



# Academic Achievement Ceremony

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Thursday, May 15, 2014

1 p.m.

Sharp Theater, Berrie Center

PUSHING > BOUNDARIES

 RAMAPO  
COLLEGE  
OF NEW JERSEY

*The Academic Achievement Ceremony celebrates the academic achievements of undergraduate students at Ramapo College of New Jersey. As we continue to admit students who are better prepared for the rigors of college, students honored at this event are more and more likely to be among the most outstanding. These students are recognized for their specific as well as more general intellectual achievements.*

*The Office of the Provost would like to recognize the gracious assistance of all whose work makes our acknowledgement of student achievement possible today.*

*We would like to thank the deans, conveners and faculty who took the time to assess carefully the contributions of students considered for these awards.*

*We are especially grateful to the benefactors who contributed monetary awards: the Ramapo Federation of State College Teachers/AFT Local 2274, Carol Schaefer/Shepard Foundation and others. (See About the Awards for more details.)*

*Our greatest appreciation is extended to those students honored today and to the many students whose achievements made the choice of honorees a difficult one. Their excellent academic achievement and co-curricular activities are the life of Ramapo College.*

**[www.ramapo.edu/aac](http://www.ramapo.edu/aac)**

# **ABOUT THE AWARDS**

## **OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT MAJOR AWARD**

The Outstanding Academic Achievement Major award is given each year to a graduating senior in each major with a 3.5 and above grade point average who has excelled in his or her field of study. Majors with more than 250 students will be granted two awards. The Ramapo Federation of State College Teachers/American Federation of Teachers Local 2274 provides the monetary awards from generous contributions of their union members.

## **RAMAPO BOOK PRIZE for ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

The Ramapo Book Prize for Academic Excellence is awarded each year to one continuing student in each school who has exhibited outstanding achievement in his/her field of study. The Ramapo College of New Jersey Office of the Provost provides each student with a gift award.

## **FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARDS**

The prestigious Faculty-Student Research Award is given to a team of students or up to two individual students in each of the academic schools who have conducted research in close collaboration with faculty mentors and made a significant contribution to the project. Students will have presented the research at an outside conference presentation or exhibition or submitted it for publication. The Ramapo College of New Jersey Office of the Provost proudly provides each student with a gift award.

## **CAROL SCHAEFER HUMAN SERVICES/ SHEPARD FOUNDATION AWARD**

The Carol Schaefer Human Services Award is given to four graduating students who have demonstrated a strong commitment to working in the human services field and who will be attending graduate school next year. Each recipient receives a generous monetary award graciously provided by the Carol Schaefer/Shepherd Foundation.

## **NASW SOCIAL WORK SCHOLARSHIP**

The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Social Work Scholarship award is given to an undergraduate social work student for the opportunity to attend professional conferences or for scholarship. An endowment for the NASW/Social Work Scholarship generously provides the monetary award.

### **HERBERT WORTREICH AWARD**

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

### **AFT GRADUATE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP**

The AFT Graduate School Scholarship is selected by the Ramapo Federation of State College Teachers/American Federation of Teachers Local 2274 and 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 from contributions of their union members.

### **HENRY J. FRUNDT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

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

### **LEE SENNISH PRIZE**

The Lee Sennish Award is given annually to a graduating female student who demonstrates outstanding fulfillment or visibly improved academic performance over the period of enrollment, has 60 or more credits completed at Ramapo and has a minimum grade point average of 2.75. The Ramapo College of New Jersey Office of the President proudly provides a monetary award.

## **ORDER OF EVENTS**

### ***Introduction and Greetings***

by Beth Barnett,  
Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs

### ***School Awards for Outstanding Academic Achievement and Faculty-Student Research Awards***

#### ***presented by the Deans***

Anisfield School of Business – Lewis Chakrin  
Contemporary Arts – Steven Perry  
Salameno School of Humanities and Global Studies – Stephen Rice  
Social Science and Human Services – Samuel Rosenberg  
Theoretical and Applied Science – Edward Saiff

### ***American Federation of Teachers***

#### ***Graduate School Scholarship Award***

#### ***Henry J. Frundt Memorial Scholarship Award***

presented by Edouard Eloi Jr., Vice President of AFT Local 2274

### ***Lee Sennish Prize***

presented by Peter P. Mercer, President  
and Katherine McGee, Coordinator of the Women's Center

### ***Closing Remarks***

by Peter P. Mercer, President

### ***Alma Mater***

Music Provided by Professor Lisa Lutter  
Vocal Performance by Jacqueline Guhl

*Immediately following the event, there will be a Hospitality Suite  
with light refreshments in the Student Center Atrium for  
those wishing a place to gather before the Arching Ceremony.*

*All are welcome to attend the  
Ramapo College Arching Ceremony at 5:30 p.m.*

## SCHOOL AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

### **Anisfield School of Business**, Lewis Chakrin, Dean

Stephen M. Scorzo	Accounting
Saroj Maharjan	Economics
Vincent J. Romano	Finance
Catherine E. Gilio	Information Technology Management
Cristhian J. Vera	International Business
Maciej Maj	Management
Kyan J. Ferreira	Marketing
Micael P. Sousa	Ramapo Undergraduate Book Prize
Irina Samoila	Faculty-Student Research Award
	<i>Faculty:</i> Juan F. Cabrera
	<i>Title:</i> Attention Constraints and the Quality of Financial Markets: An Experimental Study

