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Film about Turkish Armenian Heritage in Context of 100th Commemoration of Genocide to be Screened

MAHWAH, N.J. – Naré Mkrtchyan will screen her film, "The Other Side of Home," at Ramapo College of New Jersey on Tuesday, April 17 at 7:30 p.m. "The Other Side of Home" is an eye-opening account of the legacy of the 1915 Armenian genocide by the Turkish government. The film will be shown in The Robert A. Scott Student Center (Alumni Lounges, SC 157-158) under the auspices of the Armenian Students Association of Ramapo College and the Gross Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies. The program is free and open to the public.

In 1915, the Ottoman Turks killed an estimated 1.5 million Armenians during the Armenian Genocide. In 2015, a Turkish woman named Maya discovered that her great grandmother was survivor of the Armenian genocide. Maya embodies the conflict as she has two enemies living in her body: one side that suffers and the other side that denies. The documentary follows Maya as she decides to go to Armenia to take part in the 100th commemoration of the genocide and to explore her conflicted identity. This film is a universal story of identity, denial, and how the experience of genocide creates a ripple effect for future generations on both sides. Having been short-listed for an Academy Award in the documentary short category, "The Other Side of Home" was first film in the 89-year history of the Oscars to raise the issue of the Armenian Genocide. It was the winner of Best Documentary Film award for the 19th Annual ARPA International Film Festival, organized by the Arpa Foundation for Film, Music & Art (AFFMA).

Born in Armenia and raised in Los Angeles, Naré Mkrtchyan strives to combine both: the American filmmaking technique and international, independent spirit. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Film Production from the University of Southern California School of Cinematic Arts. She has written, directed and produced more than 60 short films. Her passion is telling unique human stories that connect people and move beyond the boundaries of nationality, gender and religion.

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

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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, also designated by 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.