

Alfred University continues tuning up for MostArts

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ALFRED, NY – Alfred University is continuing preparations for the fifth annual MostArts Festival. The popular week-long celebration of music and art is scheduled for July 8-14 on the Alfred University campus.

The festival begins with the Opening Gala Concert at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, July 8, in Miller Theater. The concert will feature the talents of Alice Zhang, winner of the Young Pianist Competition from the 2017 MostArts Festival. Zhang will perform Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 1 with the International Festival Orchestra, under the direction of Maestro Yuval Zaliouk.

Other events scheduled throughout the week will include a number of musical performances and concerts, workshops and art exhibitions in the University's museums and galleries.

Once again, the Festival will offer the noontime "Sound Bites Sampler" Chamber Music Series. The free performances feature various groups of musicians performing gems of the chamber music repertoire. The Evening Concert Series includes internationally-renowned pianists Andreas Klein and Angelin Chang, and violinist Blanca Cecilia Gonzalez.

Eight finalists in the Young Pianist Competition, from across the United States ages 13-18, will vie for a \$10,000 grand prize, given in memory of late Alfred University faculty member and longtime Wellsville resident Robert Hutter. These extraordinary young musicians will perform solo recitals as well as concertos with the Festival Orchestra during the final round of the competition.

In addition to great music, there will be an opportunity to see great art during the "Music Under the Stars" Gallery Hop and BBQ featuring the Alfred Art Walk. Visitors are invited to take the tour to various galleries on campus and around the Alfred community. The Art Walk culminates at the Alfred Ceramic Art Museum, an exhibition by ceramic artist, Cristina Cordova, and another featuring selected prints by Elisabeth Pellathy, Lee Somers, and Scott Stephens.

A variety of one-day workshops for all levels of ability are offered in clay, plein air, creative writing, guzheng, food carving, cooking classics, flower arranging, and a very special free children's mural project. Space is limited for each workshop, so sign up today. Information and Registration can be found on the [MostArts website](#) under Workshops.

There will be a special surprise from Steinway & Sons of New York. (Remember the Van Cliburn Piano from last year? Does the name Vladimir Horowitz ring a bell?)

For more information on the Festival, including a complete schedule of events, and to purchase tickets, please visit the [MostArts website](#). Ticket inquiries can also be made by emailing MostArts@alfred.edu or by calling Lisa Lantz, professor of music at Alfred University and artistic director for the MostArts Festival, at 607-871-2569.

Alice Zhang (third from left in above photo) won the 2017 MostArts Young Pianist Competition and will perform at this year's opening concert. Also pictured are 2017 competition participants Aliya Alsafa (left, "Audience Favorite" award winner) and Raymond Feng (second from left, second prize). Anthony Pattin, a judge for the competition, is shown at right.