



New Jersey Center for Tourette Syndrome  
AND ASSOCIATED DISORDERS

*Collaborative Partnerships  
for the Tourette Syndrome Community*

908.575.7350

50 Division St. • Somerville, NJ 08876 • www.njcts.org • info@njcts.org • FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## Brother-sister combo aiming to make NJ Walks For TS at Ramapo rock

*Brother of walk organizer AnnaKatharine Mieke, William,  
is part of a band that will play at the April 14 event*



MAHWAH – When Ramapo College senior AnnaKatharine Mieke began planning the inaugural NJ Walks For TS at Ramapo College for her senior project, she knew some form of entertainment would be needed. It didn't take her long to think of the perfect solution: Her 24-year-old brother, William, has Tourette Syndrome and plays in a reggae-and-blues band.

Once AnnaKatharine told William that his life was the inspiration for choosing this event as her senior project, William and his yet-to-be-named three-piece band graciously offered to bring their style of music – which William describes as a cross between The Grateful Dead and The Band – to the walk, which will take place Sunday, April 14, beginning at Ramapo College's iconic archway.

In fact, he can't wait to jam for the crowd of students and members of the TS community who will be walking to benefit the statewide education outreach and peer advocacy programs of the New Jersey Center for Tourette Syndrome & Associate Disorders (NJCTS), which has been offering many avenues of support to the many Garden State families affected by TS for more than a decade. Mieke and his bandmates will perform throughout the afternoon as part of a full slate of awareness and advocacy activities surrounding the event.



**This beautiful archway will be the starting and ending point for the inaugural NJ Walks For TS at Ramapo College, which will take place Sunday, April 14. Proceeds from the event will benefit the programs and services of the New Jersey Center for Tourette Syndrome & Associated Disorders.**

“I'm ineffably proud of my sister and am excited to be a part of this event and to play for the occasion,” said William Mieke, who was diagnosed with TS, OCD and ADD in third grade. “It's my sister's event for Tourette, and I'm just trying to support her. If I can do that by playing music, that's great. Tourette is something I have. It doesn't define me. And it shouldn't define anyone. I believe that's what an event like this should be all about.”

Miehe hopes the walk will be a prime opportunity for not only he and his band, but the entire New Jersey Tourette Syndrome community, to network with others who are affected by the misunderstood, misdiagnosed, inherited neurological disorder that affects 1 in 100 children and adults.

The walk will take place rain or shine April 14, with registration beginning at 1 p.m. and the walk commencing at 2 p.m. The cost is \$10 for **current** Ramapo College students only (**must** show college ID and/or have a valid Ramapo e-mail address; **not** applicable for Ramapo faculty or former students) and \$22.50 for the general public.

To sign up for the walk, visit the [NJ Walks For TS at Ramapo College registration page](#).

To help AnnaKatharine Miehe and NJCTS fundraise on behalf of the New Jersey TS community, visit the [NJ Walks For TS at Ramapo College fundraising page](#).

To volunteer your time and talents on the day of the event, please call NJCTS Volunteer Coordinator Marty Butterfield at 908-575-7350 or send an e-mail with “Ramapo Walk Volunteer” in the subject line to



*To request disability-related accommodations, please call (201) 684-7593 at least one week in advance of this event.*

[info@njcts.org](mailto:info@njcts.org). For more information about NJCTS’ programs and services or the origins of the NJ Walks For TS initiative, please visit [www.njcts.org](http://www.njcts.org).

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*New Jersey Center for Tourette Syndrome and Associated Disorders, Inc.  
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