



**RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Office of Communications and Public Relations**

**Press Release**

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Contact: Stephen J. Hudik

E-mail: [shudik@ramapo.edu](mailto:shudik@ramapo.edu)

Phone: 201.684.7845

**FILM ABOUT RWANDAN WOMEN WHO SURVIVED 1994 GENOCIDE TO BE  
SCREENED AT RAMAPO COLLEGE**

***Sweet Dreams* depicts journey of independence and peace through music**

(MAHWAH, NJ) -- Rob Fruchtman will screen and lead a discussion of his film, *Sweet Dreams*, at Ramapo College of New Jersey on Monday, March 9, from 3:30 to 5:30 in the H-wing Auditorium (H129). The College's Gross Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies and Communication Arts' Cinematheque Series are co-sponsors of the event, which is free and open to the public.

The film, which Fruchtman co-directed and co-produced with his sister Lisa, is about a remarkable group of Rwandan women who defy the devastation caused by the genocide to form the country's first all-female drumming troupe, *Ingoma Nshya*, and who open the country's first ice cream shop. Made up of women from both sides of the 1994 Rwandan genocide, the troupe offers a place of support, healing and reconciliation. When the group decides to partner with two young American entrepreneurs, Jennie Dundas and Alexis Miesen of Brooklyn's Blue Marble Ice Cream, and open Rwanda's first-ever ice cream shop, these Rwandan women embark on a journey of independence, peace and possibility. *Sweet Dreams* interweaves intimate, heart-wrenching stories with joyous and powerful music to present a moving portrait of a country in transition.

The brother-sister team brings extensive feature film and documentary experience to the project. Rob Fruchtman is an award-winning director, producer and editor of documentaries and television programs. He won the Documentary Director award at the 2002 Sundance Film Festival for his feature film, *Sister Helen*, which aired on HBO, and he has won three Emmys for his work with PBS. His film, *Trust Me*, a documentary produced for Showtime, follows Christian, Jewish and Islamic boys at an interfaith camp in North Carolina. In 2007, Fruchtman directed and produced *Seeing Proof*, a film about Cambodia's brutal Khmer Rouge regime and its lingering effect on Cambodia's society.

Lisa Fruchtman is an Academy Award winning editor who has worked in both feature film and television. Among her many film projects are *Apocalypse Now*, *The Right Stuff*, *Children of a Lesser God*, *The Godfather Part III*, *The Doctor*, *My Best Friend's Wedding*, *Dance with Me* and

*The Woodsman*. For television, she has edited such HBO films as *Truman*, *Witness Protection*, *Point of Origin* and *Normal*. Her awards and honors include an Oscar for *The Right Stuff*, Academy Award and BAFTA Nominations for Best Editing for both the *Godfather Part III* and *Apocalypse Now*, an Emmy Nomination and a Cable ACE Award for *Truman*.

The screening and presentation are free and open to the public. For more information or to reserve a seat, please 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.