



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Office of Marketing and Communications
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Ramapo College Alumnus Produced Single on Grammy Nominated Album

MAHWAH, N.J. -- When the glitz and glamour of the music world come together in Los Angeles for the 61st Annual Grammy awards on February 10, Ramapo College alumnus Brandon Korn will be among the anxious hopefuls in the audience. Korn, whose professional stage name is BKorn, was one of the producers on American rapper Travis Scott's "Astroworld," which was nominated for Best Album in the Rap/Hip Hop category. Korn worked on the album's first cut, "Stargazing."

"This is an unbelievable dream come true," said Korn, a Woodcliff Lake, N.J., native who graduated in 2014 from Ramapo's School of Contemporary Arts. "It hasn't really sunk in yet."

Korn's love of music began early – he and his friends formed a rock band in middle school and played through high school. Brandon played guitar and said he was always more interested in the instrumentals than lyrics. So when he came to Ramapo, majoring in music production was the logical choice.

"What made it even better were the faculty," Korn said. "They didn't just study music and decide to teach. They actually worked in the industry and had first-hand experience working in a studio and creating sound. That was the biggest inspiration for me."

Ben Neill, Professor of Music and Production, said Korn had a "very strong focus as a student."

"He knew exactly what he wanted to do, he had the skills and the musicality," said Neill. "His is an amazing success story," adding that Korn did an internship at P.Diddy Recording Studio in New York City (owned by music mogul Sean Combs) while he was a student.

"I was a nervous wreck the first week I was there," said Korn. "But everyone made me feel comfortable and I got to meet a lot of big music names. Things just took off from there."

As Korn prepares for the trip to L.A., he said he's grateful for the opportunities he had at Ramapo and in his brief professional career to date. "It would be awesome to win, but the whole experience has been awesome, so I couldn't be happier."

The 61st Annual Grammy Awards will air on Sunday, February 10 at 8 p.m. EST.

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Ramapo College of New Jersey is the state's premier public liberal arts college and is committed to academic excellence through interdisciplinary and experiential learning, and international and intercultural understanding. The College is ranked #1 among New Jersey public institutions by College Choice, and is recognized as a top college by *U.S. News & World Report*, *Kiplinger's*, Princeton Review and *Money* magazine, among others. Ramapo College is also distinguished as a Career Development College of Distinction by CollegesofDistinction.com, boasts the best campus housing in New Jersey on Niche.com, and is designated a "Military Friendly College" in Victoria Media's *Guide to Military Friendly Schools*.

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.