### **School of Contemporary Arts**, Steven Perry, Dean

Steven F. Filippi	Communication Arts, Digital Filmmaking
Cole M. Patterson	Communication Arts, Global Communication & Media
Nicole M. Alliegro	Communication Arts, Journalism
Rachael A. Viscusi	Communication Arts, Visual Communication Design
Christina L. Patullo	Communication Arts, Writing
Kelsey L. Williams	Contemporary Arts
Maximillian A. Liebman	Music
Jessica E. Gouker	Theater
Lauren M. Fedorchak	Visual Arts
Elise C. Zimmerman	Ramapo Undergraduate Book Prize

### **Salameno School of Humanities and Global Studies**, Stephen Rice, Dean

Emily J. Moore	American Studies
Thomas V. Colella	History
Tracy M. Harrsch	International Studies
Laura Sancic	Liberal Studies
Jacqueline N. Thomas	Literature
Catherine A. Morris	Political Science
Victoria E. Grey	Spanish Language Studies
Dana Lobenberg	Ramapo Undergraduate Book Prize
Jonathan B. Mangel	Faculty-Student Research Award
	<i>Faculty:</i> Michael Unger
	<i>Title:</i> Putting the Problem in the Crosshairs: Partisan Perceptions of the Causes of Gun Violence

### **School of Social Science and Human Services**, Samuel Rosenberg, Dean

Shanna L. Gilligan	Environmental Studies
Weston J. Kulick	Law and Society
Kevin M. Manz	Psychology
Caroline A. May	Psychology
Brittany N. Faber	Social Science
Lauren A. Meny	Social Work
Allison S. Gutworth	Sociology
Carrie R. Matthews	Ramapo Undergraduate Book Prize

Brooke R. Jamison	Faculty-Student Research Award <i>Faculty:</i> Aaron Lorenz <i>Title:</i> Bullying Gone Viral
Michelle J. Mouhtis	NASW Social Work Scholarship
Alexa R. Marques	Herbert Wortreich Award
Zuliema M. Alzate	Carol Schaefer Human Services Award
Cynthia Florencio	Carol Schaefer Human Services Award
Kyle T. Mack	Carol Schaefer Human Services Award
Lauren A. Meny	Carol Schaefer Human Services Award
Heidi Nani	Carol Schaefer Human Services Award
Rachael A. O'Brien	Carol Schaefer Human Services Award

**School of Theoretical and Applied Science, Edward Saiff, Dean**

Amy R. Bierman	Biochemistry
Matthew J. Crum	Bioinformatics
Chelsea L. Grama	Biology
Michelle S. Bakardjiev	Biology
Joonh Hoon Koh	Chemistry
Jennifer P. Aroche	Computer Science
Andrew J. Destefan	Engineering Physics
Jonathan M. Stelling	Environmental Science
Bennett I. Galperin	Integrated Science Studies
Jennifer L. Kee	Mathematics
Jenna M. Costa	Nursing
Amy Rabinowitz	Nursing
Danielle M. Bara	Ramapo Undergraduate Book Prize
Matthew J. Crum	Faculty-Student Research Award <i>Faculty:</i> Paramjeet Bagga & Scott Frees <i>Title:</i> Human genome-wide distribution of conserved cis-regulatory motifs

**AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS  
LOCAL 2274**

**AFT Graduate School Scholarship Award**

Eric R. Mulligan

**Henry J. Frundt Memorial Scholarship Award**

Elena C. Rubinetti

**LEE SENNISH PRIZE**

Victoria E. Grey

*The 2014 Academic Achievement Ceremony program and biographies (in order of appearance) will also appear on our website at [www.ramapo.edu/aac](http://www.ramapo.edu/aac)*

**2014 Academic Achievement Ceremony**  
**BIOGRAPHIES**

**ANISFIELD SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**

**The outstanding student in ACCOUNTING is STEPHEN SCORZO.**

Stephen is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society, NJ Society of CPAs, and American Institute of CPAs. He was also a member of the Ramapo College Accounting, Student Investment and KinderSmiles clubs and served as president of the Finance Club. During his time at Ramapo, Stephen participated in the CFA Research Challenge as well as the AICPA Personal Financial Planning Competition. He interned at PricewaterhouseCoopers as a member of the Health Industries Auditing Market Team. Stephen recently accepted a full time offer of employment with PricewaterhouseCoopers as an Audit Associate.

**The outstanding student in ECONOMICS is SAROJ MAHARJAN.**

Saroj is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma and Omicron Delta Epsilon honors societies, South Asians at Ramapo and the United Asian Association. He participated in the Fed Challenge, CFA Challenge and the Youth Council at UN-DPI. Saroj was a tax intern at both Konica Minolta and Nicholas G. Mamary, CPA. Saroj will be looking for work or go to graduate school.

**The outstanding student in FINANCE is VINCENT ROMANO.**

A Ramapo Student Ambassador, Vincent is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma professional business honor society, Phi Kappa Sigma Fraternity, Treasurer of Phi Kappa Sigma Fraternity and Treasurer of the Inter Fraternal Council. In 2011, Vincent won the Wizard of Wall Street trading competition. He was also a Regional Sales Operations intern at AT&T. After graduation, Vincent looks to pursue a career as a financial analyst and later pursue a MBA.

**The outstanding student in INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT is CATHERINE GILIO.**

Catherine is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars honors societies. She was also an Enactus Project Leader, Relay for Life event Co-Chair, and served on the E-board for Colleges against Cancer. During her time at Ramapo, she studied abroad at the University of Urbino in Italy. After graduation, Catherine looks forward to a career in the Information Technology field, specifically in IT Project Management.

