

MostArts Festival opens 'pop-up shop' selling tickets for event activities, local artists' works

6/30/15

A “pop-up shop” is now open in the village of Alfred. All are invited to visit the little Terra Cotta Office building across from the Post Office on Main Street, where visitors will find Alfred University&s (AU) MostArts Festival Shop open daily through Saturday, July 11 from 2-6 p.m.

The MostArts Festival at AU returns for a weeklong run beginning Sunday, July 5 and continuing through Saturday, July 11 with a series of musical and art events highlighted by the Young Pianist Competition. Activities will include both daytime and evening programs open to the public. All daytime concerts and activities are free; the Evening Concert Series requires a ticket.

In addition to Festival tickets, the pop-up shop has work by 11 local artists on display and for sale. Shop Manager Patty Crast, presenting her jewelry, also has available jewelry by Len Curran; portraits by Sola Prince; silk work by Betsy Kent; sculpture by Glenn Zwegardt; and ceramics by Elaine Hardman, Robin Castor Howard, Linda Huey, Dick Lang, Laura McGraw, and Genie Meltzer. New items will be available every few days.

An “Applause Pass Patron” \$100 ticket will provide entry into all six evening concerts in Miller Theater; single evening tickets are \$20. Special rates for senior citizens are available at \$50 for six evenings, \$10 single ticket; student rates are \$25 for the week or \$5 for a single evening ticket. Special group and family discounts are also available.

In addition to the Terra Cotta Office building pop-up venue, ticket information may be found by visiting MostArts@alfred.edu or calling 607.871.2828.

In other related MostArts Festival activity, Zwegardt, AU professor of sculpture emeritus, will unveil “Earthen Dance” at 4:30 p.m. Monday, July 6 on the corner of Main and West University streets (at the Box of Books Library/bus stop). Zwegardt will conduct a question-and-answer session in the Alfred Village Community building following the unveiling.

“Earthen Dancer” was created of steel, stainless steel, ductile iron, granite, and enameled steel over a number of years but completed this spring. Weighing in at 800 pounds, the sculpture stands 8-9 feet high and 3 feet wide, with a 2-foot diameter.

“The seminal form for the sculpture is the anthropomorphic root mass on top of the globe,” explained Zwegardt. “I found it growing through a pile of metal that I had amassed outdoors.

“Glenn Burdick (of Alfred Station), who runs my plasma cutter, cut all the spirals that terminate the arms of the roots. The addition of these elemental symbols gives the sculpture a frenetic energy,” said the artist. “It is as if an earthen Shiva (Hindu deity) sprang from the ground and is now performing its dance of creation on a column of stone,” added Zwegardt.

An hour later, at 5:30 p.m., the exhibition “Ceramic Art at Alfred” will open at the Cohen Gallery, 55 N., Main St. This show features a wide array of pottery and ceramic sculpture made by 11 faculty and staff affiliated with AU&s Ceramic Summer Session 2015 ongoing throughout the month of July. Exhibiting artists include Jessica Detweiler, summer staff; John Gill, professor of ceramics; Luc Hammond-Thomas; Wayne Higby, professor of ceramics/director of the Ceramics Art Museum at the University; Inchin Lee, In-Chin Lee, professor at Hongik University, South Korea; Walter McConnell, professor of ceramics; Matt Metz, studio potter; Shawn Murrey, kiln specialist; Linda Sikora, professor of ceramics; Keith Simpson, raw materials technician; and Akria Tao.

The exhibition opening will run until 7 p.m. The gallery will then be open daily from 11a.m. -2 p.m. For more information, contact Sharon McConnell, School of Art and Design, at mcconnells@alfred.edu.

Also in MostArts Festival-related activity, beginning Monday, July 6 at 1 p.m. on the second (main) floor of Powell Campus Center “The Power of Goodness” exhibition will be on view free of charge. The show, curated by Nadine Hoover and Dawn Bennett, is a resource for imagining creative, non-violent, reconciliatory responses when faced with challenging circumstances. The exhibit may be viewed from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday - Friday through Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2015.

This traveling exhibition presents original artwork by children ages 6-20 from Chechnya, Russia; Europe; and North America illustrating stories of non-violence, healing, and reconciliation. The works capture the excitement of action, the joy of seeing things from new perspectives, and the encouragement of witnessing how small actions make big differences.

Hoover is the founder of Conscience Studio and Friends Peace Teams in Asia West Pacific.