



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

Academic Achievement Ceremony

MAY 2021



Overview and Acknowledgements

The Academic Achievement Ceremony celebrates the exceptional academic performance of undergraduate students at Ramapo College of New Jersey. The Office of the Provost would like to acknowledge the contributions and efforts of all whose work makes our acknowledgement of student achievement possible today.

We would like to thank the Deans, Program Conveners, and faculty who spent time reviewing the contributions of students considered for these awards until the finalists were selected. We are especially grateful to the benefactors who contributed toward the monetary awards.

Our greatest appreciation is extended to the students honored at today's ceremony. Their excellent academic achievement and participation in co-curricular activities are the life of Ramapo College.

DESCRIPTION OF THE AWARDS & PRIZES

OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT MAJOR AWARDS

The Outstanding Academic Achievement Major awards are given each year to graduating seniors in each major with a 3.5 or higher grade point average who have excelled in their fields of study. Academic majors enrolling more than 250 students select two award recipients. The Ramapo Federation of State College Teachers/American Federation of Teachers Local 2274 provides the monetary awards, which are made possible through generous contributions of their union members.

RAMAPO BOOK PRIZES FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The Ramapo Book Prizes for Academic Excellence are awarded each year to continuing students in each school who have exhibited outstanding achievement in their fields of study. The Ramapo College of New Jersey Office of the Provost provides each Book Prize winner with a gift award.

FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARDS

The Faculty-Student Research Awards are given to students in each of the academic schools who, while conducting research in close collaboration with faculty mentors, made significant contributions to their projects. The Ramapo College of New Jersey Office of the Provost provides each Faculty-Student Research award winner with a gift award.

COLLEGE HONORS AWARD

The College Honors Award is given to one graduating student who has participated in the College Honors Program, has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement in both their major and the Honors Program, and who has made a significant impact on the Honors community. The Ramapo College of New Jersey Honors Program proudly provides a gift award to the student with the highest grade point average.

AFT GRADUATE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The AFT Graduate School Scholarship, sponsored by The Ramapo Federation of State College Teachers/American Federation of Teachers Local 2274, is awarded to one graduating senior who intends to pursue graduate studies. The Ramapo Federation of State College Teachers/American Federation of Teachers Local 2274 provides a generous monetary award through contributions of their union members.

HENRY J. FRUNDT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The Henry J. Frundt Memorial Scholarship is given to one second- or third-year student who has an interest in labor studies, social justice, or Latin American Studies. The Ramapo Federation of State College Teachers/American Federation of Teachers Local 2274 provides a monetary award through contributions from their union members.

HERBERT WORTREICH AWARD

The Herbert Wortreich Award is given to one graduating senior who best embodies the values of an environmental professional and who offers promise of contributing to the field. An anonymous benefactor donates the monetary award.

LEE SENNISH PRIZE

The Lee Sennish Prize is given annually to one graduating female-identified student who demonstrates outstanding fulfillment or improved academic performance after earning 60 or more credits at Ramapo College and who achieves a minimum grade point average of 2.75 or higher. The Ramapo College of New Jersey Office of the President generously provides a monetary award.

PRELUDE TO THE CEREMONY

Music Provided by

Professor Lisa Lutter

Vocal Performance by

CantaNOVA

Sean Adomilli, Tenor

Gabriella Buono, soprano

Karl Cepeda, bass

Matthew Harder, bass

Sascha Kaplan, soprano

Samantha Lauridsen, soprano

Daniel Maher-Gurniak, bass

Mitchell Manansala, tenor

Samantha Martinez - soprano

Lindsey Ruggiero, soprano

Joseph Salerno, bass

Jimmy Santos, tenor

PROGRAM:

Amazing Grace / Twelve Gates (gospel spiritual)

I Dream A World (Langston Hughes poem)

Ashokan Farewell (dedicated to the graduates)

America, The Beautiful / Song for the Unsung Hero

(Samuel A. Ward / Joseph Martin)

I Dream A World

*I dream a world where man
No other man will scorn,
Where love will bless the earth
And peace its paths adorn.
I dream a world where all
Will know sweet freedom's way,
Where greed no longer saps the soul
Nor avarice blights our day.
A world I dream where black or white,
Whatever race you be,
Will share the bounties of the earth
And every man is free,
Where wretchedness will hang its head
And joy, like a pearl,
Attends the needs of all mankind
- Of such I dream, my world!*

by
Connor J. Koppin
Langston Hughes, poet

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT CEREMONY

ORDER OF EVENTS

Welcome Greetings

President Peter P. Mercer

Introduction to the Academic Achievement Ceremony

Dr. Susan Gaulden,

Interim Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs

Presentations of School Awards

Dean Edward Petkus

Anisfield School of Business (ASB)

Dean Peter Campbell

School of Contemporary Arts (CA)

Dean Susan Hangen

School of Humanities and Global Studies (HGS)

Dean Aaron Lorenz

School of Social Science and Human Services (SSHS)

Dean Edward Saiff

School of Theoretical and Applied Science (TAS)

College Honors Program – Acknowledgement of Graduating Seniors and Presentation of Honors Program Award

