



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Office of Communications and Public Relations
Press Release
March 23, 2016

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Acclaimed Poet Maria Mazziotti Gillan to Speak at Ramapo College

MAHWAH, N.J. – The Italian Club at Ramapo College of New Jersey presents acclaimed poet Maria Mazziotti Gillan on Monday, April 18 at 4 p.m. in Friends Hall in the Scott Student Center on the Ramapo campus.

A question and answer session about her life and work will follow the reading.

Maria Mazziotti Gillan is a recipient of the 2014 George Garrett Award for Outstanding Community Service in Literature from AWP (Association of Writers & Writing Programs), the 2011 Barnes & Noble Writers for Writers Award from Poets & Writers, and the 2008 American Book Award for her book, *All That Lies Between Us*. She was recently named the recipient of the Italian-American Heritage Award from the Federation of Italian-American Societies of New Jersey.

Maria is the founder and executive director of the Poetry Center at Passaic County Community College in Paterson, N.J., and editor of the Paterson Literary Review. She also is director of the Binghamton Center for Writers and the creative writing program, and professor of poetry at Binghamton University-SUNY.

Maria has published 20 books. Her most recent are the poetry and art collection, *The Girls in the Chartreuse Jackets*, *Ancestors' Song*, *The Silence in an Empty House*, *Writing Poetry to Save Your Life: How to Find the Courage to Tell Your Stories* and *In a Place of Flowers & Light: Poems in English & Italian*. With her daughter Jennifer, she is co-editor of four anthologies.

The event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

To request disability-related accommodations, please call 201-684-7493 at least one week in advance of this event. For information, email fsimone@ramapo.edu

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as fifth in the Best Regional Public Universities North category, Ramapo College of New Jersey is sometimes 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 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.