



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Office of Marketing and Communications
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Tiki Barber to Give Undergraduate Commencement Address for Ramapo College of New Jersey

MAHWAH, N.J. – Ramapo College of New Jersey will hold its 2019 Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony at Prudential Center in Newark, N.J., on Friday, May 17. **Keynote speaker is former New York Giants football player Tiki Barber, author, advocate for literacy and autism awareness, and radio personality.**

Barber serves as co-host of CBS Sports Radio’s national afternoon program, “Tiki & Tierney,” alongside broadcast partner, Brandon Tierney. The show, heard across the country from 3-6 p.m., airs on the nation’s largest 24/7 major-market radio network, and is simulcast on CBS Sports Network.

Barber graduated from the University of Virginia’s McIntire School of Commerce (Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society), with a concentration in Management Information Systems in 1997. At UVA, Barber excelled both academically and athletically on the football field. In 1996, he was named the ACC Player of the Year. After leaving Charlottesville, he began a 10-year NFL career with the New York Football Giants, retiring in 2007 as the Giants all-time leading rusher, and all-purpose yardage leader. In 2010, he was inducted into the New York Giants Inaugural Ring of Honor class. In January 2011, he was enshrined into the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame.

Barber has always been active in media and journalism starting in 1998, when he began his broadcasting career working for CBS RADIO’s WFAN, which led to stints at WCBS-TV, Sirius Satellite Radio, the YES Network and eventually as a morning host on Fox News Channel’s Fox & Friends. Upon retiring from the NFL, Barber signed a contract to work as a correspondent for NBC News and Sports, principally, The TODAY Show and Football Night in America, but also covering the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing for MSNBC.

Barber is also an entrepreneur, co-founding Julius, Inc & Thuzio, Inc. Julius is a SaaS marketing tool for influencer search and procurement. Thuzio, an event and content creation company,

produces memorable live and unfiltered conversations with legends in sports and entertainment. In addition, he is a founding member of Grove Group Management, a lifestyle branding and investment company focusing in the emerging cannabis marketplace.

Barber is a board member of the Fresh Air Fund, and KultureCity -- a nonprofit focused on creating acceptance and inclusion for individuals with autism and their families. He is consistently involved with his alma mater, and is on the Emeritus Board of Managers of the University of Virginia Alumni Association, as well as Larry Sabado's Center For Politics Board of Advisors. Barber is also an author, co-authoring, with his twin brother, Ronde, three successful children's books and eight young-adult novels. He also released a memoir of his playing days, "Tiki: My Life in the Game and Beyond," in September 2007.

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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.