



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Office of Marketing and Communications
Press Release
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Screening of Acclaimed Hungarian Film ‘1945’ in Memory of John Gunzler

MAHWAH, N.J. –The recently released and critically acclaimed Hungarian film, “1945,” will be screened at Ramapo College of New Jersey on Thursday, March 8 at 7 p.m. in the Trustees Pavilion (PAV3) under the auspices of the Gross Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies. The program is being held in memory of our recently deceased Advisory Board member, John Gunzler. The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served

Born in 1935, John Gunzler survived the Holocaust in hiding with his family in his native Budapest. He came to the United States in 1951, after first living and attending school in Italy. He joined the Seminole Manufacturing Company a few years later and eventually became a member of the company’s Board of Directors.

A man of many passions, Gunzler enjoyed opera, art, music, hiking, skiing, tennis, sailing, fine dining and *The New York Times*. It was while leading a hike that he met the love of his life, Marianne, a fellow survivor from Germany, with whom he raised two daughters, Melissa and Nicole. Eventually, he became member of the boards of Gross Center and the New York/New Jersey Trail Conference. He is missed by all.

Directed by Ferenc Török and based on the acclaimed short story *Homecoming* by Gábor T. Szántó, the film “1945” tells the story of the return of an observant Jew and his son to their native village in Hungary just as the inhabitants are preparing for the wedding of the town clerk’s son. The townspeople – suspicious, remorseful, fearful and cunning – expect the worst and behave accordingly. Shot in gorgeous, high-contrast black-and-white, “1945” is a commentary on treachery and guilt during and after the Holocaust.

For information or to request disability-related accommodations for this event, please contact holgen@ramapo.edu or call 201-684-7409.

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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.