**The outstanding student in INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS is CRISTHIAN VERA.**

Cristhian is a member of Omicron Delta Epsilon International Honor Society. His research work included assisting Professor George Gonpu, as well as his own research paper. He also attended the Ph.D. Project in November 2013. Cristhian interned in several areas of analysis, change and development at the United Nations and The Trade Office of Ecuador in New York. Cristhian's future pursuits include a Ph.D. in Economics and a career focused on Economic and Sustainable Development.



**The outstanding student in MANAGEMENT is MACIEJ MAJ.**

Maciej is a member of NJ Collegiate Business Administration Association, Beta Gamma Sigma, Human Resources Management and Chi Alpha Sigma honors societies. Maciej was the captain of the Ramapo College Division III Swim Team. He participated in the Metropolitan Collegiate Swimming Conference Championship and helped the RCNJ Roadrunners swim team beat school records in free style relays. He was New Jersey Athletic Conference All-Academic First Team. Maciej also interned over the summer as a Business Development Intern at Paragon Group USA. Maciej will pursue an MBA in Business and someday work in management administration.

**The outstanding student in MARKETING is KYAN FERREIRA.**

Kyan is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma, the Philosophy and Syfy clubs and served as the BMAD secretary. He was also a Ramapo Track Team High Jumper. Kyan interned at several businesses, two of which were Merrill Lynch and BMW North America. Kyan plans to spend a few years working while taking computer certification courses. After that, Kyan plans to get a Master's degree and one day start his own business.

**The 2014 ASB UNDERGRADUATE BOOK PRIZE goes to MICAEL SOUSA.**

Micael is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta, Omicron Delta Epsilon International and Beta Gamma Sigma International honors societies. He is currently a Finance intern at Supreme Cuts LLC. Micael interests include econometric modeling and capital market research and would like to pursue a career as a Financial Analyst for an investment bank. After gaining some experience in the field, Micael would like to obtain a graduate degree and become a Chartered Financial Analyst.

**The 2014 ASB FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD goes to IRINA SAMOILA.**

Irina is a Business Administration major with a concentration in Finance and Management. Irina worked with Professor Juan Cabrera on original research entitled: *Attention Constraints and Liquidity Provision: An Experimental Study*. The study focuses on the effect of short sale constraints on the value of the asset under different degrees of opinion dispersion across traders. Irina contributed by managing the implementation of the experiments (e.g., recruitment of participants, scheduling, etc.) and she will be in charge of assisting in the training of the participants on the use of the trading simulation. Once the experiments are conducted, she will assist in the data analysis process. The objective is to present the work at an academic conference in spring 2015 and publish soon thereafter. Irina is a member of several prestigious honors societies, participated in many conferences, did research for Professor Eric Haye, and interned with Technical Solutions, LLC and SportsCare of America. After graduation, Irina plans to attend graduate school to obtain an MBA in Finance or Management, become CFA Certified and someday work with a Fortune 500 corporation.

**SCHOOL OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS**

**The outstanding student in DIGITAL FILMMAKING is STEVEN FILIPPI.**

Steven is a member of Lambda Pi Eta and Pi Sigma Alpha honors societies and the Ramapo College Television Club. He also served in leadership roles with clubs such as Newman Catholic, Film Society, and Ramapo Republicans. Steven's works are impressive. One of them won RCTV's 2013 52 Hour Challenge. As a Curatorial intern at the Paley Center for Media, he also wrote an article on Fox's "24" for its website.

Steven's dream job would be a screenwriter on major motion pictures, but in the meantime hopes to work in the film industry in New York, and attend graduate school.

**The outstanding student in GLOBAL COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA is COLE PATTERSON.**

Cole, who also double-majored in History, is a member of Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society. He interned with Precision Sports Entertainment and Fox Sport's *YardBarker: Turn On The Jets*. Cole was recently offered a job with ESPN and hopes to continue working in Sports Media and eventually pursue a graduate degree.

**The outstanding student in JOURNALISM is NICOLE ALLIEGRO.**

Nicole is a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and the Alpha Lambda First year honors societies. Besides providing leadership service to Relay For Life, working two on campus jobs, and presenting her honors thesis project at the College Honors symposium, Nicole also interned at WABC-TV *7online*, *Life & Style*, *InTouch* and *Closer Weekly* magazines. However, Nicole reflects that her greatest involvement at Ramapo was her four-year commitment to *The Ramapo News* starting out as volunteer staff writer and ending as Editor-in-Chief. Upon graduation, Nicole will be joining the 2014 Teach for America Corps of Greater Philadelphia to become a middle school English teacher and will continue to pursue writing in her future.

**The outstanding student in VISUAL COMMUNICATION DESIGN is RACHAEL VISCUSI.**

Rachael is a member of several honors societies, served in leadership roles with the Creative Media Club and Relay For Life, and is a Special Olympics volunteer. She was a designer for Cinematheque as well as ITS. Her work was showcased at Media Collision, Scholars Day and Fest of the Best at Fairleigh Dickinson. After graduation, Rachael is looking forward to working in the field of Visual Communication Design.

**The outstanding student in WRITING is CHRISTINA PATULLO.**

Christina is a member of Lambda Pi Eta and was a Communications intern at the Borough of Franklin Lakes. Christina had two poems and one short story published in the literary magazine *The Labyrinth* where she also won first place for Best Fiction and second place Best Poetry. Christina will continue to publish her work and remain open to new possibilities.

