

M.F.A. program in ceramic art again tops in nation

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Alfred University's Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) in ceramic art is again the top-rated program in the nation, according to US News and World Report's "America's Best Graduate Schools," which went on sale this week. The M.F.A., offered by the School of Art & Design at Alfred University, has been at the top of the list in ceramic art since US News and World Report began rating fine arts programs more than 10 years ago. "I am very pleased for the faculty, students and graduates to have yet another public affirmation of the stellar quality of the M.F.A. in ceramic art program, and I appreciate all they do to maintain the reputation," said Dr. Suzanne Buckley, Alfred University provost and vice president for academic affairs. Overall, Alfred University's M.F.A. program is ranked sixth in the nation, according to US News and World Report. "One of the keys to success of MFA program is the ceramic art faculty," said Buckley. "We have six full-time faculty, and each is recognized internationally." Joseph S. Lewis, dean of the School of Art & Design, agreed. "Not only are our faculty among the best, but our graduates and former faculty members are now teaching at or chairing most of the other high-ranking programs in ceramic art," he said. Members of the faculty, all of whom are members of the prestigious International Academy of Ceramics, include: Anne Currier, professor of ceramic art. For more: <http://art.alfred.edu/fac...> Gill, associate professor of ceramic art. For more; <http://art.alfred.edu/fac...> Gill, professor of ceramic art. For more: <http://art.alfred.edu/fac...> Higby, professor of ceramics and the first holder of the Robert C. Turner Chair at Alfred University. For more: <http://art.alfred.edu/fac...> McConnell, associate professor of ceramic art. For more: <http://art.alfred.edu/fac...> Sikora, associate professor of ceramic art and now chair of the Division of Ceramic Art. For more: <http://art.alfred.edu/fac...> University's Master of Fine Arts degree was established in 1943 as part of the New York State College of Ceramics, which is a contract college of the State University of New York. The ceramic art program is highly selective, admitting only eight of 165 applicants for fall 2007, said Valerie Stephens, assistant director of Admissions. The School of Art & Design admits no more than five students in each of its other M.F.A. programs, sculpture and electronic arts, which are also highly selective. For more about the School of Art & Design: <http://art.alfred.edu/For> more about admission to the Master of Fine Arts programs: <http://art.alfred.edu/gra...>