

◆ Woven Wonders ◆ to unfold throughout Bergren Forum presentation

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Kate Dimitrova, assistant professor of art history at Alfred University, will present “Woven Wonders: The World of Medieval Tapestries” as part of Alfred University’s ongoing Bergren Forum series.

The lecture will take place on Thursday, Oct. 4, beginning at 12:10 p.m. in the Nevins Theater, located in Alfred University’s Powell Campus Center. The program is open to the public free of charge.

Dimitrova will introduce attendees to the world of medieval European tapestries, beginning with the middle of the 14th century, and will explore the monetary, cultural, political, and religious values of these “woven wonders.”

Medieval European tapestries were valued not only for their beauty, but also for their portability. In addition to being hung on walls of castles and churches, they were often offered as gifts, pawned, and looted by both secular and ecclesiastical leaders. Modern scholars, through the examination of illuminated manuscripts, are now able to reconstruct how tapestries were used during the Middle Ages, as Dimitrova will explore in her lecture.

Dimitrova earned a bachelor of arts degree in visual arts from the University of California-San Diego. She then continued her education and earned both a master of arts degree and Ph.D. in history of art and architecture from the University of Pittsburgh.

She has been awarded a host of fellowships, grants and honors, including the Walter Read Hovey Award from the Pittsburgh Foundation, the Arts and Sciences Fellowship from the University of Pittsburgh, and the Edward James Foundation Grant from West Dean College in England.

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.