FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Anna Farneski; <u>afarnesk@ramapo.edu</u>

November 5, 2009

"Goofball Galaxy: A Musical for Children" Will Open in December at the Meadowlands Environment Center

(MAHWAH) – "Goofball Galaxy: A Musical for Children," co-written by Ramapo College Professor of Literature Lisa Williams and her nine-year-old son, Sam Jacovitz, will be performed at the Meadowlands Environmental Center in December.

Goofball Galaxy is a musical about Max, the king of Goofball Galaxy, who goes on a journey to save the other children and planets in the galaxy. Among his adventures, Max slays a dinosaur, combats a Cyclops, and even visits the planet of Sleep and Snore, where he must convince the children to stop sleeping 23 hours a day.

The writing process of "Goofball Galaxy" began when Sam was in kindergarten, and his teacher recommended he begin practicing his handwriting. Mother and son practiced by writing a story together, which sparked the ideas for "Goofball Galaxy." Over the next two years, Sam continued to think of ideas, developing Max, the king of the Galaxy, and the planets and adventures he would explore. Last year, Williams was awarded a grant from the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission to turn the duo's story into a children's play to be performed at the Environmental Center.

"Goofball Galaxy: A Musical for Children" will be performed by the children's acting troupe, Story Pirates, at the New Jersey Meadowlands Environmental Center in Lyndhurst on Friday, Dec. 11 at 10:30 a.m., and Saturday, Dec. 12 at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$5 per person, and \$4 for members, and can be reserved online at www.njmeadowlands.gov/ec by clicking on program registration. The musical is recommended for children ages 5 through 11. For more information or questions, contact the Center at 201-460-8300.

####

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