



2023-2025 ANNUAL REPORT



Alfred
University
NEW YORK STATE
COLLEGE OF CERAMICS



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Gabrielle Gaustad

Dean of the Inamori School of Engineering,
and Vice President for Statutory Affairs



The New York State College of Ceramics celebrates 125 years

In 2025, we proudly celebrate the 125th anniversary of the New York State College of Ceramics—125 years of artists and engineers, makers and scholars, advancing materials, ideas, and society from right here in Alfred.

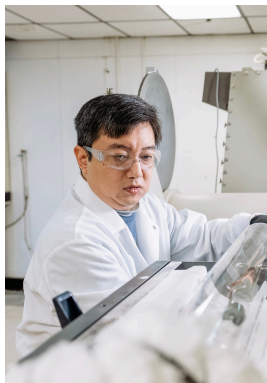
For more than a century, Alfred has united art, design, and engineering to advance materials, spark creative practice, and serve the greater good. This anniversary is a celebration of our faculty and students, alumni and partners—and a commitment to hands-on learning, inclusive excellence, and research that influences the world around us. Together, we've built a legacy that is both uniquely ours and profoundly relevant to the challenges of today and opportunities for tomorrow.

Thank you for being part of the NYSCC legacy for 125 years and counting!

With gratitude,

Gabrielle Gaustad

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES



Alfred University honored at ACerS MS&T Conference

Patrick Lynch (left), a glass science major at Alfred University, received the 2024 Alfred R. Cooper Young Scholars Award during the American Ceramic Society (ACerS) Materials Science & Technology (MS&T) Conference in Pittsburgh. Lynch has conducted research as part of **Myungkoo Kang's** (right) Advanced Optical Ceramics group. **Michelle Korwin-Edson '99** (B.S., ceramic engineering) **PhD '04** (glass science), senior principal scientist at Owens Corning presented the award.



William Carty, emeritus professor of ceramic engineering, received the Education and Professional Development Council (EPDC) Outstanding Educator Award at the ACerS Awards Banquet Monday evening. Carty was also author or co-author of six presentations given during the conference, some in collaboration with Alfred University students and faculty. His presentations included an invited talk, titled "A Critique of Additive Manufacturing in Ceramics."



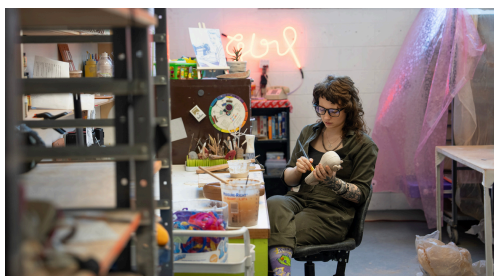
Rebecca Welch, assistant professor of glass science in the Inamori School of Engineering and alumna **Elizabeth Tsekrekas '19** (B.S. glass science), **PhD '24** (glass science), were recognized as winners of the David W. Richardson Educational Outreach Award. The award recognizes recipients for their outreach work.



Alfred University's Lambert, Romanchock recipients of SUNY Chancellor's Awards

Coral Lambert (left) and **Mechele Romanchock** (right) were honored by the State University of New York with 2025 SUNY Chancellor's Awards. The office of SUNY Chancellor John B. King Jr. announced that Lambert, professor of sculpture, is recipient of the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities, while Romanchock, director of libraries, has received a Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES



U.S. News & World Report cites Alfred University, MFA program in ceramics again ranked tops nationally.

In its 2025 Graduate School rankings, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Alfred University's fine arts graduate program 10th in the country and the best in New York State. Alfred's Master of Fine Arts program in ceramics was ranked number one in the nation.



The 2025 *U.S. News & World Report* accolades follow Alfred University being honored by the *Princeton Review* with a spot in its 2025 Best 390 Colleges rankings. The publication selects honored institutions based on "our high opinion of their academics." Other factors it considers include admissions, tuition and financial aid, student body, campus life, and job placement/careers.



Mario Caccia, assistant professor of ceramic engineering, advised the following Alfred University students participating in the 2024 mug dropping contest: **Matthew Bittel, Ally Bruno, Sam Gross, Patrick House, and Aidan Prendergast**. The contest tests students on their prowess in designing and manufacturing a ceramic mug possessing high strength, mechanical reliability, and/or aesthetics. Mugs fabricated by students from ceramic raw materials are judged (separately) on aesthetics and then by dropping them from ever-increasing heights. The mug that is dropped from the greatest height without breaking wins.



Alfred University was highlighted in a *Forbes* article titled "How Niche Programs Are Saving Higher Education" for its long-standing ceramic engineering program, recognized as one of the oldest and most respected in the country. The program blends materials science with the artistry of ceramics, preparing graduates for careers in industries from aerospace to healthcare and technology. Alfred is also the only university in the nation to offer bachelor's through doctoral degrees in glass engineering science and is advancing research through initiatives like the Space Materials Institute, the Center for Glass Innovation, and renewable energy projects. Provost **Beth Ann Dobie** emphasized that such niche programs not only provide students with specialized, high-demand skills but also embody the distinctive character that sets Alfred University apart.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Selva Aparicio assistant professor of sculpture in Alfred University's School of Art & Design, presented an artist talk at the Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA), Chicago. Sharing points in the arc of her work, Aparicio provided context for the MCA's new Emerge acquisition, her "Ode to the Unclaimed Dead" (2022), consisting of a pine casket—synonymous with pauper's graves and potter's fields—delicately studded with dandelion seeds, the ultimate symbol of hope and potential.

Selva Aparicio, was also awarded the Vilcek Prize for Creative Promise in Visual Arts by the Vilcek Foundation. The honor includes a \$50,000 award recognizing her innovative sculptures and installations that explore themes of memory, mourning, and temporality. Aparicio, born in Barcelona, was one of three artists under 40 nationwide recognized for exceptional creativity and outstanding potential.



Dean Lauren Lake delivers keynote address at National Portfolio Day Conference

Lauren Lake, Dean of the School of Art & Design at Alfred University, delivered the keynote address at the 2025 National Portfolio Day Conference, in Miami, FL.

In her keynote, titled "Evolving Evaluative Frameworks," Dean Lake addressed the challenges facing arts education and examined the concept of "merit." She proposed ways to refine evaluative frameworks to better serve students and ensure that arts education continues to foster creative talent and innovation. Her remarks emphasized the importance of maintaining excellence in education while adapting to the changing needs of the field.

The New York State College of Ceramics (NYSCC) at Alfred University announced **Claire Kovacs** as director of the School of Art & Design Galleries, the Paul Vickers Gardner Glass Center, and the Kyocera Museum of Fine Ceramics.