Professor Rebecca Root,

Co-Director of the College Honors Program

Presentations of American Federation of Teachers Awards

Professor Jason Hecht

Herbert Wortreich Award

Dean Aaron Lorenz

Presentation of the Lee Sennish Prize

President Peter P. Mercer

Ms. Marie-Danielle Attis,

Coordinator of the Women's Center and LGBTQ+ Services

Closing Remarks

President Peter P. Mercer

Dr. Susan Gaulden,

Interim Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs

Alma Mater

(David Welch and Michael Alsa, arr. Professor Lisa Lutter)

performed by CantaNOVA Senior Quartet

Sean Adomilli, tenor (Communications major, Music minor)

Samantha Lauridsen, soprano (Music Performance major)

Mitchell Manansala, tenor (Nursing major, Music minor)

Samantha Martinez, soprano (Social Work major, Music Minor)

SCHOOL AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Anisfield School of Business: Dean Edward Petkus

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Ashley Victoria Eggley | Accounting |
| Audrey Grace Miller | Accounting |
| Jasmine A. Corazon | Economics |
| Sumit Adhikari | Finance |
| Samuel Anklowitz | Information Technology Management |
| Anna Scarpis | International Business |
| Ellis E. Johnson | Management |
| Kialy M. Ackerson | Marketing |
| Isabelle Gallego | Ramapo Book Prize (ASB) |
| Erin Fischer | Faculty-Student Research Award (ASB) |
| | Faculty: Professors Christina Chung & Aaron Van Klyton |
| | Title: <i>The Effects of Social Media in Building Brand Loyalty: An Examination of Young Americans' Perspective</i> |

School of Contemporary Arts: Dean Peter Campbell

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Kayla Santos | Communication Arts: Digital Filmmaking |
| Gabriella Burkart | Communication Arts: Global Communication & Media |
| Kristin Montemarano | Communication Arts: Journalism |
| Kelly Belsito | Communication Arts: Visual Communication Design |
| Natasha Driscoll | Communication Arts: Writing |
| Nicole Irene M. Aleta | Contemporary Arts |
| James Moore | Music |
| Valerie Shwalb | Theater |
| Sydney Silodor | Visual Arts |
| David Machon | Ramapo Book Prize (CA) |
| David Patrick Tierney, Jr. | Faculty-Student Research Award (CA) |
| | Faculty: Professor Ruma Sen |
| | Title: <i>Pandemic Communication: Cross-Platform Analysis of Narratives Produced on Social Media in India & the US</i> |

School of Humanities and Global Studies: Dean Susan Hangen

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Lauren Storch | American Studies |
| Andrea Hofstra | History |
| Michaela Zabel | International Studies |
| Sarah Salah Eldib | Literature |
| Megan Taylor Rose | Philosophy |
| Mahnour Khan | Political Science |
| Savion W. Simon | Spanish Language Studies |
| Allie Cheff | Ramapo Book Prize (HGS) |
| Katie Barrales Cortes | Faculty-Student Research Award (HGS) |
| | Faculty: Professor Sarah Koenig |
| | Title: <i>Creating an Index for Providence and the Invention of American History</i> |

School of Social Science and Human Services: Dean Aaron Lorenz

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Jake Gursaly | Elementary Education |
| Jarrett E. Jirak | Environmental Studies |
| Eric Cook | Law and Society |
| Sumaiya Muhammad | Psychology |
| Serene Rahman | Psychology |
| Chana Wilen | Social Science |
| Alicia Michele Greaney | Social Work |
| Megan Taylor Rose | Sociology |
| Anjali Patel | Ramapo Book Prize (SSHS) |
| Sumaiya Muhammad | Faculty-Student Research Award (SSHS) |
| | Faculty: Professor Naseem Choudhury |
| | Title: <i>Neural Basis of Attention and Working Memory and Effects of Loss Aversion on Attention and Cognitive Performance</i> |

School of Theoretical and Applied Science: Dean Edward Saiff

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Jamie Latona | Biochemistry |
| Jessica Hrniciar | Biology |
| Delia Jane Tota | Biology |
| Ayush Acharya | Chemistry |
| Nitesh Parajuli | Computer Science |
| Subin Mali | Engineering Physics |
| Virginia Jane Van Ryzin | Environmental Science |
| Amanda Calvert | Mathematics |
| Stephanie Lombardo | Nursing |
| Andre' Young | Nursing |
| Biplab Thapa Magar | Ramapo Book Prize (TAS) |
| Vanesa Getseva | Faculty-Student Research Award (TAS) |
| | Faculty: Professor Amruth Kumar |
| | Title: <i>Comparing Bayesian Knowledge Tracing Model against Naïve Mastery Model</i> |

College Honors Program: Professor Rebecca Root (Co-Director)

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Audrey Grace Miller | College Honors Award |
|---------------------|----------------------|

College Honors Program – Graduating Students:

