

Noted writer/political analyst to deliver Bernstein 'Women of Influence' Lecture

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Zerlina Maxwell

The Alfred University (AU) Women&s Leadership Center (WLC) will host Zerlina Maxwell for the spring lecture in the Pamela Lavin Bernstein “Women of Influence” Speaker Series. The talk will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 16, in Nevins Theater, Powell Campus Center. The program is free and open to the public.

Maxwell holds a law degree from Rutgers Law School -- Newark and a B.A. in International Relations from Tufts University. She will be discussing her leadership path and how she came to be the woman she is now. She will also give a talk on campus rape culture, an issue she addresses on many of the campuses she visits.

Maxwell wears many hats as a political analyst, speaker and contributing writer for *ESSENCE* Magazine and Mic.com. In her writing, she discusses national politics, candidates and specific policy and culture issues including feminism, domestic violence, sexual assault, victim blaming and gender inequality.

Maxwell frequently makes appearances at colleges, universities and organizations to discuss rape culture and feminism. The *New York Times* called her a top political voice to follow on Twitter during the 2012 election season. Her Twitter feed was also named one of the best of 2014 by *TIME Magazine*. In addition, she has published articles in *The New York Daily News*, *The Washington Post*, *JET Magazine*, *Marie Claire Magazine*, theGrio.com, BET.com, Feministing.com, CNN.com and a number of other mainstream media outlets.

She has also infiltrated the worlds of television satellite radio as a democratic commentator on Fox News and MSNBC and as a weekly guest and filler host for Make It Plain with Mark Thompson on Sirius XM Progress.

With a gift from Pamela Lavin Bernstein &71 to endow the lecture series, the Women&s Leadership Center is now about to significant, nationally known “women of influence” to the Alfred University campus on an annual basis.

The WLC, established in 2006, builds on AU&s heritage as the first truly coeducational institution in the nation. The Women of Influence program brings powerful female role models to campus, providing opportunities for inspiration and guidance through lectures and small group discussions. Past speakers have included a NYS Supreme

court judge, a dean of a medical college and a lobbyist from Albany.

The WLC offers women the opportunity to explore and fulfill their potential as leaders personally, professionally and in their communities as they meet the challenges in a complex society.

For more information about the Women of Influence Series at AU, call the WLC at 607.871.2971.