Claire Kovacs was also one of 20 participants in the National Coalition Against Censorship's 6th Annual Curatorial Workshop in New York City. She presented a case study on the challenges of curating politically engaged art in divided times, highlighting the importance of fostering dialogue rather than silencing artistic voices.



AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

David Pye '59, '68 awarded honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree

Alfred University honored Professor Emeritus **L. David Pye '59, '68** with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters during Reunion Weekend. Pye, a former dean of the New York State College of Ceramics, was praised as a world leader in glass and ceramic science and for his decades of mentorship to Alfred students. His many accolades include Distinguished Life Membership in the American Ceramic Society and the establishment of the L. David Pye Lifetime Achievement Award in his honor.

Pye's accomplishments in the ceramic science community are legendary. They include his election as the 46th Honorary Fellow of the Society of Glass Technology and his award of a Distinguished Life Membership in the American Ceramic Society (ACerS) for lifetime achievements in the field of ceramics. In 2019, the Glass and Optical Materials Division of ACerS established the L. David Pye Lifetime Achievement Award, and he served as Founding Editor of ACerS' International Journal of Applied Glass Science.



Holly Shulman '87, director of the Space Materials Institute at Alfred University, was the guest on an episode of "Ceramic Tech Chat." Shulman was interviewed for her work on microwave sintering of lunar materials which could someday be used to build on the moon.



David Gottfried, director of the Center for Advanced Ceramic Technology (CACT) and manager of University Government Relations at Alfred University, has been elected to the Board of IncubatorWorks.



John Simmins '84, PhD '90, former director of Alfred University's Center for Advanced Ceramic Technology (CACT) has been tapped to lead the University's new GE Vernova Advanced Power Grid Lab.



Myles Calvert, director of Alfred University's Institute for Electronic Arts, School of Art & Design, New York State College of Ceramics, has been appointed president of the Southern Graphics Council International (SGCI). SGCI is the largest printmaking-focused organization in North America,

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES



S.K. Sundaram, Inamori Professor of Materials Science and Engineering at Alfred University, is co-inventor of a novel process by which nuclear waste products can be immobilized in ceramic-metal waste form.

Sundaram was among a Rutgers School of Engineering-led collaboration of researchers from Alfred University, Washington State University, University of South Carolina, Missouri University of Science and Technology, Savannah River National Laboratory, and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory who worked on the project.

The goal of the research was to find a way to immobilize high-level waste products created in the production of nuclear power into a single waste stream. In addition to waste immobilization, the new technology can be used for nuclear waste management and recovery of isotopes used in medical applications.

In other news, S.K. Sundaram was elected to the 2025 Class of Optica Fellows. Sundaram was honored in recognition of “contributions to the development of structure-terahertz properties relationship and ultrafast laser modification of glasses and ceramics and optical materials education.”



Steven Tidrow and **S.K. Sundaram**, Inamori Professors of Materials Science and Engineering in Alfred University's Inamori School of Engineering, attended the 9th Kyocera Professor Meeting 2024 in Kagoshima, Japan.

Tidrow and Sundaram each presented talks at the meeting: Tidrow's was titled “New Simple Material Model and E-field Dipole Engineering at the Nanoscale”; Sundaram's was “Glasses for Terahertz Photonics + Haikus on Glass and Ceramics.”

The conference was organized by Kyocera Corporation, which endowed the Inamori Professorship at Alfred University.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Alfred University 2025 Honors Convocation

Darren Stohr, scanning electron microscopist in the Inamori School of Engineering, was presented with the John F. McMahon Excellence in Ceramic Teaching Award.

The Joseph Kruson Trust Fund Awards for Excellence in Teaching are presented with recipients chosen based on a student vote. The 2025 winners from the NYSCC were **Paul Briggs**, assistant professor of ceramics; **Doris Möncke**, associate professor of glass science and engineering; and **Anthony Nguyen**, assistant professor of design.

The 2025 awardees for the Faculty Scholar Awards were **John Hosford**, art librarian, Scholes Library, University Libraries; **Collin Wilkinson**, assistant professor of glass science and engineering, Inamori School of Engineering; and **Meg Bernstein**, assistant professor of art history, School of Art and Design.

Alfred University 2024 Honors Convocation

Several faculty members received the Joseph Kruson Trust Fund Awards for Excellence in Teaching, with recipients chosen based on a student vote. Following are the 2024 winners: **Andrew Deutsch**, professor of sound design and video arts; **Angus Powers**, professor of glass; and **Linda Sikora**, professor of ceramic art.

Sikora also received the Joseph Kruson Award for Distinguished Service to Alfred University. The award is presented in recognition of long and dedicated service, commitment to academic quality, and the strong sense of humanity shown to students. She is widely respected by the campus community, which includes students who have judged her to be an outstanding teacher, faculty colleagues, and members of the administration.

John Simmins '84, PhD '90, was presented with the John F. McMahon Excellence in Ceramic Teaching Award. The award is presented annually in honor of John F. McMahon, for his many years of dedicated service to the University as both a professor and dean.

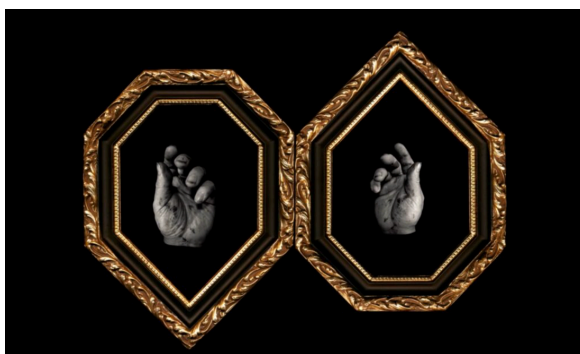
Several faculty members were presented with Faculty Scholar Awards in recognition of excellence in research and scholarship. The 2024 awardees were: **Maria Planansky**, collection management librarian, University Libraries; **S.K. Sundaram**, professor of materials science and engineering, Inamori School of Engineering; and **Linda Sikora**, professor of ceramic art, School of Art and Design.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES



Paul Vickers Gardner Glass Center Opening

Alfred University celebrated the official opening of the Paul Vickers Gardner Glass Center, a new space on the second floor of Binns-Merrill Hall honoring Gardner, a 1930 graduate and the Smithsonian Institution's first Curator of Ceramics and Glass. Gardner, who worked early in his career with Frederick Carder of Steuben Glass Works, made the Center possible through a gift to the university. The inaugural exhibition, *The Science of Design: Frederick Carder and Paul Vickers Gardner*, was curated by PhD student **Annika Blake-Howland**, who also coordinates the Center. Housing Gardner's personal archives, rare glass science texts, and a significant collection of glass art, the Center underscores the enduring connection between art and engineering at Alfred University and opened during the 125th anniversary of the New York State College of Ceramics.



