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RAMAPO COLLEGE CELEBRATES QUEER HISTORY MONTH

Women's Center Hosts Events Oct. 7 and 10

(MAHWAH, NJ) – Marriage Is So Gay, an event that seeks to combine activism and entertainment into one powerful night, will kick off Queer History Month at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, October 7 at Ramapo College. The event, which will be held in Trustees Pavilion, will feature a speak-out about what Marriage Equality means to participants, a photo station where participants may be photographed with handmade posters bearing messages of love and equality, and opportunities to write and call in messages of support to State legislators with standard wedding fare, such as music, cake, and a buffet.

Monday, October 10, will feature two major events. At 1 p.m., by the Arch, the Women's Center will be hosting its annual Coming Out Day where students and faculty gather to share their coming out experiences, either as a member of the LGBT community or as a supporter. This powerful event will be followed at 7 p.m. with Manila Luzon, first runner up of Ru Paul's Drag Race on LOGO, who will do a lip sync performance and speak about drag and how her Filipino background has impacted her performances.

The Women's Center, founded in 1974, is a social justice organization that provides a safe space for all students on the campus and programming on many issues. Marriage Is So Gay, Coming Out Day, and Manila Luzon are a part of Queer History Month, an annual campaign that works to celebrate the LGBT community at Ramapo and inspire students to advocate for progress on their campus and in the wider community.

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as fifth in the Best Regional Universities North category, Ramapo College of New Jersey is sometimes mistaken for a private college. This is, in part, due to its unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its size of approximately 6,008 students and its pastoral setting in the foothills of the Ramapo Mountains on the New Jersey/New York border.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College 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. In addition, Ramapo College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels. The College also offers

five graduate programs as well as 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.