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### **GULF COAST BLUES LADY MARCIA BALL WILL PERFORM AT RAMAPO COLLEGE**

(Mahwah) – Marcia Ball, known as the Gulf Coast Blues Lady, will perform Saturday, February 25 at 8 p.m. in the Sharp Theater on the campus of Ramapo College of New Jersey.

With her distinctive New Orleans-style piano playing, singing and songwriting, along with her foot-stomping band, blues artist Marcia Ball will create a romping, foot-tapping roadhouse full of passion.

For more than 30 years, she has been delivering her signature brand of Texas blues, Louisiana R&B and Gulf Coast swamp pop to audiences. Ball has released her first full-length live album, *LIVE! DOWN THE ROAD*, a blistering set recorded at the Sierra Nevada Brewing Company in 2004. This follows nine previous albums. The CD mixes songs from throughout her career, including longtime fan favorites “La Ti Da” and “Crawfishin,” as well as new material like “Louella.”

Ball, a Louisiana native, is the winner of the coveted 2004 W.C. Handy Blues Award for both Contemporary Blues Female Artist of the Year and Contemporary Blues Album of the Year. She comes from a family whose female members all played piano. She discovered the blues when she was 13, as she sat amazed while Irma Thomas

(more)

delivered a soulful and spirited performance. Years later, in 1997, she finished a “three divas of the blues” project for the Rounder record label in the distinguished company of Thomas.

Tickets for Marcia Ball’s performance are \$25 for adults, \$22 for senior citizens and \$15 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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