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Samuel Anklowitz | Carlyle Herman | Brendon O'Reilly |
| Dahiana Arenas | Andrea Hofstra | Michelle M. Park |
| Sevan Asadurian | Mahnoor Khan | Serene Rahman |
| Vanessa Bogнар | Samrah S. Khan | Josemiguel D. Rodriguez |
| Nicholas Bykov | Antoin K. Lazieh | Parker Rogers |
| Alexa Cahill | Pietro R. Lombardo | Niara Rowe |
| Prabal Chhatkuli | Subin Mali | Eric Sorger |
| Aine Cullen | Alison M. Mann | Samantha Stolker |
| Danielle DeAngelis | Audrey Grace Miller | Jenna R. Vasquez |
| Cassidy L. DeMona | Em Moxley | Michaela Zabel |
| Erin Fischer | Christina G. Nyman | |

**AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS
LOCAL 2274 AWARDS**

AFT Graduate School Scholarship Award
Lumana Shakya

Henry J. Frundt Memorial Scholarship Award
Gabriella DeGennaro

Herbert Wortreich Award
Lucia Demchenko

Lee Sennish Prize
Morgan Faith Neumann

The 2021 Academic Achievement Ceremony program
and biographies of awardees also appear at www.ramapo.edu/aac.

2021 ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT CEREMONY

Biographies

ANISFIELD SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AWARDEES

The first outstanding student in ACCOUNTING is ASHLEY EGGLEY.

Ashley works full-time as an Accounts Payable Specialist. She was a participant in the IRS Adrian Project, a day-long simulation of a mock criminal investigation, which she says “was enlightening regarding the criminal justice side of the IRS.” Ashley is currently enrolled in the Ramapo College M.S. in Accounting graduate program. After she receives her degree, she plans to take the CPA exam and proceed with her career from there.

The second outstanding student in ACCOUNTING is AUDREY MILLER.

Audrey is a member of several organizations on campus. She has served as President of Beta Alpha Psi, is a member of Alpha Kappa Psi, and was group leader and executive board member of the College’s Honors Program. Audrey enjoys volunteering with the Hackensack Riverkeeper, a local environmental organization and also volunteered in India on an alternative spring break program with the Civic and Community Engagement Center. After graduation, Audrey will pursue her MBA degree and CPA license.

The outstanding student in ECONOMICS is JASMINE CORAZON.

Jasmine is a member of several honor societies including Beta Gamma Sigma (the international business honor society), Tau Sigma (a national honor society for transfer students), and Omicron Delta Epsilon (an international economics honor society). After Jasmine graduates this year, she plans to attend graduate school.

The outstanding student in FINANCE is SUMIT ADHIKARI.

Sumit is Vice President of several student organizations including the International Student Organization, the South Asian Club, and Enactus, a club in which students work with local organizations to make a positive impact on the community. Sumit won an Outstanding Student Staff award in 2018, sponsored by the Center for Student Involvement. While he has been accepted to graduate schools in Europe and the US, Sumit has not yet decided which school he will attend.

The outstanding student in INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT is SAMUEL ANKLOWITZ.

Sam is currently Co-President and Station Manager of the College radio station WRPR FM. Sam has served as the Residence Hall Association Treasurer and Program Coordinator and is currently serving on the College Honors Program Executive Board. After graduation, Sam will seek a full-time job within the Information Technology Systems field. Eventually, he would like to go back to school to study further in the field of analytics.

The outstanding student in INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS is ANNA SCARPIS.

Anna is involved in several student organizations. She is Vice President of the Italian Club and treasurer for Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society, and she is an Ally of the Recovery Program at Ramapo. She is also a member of the Track and Field team and participated in the 2019 NJAC Championships. Anna has accepted a full-time position as an Import and Export Logistics Assistant for an Italian company based in Hasbrouck Heights.

The outstanding student in MANAGEMENT is ELLIS JOHNSON.

In 2019, Ellis received the Anisfield-Meyers Family Endowed Scholarship Award. One of his scholastic achievements includes receiving the highest score on the Final Diary Submission about augmented reality and virtual reality (a research project in International Business). After graduation, Ellis would like to secure a sales management position with a company like Pepsi, BMW, or Sherwin-Williams and eventually get a Master's degree in Management.

The outstanding student in MARKETING is KIALY ACKERSON.

Kialy is a student volunteer with the Ramapo Ice Hockey club, a member of Tau Sigma Transfer Honor Society, and a student employee in the Athletics department. Kialy studied abroad in London last year and also went on the alternative spring break in Nepal in 2019. After graduating this semester, Kialy plans on earning her MBA and subsequently pursuing a career in Marketing.

The ASB RAMAPO BOOK PRIZE is awarded to ISABELLE GALLEGO.

Isabelle is a member of several clubs on campus including the Roadrunner Financial Group, the Tau Sigma Honor Society, and Females in STEM Society. In summer 2020, Isabelle was an intern at the Small Business Development Center at Ramapo College, working on pandemic relief for local businesses. This summer she will be interning at GAF as a Business Analyst Intern.

The ASB FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD is presented to ERIN FISCHER.

