

National touring exhibition includes AU artists' work

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Four Alfred University ceramic art professors are among the international artists featured in a national touring exhibition, "Color and Fire: Defining Moments in Studio Ceramics, 1950-2000," which opens July 29 at the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester. The exhibition, which will remain on view at the Memorial Gallery until Oct. 7, is drawn from the collection of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and features 171 works by artists from the United States, Europe, Asia and Africa. The four Alfred University artists included are Professors Anne Currier of Scio, Andrea and John Gill of Alfred, and Wayne Higby of Alfred Station. Currier, Andrea Gill and John Gill will participate in a panel discussion at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 18 in the auditorium at the Memorial Art Gallery. Higby, current chair of the ceramic art department at Alfred University, will speak at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 23, also in the Memorial Art Gallery auditorium. Currier's work has appeared in solo and group exhibitions throughout the United States and are part of the permanent collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Smithsonian Institute. Andrea Gill, who earned her MFA from the School of Art and Design at Alfred University and who has been a member of the faculty since 1984, has work in the permanent collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, the Rhode Island School of Design, and the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester. John Gill, who also earned an MFA degree in ceramic art at Alfred, has exhibited his work internationally, and has pieces in the permanent collections of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, the Museum of Modern Art and the Los Angeles County Museum. Considered to be one of America's pre-eminent ceramists, Higby is a Fellow of the American Craft Council. His work is shown internationally and may be found in both public and private collections around the world. A preview party is scheduled for 8 p.m. to midnight on Saturday, July 28. Tickets for the preview party may be obtained by calling 716 473 7720, extension 3510. Admission is free for member and \$15 for non-members. Advance tickets are required for admission. The exhibition will be open to the public free of charge from noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday, July 29. Guided tours will be conducted at 1, 3 and 4 p.m. that day. Admission to the gallery during regular hours is \$7 for the general public; \$5 for senior citizens and college students with identification; and \$2 for children 6-18. A full-color catalog that includes most of the works in the exhibition is available in the gallery store for \$40. The touring exhibition is organized by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. In Rochester, it is supported by People's Pottery, the Mabel Fenner Lyon Fund and an anonymous donor.#####