



Arch Connections - February Newsletter

Fri, Feb 13, 2026 at 3:00 PM



A Word From Your Board

Dear Friends,

Happy February! The Spring semester is fully underway and we are very pleased that there are so many Friends taking advantage of the membership benefit to audit classes. In fact, we have the largest number of Friends auditing this semester ever!

I am also very pleased to have the opportunity to introduce our newest Friends of Ramapo Board Member, John Mucha. John is a longtime resident of Mahwah, and is "semi-retired" with a business consulting background in strategy and communications. He has been a Friends member for the last few years and has been enjoying the benefit of auditing classes. John values lifelong learning, community involvement, and creative problem-solving, as well as supporting initiatives that bring people together. He was interested in joining our Board to help advance the Friends' work of strengthening connections between the College and neighboring communities through cultural and educational programs and advancing

fundraising and scholarship initiatives. We were pleased to elect John to the Board in January and we look forward to his involvement and contributions.



The Program Committee of the Friends Board has been busy working on a new program for our Membership. We will be hosting a hands-on exploration of Ramapo's American History Textbook Collection in the Special Collections Reading Room Archives of the Learning Commons. The event will be held on April 14 starting at 10:30, and will be followed by lunch. You will be hearing more about this program in the coming weeks. See the article in this newsletter and make note of the date as it promises to be a very special event - think about inviting a friend to join you too!

To learn more about other Friends events and activities, please visit [our website](#). In addition, if you have any specific questions or comments for the Board, please feel free to contact me at my email below.

On behalf of your Friends of Ramapo Board, I look forward to hearing from you and/or seeing you on campus.

Sincerely,

Peggy Capomaggi
President of Friends of Ramapo
pcapomag@ramapo.edu

News Updates



Teacher Education Program Expands Through Sussex County Partnership

Ramapo College is expanding access to its

Teacher Education Program through a new partnership with Sussex County Community College, creating a locally based pathway for students who want to become elementary school teachers without leaving Sussex County.



Gilman Scholarship Winner Studies Business in Greece

Iliany Francisco '27 never thought she would study abroad. Now, thanks in part to the support and encouragement she received at RCNJ, the first-generation college student is spending the spring semester of her junior year at the American College of Greece.



Forging Her Career Path: From Marketing Major to Student Affairs Pro

Luannee Hernandez '26 has spent her college years ensuring her peers feel welcomed, at home, and like they have a place to belong at RCNJ. For all of her efforts on campus, Hernandez earned the 2025 Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award from the Association of College Unions International (ACUI) Region VII.

Professor Helped Develop Quarterback Predictor Used by ESPN

Alexandre Olbrecht has spent the last 20 years as a professor of economics at Ramapo. In that time, Olbrecht has also become an expert on sports analytics, with his work appearing in academic journals such as the Journal of Sports Economics and the International Journal of Sport Management and in media outlets such as ESPN and Football Outsiders.

Upcoming Events

Save the Date - American History Textbook Project

Tuesday, April 14th, 2026

Learning Commons Special Collections Reading Room Archives

The engaging American History Textbook Project brings Friends of Ramapo to the table to enjoy a unique "hands-on" experience. Come and explore first-hand what and how history was taught in years gone by. What do the books say? What does it mean? Why does it matter to us? Enjoy lunch on us following our experiential journey. More details to follow.



24th Annual Performing Arts Dinner Series

2025-2026 Season

Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m./Curtain at 8:00 p.m.

Berrie Center for Performing and Visual Arts

For additional shows put on at the Berrie Center, please find the [performance schedule here](#).

Saturday, February 28:
A Evening with Lorna Luft



Saturday, May 2:
"The Lillias White Effect"



[Click here for additional information & tickets](#)



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