

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2025!

## Undergraduate Students

Yazan Abdelkarim  
Yasmin Adan  
Faith Agupusi  
Simra Ahmed  
Bryan Amaya  
Gracia Anastasia  
Candice Anderson  
Mahfuza S. Anne  
Maria Balan  
Sole Bautista  
Mya Bazbaz  
Samman Bhetwal  
Janelle Boamah  
Destiny E. Bueno  
Saadat Sarwar Chowdhury  
Ashleigh Clenord  
Gabriela Contla  
Patricia M. Cupeles  
Margo Cusco  
Saurav Dahal  
Izzelah Diaz  
Viola Doko  
Ashley Duran  
Edison Fajardo  
AnnMarie Ferran  
Pamela Fleming  
Kirara Fried  
Katherine Ariana Fuentes  
Aliya Ann Hammond  
Nikita Hanover  
Allen Huang  
Tori-Ann Hunter  
Mariah Karim  
Christine Lam  
Kian Lee  
Sharleen Lee  
Kaylon Lindsay  
Shanel Lopez  
Gabriella Patricia Luque  
Aaliyah Marte  
Judith Mercado  
Ocia Millo  
Yasmin Mohamed  
Katelyn Molina  
Daeun Mun  
Josephine A. Navarro  
Adam Ocasio

Nicole Occhino  
Esther Adwoa Odoro  
Oluwaseun Olanrewaju  
Victor Oluwagbemi  
Bryant Paredes  
Kirsten Patalinjug  
Yanisley Perez  
Diana Petrychuk  
Shakirah Porter  
Ekaprana Ramesh  
Luna Restrepo  
Naydelin Reyes Rodriguez  
Emely Rivas  
Alexandra Rodriguez  
Justin Rutigliano  
Angie Sagbay Hernandez  
Lauren Sanchez  
Naidelyn Anahi Santos  
Sadikshya Shrestha  
Sarah Dominique Small  
Jose Tamayo  
Laquaysha Tucker  
Kanon Ueda  
Alberlyn Vargas  
Alexa Vazquez  
Larissa Danielle Wade  
Carolyn Woo

## Graduate Students

Chevelle Brown  
Karen A Brown  
Rakeim Combs  
Sai Harshitha Dalli  
Andrea Flores  
Miranda Garcia  
Keisha Smalls

Please scan QR code  
for website



[www.ramapo.edu/oed/  
rites-of-passage/](http://www.ramapo.edu/oed/rites-of-passage/)



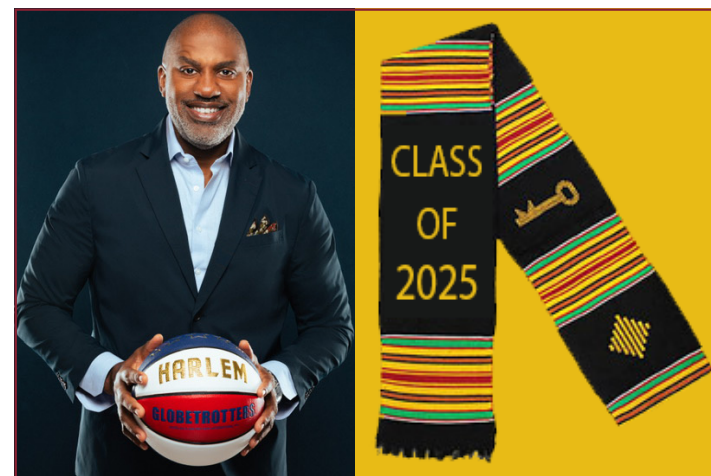
THE OFFICE OF EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION & COMPLIANCE

Presents:

9<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL

# rites of passage

## Pre-Commencement Celebration



Featuring Guest Speaker

## Keith Dawkins '94

Chair, Ramapo College Board of Governors &

President, Harlem Globetrotters and Herschend Entertainment Studios

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2025**

**12 P.M. | FRIENDS HALL**

*"If we stand tall, it is because we stand on the shoulders of many ancestors."*

- African Proverb

# ABOUT THE RITES OF PASSAGE CEREMONY

This pre-commencement ceremony represents one of the ways that Ramapo College celebrates the academic achievements of our graduates. It is a ceremony that is performed across cultures to honor a significant transition in a person’s life. Ramapo’s Annual Rites of Passage Ceremony features a traditional libation and the bestowal of a stole to each graduate. It is an opportunity for graduates to express their cultural heritage and pride, and provides them with a unique opportunity to honor the contributions and sacrifices of their ancestors.

## 2025 GUEST SPEAKER

**Keith Dawkins ‘94**  
**President, Harlem Globetrotters**  
**and Herschend Entertainment Studios**

Keith Dawkins, Chair of the Ramapo College Foundation Board of Governors, is the President of the Harlem Globetrotters and Herschend Entertainment Studios, and is charged with the overall day-to-day operations of both entities. In his role, he spearheads the brands ongoing evolution from an event business, spanning 124 countries, to a global branded entertainment force.

Dawkins also owns Rock Hill Media Ventures a media company he founded in 2018. The company is led by its deep commitment to Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access and focuses on three specific concentrations within that frame: media/entertainment, sports, and social impact, with a particular expertise in business strategy, marketing, and content creation.

Dawkins previously served as the Chief Executive Officer of The First Tee, a non-profit organization that uses the values inherent in the game of golf to positively impact the lives of young people. Prior to The First Tee, he worked for 17 years at Viacom (now Paramount) where he rose in the ranks to Executive Vice President at Nickelodeon; overseeing the TeenNick, Nicktoons, Nick Jr. and NickMusic channels.

Dawkins is a graduate of the CTAM Executive Management Program at Harvard Business School, and the NAMIC Executive Leadership Program at UCLA’s Anderson Graduate School of Management. He also holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Communication from Ramapo College, and he became the Chair of the Ramapo College Foundation Board of Governors in October 2023. He currently resides in Ridgewood, NJ, with his wife and two sons.

# ORDER OF EVENTS

Processional .....	Drum Performance by <b>Chiki Awali Dance, Arts &amp; Culture, Inc.</b>
Welcome .....	<b>Nicole Morgan Agard, Esq.</b> Chief Equity and Diversity Officer/ Vice President for Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Compliance
Greetings .....	<b>Costin Thampikutty</b> Associate Director for Campus Inclusion and Intercultural Affairs
Student Poem “Rites of Passage” .....	<b>Candice Anderson ‘25</b>
President’s Message .....	<b>Dr. Cindy R. Jebb</b> President, Ramapo College of New Jersey
Affirmation/Libation .....	<b>Nicole Morgan Agard</b>
Graduate Message .....	<b>Esther Oduro ‘25</b>
Keynote Speaker .....	<b>Keith Dawkins ‘94</b>
Presentation of Stoles .....	<b>Nicole Morgan Agard and Costin Thampikutty</b>
Closing Remarks.....	<b>Costin Thampikutty</b>

**Reception in Alumni Lounges, 1 -2 p.m.**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Office of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Compliance would like to thank the Center for Student Involvement and Vice President Christopher Romano for their invaluable contributions to this ceremony!