**The outstanding student in CONTEMPORARY ARTS is KELSEY WILLIAMS.**

Kelsy is member of Alpha Lambda Delta, National Society of Collegiate Scholars and Golden Key honors societies. She also served on the WRPR E-Board as Marketing Manager. Kelsy interned at DWJ-TV, Comedy Central, Spike TV, Sony Pictures Television, and at NBC. She is currently working at Burson-Marsteller within their Consumer and Brand Marketing Practice as well as within their sports specialty team.

**The outstanding student in MUSIC goes to MAXIMILLIAN LIEBMAN.**

Max was the 2013 School of Contemporary Arts Book Prize winner. He is a member of the Ramapo Chorale and Music clubs, a Bassist in the Ramapo Roadrunner Jazz Band, and the General Manager of WRPR Ramapo Radio. He also studied under legendary recording engineer and studio owner Lou Gonzalez. After graduation, Max plans to work at a recording studio or live venue, while continuing to write and perform music. Someday, he may also relocate to Nashville, Music City, USA.

**The outstanding student in the THEATER is JESSICA GOUKER.**

Jessica is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta Freshman Honor Society, served as Production Manager for Alpha Psi Omega Theater Honor Society and Student Liaison for the campus Honor Society Committee. Jessica presented production materials for Viet Rock at the Regional Festival at Towson University. She interned at the Weston Playhouse Theater Company, and managed an Equity Showcase at LaMama, Etc's First Floor Theater in New York, worked for North Shore Music Theater and was the Production Manager & Lighting Designer of the first fully produced student production at Ramapo College last year. Jessica plans to pursue Stage Management and Technical Theater.

**The outstanding student in VISUAL ARTS is LAUREN FEDORCHAK.**

Lauren was the 2014 Soho Photo Krappy Kamera Competition Winner. She also represented Ramapo College at the 2013 COPLAC Northeast Regional Undergraduate Research Conference. After graduation, Lauren plans to attend graduate school for photography on the West Coast.

**The CA UNDERGRADUATE BOOK PRIZE recipient is ELISE ZIMMERMAN.**

Elise is currently a music major with concentrations in music industry and music production. She is a member of the Golden Key International Honour Society. She has also completed an internship with SiriusXM Radio.

**SALAMENO SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND GLOBAL STUDIES**

**The outstanding student in American Studies is EMILY MOORE.**

Emily's honors society memberships are numerous but please note that she presented her independent study paper at the 2014 Phi Alpha Theta International History Honor Society National Convention. She has served leadership roles in many groups. Emily studied in Hilo, Hawaii and spent Alternative Spring Break 2013 in the Dominican Republic. A peer facilitator, Emily was also a Global Roadrunner and a RASA Intern. Besides traveling, Emily hopes to one day be a high school history teacher or to teach English abroad.

**The outstanding student in HISTORY is THOMAS COLELLA.**

Thomas is a member of several honors societies including Phi Alpha Theta History Honors Society. He has participated in several Collegiate Honors Councils including the Phi Alpha Theta Northeast Regional Conference here at Ramapo College. Thomas was the Freshman Convocation Essay Contest winner in fall 2011 and Pine Hall Resident Assistant of the Year for 2011-12. He studied abroad in Florence, Italy in the summer of 2012 and then in Paris, France the following summer. Thomas plans to attend graduate school for a Master's in Education Leadership and Administration and teach high school/middle school in New Jersey.

**The outstanding student in INTERNATIONAL STUDIES is TRACY HARRSCH.**

Tracy is a member of Sigma Iota Rho International and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars honors societies. She completed her senior seminar research on the prevention of Cambodia's human trafficking industry. She also volunteered in Lima, Peru through International Volunteer Headquarters working with special needs children and teaching English. Tracy was a Business Development Intern with Course Hero Inc. and worked with the New York Blood Center to plan a community blood drive. Tracy hopes to work in advocacy for women's issues and human rights such as human trafficking prevention.

**The outstanding student in LIBERAL STUDIES is LAURA SANCIC.**

Laura is a member of the Golden Key Honor Society, Ramapo Chorale and a Women's Center volunteer. Laura was selected to represent Ramapo College at the 2013 COPLAC Northeast Regional Undergraduate Research Conference. Her faculty mentor was Professor Susan Hangen and the research work was titled *Assimilation and Acculturation Among Ghanaians in Urban Areas*. She also studied abroad in South India this spring and volunteers at St. Clare's Hospital in Dover. Laura plans to pursue graduate work in linguistics.

**The outstanding student in LITERATURE is JACQUELINE THOMAS.**

Jacqueline is a member of Sigma Tau Delta. She received the SSHGS Essay contest award and the New Jersey Media Award. Jacqueline was research assistant to various Literature faculty. She represented Ramapo College at the COPLAC Research Conference two separate years and also attended the Moravian Medieval Literature Conference. Her works have been published in the COPLAC Metamorphosis, as well as in Eratio, Barrelhouse, Burningword, and Trillium. Jacqueline will be an MFA candidate and teaching assistant at UNC Wilmington and an MA candidate in English at Middlebury College this fall.

**The outstanding student in POLITICAL SCIENCE is CATHERINE MORRIS.**

Catherine is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta First Year and National Collegiate honors societies and served as president for Pi Sigma Alpha. She was also a SSHGS Student Government Senator and Student Ambassador. Catherine participated in the Phi Alpha Theta Northeast Regional Conference with work entitled *The Revitalization of the Right Due to the ERA & Phyllis Schlafly*. She studied abroad in Bilbao, and interned at Advance Group Political Consulting Firm and Adam Gussen for Congress. Catherine is pursuing a career in the field of political consulting.

