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January 26, 2012

GROUP EXHIBITION OF TEMPORALLY SHIFTING WORKS OPENS AT RAMAPO COLLEGE

(MAHWAH, NJ) – "From The Mezzanine," a group exhibition of temporally shifting works opens in the Kresge Gallery in the Berrie Center on Wednesday, February 1 and continues through March 2. An opening reception will be held on February 1 from 5-7 p.m. with a curator and artists' talk at 6 p.m.

In April of 1973, the Dutch born, Los Angeles based conceptual artist Bas Jan Ader exhibited "Thoughts Unsaid, Then Forgotten" at The Mezzanine Gallery, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (NSCAD), Halifax, Canada. Ader's installation was one of several works including Dan Graham's "From the Sunset to Sunrise" and John Baldessari's "I Will Not Make Any More Boring Art" born from NSCAD's innovative gallery programming and pedagogical approach to such courses as David Askevold's project class. Committed to fostering the intellectual interchange integral to both student development and artistic inquiry, the College maximized its own isolation from a larger art world and a detachment from any art markets to place students in direct contact with the ideas and inquiries of conceptual art making, creating a haven for the exploration of one of the most progressive art movements of that era.

Like much of the work created at NSCAD during the late 60's and early 70's, Bas Jan Ader's "Thoughts Unsaid, Then Forgotten," was instruction-based and made specifically for an educational context. Responding to the work that was created at NSCAD nearly four decades ago, the seven artists and artist teams participating in "From The Mezzanine" will be creating new works conscious of both the consistent presence of a campus community and the inquiry within that exploratory context, incorporating student participation in the instruction-based creation, installation, or modification of the works that will transform over the course of the four week exhibition.

Curated by Adjunct Professor of Painting Jennifer Dudley, "From The Mezzanine" will include works by Lane Arthur, Katarina Burin, Craig Drennen, Zerek Kempf, Ben Kinsley and Jessica Langley, Mariah Robertson, and Jessica Slaven.

This project is supported in part by a grant from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. Gallery hours are Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 1 through 5 p.m. and Wednesdays 1 through 7 p.m. For more information contact Robert Modafferi at 201.684-7099.

For media inquiries, contact Anna Farneski, assistant vice president, Marketing and Communications, 201.684.7844.

Ranked by U.S. News & World Report as sixth 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 six 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.