

## **Havemeyer Edible Garden at Ramapo College Opens**

MAHWAH, N.J. -- The Havemeyer Edible Garden at Ramapo College opened for the 2015 season with a day of yoga, nutrition and gardening.

The event on Sunday, April 26, attracted a variety of visitors who took part in several activities, including an outdoor yoga session led by Kula for Karma and members of the Ramapo College yoga community and a talk entitled "Mindful Eating Moment" with Dr. Jackie Ehlert-Mercer. Participants later helped in the cleanup and planting of the garden.

The garden was established by Ramapo College President Peter P. Mercer and his wife, Dr. Jacqueline Ehlert-Mercer, in 2006. The garden was established in response to a call for public institutions of higher education in New Jersey to initiate educational programs to prevent childhood and adolescent obesity.

The garden is the foundation for a curriculum that provides Ramapo students experience in sustainable eating and nutrition.

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as sixth in the Best Regional Universities North category, 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 6,000 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 eight 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.