

Students, professor participate in American College Theatre Festival

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Alfred University participated in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) Region 2, at the University of the Arts, Philadelphia, Jan. 13-18. Jamie Walsh, a senior theater major from Cape Elizabeth, ME, and Reesa Martin, a senior theater and political science major from Cazenovia, exhibited their designs from "The Contrast," an American Revolution-era comedy that was staged by the AU Division of Performing Arts in November 2008. Amanda Holland, a senior theater major from Lakewood, Ohio, Melanie Baker, a sophomore theater major from Greenwich, CT, and Nick Jimenez, a sophomore physics major from Freedom, ME, performed scenes from "The Contrast." Nine Alfred students participated in the regional "dress parade," exhibiting costumes from "The Contrast" and "The Runner Stumbles," a drama based on an actual early 1900's trial for the murder of a nun in a rural Michigan community. Caitlin Gallagher, a senior theater and English major from Carlisle, PA, directed a scene from "The American Dream," a one-act play by American playwright Edward Albee about American family life. Becky Prophet, Alfred University professor of theater who accompanied the students, judged "the Fringe Challenge," led two panel discussions on directing, taught a directing workshop, and continued as leader of the Student Directing Institute with six workshops and four scenes. Prophet was awarded the title KCACTF "Region II Teaching Artist in Directing." Prophet received a bachelor of arts degree in English from Alfred University and continued her education at the University of Michigan, where she received a master of arts degree and a Ph.D. Prophet has spent nearly three decades teaching and working in theater. Before her return to Alfred, she acted, directed, and taught in Massachusetts, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Atlanta. The theater trip was funded by Dr. Gene '69 (AU trustee) and Pamela Bernstein, the Alfred University Provost's Office, the AU Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences Office, and the AU Division of Performing Arts.