Erin was the recipient of the Ramapo College Merit Scholarship and the Lori Ann Oldenhage Memorial Scholarship. Erin, who graduated in January, was very active on campus as a member of the ASB Dean's Advisory Council, the College Honors Program, and the Women's basketball team. She also worked in Social Media in the Ramapo College Office of Marketing and Communications for the past three years. Erin has accepted a position with Kraus Marketing as a Project Manager in the Art/Web Design sector of the business.

SCHOOL OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS AWARDEES

The outstanding student in COMMUNICATION ARTS: DIGITAL FILMMAKING is KAYLA SANTOS.

Kayla is the President of the Filipino American Student Association in academic year 2020-2021. She was inducted into the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society as a first-year student in 2018. She is in the Peer Facilitation Program and FASA. She has produced short films and videos made for FASA and Peer Program. She hopes to find a job in Sound Production for TV or Film.

The outstanding student in COMMUNICATION ARTS: GLOBAL COMMUNICATION & MEDIA is GABRIELLA BURKART.

Gabriella is President of Lambda Pi Eta, the national honor society for Communication Arts students, and has also received the Academic Achievement Award and Academic Excellence Award for Lambda Pi Eta. She participated in the COPLAC Undergraduate Research Conference in 2019 and 2020 and the National Communication Association Conference in 2021. She has worked for Starbaby Enterprises and Signify. After graduation, Gabriella plans to continue working with Signify in Integrated Communications.

**The outstanding student in COMMUNICATION ARTS:
JOURNALISM is KRISTIN MONTEMARANO.**

Kristin is a member of Lambda Pi Eta and has been on the Dean's List every single semester at Ramapo. She recently completed an internship with Naturalvert, a local granola company in Hawthorne. After graduation, she plans on working in the field of journalism revolving around food, lifestyle and/or social issues, and human rights. Her future goal is to pursue a Master's degree.

**The outstanding student in COMMUNICATION ARTS:
VISUAL COMMUNICATION DESIGN is KELLY BELSITO.**

Kelly is a member of the Yearbook Club, Theta Phi Alpha Sorority, Lambda Pi Eta Honor Society for Communication, Order of Omega Greek Leadership Society, The National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society. She worked as a student designer for the 2020 and 2021 yearbooks. She also worked as a student aide in the Marketing and Communications Office. Kelly hopes to pursue a career in design.

**The outstanding student in COMMUNICATION ARTS: WRITING
is NATASHA DRISCOLL.**

Natasha is a member of Sigma Delta Tau, Lambda Pi Eta, and Alpha Sigma Lambda. She is grateful to her professors and has found Ramapo to be a supportive and amazing place for her writing pursuits. She plans to attend graduate school.

**The outstanding student in CONTEMPORARY ARTS
is NICOLE ALETA.**

Nicole is a contract major who took courses in Theater and Music and performed in many plays and concerts during her time at Ramapo. She has been nominated for KCACTF's Irene Ryan Awards for her performance in Ramapo's virtual production of Kirsten Greenidge's *Baltimore*. Nicole has been a member of Alpha Psi Omega, which is Ramapo College's Theatre Honor Society. Nicole has served three years on the Executive Board for United Asian Association. She was Treasurer for one year, then Co-President for her last two years. She wants to continue her involvement in the AAPI community through her artistry and advocacy. Nicole has recently competed in UPitchNJ, where entrepreneurship students at New Jersey's four-year colleges and universities compete by presenting a startup idea. Nicole is contemplating graduate school; until she decides, she will be searching for post-grad opportunities in the entertainment industry.

The outstanding student in MUSIC is JAMES MOORE.

During his time at Ramapo, James created a musical work entitled *Timequake*, which was inspired by the Kurt Vonnegut novel. James is looking to achieve a career producing music as a recording engineer, performer, or composer with a dream to one day be a film score composer. James is also an active participant in the Ramapo College Chorale.

The outstanding student in THEATER is VALERIE SHWALB.

Valerie is a Theater major with concentrations in Acting and Directing/Stage Management and a minor in Digital Filmmaking. She served on the Theater Season Selection Advisory Committee for two years, worked as a scene shop student aide for three years, and participated in the Ramapo College Theater productions for all four years. She participated at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) and was nominated for her dramaturgical work. She is a member of Alpha Psi Omega (Theater Honor Society) and has served on the executive board for two years, as the secretary and financial manager. She is also a member of Ramapo College TV and College Progressives. She did an internship with the PROTOTYPE Theater Festival in January 2020 and hopes to work in the theater and entertainment industry in New York City and plans on going to graduate school.

The outstanding student in VISUAL ARTS is SYDNEY SILODOR.

Sydney is a Visual Arts major with a concentration in Drawing and Painting. She has worked as an Art Specialist at Camp Veritans Day Camp and has volunteered at ArtWorks for the Naomi Cohain Foundation's *Express Yourself* event. She is the recipient of the Judith Peck Scholarship for academic year 2020-2021. Her paintings were displayed in 2020 Senior Thesis Group Exhibition *Here Now* in the Kresge Gallery. Sydney is on the Dean's List and will graduate *Summa Cum Laude* in June. She plans to attend graduate school to pursue a Master's degree in Art Therapy in Fall 2021.

