



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

Office of Communications and Public Affairs

Press Release

February 3, 2014

Contact: Anna Farneski

E-mail: afarnesk@ramapo.edu

Phone: 201.684.6844

THIRD ANNUAL LES PAUL TRIBUTE FESTIVAL AT RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

(MAHWAH, NJ)--The Ramapo College Music Program and the Ramapo Music Club are proud to present the Third Annual Les Paul Tribute Festival from February 3-8, 2014. The festival honors Les Paul and his innovations as a guitarist, inventor and entrepreneur. This year's events include a wide range of guest speakers, some who worked with Paul directly and others who represent his inventive, groundbreaking approach to music and the music industry. The legendary Gibson guitar bus will be on campus Monday, February 3 to open the festival. It is a mobile museum where students will have the opportunity to play Les Paul guitars and other instruments made by Gibson.

The festival will conclude with a concert on Saturday, February 8 by three student bands selected by the Ramapo Music Club, a student organization primarily comprised of Music Industry majors. **Audio Insight**, a progressive rock band who has performed at two Bamboozle Festivals, will headline the show with their guitar-driven, high-energy sound. **The Bloodwashed Band** is an acoustic folk/rock group with strings and multiple vocalists, and **The NJ Gordon Experience** performs an original mix of jazz and funk.

All events, including guest speakers and master classes, will be held in the Trustees Pavilion on the Ramapo College campus:

Monday, February 3 @11:30 a.m.

A conversation with **Gene Cornish**, guitarist for **The Rascals** who worked with Les Paul in the studio and a long time player of Les Paul guitars; **Rusty Paul**, Les Paul's son, and Ramapo Music Industry Professor **Aaron van Duyne**.

Tuesday, February 4 @ 11 a.m.

Jazz guitarist **Mark Sganga** will join Ramapo adjunct professor **Sue Williams** in a workshop devoted to **Les Paul's Harmonic Concept**.

Tuesday, February 4 @ 1 p.m.

David Wish - Founder/Director of **Little Kids Rock**, which is revitalizing music education in U.S. public schools by bringing free music instruction and instruments to under-served schools across the country.

Wednesday, February 5 @ 1 p.m.

Lou Gonzalez – Founder of **Quad Studios** in Nashville/Manhattan, recording engineer who worked with Les Paul and has produced many great hit records by artists including **Madonna, No Doubt, Neil Young, Metallica**, and many more.

Thursday, February 6 @ 2 p.m.

Emmy Black - Ramapo graduate who is A & R at **Bar/None records**. She will talk about innovation in artist development, specifically her experience developing former Ramapo band **The Front Bottoms** who are enjoying great success on **Bar None**.

Tickets for the Saturday concert are FREE for students, \$15 for others. All events in the Trustees Pavilion are also free. Contact Ben Neill at bneill@ramapo.edu or Marc Gidal at mgidal@ramapo.edu for more information. Berrie Center Box Office (201) 684-7844.

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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.