University presents exhibition of works by 'an American Master' 10/02/08

The Schein-Joseph International Museum of Ceramic Art at Alfred University will exhibit "George Ohr Rising - the Emergence of an American Master," a traveling exhibition on loan from the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art, Biloxi, MS, curated by Anna Harris. The exhibition, which includes approximately 40 ceramic pieces by Ohr (1857-1918), will be open from Wednesday Oct. 15- Friday Dec. 5, 2008. There will be a public reception on Thursday, Oct. 23, from 4:30-6 p.m. The museum is open Wednesdays through Fridays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Admission is free. Facing the destruction of much of his hometown of Biloxi, his life's work, and family income, following the 1894 fire, Ohr went on to produce the most innovative ceramic work of his career. The exhibition "George Ohr Rising - The Emergence of an American Master" recounts Ohr's transformation following an 1894 fire of his Pot-Ohr-E studio and the end of his potting career in 1905. Examples include teapots, cadogans, and two-handled vases that highlight the artist's interest in organic lines and shapes and brilliant colored glazes. Ohr lived through a period of great change in American life and it is obvious that his art is a reflection of the prevailing spirit of modernism that led the way into the 20th century. In October 1999, the Alfred University Board of Trustees voted to re-name the International Museum of Ceramic Art the Schein-Joseph International Museum of Ceramic Art in honor of Alfred University Trustee Pamela Joseph and her late husband Jay Schein, who was a member of the Alfred University class of 1962 and a former member of the AU Board of Trustees. In 1994, Pamela Joseph donated \$2 million to establish an endowment fund to provide operational support for the museum. For more information contact Susan Kowalczyk, collections manager, at 607.871.2421 or by e-mail at kowalcs@alfred.edu.