

Contact: Angela Daidone 201-684-7477 adaidon1@ramapo.edu

Sculpture Studio in School of Contemporary Arts Donates Supplies to Needy Camden Arts Program

MAHWAH, N.J. – The sculpture studios in the School of Contemporary Arts at Ramapo College received a good dose of "spring cleaning" over the summer, and the beneficiary of all the hard work was an after-school arts program called Urban Promise in a low-income Camden neighborhood.

Shortly after arriving on campus, newly hired faculty member Joel Weissman, assistant professor of art, unearthed a large amount of art supplies that had accumulated in the studios over the years. However, most of what he found was better suited for younger children rather than college students. So Professor Weissman and Steven Perry, dean of the School of Contemporary Arts, elected to donate the items rather than discard them. Maria Lizzi, secretarial assistant in the department, did a little research and contacted the Urban Promise staff, who happily took the two-hour drive to Ramapo College to collect the art supplies, which included paints, crayons, craft items, paper and other materials.

According to Lizzi, the K-12 art teacher at Urban Promise, Robert Kelleher, said he was paying for supplies out of his own pocket because he had no budget to work with this year. Kelleher said he was thrilled for the much-needed and generous donation from Ramapo.