

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Anna Farneski; afarnesk@ramapo.edu / (201) 684.6844

October 18, 2012

Exhibition of Rare Haitian Art from Private Collections Opens at Ramapo College

(MAHWAH, NJ) - "Still Lifes to the Surreal: Selections in Haitian Art from 1945 to 1995" opens at Ramapo College on Wednesday, October 31 in the Kresge Gallery on campus. There will be an opening reception from 5 to 7 p.m. and the curators' talks will begin at 6 p.m. The exhibition continues on view through Wednesday, December 12.

The exhibition is curated by Jose Zelaya with Jonathan Demme, Sydney O. Jenkins and Wail Qattan. According to Ramapo's Director of Art Galleries Sydney O. Jenkins, "Each year we present exhibitions in the Berrie Center which relate to our renowned collections, and this special presentation features many rare masterworks from private sources. From the narrative scenes of the Cap-Haitien school to the hyper-reality of the surreal, this show should broaden our understanding of Haitian art."

On view will be works by Haiti's greatest artists including Philomé Obin, Hector Hyppolite, Pauleus Vital, Edger Jean-Baptiste, Wilson Bigaud, André Pierre, Bourmond Byron, Petersen Laurent, Jacques-Enguerrand Gourgue, Lafortune Félix and Wesner La Forest.

This program is made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Kresge Gallery is located in the Angelica and Russ Berrie Center for Performing and Visual Arts at Ramapo College. Hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 1 to 5 p.m. and Wednesday, 1 to 7 p.m. For more information call 201.684.7147.

###

Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as sixth in the Best Regional Universities North category for public institutions, 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.