SOAD Faculty Exhibiting Across the Country—In the Path of the Solar Eclipse, Rochester, and Long Island

Sarah Blood, associate professor of glass, is featured in *In the Shadow of the Moon* at the Windgate Museum of Art, Hendrix College (Conway, Arkansas). Her sculpture "Luna Fossil" celebrated the total solar eclipse, with the museum located directly in the path of totality.

At the Rochester Contemporary Art Center (RoCo), Institute for Electronic Arts residents **elekhlekha (Nitcha Tothong and Kengchakaj)**, **Tansy Xiao**, and **John McGarity** exhibited together in *Built Environments: Forging Worlds through Video Art*. Described as "universes within the confines of a screen, holding powerful truths of our current world."

Patrick Brennan, assistant professor of drawing and painting, exhibited *The Cage* at Halsey McKay Gallery, East Hampton, NY. This large-scale installation blends painting, sculpture, and video into an immersive environment.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Alfred University Assistant Professor of Photography **Kelsey "Chloë" Sucena** presented at Harvard University's 2025 Graduate Music Forum: TRANS Media*. Her talk, "Inverting the Phallus: On Photography, Sontag, and the Transsexual Camera," explored trans* feminine theories of image-making, using 35mm slides—including some from AU's Scholes Library—to reframe critiques of photography.



Alfred University Professor **Linda Sikora** was represented in the exhibition ARE WE THERE YET, was on display at the Ferrin Contemporary gallery, located on the campus of the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art (MASS MoCA), in North Adams, MA. Sikora is a professor of ceramic art in the School of Art and Design.

Reza Mirzaei, clinical assistant professor of art history at Alfred University, was featured in a new scholarly study on Iranian photography. Mirzaei's work is examined in Contemporary Photography in Iran, a monograph by Aram Mohamadi, assistant professor of photography at the University of Kurdistan. The book traced the development of Iranian photography from 1964 to the present, highlighting Mirzaei's New Photographs series (2014) as emblematic of the "deconceptualization" approach—a shift privileging visual and material qualities over conceptual frameworks. The 214-page volume, which includes 51 illustrations, situates Mirzaei among leading figures shaping the trajectory of Iranian photography across five distinct historical periods.

Paul Briggs MFA '92, assistant professor of ceramic art in Alfred University's School of Art & Design, was the keynote presenter at the Michigan Ceramic Art Association (MCAA) Conference.

The conference, "Michigan Mud 2025," was held at Western Michigan University's Morean Ceramics Research Center in Kalamazoo, MI. As a Morean Resident, Briggs delivered the keynote presentation and worked directly with students at the Center. His workshops emphasize conceptual and experimental approaches to ceramics, prioritizing process and exploration over final projects.



AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

2024 NCECA Conference

Alfred University was well represented at the 2024 National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA) Conference in Richmond, VA, with more than 80 alumni, faculty, and students taking part. Their presence highlighted the University's lasting impact, strong relationships, and deep intersections across the field of ceramic art.

Exhibitions

- The NCECA Annual 2024 Exhibition, "Rendered Fusion: Clay, Connection, Attention," featured Alfred-affiliated artists **Rice Evans BFA '16**, **Lydia Thompson MFA '85**, **Jing Huang MFA '20**, **Elissa Armstrong MFA '02**, **Cynthia Morelli BFA '86**, and **Albert Pfarr MFA '90**.
- Two Alfred University students, **Spencer Cheek** and **Sophie Gibson**, were selected for the Juried Student Exhibition, with **April D. Felipe BFA '03** serving as a juror.
- Faculty member **Paul Briggs MFA '92** (assistant professor of ceramics) and alumni **Sana Musasama MFA '87** and **Adero Willard BFA '95** were included in "Like the Dust Settles in Layers, So Does the Story," at the Black History Museum and Cultural Center in Richmond, with **Lydia Thompson MFA '85** organizing the reception.
- **Andrea Gill MFA '76** (professor of ceramics emerita) and **Linda Sikora** (professor of ceramic art) were among Alfred's representatives in Women Working With Clay: A Shared Purpose.
- The exhibition "Ashtrays: Class or Trash," organized by **Peter Morgan MFA '05** featured 14 Alfred alumni and faculty, including **Walter McConnell MFA '86** (professor of ceramic art).
- Turner Teaching Fellow **Eugene Ofori Agyei** exhibited in "The Medium is the Message" and "Unsettling Extractions," alongside other Alfred alumni.

Presentations and Panels

Alfred faculty also contributed to conference programming. **Nicki Green** (assistant professor of ceramics) participated in the panel "Where Do We Go From Here," which brought together LGBTQIA+ educators to explore ways to create inclusive, empowering spaces within academia.



The Institute for Electronic Arts (IEA) welcomed **Audra Wolowiec** in Fall 2024 as its resident artist. Wolowiec is an interdisciplinary artist whose work spans installation, print, sculpture, and performance, with a particular emphasis on sound and the material qualities of language. Her practice explores how sound can create spaces of listening, connection, and shared experience.

Audra Wolowiec has exhibited at MASS MoCA, CCS Bard Hessel Museum, ICA at MECA, and Print Center New York, with her work featured in *Artforum*, *BOMB Magazine*, *The New York Times*, and *The Brooklyn Rail*. She has held residencies at the Bemis Center, Dieu Donn  , and the Center for Book Arts, among others, and received a fellowship at the New York Public Library's Picture Collection.

The IEA, part of Alfred University's School of Art and Design, is a high-technology research studio. Its mission is to foster artistic innovation through interactive multimedia, sonic and video experimentation, digital imaging, and publications.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Alfred University Well Represented at 2025 NCECA Conference

Approximately 50 Alfred University faculty, students, and alumni participated in the 2025 National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA) Conference, held in Salt Lake City, UT. NCECA, the leading organization serving the interests of ceramics as an art form and in creative education, brought together thousands of makers, educators, and enthusiasts for this year's gathering.

