

## **Alumnus/emeritus professor's ceramic art featured in West Virginia**

8/30/11

Ceramic artist Val Cushing, AU classes of 1952, 1956 and professor emeritus of ceramic art, will be the Walter Gropius Master Artist for the month of September at the Huntington Museum of Art (HMA), Huntington, W. Va. An exhibit of Cushing's work is on view in HMA's Virginia Van Zandt Great Hall through Sunday, Oct. 23, 2011. Cushing will speak about his work at 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 8. Admission to the public presentation is free and a reception will follow. Cushing will also present a three-day workshop at HMA from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 9-11, titled "A Sixty Year Path in the Clay World." For workshop fees, call 304.529.2701. Cushing, considered one of the foremost contemporary ceramic artists in the United States, creates functional pottery and sculptural ceramic vessels using forms, colors and textures that are inspired by nature. Cushing was a founding member and former president of the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts, as well as a Fellow of the American Craft Council. During his career, Cushing received a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship, a Fulbright grant for teaching and research, and has given more than 250 lectures, workshops and demonstrations around the world. Cushing's pottery has been featured in more than 300 exhibitions and numerous one-person shows. Cushing's work is in many prestigious public and private collections.