

## **Matthew Butts wins Sharon Hoover Fiat Lux Award**

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Matthew D. Butts, a sophomore Communication Studies major in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, received the Sharon Hoover Fiat Lux Award at Alfred University's annual Honors Convocation. The award honors Dr. Sharon Hoover, professor of English emerita, who advised the student-run newspaper, the Fiat Lux, for 15 years prior to her retirement. Created by donations from alumni, friends and the Hoover family, the award is "designed to support activities that enrich, promote and sustain the vision of an independent, student-run newspaper." Butts, who will be the paper's editor-in-chief during the next academic year, will use the prize money to attend the annual conference of the National Association of Black Journalists. At the conference, he will attend sessions, led by academics and professional journalists, that will teach him to better cover minority issues. Dr. Robyn Goodman, who is the current Fiat Lux advisor, said Butts was selected as the recipient of the Hoover Award because of his desire to improve the paper's coverage of issues relating to diversity. "Matthew is a gifted reporter with a bright future," said Goodman. "I am proud of his many successes, including the Hoover Award, and his selection as the Fiat's new editor-in-chief. With Matthew at the Fiat's helm, along with his very talented staff, the Fiat will no doubt experience a fantastic year." Butts is the son of Darryl and Annmarie Butts of Bergren Street, Brooklyn, NY, and is a graduate of Science Skills Center High School.