Professor to discuss arts in Senegal during Bergren Forum talk
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Luanne Crosby, professor of voice and chorus at Alfred University, will present "The Arts and Literature of Senegal" as part of Alfred University&s ongoing Bergren Forum series. The lecture will take place on Thursday, Nov. 8 at 12:10 p.m. in Nevins Theater, located in Alfred University&s Powell Campus Center. The event will be open to the public free of charge.

Crosby will discuss her 2011 trip to Senegal, which was sponsored by CIEE (a non-profit, non-governmental international exchange organization) and funded by the University. During the two week trip, Crosby met with writers and CIEE artists to learn how the arts in Senegal are serving as a vehicle toward social change. Many of the writers whom Crosby spoke to talked of the "African voice" the need for Africans to remove the chains of colonialism and use their voices to create a new Africa.

During the lecture program Crosby will talk about Senegal artist Kan-Si, who has been involved in programs to get children off the streets and to empower women in small villages, and also the use of rap music to promote social change, voting, and participation within government.

Crosby earned bachelor of music and master of music degrees in music education from the State University of New York at Fredonia and a doctor of musical arts degree in vocal performance from the Cleveland Institute of Music and Case Western Reserve University.

She has sung professionally with the Cleveland Opera, the Aspen (CO) Opera Theater, and the Cleveland Chamber Orchestra. Her performance with the Chautauqua Orchestra received praise from the *Buffalo Evening News* and she has been featured as a soloist on the CD "With Heart and Voice: Anthems Across America."

The Bergren Forum, sponsored by the Alfred University Division of Human Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, meets Thursdays during each academic semester at the University. Participants are encouraged to bring a lunch; coffee and tea will be available.