Exhibitions

- True and Real (NCECA Annual 2025) featured work by **Eugene Ofori Agyei** (Turner Teaching Fellow), **Du Chau BFA '01, MFA '03**, **Chris Gustin MFA '77**, **Steven Young Lee BFA '98, MFA '04**, **Linda Swanson MFA '05**, **Lydia C. Thompson MFA '85**, and **Kirstin Willders MFA '20**.
- Formation Under the Big Sky: Wild Clay and Material Research at Montana State University, organized by **Josh DeWeese MFA '91** and **Jeremy Hatch MFA '03**, included work by **Rose Schreiber MFA '23** and **Peter Voulkos Honorary Doctorate '98**.
- Treading Lightly: Walking the Talk featured **John Neely '92**, **Julia Galloway BFA '98**, and **Kate Roberts BFA '10, MFA '15**.
- For the Love of Clay: Artists Who've Shaped the Carbondale Clay Center highlighted Alfred alumni and affiliates including **Allegany Meadows MFA '99**, **Janice Jakelski BFA '00**, **Doug Casebeer MFA '82**, **Sam Harvey MFA '01**, **Josh DeWeese MFA '91**, **Albion Stafford BFA '99, MFA '07**, and **Steven Colby BFA '99**.
- Rebel Girl: You Are Queen of My World showcased work by **Kim Dickey MFA '88**, **Stephanie Hanes** (faculty, Division of Ceramic Art), **Sana Musasama MFA '87**, **Lydia C. Thompson MFA '85**, **Adero Willard BFA '95**, visiting professor 2020–23, and **Stefani Threet BFA '06**.
- "Beacon," with work by **Kristen Kieffer BFA '95**, former summer ceramics faculty, **Julie Moon MFA '10**, **Adero Willard BFA '95**, visiting professor 2020–23; "Holding Space: Highlights From the Nehma Ceramics Collection," featuring **John Neely '92**, **Tony Marsh MFA '88**, **Ann Currier** (retired faculty 1985–2016), **Dirk Staschke MFA '98**; "Toy Dispenser Gallery: Community is Everything," with work by **Emily Woo**, BFA senior, and **Joann Schnabel BFA '81**; and "Permanence of Earth: Contemporary Ceramic Sculpture," featuring **Eugene Agyei** (Turner Teaching Fellow), **Lydia C. Thompson MFA '85**.

Programs and Presentations

- Past Masters honored the legacies of influential ceramic artists. **Chris Gustin MFA '77** presented on **Barry Bartlett MFA '77**, while **Denise Pelletier MFA '94** spoke on **Andrew Martin MFA '85**.
- Celebrating 30 Years of the Train Kiln Podcast featured **Matt Kelleher** (Head of the Division of Ceramic Art), **John Neely BFA '75**, and **Lindsay Oesterritter** (Summer Ceramics Faculty, 2024).
- "Understanding Your Self Through Making Art Podcast," included contributions from **Nicki Green** (faculty, Division of Ceramic Art).
- "Volcanic Pumice and Clay Body Formulation Lecture" was presented by **James Tingey**, Ceramics Grinding Room technician.
- The Closing Lecture, "The Chapters in My Journey," was delivered by **Sana Musasama MFA '87**. Alfred University's deep connections to ceramics—as a field of study, artistic medium, and community—were showcased throughout the conference, reflecting the university's ongoing leadership in the discipline.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES



Art by **John Chae**, assistant professor of drawing and painting at the School of Art and Design, New York College of Ceramics at Alfred University, appeared at D.D.D.D. Gallery in NYC. His solo exhibition, "Hallucination," examines the deep fractures that the consciousness of the present has inflicted on our visions of the past and the future.

John, is part of a group exhibition, Southern Democratic, at The Carnegie Galleries in Covington, KY. Southern Democratic is an exhibition of meditative vignettes, each featuring a specific body of work by an artist actively examining the changing world. The works are presented in dialogue with Election Eve, highlighting continued interest in concepts of place, life in the South, and uncanny imagery of the everyday.

Southern Democratic was a featured project in the 2024 FotoFocus Biennial: Backstories, an activation of more than 100 projects at museums, galleries, universities, and public spaces throughout the Greater Cincinnati, Dayton, Columbus and northern Kentucky areas. Now in its seventh iteration, the Biennial is believed to be the largest project of its kind in the U.S.

Also, John's "Pointing at the Moon" appears in the Space City exhibition of the Asia Society Texas. The exhibition is titled Space City: Art in the Age of Artemis. Chae created an installation of paintings for the exhibition titled "Pointing at the Moon." The two large paintings "depict the near and far sides of a full moon. The surfaces of the near and far sides are constructed from a patchwork of fabrics evoking the composite satellite images that now give us detailed, high-resolution maps of the lunar surface.



Maria Bentley '15, assistant dean of Alfred University's School of Art & Design, presented her case study "Student-Centered Approach: Safety and Wellbeing" at the 51st National Council for Arts Administrators Conference, held at Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan. The conference gathered leaders nationwide to address key issues and innovations in higher education arts administration.



Nicki Green, assistant professor of ceramics in the Alfred University School of Art & Design, was featured in three California exhibitions this fall. Green's work is currently on view in "Firmament" at the Contemporary Jewish Museum in San Francisco and in "Eye of the Fountain" at CULT Aimee Friberg gallery, also in San Francisco. She was also a part of the group exhibition "Scientia Sexualis," at the Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) in Los Angeles.

STUDENT SUCCESS



Two Alfred University students honored with SUNY Chancellor's Awards

Emily Woo (left) and **Roque Santiago** (right), were recipients of the 2025 State University of New York (SUNY) Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. They were among students from 64 SUNY campuses to receive the award from Chancellor John B. King Jr. during a ceremony in Albany.



Alfred University 2025 Marlin Miller Outstanding Seniors

Alfred University named **Marcella "Marce" Peccorini** (left) and **Elijah Spence Hammarlund** (right) as the recipients of the 2025 Marlin Miller Outstanding Senior Award, the University's highest student honor. Peccorini, a biomaterials engineering major from San Salvador, El Salvador, was recognized for her academic excellence, research in bioglass and biomaterials, and service as a student ambassador, resident assistant, and leader in multiple organizations.

Hammarlund, a biomaterials engineering and chemistry double major from Florence, MA. Hammarlund is winner of the 2024 Outstanding Ceramic Engineering and Materials Science (CEMS) Senior Award, given to an outstanding senior and based on scholarship and service to the university and community, the 2023 Scholes Scholar Award, presented to the sophomore engineering student with the highest GPA.



The award, established to honor longtime trustee and benefactor **Marlin Miller '54, H '89, H '19**, recognizes seniors who exemplify scholarship, leadership, and character.

Alfred University student **Emilia Donenberg Smith** was selected to receive the **2024 Marlin Miller Outstanding Senior Award**. "Emilia's work ethic and ability in glass making is tremendous. She certainly puts in more time than most and it shows in her ability to sculpt glass on a large scale and create dynamic installations combining glass with neon," said **Angus Powers**, professor of glass, in nominating Smith for the award.

Smith "has been an absolute leader for women in the studios," Powers continued. "Glass blowing has traditionally been a male dominated specialization and it is people like Emilia that are showing younger students that they can not only make glass, but they can be a leader and find leadership roles in the glass community."



