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Contact: Anna Farneski; afarnesk@ramapo.edu

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**Daily News Columnist Juan Gonzalez
Opens Four-Day Program on Oct. 12 at Ramapo College
On The Latinoization of the Americas**

(MAHWAH, NJ) – Juan Gonzalez, Daily News columnist and author of “Harvest of Empire: a History of Latinos in America,” will open a four-day symposium: The Latinoization of the Americas: Structural Realities, Fluid Identities, on Monday, Oct. 12, at Ramapo College of New Jersey. He will speak at 3:45 p.m. on “The 2010 Census, State of the Media and Challenges Facing the U.S. Latino Population.” A reception will follow.

Six additional symposium speakers and panels on literature, politics, media, and film will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 14, at 2 p.m. and 3:45 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 15, at 9:45 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m. and 3:45 p.m. and Oct. 29, at 2 p.m. All panels will be held in the Alumni Lounge in SC-136-138, and are free of charge. The symposium, organized by the Latino/a and Latin American Studies Program, will provide insight into the Latin culture and its impact on society in the past, the concerns of Latinos today, and expected challenges for Latinos in the future. The Symposium embraces the importance of contemporary topics, for not only Latinos but for all of the U.S. population.

The Symposium will also feature a series of related film screenings, including appearances by filmmakers throughout October to mid-November. Filmmakers who will screen and discuss their films include: Marta Bautis, Ramapo professor, showing “Sarayucu: The Rivers of the Corn” on Thursday, Oct. 15 at 2 p.m. in the Alumni Lounges, Lorry Salcedo Mitrani, showing “The Fire Within” on Monday, Nov. 9, at 3:45 p.m. in the H-Wing Auditorium, and Gustavo Moretto, showing “Our Disappeared” on Thursday, Nov. 12, at 3:45 p.m., also in the H-Wing Auditorium.

The Latinoization of the Americas Symposium is sponsored by the School of American and International Studies, the School of Contemporary Arts, and the Center for Holocaust and

Genocide Studies, is funded by the Platinum Series and is co-sponsored by The Spanish Club, Association of Latinos Moving Ahead (ALMA), and Organization for Latino Unity (OLU).

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For media inquiries, contact Anna Farneski, assistant vice president, Marketing and Communications, 201.684.6844.