

RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY Office of Communications and Public Affairs Press Release January 6, 2014 Contact: Cynthia Burns

E-mail: cyburns@ramapo.edu Phone: 201.684.7226

BECOME A FRIEND OF RAMAPO AND BE A FRIEND TO YOURSELF BY ENROLLING IN A CLASS

(MAHWAH, NJ) – Start 2014 right by doing something for yourself. Enjoy learning something new by auditing a Ramapo College class during the upcoming semester. When you become a Friends of Ramapo PLUS member, you will be entitled to audit one Ramapo College class each semester. Inperson registration for the spring 2014 semester will be held Monday, January 27, 3 to 6 p.m. in Room E-233 on the college campus. Membership applications must be received prior to January 27 to register to audit a class for the spring semester. Review Ramapo College's online catalog at http://www.ramapo.edu/foundation/friends/resources to find a class that interests you.

The Friends of Ramapo is an organization founded to expand communications and foster greater understanding between the campus of Ramapo College and neighboring communities. With more than 225 members, the Friends draw from communities neighboring Ramapo College.

Members of Friends of Ramapo may take advantage of Ramapo College's facilities such as use of the library as well as enjoy cultural programs hosted by the various schools and through discounts on select programs at the Angelica and Russ Berrie Center for the Performing Arts. All members receive a parking pass, the Ramapo College magazine. Members also have the privilege of purchasing an additional membership to the Bill Bradley Sports and Recreation Center to use its fitness center, swimming pool, and more.

There are two categories of annual membership. General membership is \$60. Those who opt to become a Friends PLUS member for \$150 receive all general member benefits and are entitled to audit one Ramapo College class each semester

Friends of Ramapo awards scholarships to students with outstanding academic achievements and sponsors cultural events for the community. Since its inception in 1977, Friends of Ramapo has awarded nearly 200 scholarships and supported many events such as the Summer Concert Series, held annually at the Bandshell Lawn each July.

To become a Friends of Ramapo member please contact 201.684.7093, <u>jzellers@ramapo.edu</u> or <u>mobrown@ramapo.edu</u> or visit the organization's website at <u>http://www.ramapo.edu/foundation/friends/</u> for an application.

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 often viewed as a private college. This is, in part, due to its unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its size of approximately 6,000 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 seven graduate programs as well as articulated programs with Rutgers, The State University 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.