

Faculty, students and community join together to offer 'Requiem'

4/20/06

The Alfred University Chorus and Chamber Singers, four soloists and the University Orchestra will present Mozart's "Requiem" at 8 p.m. Saturday (April 29) in St. Jude's Chapel on the Alfred State College campus, and at 4 p.m. Sunday (April 30) at St. Anne's Church in Hornell. The concerts are open to the public, free of charge. The performances are dedicated to the memory of Dr. Gail Walker, a beloved member of Alfred University's Psychology faculty who died June 7, 2005, and to the memory of Heather Rivera, an AU student and Hornell resident, who died June 8, 2005, and who had been a member of the AU Chamber Singers. But they are also a celebration of the 250th anniversary of Mozart's birth. The Requiem was incomplete at the time of Mozart's death, but his student Sussmeyer was able to complete the 12-movement "Mass for the Dead" from sketches left by Mozart. Dr. Luanne Crosby, associate professor of voice, will direct the chorus and chamber singers, and Dr. Lisa Lantz, associate professor of strings, will direct the orchestra as they perform the Mass, which has long been a staple of the repertoire for great choruses and orchestras. Accompanist will be Laurel Buckwalter. Soloists for "Requiem" will include sopranos Crosby and Rebecca Weaver, adjunct instructor in music; as well as J.R. Fralick, tenor, and Nicholas Mawer, bass. The chorus includes students, faculty and members of the community. The concert will also include three shorter works by Mozart. "Ave Verum Corpus" and "Laudate Dominum" from the Solemn Vespers, performed by the AU Chamber Singers and the AU String Quartet. Members of the quartet are violinists Logan Weast and Rachel Short; cellist David Russo; and organist Laurel Buckwalter. Soloists for "Laudate Dominum" will be Victoria Collins for the April 29 performance and Yasmin Green for the April 30 performance. The AU Piano Quartet will perform a Mozart church sonata.