

Alfred University to participate in pair of exhibitions at NCECA Conference

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Current students and recent graduates from the Alfred University School of Art and Design's Master of Fine Arts program will participate in a pair of exhibitions at next week's National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA) Conference in Pittsburgh.

"Trestle Draw: An Alfred Ceramics Graduate Survey" is an exhibition featuring more than 30 works by recent alumni and current students in Alfred University's MFA program (classes of 2017, 2018 and 2019). "Alfred University: Small Scale Bake Shale" is an exhibition of current AU MFA students' work with shale indigenous to the Alfred area.

Both exhibitions were organized by graduate students in Alfred University's School of Art and Design, with work juried by AU ceramic art faculty.

According to Trestle Draw exhibition organizers, "Three years of student work in relation to the University as a whole will provide a representation of the breadth and diversity of clay, its cultural structure, and the flowing nature of the creativity it inspires."

Twenty current MFA students and recent graduates have work included in the exhibition, which will be shown in the Lab Building, Lower Floor, of R.J. Casey Industrial Park, 1800 Preble Ave., Pittsburgh, from March 13-17, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. An opening reception for Trestle Draw will be held Friday, March 16, 5 to 9 p.m.

Naturally-occurring shale deposits in the Alfred area provided material used in artwork in the Small Scale Bake Shale exhibition. In the late 1800s, Alfred shale was used to manufacture architectural components such as bricks, ornaments and roof tiles. Exhibitors were asked to use the material, in some form (clay body, glaze ingredient, for example) in their artwork.

Thirteen current MFA have work included in the exhibition, which will be shown at Standard Ceramic Supply, 24 Chestnut St., Carnegie, PA, from March 13-17, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. An opening reception for Small Scale Bake Shale will be held Friday, March 16, 5 to 8 p.m.

Admission to both exhibitions is free.