STUDENT SUCCESS



In 2024, students **Olivia Gilbert** and **Emilia Donenberg Smith** were honored as recipients of the State University of New York (SUNY) Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. The award recognizes model students who have integrated academic excellence with other aspects of their lives, which may include the arts (creative and performing), athletics, career achievement, community service or leadership.



MFA student publishes review in CAFA Art Info

An art review by MFA student, **Chris Golub**, in Alfred's School of Art and Design, has been published by CAFA Art Info, one of the world's most influential art publications.

Golub's review, "*A Narrative of Grandeur, A Narrative of Integration*," was solicited for submission and officially published by CAFA Art Info. In his piece, Golub reviews "APEX," a 2023 exhibition curated by artist and fellow Alfred University MFA student Tianchan Chen.

Electronic Integrated Arts MFA students presented work to The University of Bonn

Graduate students met remotely with representatives of the University of Bonn's (Germany) Institut Für Wissenschaft und Ethik to present their current research and practice. The core objective is to contribute to an ethical reflection of current developments in medicine, science, and technology in order to facilitate the responsible use of new potentials emerging in these fields of human activity.



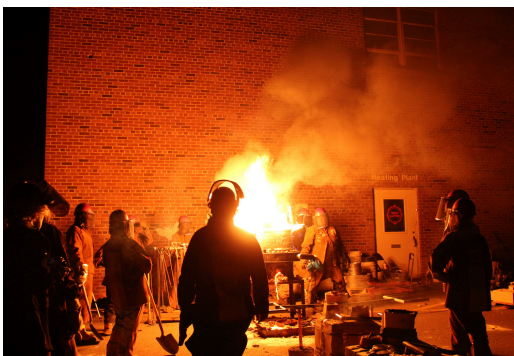
Sarah Lutkins '24, a ceramic engineering major, received a scholarship from The Refractories Institute recognizing her academic excellence and industry experience. Lutkins' experience includes a 2022 internship at Monofrax LLC where she conducted time studies, assisted with inspections, and observed the production of fused-cast refractories. Refractories—ceramic materials capable of withstanding extremely high temperatures—are widely used in industrial furnace linings and other critical manufacturing processes, making her work highly relevant to the future of advanced materials engineering. She credits this hands-on experience with sparking her interest in refractories.

STUDENT SUCCESS



Ring of Fire at Alfred University showcases flame-based art and engineering

A student-driven event showcasing the power of fire in the creation of art. Alfred University's "Ring of Fire" showcases demonstrations in iron and glass casting; blacksmithing, glass blowing, and neon, as well as interactive opportunities in Raku firing and aluminum casting.



"The Ring of Fire is a large-scale community event made to showcase the incredible world of flame-based arts," said **Ben Buess**, a senior School of Art & Design major who also serves as an admissions ambassador. "My primary goal through putting on this event is to showcase the amazing possibilities within the tactile and combustive arts and, if we are lucky, maybe even to inspire somebody."

Ten School of Art & Design students to exhibit in Best of SUNY Art Exhibition

Artwork by ten students in Alfred University's School of Art and Design were chosen for the Best of SUNY Art Exhibition, an annual display of art by State University of New York students across New York.

The exhibition was held in the Chancellor's Gallery of the H. Carl McCall Building and the Rockefeller Institute in Albany in 2024. Alfred University BFA students receiving the honor are: **Minchae Cho, Lila Condie, Elizabeth Madsen, Chester Mikkelsen, Eli O'Shea, Brianna Mar, Anna Muscatiello, Zoe Rainville, Ryan Scotto, and Mercedes Wagaman.**

Ceramic art student **Emily Woo** was awarded the Fall 2023 Jerome Ackerman Internship at the Alfred Ceramic Art Museum, where she assisted with exhibition installations and archival projects. Woo, is also a recipient of the Parry Memorial Scholarship and the Fred H. Gertz Award.



STUDENT SUCCESS



Annika Blake-Howland, a doctoral student in glass science and a coordinator of The Paul Vickers Gardner Glass Center at Alfred University, gave a talk in the Scientific Methods in Art, Archeology, and Art Conservation Science section. The title of her talk was "Copper Red Glass from Unterhalb Dornsweg near Glashütten, Germany: History and Preliminary Findings." She also presented a poster as part of the Graduate Student Poster Contest. Her poster title was "A Physical-Chemical Description of Frederick Carder's Aurene Glass." **Doris Möncke**, associate professor of glass science, was the final author/author/principal investigator for both the talk and the poster.

MFA student **Kameo Chambers**, presented a month-long screening of her original film project "If Not Now, When?" on BRIC's Brooklyn Free Speech TV network. *BRIC (Brooklyn Information and Culture)* is a leading arts and media institution in the Brooklyn Cultural Center; *Brooklyn Free Speech TV* is Brooklyn's premier video producer of local news and social justice reporting; music, arts and comedy coverage. Chambers' work, blending experimental visuals and narrative themes, offered a bold exploration of contemporary issues and personal transformation.



Alfred University biomaterials engineering student **Emanuel Exhume** received the 2024 John F. McMahon Achievement Award for his outstanding co-op with Lilly Research Laboratories. The award was presented by Dean **Gabrielle Gaustad '04** ahead of the annual McMahon Lecture, delivered this year by Dr. Kang N. Lee of NASA Glenn Research Center.



Alfred University student **Andrew Guariglia**, a ceramic engineering major, received the 2023 John F. McMahon Achievement Award for his outstanding co-op work at Morgan Advanced Materials in Fostoria, OH. The award, presented by Dean **Gabrielle Gaustad '04**, recognizes excellence in experiential learning and the integration of academic and professional achievement.

RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP



Arun and Darshana Varshneya endow University Conference on Glass

A gift from Arun Varshneya, Alfred University emeritus professor of glass science, and his wife, Darshana, will support the University Conference on Glass series as well as an annual lecture on glass at Alfred University.

The Varshneya Endowed Glass Fund, under the stewardship of Alfred University, will support the University Conference on Glass, a biennial conference which is hosted on a rotational basis by four institutions: Alfred University, Missouri University of Science and Technology, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and Pennsylvania State University. Funding will support the conference at all four host institutions. The conference series, established at Alfred University in 1970, will now be titled the Varshneya-University Conference on Glass.

In addition, the Varshneyas' gift will also fund the Varshneya Lecture on Glass, an annual lecture series held at Alfred University. Varshneya said he expects the lecture series to bring renowned members of the glass science community to campus.

Alfred University awarded \$480,000 NSF grant for glass relaxation research

Alfred University was awarded a four-year, \$480,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to study glass relaxation—a process critical to the performance of advanced glass materials. The project is led by **Collin Wilkinson**, assistant professor of glass science in the Inamori School of Engineering.

