

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Bonnie Franklin: bfrankli@ramapo.edu or Rosa Diaz-Mulryan: rmulryan@ramapo.edu

January 18, 2006

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

(Mahwah) – The Hawthorne Symphony presents Bird With Strings: The Music of Charlie Parker, Beethoven’s Eighth Symphony and Verdi’s Masked Ball – Act II Sunday, February 18 at 3 p.m. in the Sharp Theater on the campus of Ramapo College of New Jersey.

Under the direction of conductor John Minkoff, this rich and eclectic performance by some of the metropolitan area’s top professionals will appeal to fans of all three musical genres--jazz, opera and classical. Featured are alto saxophonist Asher Stein playing the music of Charlie Parker, and five internationally renowned vocalists performing Act II of Verdi’s *Ballo in Maschera* (Masked Ball): Edwin Santayana, Olga Bakali, Alessandro Magno, Steven Fredricks and Luiz-Ottavio Faria.

John Minkoff organized the Hawthorne Symphony in 2000. The group is composed of professional musicians from the New York/New Jersey area who 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.

Tickets for the Hawthorne Symphony are \$22, \$19 and \$15 for adults and \$12 for children under 17. Senior citizens and members of the New Jersey Jazz Society and WBGO Radio receive a five percent discount off regular ticket prices. 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.

###