The CA RAMAPO BOOK PRIZE is awarded to DAVID MACHON.

David is a Communication Arts major with a concentration in Global Communications and Media. He has volunteered at the Women's Center and was a participant in the Gender Inclusive Housing initiative. He presented his paper *Survivor- Outwit, Outplay, Out CRITIQUE* at the 24-25th New Jersey Communication Association Conference. David has also served as a Marketing Intern at Benchmark Federal Credit Union.

The CA FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD is presented to DAVID TIERNEY.

David is a Communication Arts major with a concentration in Global Communications and Media. He attended and presented his research at the COPLAC Undergraduate Research Conference in Fall 2020 and NJCA in Spring 2021. David plans to attend graduate school after his studies at Ramapo.

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND GLOBAL STUDIES AWARDEES

The outstanding student in AMERICAN STUDIES is LAUREN STORCH.

Lauren will graduate in May 2021 with majors in American Studies and History. She served as Vice President of the History Club and President of the Global Roadrunners. She is a member of both Phi Alpha Theta and the Order of Omega Mu Rho. She studied abroad at the University of Edinburgh in Spring 2019. She plans to attend Rutgers next year to pursue a Master's degree in Education with a concentration in Social Studies. She plans to teach History at the secondary level.

The outstanding student in HISTORY is ANDREA HOFSTRA.

Andrea will graduate in May 2021 with majors in History and Literature with a Creative Writing Concentration. She served as Vice President of Leadership and Recruitment for Alpha Phi Omega and is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta, Sigma Tau Delta, Phi Alpha Theta, and the Order of Omega Greek Leadership Society. She held internships with both the Jane Addams' Papers Project at Ramapo College and the Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers University. She plans to enter a graduate certificate program in Digital Public Humanities at George Mason University while pursuing full-time work in either historical archives or publication.

The outstanding student in INTERNATIONAL STUDIES is MICHAELA ZABEL.

Michaela is a dual major in International Studies and Political Science with an Italian minor. She will graduate in May 2021. She has been involved in Democracy Matters, Pep Band, and the International Students Organization. She is also a member of several honor societies including Alpha Lambda Delta, Sigma Iota Rho, and Pi Sigma Alpha. She is currently seeking employment with either the government or think tanks in the role of a cultural or political analyst. Eventually, she plans on pursuing a Master's degree.

The outstanding student in LITERATURE is SARAH ELDIB.

Sarah will graduate in May 2021 in Literature. She served as Treasurer and Secretary of Sigma Tau Delta. She was a Volunteer Literacy Tutor for the Literacy Volunteers of Pascack Valley. She served on the search committee for Assistant Professor of African American Literature. Sarah plans to work full-time as a teacher and to pursue a TESOL Certificate.

The outstanding student in PHILOSOPHY is MEGAN ROSE.

Megan will graduate in May 2021 with majors in Philosophy and Sociology. She served as President of Alpha Kappa Delta and Vice President of the Philosophy Club and is a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. She completed internships at Bergen Volunteers, the Diabetes Foundation, and the Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation. She plans to work in non-profit management.

The outstanding student in POLITICAL SCIENCE is MAHNOOR KHAN.

Mahnoor will graduate in May 2021 with a major in Political Science and a minor in Mathematics. She is President of Pi Sigma Alpha and a member of both MSA and the Honors Program and was awarded the Rutgers New Leadership Certificate for Women in Politics. Mahnoor plans to pursue a career in a publishing and/or editorial field. She also plans to attend graduate school in the future.

The outstanding student in SPANISH LANGUAGE STUDIES is SAVION SIMON.

Savion will graduate in May 2021 with majors in Spanish and Psychology. He is the Vice President of the Ramapo College Dance Company and a member of Alpha Lambda Delta and Psi Chi International. He held an internship at New Bridge Jobs Plus Services. He plans to pursue a Master's degree in Social Work and become an adolescent therapist.

The HGS RAMAPO BOOK PRIZE is awarded to ALLIE CHEFF.

Allie will graduate in May 2022 with a History Major and a certificate in Secondary Education. She is also enrolled in the Master of Arts in Special Education 4+1 program. She is a member of Phi Alpha Theta and Kappa Delta Pi. Allie traveled to Nepal for the Ramapo Spring Break Service Trip in Spring 2019. She also works with the Jane Addams' Papers Project and plans to enter the teaching field as either a Social Studies or Special Education teacher.

The HGS FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD is presented to KATIE BARRALES CORTES.

Katie will graduate in May 2021 with a major in History and a minor in Spanish. She worked with Professor Sarah Koenig to create an index for Professor Koenig's forthcoming book, *Providence and the Invention of American History*. She is a member of Tri Sigma, Phi Alpha Theta, and The History Club. Katie plans to attend Law School after Ramapo.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND HUMAN SERVICES AWARDEES

The outstanding student in ELEMENTARY EDUCATION is JAKE GURSALY.