**The outstanding student in SPANISH LANGUAGE STUDIES is VICTORIA GREY.**

Victoria, also the 2014 Lee Sennish Prize winner, is a member of several honors societies including Alpha Lambda Delta, Golden Key International, and National Honor Society. She presented her Senior Thesis "*I feel Robbed: an Exploration of the Causes of the Maintenance and Loss of Spanish Language among Second Generation Children*" at Ramapo Scholars Day. Victoria studied abroad in Barcelona, interned at MSB Therapy and did fieldwork at Omni Day School. After graduation, Victoria will be attending the Communicative Sciences and Disorders Master's Program at NYU.

**The 2014 SSHGS UNDERGRADUATE BOOK PRIZE goes to DANA LOBENBERG.**

Dana is a member of Sigma Tau Delta Literature Honor Society, Alpha Psi Omega Theater Honor Society, the Literature Club and Hillel. This summer, she will be studying abroad in Galway, Ireland. Dana would like to attend graduate school or work in publishing and eventually have a career outside the country.

**The 2014 SSAIS FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD goes to JONATHAN MANGEL.**

Jonathan worked on research with Professor Michael Unger titled *Putting the Problem in the Crosshairs: Partisan Perceptions of the Causes of Gun Violence*. This paper seeks to answer the question of what members of the Democratic and Republican parties in the electorate perceive to be the causes of gun violence. What began as a collaborative project became an independent research project for Jonathan. He designed and administered the survey, coded and analyzed the data,

then applied to the Northeastern Regional Honors Conference and the project was accepted. Jonathan wishes to pursue a J.D. and go to work in the field of public policy, civil rights law or international human rights law.

## **SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### **The outstanding student in ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES is SHANNA GILLIGAN.**

Shanna is a member of Golden Key International and National Society for Collegiate Scholars honors societies. She was a Sustainability Intern for the Department of Transportation in Washington, D.C. Shanna has been accepted to the Masters of Sustainability Studies program for the fall and is also being considered for admission to the Masters of Sustainability Science and Geographic Information Science Certification programs at Montclair State University.

### **The outstanding student in LAW & SOCIETY is WESTON KULICK.**

Weston is a member of Phi Alpha Delta International Law Fraternity, Golden Key International Honor Society, the College Honors Program and served on the Ramapo College Judicial Review Board. He did his Senior Thesis on *Laws of the Lawless: Examining Culture's Impact on Legal Consciousness in Light of the Golden Age of Piracy* and interned at the law office of New Jersey Assemblyman John S. Wisniewski. Weston plans to attend law school.

### **The first outstanding student in PSYCHOLOGY is KEVIN MANZ.**

Kevin served as president of Active Minds. Kevin was research assistant to Professor Christian Reich in the Neuroscience Laboratory where the research has culminated into a first-author manuscript slated for submission. He also presented work at the Society for Neuroscience, the Ramapo Psychology Symposium and Hunter College's NEURON Conference. Kevin interned at the Rehabilitation Specialists for Traumatic Brain Injury and Neurological Disorders, the Neurology Group of Bergen Country, and at the Valley Health System. Kevin has been an EMT and volunteers with the Fair Lawn Volunteer Ambulance Corps. After being accepted to six medical schools, Kevin has decided to attend Vanderbilt University Medical School in Nashville, Tennessee to pursue an M.D. where his goal is to become an academic neurosurgeon with a partial focus on translational and bench neuroscience research.

### **The second outstanding student in PSYCHOLOGY is CAROLINE MAY.**

Caroline is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta and Psi Chi Honors societies. She worked as the Social Justice Educator at the Women's Center for 3 years, showcased research at the 2013 Ramapo College Psychology Research Symposium, and studied abroad at the University of Westminster in London. After graduation, Caroline wishes to pursue a career that marries the fields of psychology and social justice.

### **The outstanding student in SOCIAL SCIENCE is BRITTANY FABER.**

Brittany is a member of Theta Phi Alpha Sorority. She interned at CareOne: A Senior Care Company where she completed 40 volunteer hours working with older adults of different needs and abilities allowing for socialization and activities. She also interned at ShopRite working with a Dietitian, sitting in on consultations and assisted with healthy food demonstrations. Brittany plans to follow the path of her minor, Gerontology, by pursuing a full-time position in a nursing home.

### **The outstanding student in SOCIAL WORK is LAUREN MENY.**

Lauren is a member of multiple honors societies such as Phi Theta Kappa, Psi Beta, Golden Key Honors Society, and Phi Alpha Honors Society. She has conducted

community education on the transgender community at multiple colleges and agencies. While attending Ramapo College, Lauren has had the opportunity to intern at a Domestic Violence Agency and work with the LGBTQA population. She will be attending NYU's One-year Advanced Standing MSW program beginning in the summer.

**The outstanding student in SOCIOLOGY goes to ALLISON GUTWORTH.**

Allison has served in many leadership roles and won several awards including the Ramapo college "Outstanding Leadership by a Junior" Award. She was a research assistant for Dr. Lustiger-Thaler and also for the documentary film entitled *Memory After Belsen* and textbook entitled *Reimagining Social Movements* which will be published by Ashgate Publishing Group in May 2014. Besides interning with the Woodbridge Township Health Education Division where she helped draft a Center for Disease Control (CDC) Community Transformation Grant, Allison is also an avid volunteer on and off campus. She also worked with the *House on the Hill*, an *Agri-Business Child Development* program. After graduation, Allison's goals include pursuing a Master's of Public Health degree and a healthcare-related career.

