. For more information call (973) 300-2124 or visit the SCCC Web site at www.sussex.edu/womens center/womens weekend/index.htm.

The SCCC Gallery is located in the "B" building and is open Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fridays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays 9 a.m. to noon. Admission is free.