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**STEP BACK IN TIME WITH THE FRIENDS OF RAMAPO COLLEGE**

(Mahwah) – The Friends of Ramapo College invite you to Step Back In Time Sunday, November 4 from 2 – 5:30 p.m. Guests will enjoy the rolling hills of Ramapo College and learn the historical significance of several campus buildings.

The college stands on grounds that have a rich history. Native Americans used the trail that is now Ramapo Valley Road for hunting, traveling and trading. Blandina Bayard, the first European settler in the area, established a trading post near the current location of Ramapo's sculpture studio. Andrew Hopper, a Dutch farmer, hosted George Washington on the site of today's Havemeyer House. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Theodore Havemeyer, a member of the Sugar Trust, established a model dairy farm and the Ramapo Valley became one of his favorite places.

The program will be presented by Thomas W. Dunn, president of the Mahwah Museum Society who also serves on the Ramapo College Foundation's Board of Governors. The afternoon includes a lecture, a PowerPoint presentation, a visit to the Stephen Birch Family Mansion and will conclude with a reception at the Theodore A. Havemeyer House.

The event costs \$45 per person. Proceeds will benefit The Friends of Ramapo Scholarship Fund. To register for Step Back In Time, please call Kathleen Austin, 201.684.7179.

Friends of Ramapo is an organization founded to expand communications and foster greater understanding between Ramapo College and neighboring communities.

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The Friends awards scholarships to students with outstanding academic achievements and sponsors cultural events for the community. Since its inception in 1977, Friends of Ramapo has awarded more than 100 scholarships and supported events such as the Summer Concert Series and community art auction.

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