As a former baseball player and Deans' List recipient, Jake is a member of Ramapo LEAD Club (*Leadership Education and Awareness of Disabilities*). For the past two semesters, he has been a student teacher at Norwood Public School. After graduation, Jake plans to complete his Master of Arts in Special Education and become a great teacher for his students at Valley Middle School in Oakland, a position he recently accepted.

The outstanding student in ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES is JARRETT JIRAK.

Jarret is a class leader for the Ramapough Lenape Tribe Relocation Project under the tutelage of Professor Michael Edelstein. During his time at Ramapo, Jarret worked full-time as a law enforcement officer with the Department of Corrections, as a Senior Correctional Police Officer, and volunteered as an EMT. After graduation, Jarret plans to pursue a graduate degree with a focus on environmental conservation.

The outstanding student in LAW AND SOCIETY is ERIC COOK.

Since 2019, Eric has been interning at Lepore Taylor Fox LLP, an immigration law firm. The internship began as a class requirement and led to long-term work. Eric published his research at the 2020 Oneonta Undergraduate Philosophy Conference. After graduation, Eric plans to either attend NYU or Columbia for law school and work in corporate law.

The first outstanding student in PSYCHOLOGY is SUMAIYA MUHAMMAD.

Sumaiya is a Presidential Scholar and a recipient of the Joisher, Mukul, and Family Scholarship. Showing leadership and service, Sumaiya is a board member for the International Student Organization and the Ramapo Chapter of National Society Leadership and Success. In 2020, she presented her research, *The Effects of Affect Priming on Cognitive Performance*, at the Psychology Symposium. After graduation, Sumaiya will take a year to garner continued work experience and then apply to graduate school.

The second outstanding student in PSYCHOLOGY is SERENE RAHMAN.

Serene is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta Honors Society, Secretary of Global Roadrunners, Active Minds, and Democracy Matters. She participated in a faculty-led study abroad trip to Japan in 2018 and held internships at VantagePoint360 and West Bergen Mental Health Hospital. Serene presented her work on Information Avoidance Among Voters at the Ramapo Psychology Symposium in 2019 and the National Collegiate Honors Council Conference in 2020. After graduation, Serene plans to take a year off before pursuing her Ph.D.

The outstanding student in SOCIAL SCIENCE is CHANA WILEN.

While a Social Science student, Chana focused on social work classes that taught her how to help those who are less fortunate. Chana volunteered at Ramapo's food pantry, organizing and assessing inventory, and interned in the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Planning, helping organize spreadsheets, conduct data analysis, and help with the 2020 Middle States reaccreditation process. After graduation, Chana plans on utilizing the skills and expertise she has learned here at Ramapo to help teach children and enhance their educational, personal, and mental knowledge.

The outstanding student in SOCIAL WORK is ALICIA GREANEY.

A merit scholarship and Deans' List recipient, Alicia is the Treasurer of the Social Work Club and a member of Sigma Alpha Pi and Tau Sigma honor societies. After graduation, Alicia will attend the Advanced Standing MSW track at Rutgers University School of Social Work where she will focus on management and policy. Additionally, she plans to pursue their Violence against Women and Children Certificate.

The outstanding student in SOCIOLOGY is MEGAN ROSE.

A campus leader, Megan is President of Alpha Kappa Delta, Vice President of the Philosophy Club, and a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. Her research with Professor Marta Vides was presented at the SUNY Oneonta Philosophy Conference and Ramapo Scholars' Day in 2020. Megan held internships at Bergen Volunteers, the Diabetes Foundation, and the Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation. After graduation, Megan plans to pursue work in nonprofit management.

The SSHS RAMAPO BOOK PRIZE is awarded to ANJALI PATEL.

Anjali is the President of the Student Government Association. She received numerous honors including the Angelo Tarallo Memorial Scholarship and Hiden Family College Honors Scholarship. In addition to serving as Student Government Association President, Anjali has also been part of Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, Sigma Alpha Pi Honor Society, Democracy Matters, Building a Better Tomorrow Club, and the South Asian Club and is a member of the Honors Program. She is co-editor of the Ramapo Journal of Law & Society.

The SSHS FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD is presented to SUMAIYA MUHAMMAD.

Nominated by Professor Naseem Choudhury, Sumaiya's research, *Neural Basis of Attention and Working Memory*, showcases her value as an independent researcher. In the words of Dr. Choudhury, "In the spring of 2020, my lab had to shut down data collection due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but that did not deter Sumaiya from leaning into her research, strengthening her resolve to carry out her project, seeking guidance from outside sources, and succeeding beyond my expectations. In addition, she became curious about a totally different set of problems about loss aversion and how attentional processes may be related to individuals' decision-making and judgment skills around loss and gain... She is a resourceful, creative, mature, and highly focused individual who can work independently to accomplish the goals that she sets her sights on... which speaks to Sumaiya's skills in time management, her dedication to her research, and to her desire to contribute to her community."

SCHOOL OF THEORETICAL AND APPLIED SCIENCE AWARDEES

The outstanding student in BIOCHEMISTRY is JAMIE LATONA.