**The 2014 SSHS UNDERGRADUATE BOOK PRIZE goes to CARRIE MATTHEWS.**

Carrie is a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and Alpha Sigma Lambda. Carrie's future goals include continuing to grow personally and professionally within the social science field.

**The 2014 SSHS FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD goes to BROOKE JAMISON.**

Brooke worked with Professor Aaron Lorenz on research entitled *Bullying Gone Viral* which addresses the prevalence of bullying within the K-12 education system. Bullying is now developing into more extreme forms because of the evolution of technology such as through the media outlets of Facebook, Twitter, and via mobile devices. There should be stronger laws and policies against bullying in schools, including not only harassment during school hours, but also cyberbullying using social media. Her work was presented at the Northeastern Political Science Association Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in November 2013. Brooke is a member of the Order of Omega and Chi Alpha Epsilon honors societies, served leadership roles with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and United Culture Greek Council and was Desk Attendant of the Year. She was also trip leader for the 2013 Alternative Spring Break in the Dominican Republic. After graduation, Brooke plans to attend Montclair University to pursue a master's degree in Counseling with a concentration in Student Affairs and Higher Education.

**The 2014 NASW STUDENT SOCIAL WORK SCHOLARSHIP AWARD goes to MICHELLE MOUHTIS.**

Michelle is a member of the National Social Work, Phi Alpha, Alpha Lambda Delta and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars honors societies. She also served as vice president then president in the Social Work club. Michelle was also a Ramapo Admissions Student Ambassador. A highlight for Michelle was when she interned and studied abroad at Odyssey House, an inpatient adult substance abuse rehabilitation center in Sydney, Australia. She also completed a yearlong internship at Touchstone Hall's inpatient adolescent substance abuse rehabilitation center, as well as at the Bergen Family Center and Pascack Valley Meals on Wheels. Michelle will be attending New York University's Advanced Standing program this fall, studying clinical social work with a concentration in substance abuse.

**The 2014 HERBERT WORTREICH AWARD goes to ALEXA MARQUES.**

Alexa is a member National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Golden Key International Honour Society, and Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities. She was Vice President of 1STEP, Student Coordinator of Sustainable Living Facilities, as well as Project Manager of Environmental Assessment (Senior Capstone). Alexa completed 84 professional development hours from the Cloud Institute for Sustainability Education with distinction. She was an Environmental Education Intern at the Meadowlands Environment Center and Avian Ecology Intern at the Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park. Alexa would like to earn a Masters in avian or urban ecology with a focus on educating others about the environment.

**The 2014 CAROL SCHAEFER HUMAN SERVICES AWARDS ZULIEMA ALZATE.**

Zuliema is a member of Phi Alpha and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars honors societies. She is involved with the non-profit organizations Autism Speaks and Putting the Pieces Together working on behalf of children and young adults under the spectrum. Zuliema participated in the Essex County Mental Health Coalition conference as well as the Catholic Charity Agency's Saving the Children of God. Her internships include the Catholic Charity Agency "Father English" program and also at CarePlus of New Jersey. Her goals are to help from a clinical social work perspective, to treat mental, behavioral, and emotional issues or to provide direct service to generate a difference in society.

**The 2014 CAROL SCHAEFER HUMAN SERVICES AWARD goes to CYNTHIA FLORENCIO.**

Cynthia is a member of Chi Alpha Epsilon and Phi Alpha honor societies and also served as vice president of the social work club. She completed internships at a variety of field placements including Community Resource Council, Shelter Our Sisters and at the Rockland Council on Alcoholism and other Drug Dependence. Cynthia has been accepted at NYU in the MSW program. One day she hopes to work with females with eating disorders or families and poverty and to eventually earn her Ph.D.

**The 2014 CAROL SCHAEFER HUMAN SERVICES AWARD goes to KYLE MACK.**

Kyle is a member of the Theta Delta Chapter of Phi Alpha Honor Society, an International Justice Mission Educator, on the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship Leadership Team and was a Hurricane Sandy Relief Coordinator. He participated in the Muslim Migrants and the New Europe, and Addressing Substance Abuse: Promising Community Partnerships. Kyle interned at Homeless Solutions Inc. in Headquarters Development, Dwight Morrow High School as a School Social Work / Student Assistance Counselor, and Suspension Alternative Program. Kyle will be attending NYU to acquire a Masters level education in Social Work.

**The 2014 CAROL SCHAEFER HUMAN SERVICES AWARD goes to LAUREN MENY.**

Lauren is the Ramapo College 2014 Outstanding Student in Social Work. Lauren is a member of such as Phi Theta Kappa, Psi Beta, Golden Key Honors Society, and Phi Alpha Honors Society. She has conducted community education on the transgender community at multiple colleges and agencies. In addition to working two jobs, Lauren interned at a Domestic Violence Agency. Lauren will be attending NYU's One-year Advanced Standing MSW program starting this summer.

**The 2014 CAROL SCHAEFER HUMAN SERVICES AWARD goes to HEIDI NANI.**

Heidi is a member of Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society, Golden Key International Honor Society as well as the Social Work Club. Heidi's internships include the Thiells Elementary School in Thiells, NY, Rockland Jewish Family Service, and United Way of Rockland, both in Nyack, NY. Heidi is currently working at United Way and with the Youth Bureau of Rockland. Heidi plans to attend the Advanced Standing MSW program at New York University.

