

Alfred University alumni invited to event at Conference on Contemporary Cast Iron Art

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Representatives of Alfred University attending the upcoming International Conference on Contemporary Cast Iron Art invite alumni to join them at the conference for a chance to network with members of the iron casting community.

Alfred University sculpture faculty and students are participating in the conference, scheduled for May 28-June 3 in Scranton, PA. Among the activities is “The Grind: Networking for Iron,” a gathering of professional organizations, artists and art educators. The ICCCIA describes [The Grind](#) as a chance to “meet and talk with professional organizations and MFA programs to learn about their iron casting opportunities” and to “forge connections with other casters in our community and make an investment in your future.”

Coral Lambert, sculpture dimensional studies professor in the Alfred University School of Art and Design, and Maria Bentley, art enrollment specialist in the Alfred University Office of Admissions, will be on hand at the event, scheduled for May 30 from 6-8 p.m. in the lobby of the Radisson Hotel in Scranton. They invite Alfred University alumni to join them.

Several Alfred University faculty, students and alumni are scheduled to participate throughout the conference. Lambert will join Johannah Hutchinson, executive director of the International Sculpture Center, and other leaders in the field of cast iron art for a presentation titled “Iron in the 21st Century.”

Lambert will discuss the progressive nature of the program she directs at the National Casting Center Foundry at Alfred University, such as the combination of traditional foundry processes with digital technology in the current course, “Digital Foundry.”

Paul Higham, adjunct visiting artist, will be participating in the panel discussion, “Digital Sculpture as Conceptual Art,” featuring artists whose practice is driven by digital technologies that explore new conceptual strategies within sculpture. Higham is internationally recognized as a pioneer in Digital Sculpture.

Allison Piedmonte, a senior fine arts major (concentration in sculpture; focus on metals and fiber) from Cato, NY, will be on the panel, “Soft into Hard: Material Transformation in Casting.” Piedmonte’s first encounter with the foundry was an introductory junior studio course taught by Lambert, and it was through this course that she began to combine her life-long love of fiber with metalworking.

Piedmonte has been awarded funding through the Alfred University Women’s Leadership Center. Her involvement in the Women’s Leadership Academy at Alfred University has influenced her desire to explore femininity, nostalgia, and gender identity through these distinct materials.

Also attending the conference Paige Henry, National Casting Center technician, and a group of seniors, juniors and graduate students from Alfred University who will be exhibiting work, participating in workshops and volunteering with the iron pours. Several Alfred University alumni will also participate as panelists or by taking on roles as organizers, performers, exhibitors and demonstrators.

To learn more about the International Conference on Contemporary Cast Iron Art, visit icccia.com