Jamie plans to study Medicinal Chemistry in graduate school. She won the Winshell Biochemistry Award and the Beck Scholarship. She is a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, the PLU Chemistry Honor Society, and the Sustainability Committee. Jamie is part of the TAS Research Honors Program. She is a teaching assistant for chemistry and a tutor for organic chemistry.

The first outstanding student in BIOLOGY is JESSICA HRNCIAR.

Jessica plans to attend medical school after taking a gap year. She was a member of the Cross Country and Track and Field Teams at Ramapo where she received second-team all-conference in 2019 cross country, honorable mention in indoor track, and 2019-2020 NJAC all academic first teams awards. Jessica is Co-President of the Pre-Med/Pre-Health Professions Club, a leader of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, and a member of the Chi Alpha Sigma Honor Society. In 2019 Jessica completed a travel fellowship in Spain, Croatia, and Greece where she shadowed physicians in different specialties. She has interned at the Nathan Kline Institute and Valley Hospital and recently has been volunteering at the Valley COVID-19 vaccination clinic.

The second outstanding student in BIOLOGY is DELIA TOTA.

Delia will be attending graduate school in the Microbiology Ph.D. program at Cornell University where her specific interest is in the regulation of gene expression in microbiomes. She has been on the Dean's List every semester. She belongs to the Biology Journal Club and the Tribeta Honor Society. She was accepted to the Colorado State University Summer Bioscience Research program and she has interned at Hotspot Therapeutics working on allosteric drug sites.

The outstanding student in CHEMISTRY is AYUSH ACHARYA.

Ayush will be attending Penn State University for graduate school. Ayush is a Dean's List student and has a Dean's Scholarship, a Topken Scholarship, and a Boycheva-Yordanov Scholarship. He is Co-Secretary of the Chemistry-Biochemistry Club and the President of the International Students Organization. Ayush has done research with Professor Jay Carreon on the green chemistry of chalcone compounds with an aim of a better yield to benefit the environment.

The outstanding student in COMPUTER SCIENCE is NITESH PARAJULI.

Nitesh plans to work as a software engineer for a few years and then attend graduate school. Nitesh is a Student Government Associate Senator at Large, President of the South Asian Club, and a member of the International Student Organization and the Computer and Technology Clubs.

The outstanding student in ENGINEERING PHYSICS is SUBIN MALI.

Subin plans to attend graduate school in the near future. Subin is a Deans's List student and the winner of the Philip M. Anderson Scholarship. Subin is President of the Physics Club and is a member of the International Student Organization and the Math Club. Subin has done research in both Engineering Physics with Professor Catalin Martin and Computer Science with Professor Eman Abdelfattah.

The outstanding student in ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE is VIRGINIA VAN RYZIN.

Virginia plans to attend graduate school after gaining some work experience in land stewardship and management. She has researched tree demographics at Norvin State Forest, migrant raptor identification, and linking climate extremes with upper air patterns in New York City.

The outstanding student in MATHEMATICS is AMANDA CALVERT.

Amanda will take her actuary exams and then become an actuary. She is a Dean's List student and a member of Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society.

The first outstanding student in NURSING is STEPHANIE LOMBARDO.

Stephanie is interested in a nursing career in a hospital setting and eventually wants to become a Nurse Practitioner specializing in oncology. She is a Dean's List student with a Roukema Center Study Abroad Scholarship. She is the Vice President of the Nursing Student Organization and the lead anatomy and physiology tutor. She belongs to the Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society, the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and the Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society. Stephanie has studied abroad in Ghana and administered COVID-19 vaccinations at New Bridge Medical Center, where she was also a mental health assistant. She worked as a Nurse's Aide at Clara Maass Medical Center in the COVID, med surgical, and telemetry units.

The second outstanding student in NURSING is ANDRE' YOUNG.

Andre plans to pursue a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree after gaining experience as a Registered Nurse in an emergency room setting.

The TAS RAMAPO BOOK PRIZE is awarded to BIPLAB THAPA MAGAR.

Biplab plans on becoming a software engineer. Biplab has a passion for music, history, and literature. He is Secretary of the Computers and Technology Club and has presented a literature paper on Scholars' Day and a paper on machine learning at an IEEE conference.

The TAS FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD is presented to VANESA GETSEVA.

Vanesa will be studying for her Ph.D. at Columbia University where she will be working on computational tools to better understand biomedical problems. She won the TAS Academic Achievement Book Prize last year. Vanesa is the recipient of the Judith and Francis Rodriguez Bioinformatics Scholarship and Sevanti Manandhar Memorial Scholarship. She won Best Paper at the 2019 IEEE UEMCOM Conference, third prize at the George and Helen Kohut

Symposium, and the TAS Faculty-Student Research Award in 2019. She has conducted research in computer science with Professor Amruth Kumar and bioinformatics research with Professors Paramjeet Bagga and Scott Frees. She participates in the TAS Research Honors Program and is a member of the International Student Organization and the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society. Vanesa participated in the International Exchange Program at the American University in Greece and was a Computational Biology intern at both Weil Cornell Medical College and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. She also interned at the Boyce Thompson Institute at Cornell University. Vanesa has published with Professor Eman Abdelfattah on classification models of character data and with Drs. Bagga and Frees on Cis-regulatory G-quadruplex motifs.