**The 2014 CAROL SCHAEFER HUMAN SERVICES AWARD goes to RACHAEL O'BRIEN.**

Rachael is a member of Phi Alpha and Chi Alpha Epsilon honors societies, Ramapo College NORML, the Allocations Committee, and Social Work Club. She attended the October 2012 NORML National Conference. Rachael interned at the Bergen County Jail, Northwest Bergen Senior Center and the Bergen Regional Medical Center's Evergreen IOP. She spent 2014 Alternative Spring Break in New Mexico and volunteered during Superstorm Sandy clean up. Rachael will be attending the Advanced Standing MSW program at Fordham School of Social Services in the fall focusing on Community Organization and leadership.

## **SCHOOL OF THEORETICAL AND APPLIED SCIENCE**

**The outstanding student in BIOCHEMISTRY is AMY BIERMANN.**

Amy is a member of Sigma Xi, Tri Beta and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars honors societies. She participated in Professor William Mitchell's research project *Development of a Breeding Program for the Genus Silene* and has worked as an intern at Pfizer since June 2013. Amy will be taking one year off from her education to work as a clinical laboratory scientist. In the fall, she will be applying to Ph.D. programs in biochemistry and biomedical engineering.

**The outstanding student in BIOINFORMATICS is MATTHEW CRUM.**

Matthew is a member of Beta Beta Beta and Sigma Xi honors societies. He has held E-Board positions in both the Biology and Bioinformatics Clubs. Matthew has participated in three TAS Student Research Symposiums. He also participated in the intercollegiate Annual MACUB Conference in 2012 where he won first prize and an award for excellence within the bioinformatics major in 2013. Matthew was part of a bioinformatics internship at the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research at Cornell University in the summer of 2013 where he also won first prize at their annual Intern Symposium. He is also co-authoring a research manuscript with Drs. Frees and Bagga submitted to the international peer-reviewed journal *Human Genomics*. Matthew plans to go to graduate school to pursue a Ph.D. in Bioinformatics.

**The first outstanding student in BIOLOGY is MICHELLE BAKARDJIEV.**

Michelle is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta, Beta Beta Beta, Golden Key International and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars honors societies. She received the ACS Organic Chemistry Achievement Award in 2012 and the CRC Press Freshman Chemistry Achievement Award in 2011. Michelle completed an internship with iPediatrics, LLC and volunteers on the Milton Emergency First Aid Squad. Michelle will be starting the M.D. Program at Rutgers's Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in August 2014.



**The second outstanding student in BIOLOGY is CHELSEA GRAMA.**

Chelsea is a member Beta Beta Beta, Sigma Xi, Omega, Alpha Lambda Delta and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars honors societies. She served in leadership roles with Golden Key International Honor Society and the Ramapo College Honors Program. Chelsea presented research work at the several conferences including the Northeast Regional Honors Council, the Ramapo Senior Honors Poster and TAS Research Symposium, and the Golden Key International Honor Society Convention. During 2012-13, she was the Department of Biology Undergraduate Research Fellow. Chelsea will be attending medical school in the fall.

**The outstanding student in CHEMISTRY is JOONG HOON KOH.**

Joong is a member of the Biochemistry/Chemistry Club. His TAS honors research project was on hydrogen transfer catalysis and participated in the Ramapo College TAS Research Symposium. Joong is the recipient of the 2013 John Wiley Publisher's Award, the 2013 ACS Division of Inorganic Chemistry Undergraduate Award and the 2013 ACS Division of Analytical Chemistry Award. After graduation, Joong plans to apply to graduate school to acquire a Ph.D. in chemistry.

**The outstanding student in COMPUTER SCIENCE is JENNIFER AROCHE.**

Jennifer is a member of member of the Golden Key International and National Society of Collegiate Scholars honors societies. For her senior project, Jennifer developed an online game with chat capabilities which demonstrates her knowledge and skills. She completed an internship at the Walt Disney World Resort. Jennifer has been offered an employment opportunity at BriCom Solutions.

**The outstanding student in ENGINEERING PHYSICS is ANDREW DESTEFAN.**

Andrew is a member of the Golden Key International Honour Society and the Physics Club. He was a Physics tutor and also completed an internship at New Jersey Institute of Technology in the summer of 2013. Andrew presented his research work with Professor Philip Anderson in the Engineering Physics Department at the 2013 TAS Honors Research Symposium. He also completed research with Professor Donovan McFeron in the Mathematics Department. Andrew will be attending graduate school in next fall in hopes of obtaining a Ph.D. He has already been accepted to NJIT and Lehigh.

**The outstanding student in ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE is JONATHAN STELLING.**

Jonathan is a member of the Geological Society of America, New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, and the Catskill 3500 club. He presented his research poster "*The Foraminifera of the Hudson River: Interpretations of Paleoenvironment and Catastrophic Events,*" at the Geological Society of America 125th Annual Meeting & Exposition in Denver, CO. Jonathan also did an internship and co-op at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. Jonathan has been awarded the Kravis Fellowship and was accepted to into the Ph.D. program at the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Lehigh University.

