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**THE LOSTON HARRIS TRIO TO PERFORM AT RAMAPO COLLEGE**

(Mahwah) – Jazz at the Berrie Center presents The Loston Harris Trio on Saturday, October 1 at 8 p.m. in the Sharp Theater on the campus of Ramapo College of New Jersey. Loston comes to the Berrie Center from Bemelman’s Bar in the Café Carlyle in Manhattan, the current musical home for this jazz vocalist/pianist.

Harris blends traditional jazz riffs, gospel and blues with his own unique stylings. A protégé of Ellis Marsalis, father of the famed Marsalis jazz family, Harris is reminiscent of another Marsalis protégé – Harry Connick Jr. Harris was a percussionist throughout his early studies, switching to piano on the advice of Marsalis. The vocalist/pianist performed as a member of the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, led by multiple-Grammy winner Wynton Marsalis. He also appeared on the PBS special “Portraits in Blue” with fellow pianist and bandleader Marcus Roberts.

As Harris’ interest in classic vocalists such as Nat King Cole and Tony Bennett grew, he decided to record an album in which he used both his vocal and instrumental skills. *Comes Love* was a critical and commercial success. Another recording, *Timeless*, showcases the artist as a composer and performer, revealing an intimate view of Harris in such love songs as “How Deep is the Ocean” and “On The Street Where You Live,” as well as romantic originals “If I Say I Love You” and “Twilight.”

Tickets for The Loston Harris Trio are \$24 adults, \$21 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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