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TODAY

TOMORROW

FRIDAY

### Your Paycheck will be Affected: New Social Security Rates in Effect

The Temporary Payroll Tax Cut of the last two years that reduced the Social Security payroll tax rate by 2% officially ended Dec. 31, 2012. The new tax tables were not available in our Banner system in time to impact our first 2013 paycheck dated Jan. 4.

What this means is that in your next paycheck (Jan. 18) you will see a reduction in your net pay with the return to the 6.2% rate retroactive to Jan. 1, 2013.

Future paychecks will have the 2013 Social Security deduction rate of 6.2%.

Submitted by: Kathy Costello

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### Mailroom Closing During Lunch for Remainder of Semester

The PCC Mailroom will be closing from noon until 1 p.m. beginning Monday, Dec. 17, 2012 and ending Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2013.

Submitted by: Susan Peck

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### Summer Study Abroad Opportunity

Alfred University in affiliation with Santa Reparata International School of Art is offering DRAWING AND PAINTING IN FLORENCE, a four-week studio course in the heart of Florence, Italy.

Kevin Wixted, Professor of Painting in the School of Art & Design, will lead the group and teach this

course for both beginning and advanced students.

Students discover the city through field trips and assignments that explore the art, architecture, landscape and culture of Florence and its surrounding areas.

Painting and drawing on location and in the studio, students will create work based on their travels, observations, and experiences. A range of techniques and conceptual approaches are addressed as students explore and interpret the rich cultural environment of Tuscany.

This 4-credit course is open to all Alfred University and NYSCC School of Art and Design students.

Estimated cost of \$4,891 includes Housing, Tuition, Studio Fees, Siena Field Trip, Museum Card, Cultural Program, and Welcome Dinner. Airfare and Meals are not included in this estimated cost.

For more info contact Professor Kevin Wixted at [wixtedk@alfred.edu](mailto:wixtedk@alfred.edu)

APPLICATION DEADLINE is Thursday, JAN. 31.

Attachment: [Alfred\\_in\\_Florence\\_2013.doc](#)

Submitted by: Cathleen Johnson

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### **AU Symphonic Band**

Join the Alfred University Symphonic Band! If you have played a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument at the high school level, you are invited to join. Be part of an incredible ensemble!

This semester, the Symphonic Band will be performing:

"Gavorkna Fanfare", by Jack Stamp  
"Contre qui, rose," by Morten Lauridsen/Reynolds  
"Second Suite in F for Military Band," By Gustav Holst  
"Mars," by Holst  
"Jupiter," by Holst  
"Hut of Baba-Yaga/Great Gate of Kiev," By Mussorsky

Our first rehearsal will be Tuesday (first day of classes), Jan. 22, 5:30-7 p.m. in Miller 302. There are no auditions for the Symphonic Band.

We have instruments and lockers available on a "first come, first served" basis.

Symphonic Band meets 5:30-7 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays in room 302 of the Miller Performing Arts Center.

Contact Dr. Chris Foster, [foster@alfred.edu](mailto:foster@alfred.edu), (607) 871.2571 for questions and details.

Submitted by: Christopher Foster

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### **Swain Discount Rates for Faculty/Staff, Students**

Swain is extending discounted rates for Alfred University Faculty, Staff and their families plus AU Students. University employees and their families and AU students may ski at Swain Resort any day after 3 p.m. at reduced rates.

In order to participate in the program please register with Judith Green. Discounted rates available through the ski season.

Questions may be addressed to Judith Green at [jgreen@alfred.edu](mailto:jgreen@alfred.edu) or 607.871.2966

See attachment for 2012-13 rates.

Attachment: [Swain\\_Form.doc](#)

Submitted by: Deborah Clark

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## Flu Season

Flu season is in full swing and, unfortunately, most of us know someone who has had the Flu already this year. Here are some prevention tips from the CDC to help you stay healthy:

Get the Flu vaccine.

Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it, don't recycle and re-use it.

Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread this way.

Try to avoid close contact with sick people.

If you are sick with flu-like illness, CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.)

While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.

Flu-like symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people also may have vomiting and diarrhea. People may be infected with the flu, and have respiratory symptoms without a fever.

For more information go to [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu) or [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov)

Submitted by: Amber Hardy

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