



**RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Office of Marketing and Communications**  
**Press Release**

**November 5, 2018**

*Contact: Angela Daidone*

*E-mail: news@ramapo.edu*

*Phone: 201-684-7477*

## **Ramapo College Hillel Holds Kaddish Ceremony for Synagogue Victims**

MAHWAH, N.J. -- Ramapo College Hillel, together with the College community, held a Kaddish candlelight ceremony to remember the victims of the recent shooting in Pittsburgh at the Tree of Life synagogue where 11 people died. The somber ceremony, which attracted hundreds of students, staff and faculty, evoked heartfelt words from student members of Hillel.

"We will always remember the horrific acts that occurred during the holocaust in the 1930s and 1940s. Now, 73 years after World War II ended, we are left with nothing but disbelief that this amount of violence and hate still exists," said Hadar Baron '19. "Our hearts ache. We're here to say, once again, 'never forget' - but I urge you to do more. I urge you to speak up and engage in discussions with people who may not think about these things too much, and to urge your friends and family to step out of their comfort zones and do the same, as well. We never realize how important it is to stand up for what we believe in until it's too late. Let this be our call to action - because just remembering isn't enough."

Patricia Giudice '19 added, "Antisemitism is alive and well in today's world. Nobody deserves to live in a world where the fear of violence for being the wrong religion, color, gender, sexuality, should be a part of daily life. It's getting hard to think of anywhere as safe anymore."

Also representing Hillel were Alyssa Rabinowitz, President of Ramapo College Hillel, and Talia Mizikovsky, Director of Jewish Student Life, Hillel of Northern New Jersey.

Hillel, an international organization that serves Jewish students on college campuses, offers religious and cultural programs including trips, holiday observances, historical commemorations, lectures, films, and leadership and personal growth opportunities. In addition, Ramapo College's Gross Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies provides multiple resources to promote an understanding of the pernicious consequences of anti-Semitism, racism, ethnic hatred, other forms of bigotry, and violations of human rights.

###

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*, *Kiplinger's*, Princeton Review, *Money* magazine, 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 master's degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, Educational Technology, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education.