The research combines high-temperature experiments with atomistic simulations to better understand the structural origins of glass relaxation. Findings are expected to help improve the strength, transparency, and density of technical glasses used in applications such as optical fiber, display materials, and emerging energy storage devices.

“This process has been investigated for a long time but remains largely a mystery,” Wilkinson explained. “Advanced glasses make up the backbone of our digital infrastructure, which are strongly influenced by relaxation, thus the importance of this work.”

The grant will also expand experiential learning for Alfred University students, offering hands-on technical roles, professional development seminars, industry tours, and opportunities to present research. Wilkinson previously launched the University's Undergraduate Summer Research Institute, giving students the chance to tackle complex materials science challenges alongside faculty.



RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP



Alfred University received 5,000 books and articles on sculpture, donated by the International Sculpture Center (ISC)

A team of students and faculty from the School of Art and Design's Sculpture Dimensional Studies Division received approximately 300 boxes of books for Scholes Library, where they will be housed in a special collection.

Coral Lambert, professor of sculpture, said she was contacted by a representative of ISC over the summer, asking if she would be interested in receiving the donation from ICS's special collections library, which contained approximately 5,000 books and articles on sculpture, many of them signed by artists.

John Hosford, art librarian at Scholes Library drove to the ICS offices in New Jersey to pick up the boxes of material and deliver them to campus. The collection is being catalogued and housed permanently in Scholes Library, where it will be a valuable resource to sculpture students for years to come.

The 21st University Conference on Glass was held at Alfred University in summer 2024 offering students and researchers an opportunity to engage with leading experts in the field of glass science. The program featured a series of lectures on critical glass topics alongside presentations by undergraduate and graduate students sharing their latest research.

RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP



Alfred University Launches Space Materials Institute

Alfred University established the Space Materials Institute (SMI) within the Inamori School of Engineering to promote advancements in materials science and technology for aerospace and outer space exploration. The official launch followed the John F. McMahon Memorial Lecture by Dr. Kang N. Lee from NASA's Glenn Research Center.

Purpose and Collaboration

The institute aims to bridge the gap between industry and government agencies with Alfred University, providing students with hands-on learning experiences while assisting companies in developing and safeguarding intellectual property. By partnering with the Center for Advanced Ceramic Technology, SMI has enhanced New York State's position in the space and aerospace industries, building on the university's strong reputation in ceramic, glass, and materials engineering.

Dean Gabrielle Gaustad '04 shared her experience in NASA's Zero-G Flight Opportunities Program, emphasizing how special it is to witness Alfred students contributing to space research today. The institute has fostered collaborations with notable organizations including NASA, ARPA-E, the Department of Energy, U.S. Army Research Laboratories, SpaceX, Blue Origin, and others.

Impact on Technology Development

Supported by New York State industry partners like Washington Mills and Blue Star Advanced Manufacturing, Alfred students and alumni have played pivotal roles in developing technologies such as a lunar regolith simulant—an artificial lunar dust—for NASA. This material has become commercially available for experimentation and has been utilized in efforts to create microwave-solidified regolith for lunar landing pads, roads, and 3D construction, thereby advancing the prospects for sustainable space exploration.

RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP



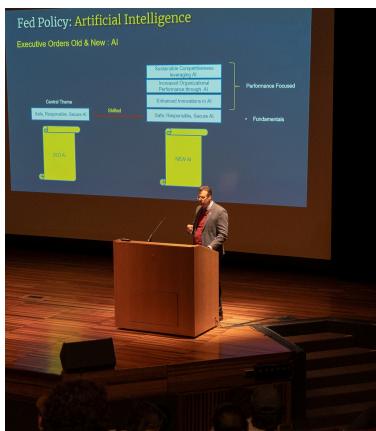
Alfred University unveils Cohen National Casting Center Foundry

Alfred University held a groundbreaking ceremony in May for the Cohen National Casting Center Foundry, a state-of-the-art facility set to open in 2026. Made possible by a \$6 million gift from trustee **Michele Cohen HD '18** and her husband, **Martin**, the foundry will be housed in the university's repurposed former central heating plant. The project was further supported by \$8.3 million from the SUNY Construction Fund and a \$300,000 grant from the Fred L. Emerson Foundation. University President **Mark Zupan** credited the Cohens for "providing the spark" that brought the ambitious project to life, noting that it will create unique opportunities at the intersection of art and engineering.

The foundry is envisioned as a collaborative, student-centered space that will support both the School of Art and Design and the Inamori School of Engineering. In addition to metal and glass casting facilities, it will feature an Advanced Digital Fabrication Lab and an Additive and Advanced Manufacturing Center. Michele Cohen highlighted the project's potential to foster cross-disciplinary innovation, stating that it will turn the dream of deeper collaboration between art and engineering into a reality. **Coral Lambert**, professor of sculpture and director of the National Casting Center, echoed that sentiment, calling the facility a "transformative experience for our students."

The ceremony featured remarks from campus leaders, faculty, students, and community partners, who celebrated the foundry's role in advancing Alfred University's mission and strengthening the profile of the New York State College of Ceramics during its 125th anniversary year. A ceremonial metal pour by Michele Cohen, assisted by students, symbolized the blending of tradition with innovation. The foundry, alongside the Cohens' other philanthropic contributions, stands as a testament to their vision of Alfred University as a hub for creativity, collaboration, and transformative education.

RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP



AI Week: Exploring the Future of Artificial Intelligence

Alfred University hosted its inaugural AI Week bringing together students, faculty, and experts to explore the transformative power of artificial intelligence across disciplines.

The week-long series featured keynote speakers, interactive demonstrations, faculty- and student-led projects, and hands-on workshops designed to spark conversations about how AI is reshaping creativity, research, business, and society.

Highlights included an engineering seminar with **Matthew Versaggi '87**, a Presidential Innovation Fellow in AI, who shared his expertise on the future of artificial intelligence in industry and beyond.

From machine learning and AI-driven art to ethical considerations and practical applications in business, AI Week offered opportunities to learn, question, and experiment—empowering attendees to imagine how they can play a role in shaping the AI-driven future.

Alfred University engineering faculty, PhD students attend conference in Panama

Faculty members in the Inamori School of Engineering at Alfred University accompanied a pair of PhD engineering students to Panama City, Panama, for the Pan American Ceramics Congress and Ferroelectrics Meeting of Americas (PACC-FMAs 2024).

