

## **Pianist to perform Feb. 28 concert at Alfred University**

2/04/04

Richard Allen Farmer, a pianist who has performed in countries around the world, will perform at 8 p.m. Feb. 28 in Harder Hall auditorium on the Alfred University campus. His appearance at Alfred University is sponsored by AU InterVarsity to celebrate Black History Month, and will be open to the public, free of charge. Farmer, a native of New York City who began studying piano at the age of 11, uses his musicianship to "inspire, motivate, challenge and entertain." During the concert, he will perform jazz, sacred music, and also impromptu improvisation while interacting with the audience. At a recent Cornell University performance, Farmer delighted the audience by simultaneously playing a keyboard and a piano. Farmer received his Bachelor of Music degree from Nyack College and is also a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary. He holds honorary degrees from Gordon College and Houghton College. In addition to being a pianist, Farmer is an animal lover who has owned six monkeys, a chimpanzee, a ferret and a colony of 26 hamsters. He is also a certified SCUBA diver, a motorcyclist and an instrument-rated pilot who often flies his own plane to engagements. He has traveled to England, Korea, Burkina Faso, Mali, Guinea, Peru, Kenya, and Canada as well as through most of the United States. He now resides in Dallas, TX, with his wife and son.