

Alfred University alum Robert Kalfin 'still going strong' with new production

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Alfred University alumnus and “theater icon” Robert Kalfin &54 is featured in an article in The East Hampton Star, <http://easthamptonstar.com/Arts/2017817/Theater-Icon-Still-Going-Strong>.

Kalfin, who directed his first New York City theater production nearly 60 years ago, is involved in the production of *The Resettlement of Isaac*, which will have a staged reading at the Southampton Cultural Center Aug. 21 as part of the Center&s 2017 Jewish Film Festival.

The play, written by Robert Karmon, is based on the life of Isaac Gochman, who survived a Nazi massacre in his hometown of Rovno, Poland. He eventually joined a group of Russian partisans as a guerilla fighter against Nazi Germany. Karmon, a close friend of Kalfin, turned Gochman&s story into a novel and later, at the urging of Kalfin, into the play.

Kalfin grew up in the Bronx and has said he discovered his calling in theater as a student at Alfred University. The East Hampton Star article quotes his recollections of Alfred University&s 1950&s-era theater department as pushing the theatrical boundaries of its times.

AU “had a two-man theater department,” Kalfin says, “but they were performing the plays of Brecht as they were being translated, they did Dylan Thomas&s *Under Milk Wood*, Anouilh, Giraudoux, and all the other avant-garde playwrights in Europe.”