

# **RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**

**Office of Marketing and Communications**

**Press Release**

**March 22, 2011**

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## **Ramapo College to Host Acclaimed Author Ntozake Shange March 28**

(MAHWAH, NJ) – As part of an Africana Film Festival Special Event noted American playwright and poet Ntozake Shange will visit Ramapo College of New Jersey on Monday, March 28.

The author, best known for her Obie Award-winning play “For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf,” will discuss her literary works with students. The event will include student performances, readings and a question and answer session and will occur at 2:30 p.m. in the H-Wing Auditorium.

Shange also wrote “Betsey Brown,” and is the recipient of fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the Lila Wallace-Reader’s Digest Fund, and a Pushcart Prize.

“Ms. Shange has a good ear for language and a sharp eye for the behavior and customs of black people; there is intelligence at work in Colored Girls, but more important, there is texture, the feel, and raw emotions of the modern black woman who, against great odds, fights for her integrity and her self-respect” wrote Edwin Wilson of the Wall Street Journal.

For more information contact Christina Smith, assistant professor of Communication Arts at 201-684-7364.

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as fourth in the Best Regional Universities North category, Ramapo College of New Jersey offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business,

humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include nursing and social work, and as courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels. The College also offers four graduate programs and articulated programs with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, New York Chiropractic College, New York University College of Dentistry, SUNY State College of Optometry and New York College of Podiatric Medicine.

Undergraduate students choose to concentrate their studies in one of five schools with more than 700 course offerings and 40 academic programs. Ramapo College boasts an average student/faculty ratio of 18:1 and average class size of 23, affording students the opportunity to develop close ties to the College's exceptional faculty.