Academy Award nominee, former student returns to Alfred 10/10/12

Actor and Academy Award nominee Robert Forster, an Alfred University (AU) student in the &60s, will return to campus Thursday, Oct. 18, for the first time since 1998 when he received an honorary doctorate in Humane Letters from the University.

This time, he will be meeting with an Introduction to Theatre class and an Acting/Audition class as well as presenting his popular inspirational "Interacting" program. Open to all students and the general public, this program will be held in the Powell Campus Center, beginning at 11:20 a.m. and running through 1 p.m.

Earlier in the week, Forster, a Rochester native, will be honored by the Rochester Education Foundation Partnership with its Alumni Award; he will also give the keynote address at the Partnership&s annual awards dinner.

Forster, who has appeared in 100-plus movies, was an Academy Award nominee for his role as Max Cherry in Quentin Tarantino&s film "Jackie Brown." He had a key role opposite Elizabeth Taylor and Marlon Brando in "Reflections in a Golden Eye," which was directed by John Huston, and a breakout in the cult classic, "Medium Cool," directed by Haskell Wexler. He most recently has been seen as Scott Thorson, Matt King&s (George Clooney) father-in-law in the Oscar-nominated film "The Descendants."

Prior to his film-acting career, Forster performed in East Rochester Theater plays including "West Side Story." He then moved to New York City and landed the lead in "Mrs. Dally Has a Lover," which co-starred Arlene Francis. His film debut was a small part in "Reflections in a Golden Eye" in 1967, starring Elizabeth Taylor and Marlon Brando.

Forster has also enjoyed roles such as "Walking the Edge" (1983), "Me, Myself and Irene" (2000), "Charlie&s Angels: Full Throttle" (2003), and "Ghosts of Girlfriends Past" (2009). He has also performed in TV series such as "Tales from the Darkside," "Heroes," and "Alcatraz."