

## **Art/design dean selected as NY Arts Foundation Fellow**

7/03/08

Joseph S. Lewis III, dean of the School of Art & Design at Alfred University, was awarded a \$7,000, New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) fellowship in photography. He is one of 144 artists, out of an applicant pool of 4,500, to receive the distinction. The NYFA is New York's leading provider of unrestricted funding to individual artists. This year's NYFA Fellows include architects, choreographers, composers, fiction writers, painters, photographers, playwrights/screenwriters, and video artists. Peer panels assembled according to each of 16 artistic disciplines selected the Fellows. Lewis is designated as a Deutsche Bank (DB) Fellow. Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation supports one visual arts NYFA Fellow each year, which it's been doing since 2000. Deutsche chooses its named Fellow from among the entire group of the year's visual arts Fellows. Andrew Sherman, Deutsche Bank communication officer, notes "it's quite an honor to be the DB Fellow because Deutsche Bank has the largest corporate art collection in the world. Considering cultural commitment as part of its business and social responsibility, Deutsche Bank seeks to contribute vital support to contemporary artists in a variety of ways." A nationally known artist, arts administrator, educator, and author, Lewis came to Alfred University from the School of Art and Design at the Fashion Institute of Technology, New York City, where he was dean for three years. Prior to that, Lewis was chairman of the art department at California State University-Northridge for six years and was a tenured professor, teaching visual arts. Lewis has served on numerous art school evaluation panels; is a member of the board of directors of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, the accrediting agency for art schools; president of the Noah Purifoy Foundation; a member of the California Lawyers for the Arts Board of Directors, Los Angeles; and a full member of ASCAP, the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. He is a former board member of the Bronx Museum of the Arts. As a visual and performing artist, Lewis has had numerous solo exhibitions of his work both nationally and internationally for more than two decades. Lewis earned a master of fine arts degree from the Maryland Institute College of the Arts, and a bachelor of arts degree from Hamilton College, Clinton, NY. The New York Foundation for the Arts provides more support and services to artists and arts organizations in all disciplines than any other private organization in the country: nearly \$7 million annually. Major funding for NYFA's 2008 Artists' Fellowships is made possible by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency. Major funding has also been provided by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and the Lily Auchincloss Foundation. The Milton & Sally Avery Arts Foundation, Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation, Alex G. Nason Foundation, Norton Family Foundation, The Buddy Fund at Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, an anonymous donor, and individual donors have provided additional funding.