

## Dave Frank explains mysteries of jazz during Alfred University visit

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Alfred University Professor of Glass Science Bill LaCourse receives some pointers from Frank.

Jazz pianist Dave Frank wowed audiences at Alfred University this week, during a two-day visit to the campus thanks to support from the University's Honor's Program and the David and Elizabeth Miller Performing Arts Fund.

Frank met students participating in the Honors Program Wednesday, then conducted a workshop on jazz improvisation at the Miller Performing Arts Center. He followed those appearances with a Bergren Forum Thursday, in which he discussed and analyzed jazz piano improvisations. Finally, he presented a concert of jazz piano Thursday evening at the Miller Performing Arts Center.

Frank's presentations gave audience members and musicians clear access to basic principles of jazz and jazz improvisations, a musical craft, he insisted, that can be taught and learned -- just as any other craft, passed from a practicing master to an aspiring apprentice.

Frank has presented solo jazz concerts and master classes in numerous countries in Europe, Africa and South America and has performed as a featured artist and clinician at major jazz festivals including the 2012 Jazzheads Jazz Festival and the 2001 and 2003 Montreux Jazz Festivals. He has been featured in articles in the Boston Globe, Keyboard Magazine and The Chronicle of Higher Learning, and he was recently the featured guest on the National Public Radio program Jazz Inspired with Judy Carmichael. His four critically acclaimed solo piano CD's Portrait of New York, Turning It Loose, Ballads and Burners, and Power of the Piano have been released under the Jazzheads label.

His series of lectures and demonstrations are available both on YouTube and at [www.davefrankjazz.com](http://www.davefrankjazz.com) (Check out his introduction to basic jazz at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JVS7FwTGWK0>).