

RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY Office of Marketing and Communications Press Release February 3, 2017

Contact: Angela Daidone

E-mail: adaidon1@ramapo.edu

Phone: 201.684.7477

STEM and Theater Classes for Middle School Students at Ramapo College

Information Sessions Scheduled

MAHWAH, N.J. – Ramapo College through its Center for Innovative and Professional Learning is holding information sessions for its Ramapo Explorers STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math) Summer Camps that include the well-established *Ramapo Explorers-STEM* Camp and *Ramapo Explorers-Theater Camp*, now in its second year. Middle school students who will be entering 7th and 8th grades in September are invited to enroll. Students entering 6th grade may apply by special recommendation only.

The Ramapo Explorers STEAM Summer Camps information sessions for middle school-age students are scheduled on Wednesday, March 8, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday, April 20, 7-8:30 p.m.; and Sunday, May 7, 4-5:30 p.m. in Ramapo College's Student Center Alumni Lounge (Room SC-158). Wear comfortable walking shoes to tour the campus and facilities. Pre-registration is requested at www.ramapo.edu/ramapocamps

The STEM classes are taught by highly qualified certified middle school teachers and a Ramapo College doctoral level educator, and are supported by trained college-age counselors who often are teacher education majors. The program seeks to advance students' problem-solving, critical thinking and teamwork abilities that are important for 21^{st} century learning. Topics in Session 1 (July 10-21) include: Discovering Computer Science, Robot Quick Builds, Aerospace Engineering, and Digital Song Creation. In Session 2 (July 24-August 4): Computer Graphics with Processing, Medicines to Market, Alternative Energy, and Digital Electronics using Arduino. And Session 3 (August 1-12): Lego WaterBotics®, Robotics Rumble, 3-D Drafting Design, and STEM Meets Art. In addition, recreational time is provided in the middle of each day, with indoor and outdoor activities available such as basketball, sand volleyball, foosball, air hockey and more.

The Performance and Technical Theater classes are open to 7th-12th graders and are taught by working professionals in the field and highly qualified teachers, all of whom have advanced degrees in their areas of expertise. Courses encourage students to think critically and creatively to solve problems, work both independently and cooperatively, and produce original work that expresses a point of view. Week-long topics include Acting I, Acting II, Acting for Film &

Television, Costume Design, Dance for Actors, Improvisation, Lighting & Sound, Make-up for Stage & Screen, Set Design, Voice, and Voice & Movement for Actors.

STEAM middle school age participants may mix the STEM and Theater classes with various daily program lengths available: full days from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. or 9 a.m.-4 p.m., half days from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. or 1 to 4 p.m. Early drop-off is offered from 7:30-8:35 a.m. and late pick-up is available from 3-6 p.m. at additional fees. For high school-age students in the Theater Camp, half-day classes run either 9 a.m.-noon or 1-4 p.m. and two half-day classes may be combined to create a full day experience. Information sessions for high school age students for the Theater Camp will be held in Ramapo College's Berrie Center for Performing and Visual Arts (BC-142) on Tuesday, March 21, 7-8 p.m.; Wednesday, April 19, 7-8 p.m.; and Sunday, May 21, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

For more information and detailed class schedules, visit the Ramapo Explorers-STEM web site at www.ramapo.edu/cipl/academic-camp or the Ramapo Explorers-Theater web site at www.ramapo.edu/cipl/theater or call the Center for Innovative and Professional Learning at 201-684-7370.

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top in the Best Regional Public 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.