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**GOSPEL MUSIC RESOUNDS IN A PERFORMANCE BY THE CONFERENCE
CHOIR OF THE AME ZION CHURCH**

(Mahwah) – Share the joy of gospel music when the highly acclaimed Conference Choir of the AME Zion Church returns to the Sharp Theater at Ramapo College of New Jersey, Saturday, February 26 at 3 and 8 p.m. Directed by Ramapo College Professor Mack Brandon, the premiere mass choir of the AME Zion Church features the best gospel voices from around the state and will explore the beauty and resonance of the gospel music tradition. The Ramapo Gospel Chorus also will appear as guest artists.

The Conference Choir of the AME Zion Church is “a community choir in that it is made up of members of churches throughout the state,” says Brandon. “We’re like a family, we really enjoy singing together.” In the seven years since its founding, the choir has performed nationally and has established a reputation for presenting a spiritual and welcoming program.

The choir will sing a “mixture of repertoire ranging from traditional spirituals to contemporary gospel selections,” says Brandon. “The challenge of the program is to reflect the interest of a diversified gospel audience, while staying true to the genre’s roots.” The Ramapo Gospel Chorus, also directed by Brandon, will join the Conference Choir onstage for several songs.

Tickets for the performance are \$21 for adults, \$18 for senior citizens and \$12 for youth. The Sharp Theater is located in the Angelica and Russ Berrie Center for Performing and Visual Arts on the Ramapo College campus. For more information call 201.684.7844. This program is made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

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