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Ramapo College of New Jersey Student Receives Congressional Award

MAHWAH, N.J. -- Ramapo College student Ryan Greff '20 has earned the Congressional Award for young Americans, the highest award issued by the United States to young people ages 13 to 24. Ryan joins just 10 other New Jersey students to receive the Congressional Award's Gold Medal this year.

"I am so honored to receive this award," said Ryan, a Fair Lawn, N.J., native, who completed his requirements, including 400 hours of service and 200 hours of personal development, starting when he was a student at Fair Lawn High School. "Being involved in volunteer works and leadership programs can be challenging at times, but it's also so very rewarding. It's been quite a remarkable ride for me."

The Congressional Award Program challenges young people to set goals in four program areas: Voluntary Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness, and Expedition/Exploration.

"We are extremely proud and delighted that Ryan was selected to receive the Congressional Award," said Christopher Romano, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs at Ramapo College. "He has been an active student leader since the moment he stepped on our campus and he continues to bring energy, advocacy and intellect to the various leadership role he assumes. We, as a campus, are proud to call him a Roadrunner."

Ryan, a finance major with a minor in information technology management, was recognized at a ceremony in Summit, N.J., on September 21. United States Representatives Tom Malinowski and Donald Payne, Jr. made the medal presentations on behalf of Congress. The national ceremony for Gold Medal recipients will be in Washington, D.C. in Spring 2020.

At Ramapo, Ryan serves as Student Governor within the Ramapo College Foundation. He is a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, the National Society of Collegiate Scholars,

the Golden Key Honor Society and the New Jersey Business Administration Association Honor Society. He also has been involved in the Boy Scouts of America and serves as an Assistant Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 53, as well as a Merit Badge Counselor. He currently holds an intern position with Morgan Stanley in New York City.

The United States Congress established The Congressional Award in 1979 to recognize initiative, service and achievement in young people. The award is non-partisan, voluntary and non-competitive, and is funded entirely by private-sector donations.

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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.