

## **University presents 2008 Student Innovation Award**

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Andrew Iovovich, a senior materials science and engineering major at Alfred University is the 2008 Richard V. Bergren, Jr. Student Innovation Award winner at Alfred University for his work with GreenAlfred. Each year the Alfred University Board of Trustees recognizes a student, or group or students, who identifies a need within the Alfred community and develops solutions to address that need that will have a lasting impact. The winner receives a cash prize and a matching donation to the organization's budget in order to sustain the innovation in coming years. Iovovich, a graduate of North Hunterdon High School, is a son of Boris and Susan Iovovich of Annandale, NJ. GreenAlfred has centralized campus-wide efforts for recycling and sustainability. Recent projects have included working with Dining Services to go "trayless," promoting a pilot Green program in Reimer Residence Hall, establishing outdoor recycling collection points, cleaning up the Kanakadea Creek, and supporting the Focus the Nation Fair in January. Shannon Richmond received Honorable Mention for her dedication and work to Relay for Life. Richmond is a graduate of Portland Christian High School and a senior sociology major. She is a daughter of Keith and Colleen Richmond of Oregon City, OR. Richmond noted, "People affected by cancer, whether survivors themselves or friends or family members of survivors, needed to know they were not alone in their struggle. I realized that the Alfred community needed a way to unite against cancer. Shannon, with the help of a team of dedicated students, raised over \$15,000 to support cancer research, education, and advocacy in the 2007 inaugural Relay for Life. Callie Rimmel and Amy Greenough also received an Honorable Mention for forming the Creative Art Therapy Club (CATC). Rimmel is a senior art and design major and a graduate of Hampton High School. She is a daughter of Frederick and Janet Rimmel of Allison Park, PA. Greenough is a senior art and design major and a graduate of Mount Mansfield Union High School. She is a daughter of Michael and Kay Greenough of Jericho, VT. The CATC gives support and guidance to students interested in art therapy. Since the field of art therapy is so diverse and art therapy may be used in many settings, the CATC has also begun to bridge the gap between the Alfred University School Psychology graduate program and the undergraduate pre-art therapy program. Their future goal is to someday see a minor in art therapy offered at Alfred University. The director of Student Activities seeks nominations for the Student Innovation Award from the Alfred campus community in December. Nominated students then complete a written questionnaire and essay regarding their projects, which are then reviewed and ranked by a four-member committee. The Bergren Student Innovation Awards are funded through the generosity of the Alfred University Board of Trustees and named in honor of the Rev. Dr. Richard V. Bergren, Jr., who from 1960 to 1968 served as assistant professor of religion and director of religious programs at Alfred University. Rev. Bergren was also pastor of the Union University Church in Alfred during this time. The Bergren Student Innovation Awards honor Rev. Bergren's scholarship, teaching, and regard for students.