FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Bonnie Franklin: <u>bfrankli@ramapo.edu</u> or Rosa Diaz-Mulryan: <u>rmulryan@ramapo.edu</u>

November 7, 2005

THE NUTCRACKER, A TREASURED SEASONAL FAVORITE, COMES TO RAMAPO COLLEGE

(Mahwah) – The beloved holiday classic, *The Nutcracker*, will be presented by the American Repertory Ballet in three performances at Ramapo College of New Jersey. The full-scale production will be staged Friday, December 9 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, December 10 at 2 and 7:30 p.m. in the Sharp Theater.

Hailed as one of the most stunning and lyrical versions of the beloved holiday classic, Graham Lustig's *The Nutcracker* features gorgeous costumes and stunning sets. Lustig is the artistic director of the American Repertory Ballet, founded in 1954 and considered New Jersey's premiere ballet company.

Named artistic director of the American Repertory Ballet in 1999, Lustig is an internationally-acclaimed choreographer. He is known for his productions of *Cinderella*, *The Shrew* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$22 for senior citizens and \$15 for youth. The Sharp Theater is located at the Angelica and Russ Berrie Center for the Performing and Visual Arts on the Ramapo College campus. For tickets or 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

of the Arts.