## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# RAMAPO COLLEGE WILL PRESENT A LECTURE SERIES, "DIVERSITY IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY"

MAHWAH – Ramapo College of New Jersey will present a lecture series, Diversity Perspectives in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" during the spring 2009 semester. Each of the 13 lectures will focus on a topical issue of interest that represents a broad diversity of cultural, ethnic and religious groups.

All lectures will be presented on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the H-Wing Auditorium on the campus of Ramapo College except where noted. The series is free and open to the public. The schedule:

January 28, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Sharp Theater, Berrie Center "The Tenacity of Hope: The Requirements of Social Change, From the Intimate to the Institutional" presented by award-winning playwright, poet and essayist Cherrie Moraga.

February 4

"The Guatemalan Immigrant Community: People of the Corn in the Diaspora" presented by Caryn Maxim, an immigrant activist and member of Grupo Cajolá in Morristown.

February 11

"Zoned In: Race, Class and Education" presented by Daniel Nartey and Daniela Zanzotto. This documentary, which explores race and class in American education, is part of the college's Africana Film Festival.

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#### February 18

"Medical Apartheid?: African Americans and Health" presented by Dr. Wanda Ruffin, a professor of Psychology at Hood College, Maryland.

### February 25

"The Campus of My Dreams: Race After Jim Crow and Before Freedom" presented by Dr. Vijay Prashad, an award-winning author and professor of International Studies at Trinity College, Connecticut.

#### March 4

"Deconstructing the 2008 Election Through the Dynamics of Individual, Institutional and Cultural Race-Based Beliefs," presented by Dr. Cyrus Ellis, a social justice activist, veteran, author and professor at Governors State University, Illinois.

## March 11

"Empowering Transformation: Relations Within Jewish and Muslim Communities" presented by Houda Abadi, director of Unity Programs for Abraham's Vision, a nonprofit organization that facilitates dialogue between Jewish and Muslim youth.

## March 25

"You Can't Expect Much From These People and Other Lies: Creating Shared Visions" presented by Dr. Lisa Lutter, a professor of music at Ramapo College who has served Guam for 20 years as a performer, educator and founding director of three non-profit organizations.

April 1, 7 to 8 p.m., Room SC-219 in the Student Center

"Human Rights and Genocide: The Past Century's Lessons for Better And for Worse"" presented by Philip Gourevitch, a "*New Yorker*" contributor and co-author of "*Standard Operating Procedure*," an investigation into the Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq.

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## April 8

"Approaching Latin Theater through a Playwright's and Director's Perspective" presented by Sylvia Bofil, a professor of Theater at the University of Puerto Rico.

# April 15

*"The Flute Player"* presented by Arn Chron Pond, co-founder of Children of War and Cambodian Living Arts whose film is about a survivor of the Khmer Rouge Killing Fields.

## April 22

"Forging Identify, Crating Selfhood and the Spirit of LGTQ" presented by Eva Dolgin, a social worker and activist who is a therapist at Victims Assistance Services in Westchester County.

April 29, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., Rooms 136 and 137 in the Student Center "Diversity and End-of-Life Care"

16<sup>th</sup> National Bereavement Teleconference presented by the Hospice Foundation of America.

The lecture series will be sponsored by campus academic, administration and student groups including the Diversity Action Committee, School of Contemporary Arts, the School of Social Science and Human Services, Student Activities Platinum Series, Women's Center, Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Africana Film Festival, Schomburg Foundation, Office of Student Affairs, Institutional Advancement, Office of Student Development and PRIDE. For further information, log on to http://phobos.ramapo.edu/~kfowler.

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