RAMAPO COLLEGE HONORS PROGRAM – AWARDEE & GRADUATING STUDENTS

The COLLEGE HONORS AWARD is presented to AUDREY MILLER.

Audrey is an Accounting major with a 4.0 GPA. She has served as an Honors Developmental Group Leader and as an Honors Program Executive Board Member for two years. She is the current President of Beta Alpha Psi, an honor society for financial information. Audrey is a brother of Alpha Kappa Psi, a professional co-ed business fraternity. She studied business abroad in Japan and South Korea on a faculty-led trip. Audrey volunteered in India on an alternative spring break trip with the Civic and Community Engagement Center. She is a member of Phi Beta Delta Honor Society of International Scholars. Audrey enjoys volunteering with the Hackensack Riverkeeper, a local environmental non-profit.

At Ramapo, Audrey worked for the Center for Student Involvement and the Educational Opportunity Fund Program. Her research on divorce mediation under the guidance of Professor Marta Vides was selected for Ramapo College's 2020 Scholars' Day. Her Honors Program thesis involved research on scrapbooks as narratives under the guidance of Professor Pinar Kayaalp. She interns at an accounting firm in the tax department. After graduation, Audrey will pursue her Master of Business Administration degree and Certified Public Accountant license.

COLLEGE HONORS PROGRAM STUDENTS GRADUATING IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-2021:

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Samuel Anklowitz | Pietro Lombardo |
| Dahiana Arenas | Subin Mali |
| Sevan Asadurian | Alison Mann |
| Vanessa Bogнар | Audrey Miller |
| Nicholas Bykov | Em Moxley |
| Alexa Cahill | Christina Nyman |
| Prabal Chhatkuli | Brendon O'Reilly |
| Aine Cullen | Michelle Park |
| Danielle DeAngelis | Serene Rahman |
| Cassidy Demona | Josemiguel Rodriguez |
| Erin Fischer | Parker Rogers |
| Carlyle Herman | Niara Rowe |
| Andrea Hofstra | Eric Sorger |
| Mahnoor Khan | Samantha Stolker |
| Samrah Khan | Jenna Vasquez |
| Antoin Lazieh | Michaela Zabel |

AFT SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The AFT GRADUATE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP is awarded to LUMANA SHAKYA.

Lumana is graduating Ramapo College with a Bachelor's degree in Economics and has been accepted to doctoral programs at both Binghamton University and North Carolina State University. While at Ramapo, Lumana has participated Intercollegiate Fed Challenge, founded a new student dance club, obtained a financial analyst internship, and tutored for the Office of Specialized Services.

Lumana aspires to do research overlapping macroeconomics and development economics, focusing on how economic tools can aid in narrowing the gap caused by poverty and inequality.

The HENRY J. FRUNDT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD is presented to GABRIELLA DeGENNARO.

Gabriella is a sophomore studying to become an educator. Gabriella is an orientation leader and a member of Future Teachers at Ramapo, as well as a member of Leadership, Education and Awareness for the Disabled (LEAD). As a teacher, Gabriella aspires to create a safe space and embrace diversity in the classroom respecting each student's individuality.

HERBERT WORTREICH AWARD WINNER

The HERBERT WORTREICH AWARD is presented to LUCIA DEMCHENKO.

While taking an Edible Landscapes course at Ramapo, Lucia designed a prototype for a sustainable landscape at the College's Sustainability Center and later created an Environmental Impact Statement to address the relocation of the Turtle Clan of the Ramapough Lenape Tribe, victims of environmental injustice. Lucia became interested in local and sustainable farming and volunteered at MEVO Fresh Roots Farm. She was the recipient of the Transfer Merit Scholarship and PSEG Scholarship. Lucia plans to pursue a graduate degree in Environmental Management, Environmental Law, or a related discipline.

LEE SENNISH PRIZE AWARDEE

The LEE SENNISH PRIZE is awarded to MORGAN FAITH NEWMAN.

Morgan is completing a major in Communication Arts with a concentration in Writing and a minor in Civic and Community Leadership. She interned at Rutgers' Boggs Center for two semesters and won the Andrew J. Murphy Award by Advancing Opportunities, New Jersey. She has been a member of the Golden Key Honor Society, Sigma Tau Delta Literature Honor Society, the National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS), National Communication Honor Society Lambda Pi Eta Chapter, and the National Society of Leadership and Success. Her senior project is a children's book that centers on better understanding and better treatment of children with disabilities. It is a helpful guide for both children and adults. She has been accepted to multiple graduate programs and plans to attend the CUNY Master's program in Disability Studies.

RAMAPO COLLEGE ALMA MATER

Lyrics by: **Michael Alasa**

Music by: **David Welch**

Ramapo we sing to you.

Ramapo with pride.

Praised filled voices raised on high fill your mountain side.

*In the time we've spent together we have come to learn
to have dignity, a mind that's free and celebrate humanity.*

Ramapo, as years go by.

Ramapo with love.

Even when you're far away, for ever we'll be one.

© **Copyright 1986**

