Alfred University art students to open senior shows 5/08/03

More than 100 students, candidates for the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the School of Art and Design and for the BA degree in fine arts from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Alfred University, will simultaneously open their senior shows at 3 p.m. Saturday. The exhibitions will remain open from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday and Monday as well. The AU Senior Shows, which are a requirement of graduation from Alfred University's acclaimed art programs, have become major attractions for art lovers from throughout Western New York, drawn to Alfred for the openings by the opportunity to see work by some of the country's most promising young artists. Visitors know that in a few years, the students they see exhibiting at our senior shows will be among the best known artists in their fields, whether it's ceramics, glass, electronic arts, painting, drawing, photography or sculpture. Exhibition spaces, while concentrated in Harder and Binns-Merrill halls and at The Brick, all on the AU campus, will also be found in other campus buildings and in restaurants and other buildings in the community. Each of the students vies with others, not only in terms of how he or she presents the work, but also in the food, flowers and music for the reception. Alfred University's School of Art and Design is one of the most competitive art schools, accepting only 25 percent of the students who apply to the portfolio-based program. Its Master of Fine Arts program was again ranked number one in the country for ceramic art by US News and World Report's "Guide to the Best Graduate Schools" this year.