Facilitators of Common Ground to present upcoming Bergren Forum
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ALFRED, NY – Facilitators of Common Ground, a campus-wide initiative which gives Alfred University's diverse community members an opportunity to interrogate their assumptions and gain insight into other lives, will talk about the program at the March 28 Bergren Forum.

The Bergren Forum, sponsored by the Division of Human Studies, is held at 12:10 p.m. each Thursday the University is in session in Nevins Theater, Powell Campus Center. It is open to the public and free of charge. Attendees may bring their lunches; coffee and tea are provided.

Common Ground was initiated at the start of the 2018-19 academic year, as an extended orientation for first-year and transfer students. The program is being supported in its first year with a $100,000 donation from the University's Board of Trustees.

During the fall semester, facilitators led small group discussions in which students heard the stories of their peers from different backgrounds. The goal of Common Ground is to give students an opportunity to challenge their assumptions about other people or places, get more comfortable talking about sensitive topics like race, gender, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic class, and articulate the values that they will live by as citizens of the Alfred community.

Facilitators encourage those attending the Bergren Forum Thursday to bring ideas for engaging the broader Alfred University community in the Common Ground experience.