

## Kalac receives Chancellor's Award for Excellence

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Good things come in twos for Alfred University senior Krista Kalac, but today (April 6, 2010) she received a singular honor from State University of New York (SUNY) Chancellor Nancy Zimpher. Kalac, who will receive two degrees - a bachelor of science degree in materials science from the Inamori School of Engineering and a bachelor of arts degree in mathematics from College of Liberal Arts & Sciences at Alfred University in May - was in Albany to receive the Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence, one of 228 students from 63 campuses throughout the state singled out for the honor. Students in the materials-based engineering programs in the Inamori School are part of the New York State College of Ceramics, which is a statutory college partially funded by New York State, making them eligible for the Chancellor's Award. Kalac is also a member of two of the nation's oldest and most prestigious honor societies: Tau Beta Pi, the national engineering honor society, and Phi Beta Kappa, the national liberal arts honor society. She is only the fourth Alfred University student to qualify for membership in both societies since Alfred University's College of Liberal Arts & Sciences was awarded a Phi Beta Kappa chapter in 2004. She belongs to Phi Kappa Phi, a national collegiate honor society; Pi Mu Epsilon, the national mathematics honor society; and Phi Sigma Iota, the international foreign language honor society. Overall, she has a grade-point average of 3.8, based on a 4.0 scale, and has made Dean's List each of the semesters she has been enrolled at Alfred University. A resident of Spencer, Ohio, Kalac is as involved in extracurricular activities as she is in her academic pursuits. She's president of the University's Outdoor Club; Keramos, the honor society for ceramic engineering; and Alfred's chapter of the Society of Women Engineers. She is vice president for service for Alpha Phi Omega, a national service fraternity and participated in Camp Coast Care, spending a week helping rebuild homes in New Orleans for Hurricane Katrina victims. She also participated in Columbus Gives Back, a community service initiative in Columbus, Ohio. She was selected to participate in the Owens Corning Diversity Leadership Conference in a national competition, and her team of four placed first in the team challenge. Kalac was chosen by the Student Affairs Division at Alfred University for ANT - Alfred's Newest Talent - a leadership development course for first-year students. Summers have been spent as an intern at Owens Corning. She has also been a member of the University's Residence Life staff, and served as engineering tour guide coordinator. During the spring semester of 2008, Kalac participated in a Study Abroad program at Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Céramique Industrielle, taking 15 credits of engineering courses in French. Kalac has played French horn with the Alfred University Brass Choir, been a member of the junior varsity and varsity softball teams, and played intramural softball and soccer. A graduate of Cloverleaf High School, Kalac is a daughter of Kenneth Kalac of Spencer, Ohio. "The 228 students we honor today have excelled academically and taken advantage of what SUNY has to offer

outside the classroom," Zimpher. "These students are proven leaders, athletes, artists, community servants and much more. Congratulations to all of the students receiving today's award and thank you all for your genuine dedication to student excellence." The Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence was created 13 years ago to recognize students who have best demonstrated, and been recognized for, the integration of academic excellence with accomplishments in the areas of leadership, athletics, community service, creative and performing arts or career achievement. The average Grade Point Average (GPA) for all recipients this year is 3.8. Each year, campus presidents establish a selection committee, which reviews exemplary members of their college communities who are graduating. Nominees are then forwarded to the Chancellor's Office and are subject to a second round of review. Finalists are then recommended to the Chancellor to become recipients of the Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence.