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January 26, 2008

**RAMAPO COLLEGE WOMEN'S CENTER WILL PRESENT
"THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES"**

MAHWAH - The Women's Center at Ramapo College of New Jersey will host three performances of "*The Vagina Monologues*" in February.

Eve Ensler's awarding-winning play encompasses a number of monologues based on interviews with women of different ages, ethnicities and sexual orientations about their experiences with sexuality. The idea for this play came from conversations Ensler had with her close friends about love and intimacy. A recurring theme throughout the piece is the vagina as a tool of female empowerment.

Since Ensler wrote the original draft of the monologues in 1996, "*The Vagina Monologues*" has evolved from a celebration of femininity to a movement to stop violence against women. This movement, known as "V-Day," has raised more than \$50 million, financed more than 5,000 community-based anti-violence programs and supported anti-violence legislation around the world. This year's V-Day campaign will be "Stop Raping Our Greatest Resource: Power to Women and Girls in Democratic Republic of Congo." This campaign is sponsored by UNICEF on behalf of U.N. Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict.

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In the Democratic Republic of Congo sexual violence occurs in epidemic proportions as a weapon of war to torture and humiliate women and girls. A portion of the proceeds from the Ramapo College production will go to this campaign to provide support services for survivors of sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The performances at Ramapo College will be February 10, 11 and 12 at 7 p.m. in the Sharp Theater. Ramapo College students Jessica Phelan and Jessica Ross will serve as director and assistant director. Tickets cost \$8 for guests and Ramapo College faculty and \$5 for Ramapo College students. Tickets will be sold in advance at Road Runner Central and the Berrie Center box office. Tickets can also be purchased at the door, based on availability. For more information, call the Ramapo College Women's Center, 201.684.7468.

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