**The outstanding student in INTEGRATED SCIENCE STUDIES is BENNETT GALPERIN.**

Bennett was a member of the Pre-Med Club, the Journal Club, Hillel, and was event manager for Ramapo College Radio station WRPR. Bennett was the winner of ASB Fall 2011 Trading Competition. Bennett participated in the TAS Research Honors program with Dr. Thomas Owen on work title *Human Dental Pulp Stem Cell Culturing and Differentiation into Osteoblasts*. He interned at The Dental Corner in Union City,

and observed under Dr. Paul Rosen. Bennett is the proud recipient of a large annual scholarship to attend Boston University's Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine in the fall.

**The outstanding student in MATHEMATICS is JENNIFER KEE.**

Jennifer is a member of Pi Mu Epsilon and Kappa Delta Pi honors societies. She served in leadership roles with Campus Kitchens and Kindersmile club. A Discrete Structures tutor, Jennifer was also on the intramural volleyball championship team. Jennifer is currently seeking work as a high school math teacher.

**The first outstanding student in NURSING is JENNA COSTA.**

Jenna is a member of Sigma Theta Tau and Alpha Lambda Delta Freshman honors societies. She served as vice president of the Nursing Student Organization and also participated in Relay for Life and Children's Miracle Network Dance Marathon. Jenna's certifications include New Jersey State CPR/AED, pressure ulcer and nursing ethics. Jenna has been accepted into the Valley Hospital New Grad Residency Program in the ICU.

**The next outstanding student in NURSING is AMY RABINOWITZ.**

Amy is a member of Sigma Theta Tau National Nursing Honor Society. She earned her ADN in 2012 and has been working full time as a Registered Nurse at Christian Health Care Center while also attending Ramapo to complete her BSN. Amy plans to continue my education in nursing and pursue a MSN in adult health.

**The 2014 TAS UNDERGRADUATE BOOK PRIZE goes to DANIELLE BARA.**

An Environmental Science major, Danielle is a member of Relay for Life and Newman Catholic, and was also secretary of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. She presented her research poster of research on tree selection and use by red-bellied woodpeckers at the 2014 TAS Student Research Symposium. In June 2013, Danielle traveled to Southern Africa with International Student Volunteers where she participated in habitat assessments and environmental education at Masebe Nature Reserve and the local community. Danielle will be continuing research work during her senior year and hopefully will become involved in research or fieldwork after graduation.

**The 2014 TAS FACULTY-STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD goes to MATTHEW CRUM.**

Working with Professors Paramjeet Bagga and Scott Frees on work titled *Human Genome-wide Distribution of Conserved CIS-regulatory Motifs*, Matthew helped develop bioinformatics tools and databases for mapping and analyzing phylogenetically conserved putative Quadruplex forming 'G'-Rich Sequences (QGRS) in human mRNAs. He is also a co-author in a publication recently submitted to the journal *Human Genomics*. Matthew, also the 2014 Outstanding Student in Bioinformatics, is a member of Beta Beta Beta and Sigma Xi honors societies and has held leadership positions both in the Biology and Bioinformatics clubs. Matthew has participated in the Ramapo College TAS Student Research Symposium, the intercollegiate Annual MACUB Conference. He also won first prize at the annual Boyce Thompson Institute Intern Symposium in the summer of 2013. Matthew was part of a bioinformatics internship at the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research at Cornell University and worked on genome reassembly of multiple tomato accessions. Matthew plans to go to graduate school to pursue a Ph.D. in Bioinformatics.

## **AFT GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP**

**The 2014 AFT GRADUATE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD goes to ERIN MULLIGAN.**

Erin is a member of Phi Alpha Theta History, Rho Alpha Sigma National Residence Life, and Alpha Lambda Delta Freshman honors societies. She participated in several conferences including the Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society Eastern Pennsylvania Regional, the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC) Northeast Regional Undergraduate Research, Phi Alpha Theta Northeast Regional, and Phi Alpha Theta National Biennial Convention. Erin was the spring 2012 third place winner in the SSHGS Essay Contest with work titled *Slavery's Superiority: How Slavery Defined Antebellum Southern Women*. This spring, she was also the second place winner in the SSHGS Essay Contest for work *Alice C. Fletcher and Zitkala-Ša: The Indian Home in Turn of the Century Civilization Debates*. Erin will be attending Bowling Green State University in the fall to pursue her M.A. in American Culture Studies.

**The 2014 HENRY J. FRUNDT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD goes to ELENA RUBINETTI.**

Elena belongs to the Creative Media Club, NORML and volunteers at Ramapo Animal Bergen Refuge. In 2013, she presented research work titled *Illegally Downloading Music Benefits Artists, Contrary to the Music Industry's Belief* at the 2013 Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC) Northeast Undergraduate Research Conference and at Media Collision at Ramapo College. Elena interned as a Marketing Assistant at Brother International Corporation and is spending the Spring 2014 semester studying abroad at the American University of Rome in Italy. After graduating with a Bachelor's degree in Communications and a minor in International Studies, Elena hopes to work for a non-profit organization on campaigns dealing with human rights.

## **LEE SENNISH PRIZE**

**The LEE SENNISH PRIZE goes to VICTORIA GREY.**

Victoria, also the 2014 Outstanding Student in Spanish Language Studies, is a member several honors societies including Alpha Lambda Delta, Golden Key International, and National Honor Society. She presented her Senior Thesis "*I feel Robbed: an Exploration of the Causes of the Maintenance and Loss of Spanish Language among Second Generation Children*" at Ramapo Scholars Day. Victoria studied abroad in Barcelona, interned at MSB Therapy, and did fieldwork at Omni Day School. After graduation, Victoria will be attending the Communicative Sciences and Disorders Master's Program at NYU.

# 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.*

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