



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Office of Marketing and Communications
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Contact: Rosa Mulryan
201-684-7602
rmulryan@ramapo.edu

Ramapo College Partners with Paterson Museum to Showcase Eco-Chic II

MAHWAH, N.J. — Ramapo College students and faculty are playing a major role in the grand opening of the Eco-Chic II Exhibit at the Paterson Museum on Sunday, September 16, 1-4 p.m. which marks the kick-off of Paterson Eco-Chic II, a multifaceted program that purports a close look at the harmful impact of plastic bags on the environment. Paterson Mayor Andre Sayegh will be presiding.

Students from Ramapo's Introduction to Anthropology class and the Upward Bound Math Science Program researched the use of plastic bags and reusable shopping bags in the spring 2018 semester interviewing shoppers as well as store merchants. The culmination of their research work is to be displayed at the Paterson Eco Chic II exhibit through November 11. The exhibit is a collaboration with artist and fashion designer Rose Orelup who creates runway looks from items headed to the landfill, Ramapo College faculty, staff and students and Paterson Upward Bound Math Science high school students.

“There are nine student posters as part of the exhibit that capture the viewpoints gathered on the use of plastic bags and reusable bags,” said Ramapo Professor Neriko Doerr, who also taught an Introduction to Ethnographic Methods to Upward Bound Science Math students from Paterson where they learned how to conduct the research. Ramapo College waived the tuition for this one-credit course for eight Paterson high school seniors, and is providing free reusable bags to the first patrons at the museum on Sunday. Ramapo alumnus Anna Lavi '18 designed the logo artwork featured on the bag for the city of Paterson and the exhibit earlier this spring.

The grand opening event will include an eco-friendly fashion exhibit, an interactive Instagram wall, theme-related art works from Ramapo College students, door prizes and refreshments from sponsors and partners including Ramapo College, The Paterson Museum, Upward Bound Math Science, and a grant by the Paterson County Cultural & Heritage Council from funds granted by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. A special part of the exhibit features the creations of Ramapo Professor Jackie Skrzynski's Intermediate Drawing class who produced the Great Falls artwork for the exhibit from recycled materials in Paterson.

Cristina Deutsch, Paterson Museum Exhibit Curator and grant Project Director, said “Ramapo College has been a very strong force in growing what was earlier conceived as a smaller project into this rich exhibition with large community involvement by providing its resources of talented faculty and staff who devoted their time, eager students and overall passion for furthering this civic sustainability effort for the city of Paterson.”

Sandra Suarez, Ramapo College Upward Bound Math Science director, added “Having Paterson high school students attend a college class and interact creatively and professionally with Ramapo College students to create museum-quality work was a unique educational experience for both the high school and college age students who each benefited from honing a myriad of critical thinking and teamwork skills.”

This is a free event with free parking. The Paterson Museum is located at 2 Market Street, Paterson, NJ. For additional information, visit the museum's website <http://www.patersonmuseum.com>, the Paterson Eco-Chic Instagram page: <https://www.instagram.com/patersoneco chic>, or contact Cristina Deutsch at the Paterson Museum at cdeutsch@patersonnj.gov.

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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.