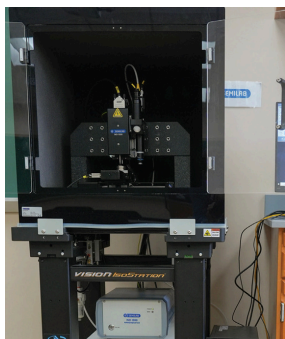
Steven Tidrow, Inamori Professor of materials science and engineering, **Doris Möncke**, associate professor of glass science, and **Myungkoo Kang**, assistant professor of ceramic engineering, along with PhD students **Grace Dunham** (ceramic engineering) and **Annika Blake-Howland** (glass engineering science) attended the conference. The program consisted of twelve symposia, including “Advanced Ceramics and Composites,” “Science and Technology of Glass, Glass-Ceramics, and Optical Materials,” and “Ceramics and Materials Education and Careers in the Americas.”

Dunham and Blake-Howland presented their cross-disciplinary research at the “Materials Approach to Art, Archaeology, and Architecture in the Americas” symposium.

Alfred University’s Division of Psychology, working with CACT and EthAR LLC of Huntsville, AL, secured a \$275,000 SBIR grant to explore how augmented reality can improve training for industrial workers. The project—led by Professor **Danielle Gagne** and former CACT Director **John Simmins**—will study AR’s impact on efficiency, safety, and workforce development in manufacturing environments.

The project aligns with CACT’s mission to strengthen New York’s ceramic and glass industry, which faces a significant workforce shortage. “We hope the success of programs such as this mitigates many of these workforce challenges,” Simmins said.

RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP



New IND-1500 nanoindenter acquired by Alfred University's Inamori School of Engineering

Alfred University's Inamori School of Engineering acquired an IND-1500 nanoindenter, loaned by Semilab, an international precision measurement solutions company based in Budapest, Hungary. The state-of-the-art instrument, housed in the McMahon Engineering Building, will allow faculty, technicians, and students to measure key mechanical properties of materials ranging from hard alloys to soft biomaterials. **John Byrnes '04**, North American sales manager for Semilab and Alfred alumnus in electrical engineering, helped facilitate the loan and visited campus to present on nanoindentation technology with his colleagues.



According to **John Simmins '84, PhD '90**, former director of the Center for Advanced Ceramic Technology (CACT), the nanoindenter adds to Alfred University's advanced suite of mechanical testing tools and will support both basic and applied research across all engineering disciplines. The equipment provides unique capabilities to test hardness, elasticity, and toughness in small samples, thin films, and coatings—applications valuable in ceramics, semiconductors, photovoltaics, and biomaterials. Faculty anticipate broad use in teaching and research, while CACT has already seen interest from industrial partners in New York State.



**Council on
the Arts**

iea receives \$100,000 grant, largest in its history

Alfred University's Institute for Electronic Arts, School of Art and Design received a \$100,000 grant from the Harry T. Mangurian Foundation, the largest grant to date in the IEA's history. The grant will be used across four areas to strengthen the iea and its future:

- Attracting and retaining excellent staff
- Completing projects interrupted by the COVID pandemic
- Assisting emerging artists with projects
- Creating future programs that engage the surrounding community

The grant will be useful particularly in the development of artist residencies, as well as local and regional exhibitions that host intersections of art and technology.

The iea also received a \$25,000 grant from Council on the Arts in Fall of 2024. The grant will support residencies for New York-based artists, which have been sponsored by the Institute for over 25 years.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/UPWARD MOBILITY

Pardon our Progress: NYSCC Continually Evolves With Facility Upgrades and Renovations

The New York State College of Ceramics (NYSCC) at Alfred University continues to advance its commitment to innovation, accessibility, and creative excellence through major facility investments. These projects reinforce the College's unique role at the intersection of art, design, engineering, and material science.

NYSCC ENTRANCE



Harder Hall Main Entry Renovation

A \$2.12 million renovation to the main entrance of Harder Hall will begin in May of 2025 and is slated for completion in 2026. Funded by the New York State Construction Fund, the project enhances campus accessibility in full ADA compliance and creates a striking new entry point. The entrance will include a dynamic neon feature that visually connects with the Alfred Ceramic Art Museum.

FOUNDRY



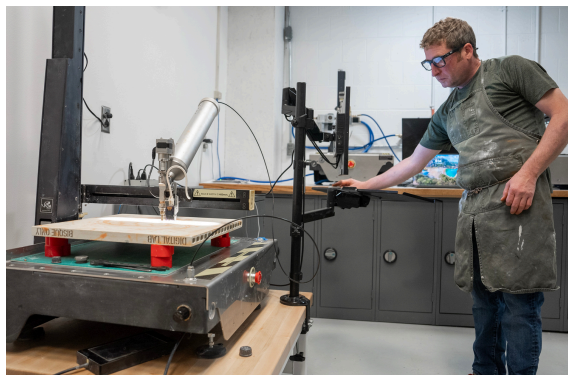
National Casting Foundry

Currently under construction on the site of Alfred University's former campus heating plant, the National Casting Foundry is a \$10.1 million project funded through the New York State Construction Fund, **Michele** and **Martin Cohen**, and funds from the Emerson Foundation. With completion anticipated in 2026, the Foundry will serve as a national hub for casting arts, furthering the university's mission to integrate technical training and creative exploration in a singular educational environment.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/UPWARD MOBILITY

Ceramics Digital Lab

Renovated in Fall 2024, the Digital Ceramics Lab in Harder Hall, bridges traditional ceramic practices with emerging technologies. This space supports interdisciplinary research in material science, digital fabrication, and design, providing students with innovative tools and expanded career pathways in the evolving field of ceramics.



Kiln Facility Expansion

Building on the momentum of Alfred University's outdoor kiln facility—which opened in Spring 2017 and includes train, soda, salt, car, and raku kilns—a new \$500,000 project on the first floor of Harder Hall will be completed by October 2025. The upgrade includes two state-of-the-art, energy-efficient Blaauw kilns equipped with advanced digital controls to improve firing precision and reduce fuel consumption. Funded by the New York State Construction Fund, this enhancement supports the School of Art & Design's commitment to sustainability and leadership in contemporary ceramics education.

Harder Hall Lobby and Second-Floor Lounge

Completed in Fall 2025, this re-design, conceived and created by students, creates intentional, inviting, collaborative spaces that encourage informal mentorship, interdisciplinary dialogue, and creative exchange. Supported by the School of Art and Design and Trustee **Eric Bershad**, the project features a new vinyl mural installation by artist **Taro Takizawa**, which illuminates the lobby's natural light.



DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Indigenous artist visits Alfred University to replicate 'Grandmother Pot'

Indigenous American ceramic artist, writer and filmmaker Katsitsionni Fox visited the Alfred University campus as part of an intersectional, collaborative project between the School of Art and Design (SOAD) at the New York State College of Ceramics and the Rochester Museum & Science Center (RMSC). The project was part of a larger exhibition at the RMSC.

