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**LEGENDARY FOLKSINGER RICHIE HAVENS TO PERFORM AT RAMAPO COLLEGE**

(Mahwah) – Richie Havens, who has one of the most recognizable voices in popular music, will perform in the Sharp Theater at Ramapo College of New Jersey on Friday, February 11 at 8 p.m.

The Woodstock Festival icon has been performing for three decades. His poignant, soulful style has remained unique since he first appeared on the Greenwich Village folk music scene in the early 1960s. With hits such as “Freedom” and “Just Like A Woman,” Havens has used his music to convey messages of brotherhood and personal freedom.

At an early age, the Brooklyn-born Havens organized friends into street corner doo-wop groups. When he turned 20, he sought the artistic stimulation of Greenwich Village. He landed his first record deal and released *Mixed Bag* in 1967. It was as a live performer that Havens first earned widespread notice. His Woodstock appearance was a major turning point in his career. As the festival’s first performer, he held the crowd spellbound for almost three hours. He improvised a song based on an old spiritual, “Motherless Child,” that became “Freedom,” considered an anthem of a generation.

Tickets for Richie Havens’ performance at Ramapo College are \$25 for adults, \$22 for senior citizens and \$12 for youth. The Sharp Theater is located at 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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