

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Bonnie Franklin: [bfrankli@ramapo.edu](mailto:bfrankli@ramapo.edu) or Rosa Diaz-Mulryan: [rmulryan@ramapo.edu](mailto:rmulryan@ramapo.edu)

**January 31, 2005**

**HAWTHORNE SYMPHONY, FEATURING NEW JERSEY MUSICIANS, TO PERFORM AT RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**

(Mahwah) – Boasting some of the most talented musicians who call New Jersey home, the Hawthorne Symphony, under the direction of conductor John Minkoff, returns to the Sharp Theater at Ramapo College of New Jersey on Sunday, February 27 at 3 p.m. for a performance of *Romeo and Juliet*, featuring orchestra, chorus and soloists.

The afternoon also features guest artist Jack Gibbons, known as one of the most exciting young pianists in London, who will salute George Gershwin with his show tune improvisations.

John Minkoff organized the Hawthorne Symphony in 2000. It is a group composed of professional musicians from the New York - New Jersey area that routinely perform with soloists from Julliard, The Metropolitan Opera and The Manhattan School of Music. The symphony is sponsored by the Louis Bay 2nd Library of Hawthorne, New Jersey. In addition to symphonic works and concertos, the orchestra has featured concert performances of operatic works, including the music of Mozart, Weber, Verdi and Wagner.

Tickets for the Hawthorne Symphony are \$21 for adults, \$18 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.

###