The project was introduced to SOAD by **Victoria Wigal**, who worked at the RMSC as a summer intern and has been studying with **Jason Green**, clinical assistant professor of ceramic art.

It focused on the production of a traditional Grandmother Pot using a mold derived from the digital scans made from a Grandmother Pot in the collection of the RMSC. Green credits Wigal "for seeing and seeding this intersection" between several institutions, technology, and digital fabrication.

Fox describes Grandmother Pots as craftwork created for daily use by Indigenous people. "Making clay pots connects her to her ancestors, the women who made pots for daily use. As Fox puts it, "When I'm making pots, I'm thinking all the way back to creation."



DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Theodore Randall International Chair

The Randall Chair, established in 2007 to honor artist and educator Theodore Randall, invites distinguished international artists to Alfred University's School of Art and Design. Open to non-U.S. citizens living abroad, the chair brings diverse cultural perspectives that enrich the studio experience and continue Randall's legacy as a visionary in art and education.



Spring 2025, Young Mi Lee, is a celebrated ceramic artist and educator based in South Korea. Known for bridging figurative tradition with contemporary exploration, Lee's work embodies the spirit of the Randall Chair by enriching the ceramic arts community with diverse cultural insight and artistic innovation.



Fall 2024, Dr. Wendy Gers, Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Princessehof National Museum of Ceramics (Netherlands), is an award-winning international academic, curator, and consultant. She has curated major exhibitions worldwide—including two Biennales with over one million visitors—and authored the landmark monograph *Scorched Earth*. Her research focuses on sustainability, decolonisation, and museum restitution.



Spring 2024, Simeen Farhat, born in Karachi, Pakistan, is an internationally acclaimed artist whose work has been exhibited at major institutions including the Asia Society Museum (Houston), Sharjah Museum of Art (UAE), and the 56th Venice Biennale. Her pieces are held in prestigious public and private collections worldwide, from the Ithra Museum (Saudi Arabia) to the Abu Dhabi Palace for the Crown Prince. Farhat's art has been featured in leading publications such as *The New York Times*, *Elephant Magazine*, and *Harpers' Bazaar*.



Fall 2023, Selva Aparicio, an interdisciplinary artist from Barcelona, holds a BFA from SAIC and an MFA in sculpture from Yale. Her work has been exhibited internationally at institutions such as the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Yale Center for British Art, and the MAD Museum (NYC). Aparicio has received major awards including the Artadia Award (2022) and the Burke Prize (2024), and she is currently creating permanent outdoor sculptures for the Belgium Beaufort 2024 Triennale and the Heraclea Archeological Park in Italy.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Black Glass Artists Series (2024 + 2025)

Our Black Glass Artists Series continued in 2025 with guest artists **Arthur Wilson** and **Ashley Raye Harris**. In 2024, the series hosted guest artists **Leo Tecosky '03** and **Kimberly Thomas**. All artists demonstrated their techniques during separate classes working hands-on with sculpture and design study students. All artists gave a public lecture for the college campus, discussing their techniques and approaches to their work.



The School of Art & Design at Alfred University announced the launch of a new Art Minor

Drawing on the founding vision of the New York State College of Ceramics (NYSCC), the program emphasizes the importance of interdisciplinary learning. Students will explore how art connects with and enhances other academic fields, gaining valuable tools in perceptual awareness, creative problem-solving, and visual communication. This approach reflects Alfred University's historic commitment to offering a "complete education" that integrates diverse perspectives and practices.

Designed to complement any major, the minor provides students with opportunities to strengthen creative, critical, and visual thinking skills that will serve them both personally and professionally.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

NYSCC Technical Minor

The New York State College of Ceramics Technical Minor is an interdisciplinary program that bridges diverse mediums, methods and skillsets. Courses are offered through the School of Art & Design, the School of Engineering, and the Performing Arts Division. Through hands-on learning and material exploration, students gain experience with a wide range of tools and techniques. The minor also strengthens skills in collaborative problem-solving, analytical thinking, project management, and leadership.



The School of Art & Design launched the Museum and Gallery Practices Minor

The interdisciplinary minor provides a strong foundation in the history, theory, and practice of museums and galleries, while emphasizing hands-on, experiential learning. Students will build critical thinking, creative problem-solving, and communication skills.

“This exciting new minor capitalizes on the expertise of our faculty and staff while leveraging our extraordinary exhibition spaces across the arts and engineering,” said Provost **Beth Ann Dobie**. “Importantly, its interdisciplinary structure reflects one of Alfred University’s greatest strengths—fostering meaningful intersections between disciplines. The program also advances our strategic plan by incorporating a quintessential element of an Alfred education: engaging students in hands-on practice.”

Through a combination of foundational coursework, electives, and a practicum experience, students will explore curatorial practices, exhibition design, audience engagement, collections management, and digital technologies. The curriculum draws from art, history, communication, data management, and philosophy, ensuring a broad and flexible academic path.

“The Museum and Gallery Practices Minor reflects Alfred University’s commitment to providing students with experiential learning opportunities that prepare them for the evolving landscape of cultural institutions,” said **Lauren Lake**, Dean of the School of Art & Design.

Meghen Jones, associate professor of art history, who led the interdisciplinary team in developing the minor, added: “At our two museums and seven galleries, students can gain hands-on experience guided by outstanding faculty and staff, while major regional museums provide access to diverse collections spanning multiple mediums, cultures, and periods.” The 16-credit minor is open to all Alfred University undergraduate students, regardless of major.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION



Alfred University celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Van Frechette International Friendship Park with a rededication ceremony. The park—conceived in 2000 during the centennial celebration of the New York State College of Ceramics—stands as a tribute to international collaboration in art and engineering education and research. Located at the corner of Pine and State Streets, it honors **Van Derck Frechette '39**, an Alfred alumnus and ceramic engineering professor whose four-decade career advanced both science and global partnerships. The site, designed with a marble monument, benches, and flagpoles, recognizes the contributions of international students, scholars, and artists who have shaped Alfred University's history.

Speakers reflected on Frechette's role as a teacher, researcher, and ambassador for cross-border collaboration. **Laurie Lounsberry Meehan '91**, University archivist, noted his efforts after World War II to establish ties with German institutions, while faculty highlighted ongoing opportunities for international exchange—from glass science conferences in Brazil to art residencies in Paris.

Provost **Beth Ann Dobie** called the moment “a special time for us to be celebrating international friendships,” citing Alfred's students from six continents. **Gabrielle Gaustad '04**, dean of the Inamori School of Engineering, emphasized the continuing mission: “Today, Alfred University and the New York State College of Ceramics celebrate the legacy of Van Frechette and formally renew our commitment to international exchange.”

