



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Office of Communications and Public Relations

Press Release

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**DAUGHTER TO RELATE STORY OF FATHER’S EXPERIENCE AS
AFRICAN-AMERICAN HOLOCAUST LIBERATOR**

(MAHWAH, NJ) –Rasheeda S. Sampson-Jefferson, singer, actress, dancer, choreographer and adjunct professor of dance at Bloomfield College, will deliver a talk entitled “*One of the Black Angels: My Father, A Soldier and Liberator of Buchenwald Concentration Camp*” at Ramapo College of New Jersey on Thursday, September 11 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Trustees Pavilion (PAV1).

Ms. Sampson-Jefferson will share the story of how her father, Otto Sampson Sr., an African-American G.I. in the 380th Quartermaster Company of the U.S. 4th Armored Division, came to be one of the liberators of Buchenwald Concentration Camp on April 11, 1945. Her presentation will include excerpts from a 1999 interview that she conducted with her father about his experiences as an African-American soldier and a concentration camp liberator.

She discovered her father’s role in history by chance and through her research at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC and the Rutgers Oral History Archives at Rutgers University-New Brunswick.

Sampson-Jefferson has more than 20 years’ experience in the arts, education and business and has taught at Bloomfield College since 2005.

The event is sponsored by The Gross Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Ramapo College. For more information, visit <http://www.ramapo.edu/holocaust/> or call 201.684.7409.

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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 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 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.