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Ramapo College Music Program Announces Launch of New Record Label and First Release

MAHWAH, N.J. -- The Ramapo College Music Program is proud to announce the launch of **RAMIX RECORDINGS**, a new college-based independent record label. **Ramix** is dedicated to developing and promoting Ramapo student talent and providing Music Industry majors with hands-on, real world experience. *On November 17, the label will release its first recording, Ramix Volume 1, a compilation featuring 14 Ramapo student artists and bands.*

Ramix is an important new addition to the Music Program, which already has a strongly contemporary focus and has experienced tremendous growth in the past several years. Recent graduates have found great success in the popular music and entertainment industries, and the new label is designed to help students to start building their careers as performing/recording artists and music industry professionals while still in school. In addition, the label will give the Music Program broader exposure, increasing its profile nationally and internationally. The school's state of the art Les Paul Studio, created thanks to a grant from the Les Paul Foundation, opened in 2016 and will serve as the primary production facility for **Ramix** releases.

Ramix Volume 1 will feature 13 songs by different Ramapo current students and 2017 graduates. The recording will be released as a series of individual songs through all major digital outlets such as Spotify, Apple Music and iTunes, as well as on a limited edition CD. The wide ranging genres represented on the first release include R&B, hip-hop, rock, EDM, dubstep, and jazz/orchestral, reflecting the Music Program's diverse student interests.

Highlights include *Maple Leaves* by experimental R&B artist Ehiorobo, who has gained critical praise from major national press outlets and established a strong online following; *The*

Scientist, a dubstep track by 8.0.Ace aka Jason Travers who has released music on Canadian label Defco; and the electronic/world music hybrid *Venezuela* by Black Tibet aka Theo Sayers. All of the music was written by the student artists, and most of the recordings were produced in the school's on-campus recording and production facilities.

The development and launch of the label was part of the curriculum for the Spring 2017 upper level Music Industry courses, and the ongoing process of producing future recordings will be integrated into subsequent classes and research projects. A record release concert on the Ramapo campus is being planned, details to be announced soon. The label's website, <u>www.ramixrecordings.com</u>, will coincide with the launch of the recording.

For information, contact Benjamin Neill, Associate Professor of Music (Industry and Production) and Executive Producer of RAMIX Recordings at <u>bneill@ramapo.edu</u> or 201-684-6283.

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Ramapo College of New Jersey is the state's premier public liberal arts college. Ranked among the top colleges in the region by *College Choice* and recognized by, among others, *U.S. News & World Report, Princeton Review, Colleges of Distinction* and *Victory Media* as a "Military Friendly College," Ramapo College is committed to academic excellence through interdisciplinary and experiential learning, and international and intercultural understanding.

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 business, education, nursing and social work. In addition, the College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels, and offers graduate programs leading to degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, Educational Technology, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education.