

## Alfred University senior named winner of Phi Beta Kappa Wit & Wisdom Competition

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Beryl Torthe

ALFRED, NY -- Beryl Torthe, a senior psychology major at Alfred University, has been selected as the winner of this year's Phi Beta Kappa Wit & Wisdom Student Writing Competition.

Torthe will present her essay "Vigor Mortis: Danse Macabre in the Ambulance" at the April 12 Bergren Forum (12:10 p.m., Nevins Theater, Powell Campus Center). This personal essay blends reflections on family with history, philosophy, and firsthand accounts of the author's experience working as an emergency medical technician with Alfred's A.E. Crandall Hook & Ladder Company. She will receive a \$250 prize and be honored at a special dinner.

A resident of Pretoria, South Africa, Torthe was also named this week as one of this year's Marlin Miller Outstanding Senior award winners.

The runners-up for this year's Wit & Wisdom award were Conrad Cheung for his essay "All of the Above: The Pragmatic Metaphysics of People," and Ellie Woznica for her essay "Horsewomanship." Cheung is a senior art and design major from Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada; Woznica is a senior English major from East Berlin, CT.

The judging committee consisted of three faculty members of AU's Phi Beta Kappa Chapter, Emrys Westacott, professor of philosophy; Dr. Robert Stein, associate professor of social science; and Dr. Juliana Gray, professor of English. The judges note that they had an extremely difficult time choosing a winner, as all three of the finalists' presentations were truly outstanding.