

## **'Of Ebony Embers' to be staged at Alfred University**

2/04/04

The nationally acclaimed Core Ensemble will present the music theater piece "Of Ebony Embers--Vignettes of the Harlem Renaissance," an exploration of African American music and poetry of the 1920's and 30's, at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13, in Holmes Auditorium, Harder Hall, on the Alfred University campus. The performance is open to the public, free of charge. The show features actor and playwright Akin Babatunde presenting the lives of three great poets of the period, Langston Hughes, Countee Cullen and Claude McKay as seen through the eyes of renowned painter and muralist, Aaron Douglas. Cellist Tahirah Whittington, pianist Hugh Hinto, and percussionist Michael Parola will perform music by jazz greats Duke Ellington, Billy Strayhorn, Thelonius Monk, Charles Mingus and Jellyroll Morton and concert music composers Jeffrey Mumford and George Walker. This concert is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, ALANA, and Alfred University's Division of Performing Arts.