



Dear Friends of Wake The Arts,

We return from this summer bursting with excitement about the semester ahead. As we return to in-person events, I am reminded of a quote by the late Philip Hanes, a visionary leader in Winston-Salem: “The arts have been the universal language and door opener that help (us) connect with the most interesting people, ideas, places and experiences, here and around the world. The arts connect like nothing else I’ve experienced. Period.”

If we believe that the arts connect us in good times and in bad, then we owe it to ourselves, our community, and our neighbors to do what we can to see that the arts survive and thrive. I shared more thoughts about this topic in an [**article published in the *Winston-Salem Journal***](#) earlier this summer.

Don’t miss highlights below about the new art collection acquisitions on display for the first time in Hanes Gallery, Theatre and Dance alumni working together in performances, and upcoming reunion events. Stay well and hope to see you soon!

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chr TS', written in a cursive style.

Christina Soriano

Associate Provost for the Arts & Interdisciplinary Initiatives at Wake Forest University

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Look What's Happening



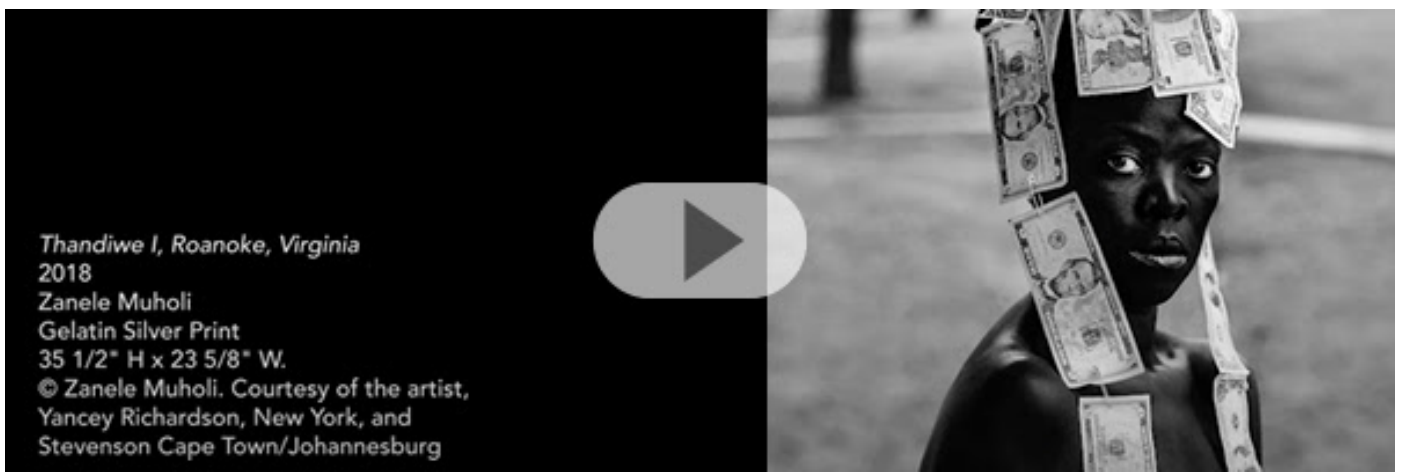
New acquisitions on display at Hanes Gallery

Every four years since 1963, a small group of students is charged with choosing new artwork that reflects the times to purchase for Wake Forest's Student Union Art Collection. An extraordinary time called for an extraordinary response, and despite restrictions posed by the pandemic, the 2021 student committee delivered. The group's priority in selecting this year's art has been adding diversity to the collection.

Coincident with Means of Identification, two major works from WFU Art Collections, John Singleton Copley's Mrs. Daniel Rogers and Alex Katz's Vincent, will be presented in the Hanes Gallery. The recent conservation of both large-scale portraits offers the rare opportunity to see them side by side.

“Means of Identification: New Acquisitions to the WFU Student Union Collection of Art” Hanes Gallery, opens August 27 with an opening event from 4pm-6pm in the gallery.

[Learn More](#)



Hear from a student curator

Hear Chrisann Timbie ('22), a member of the 2021 Student Union Art Acquisition Committee, introduce the work of Zanele Muholi, newly added to the Wake Forest University Art Collection and featured in “Means of Identification,” opening August 27 in Hanes Gallery.

Two-minute video



aWAKEN International Scenic Design Competition

Apply today to aWAKEN 2023—the International Scenic Design Competition hosted by Wake Forest’s Department of Theatre and Dance. Submissions are accepted now through March 2022, so be sure to share with your friends and family who work in set design.

Learn more



The Art of Being Alone: student-curated virtual exhibition

“This exhibition aims to explore further feelings and realities of isolation, especially the circumstances that arise as we find ourselves, often, alone these days. The Art of Being Alone steps away from the outside world as we explore the world within ourselves and our own personal

spaces. Isolation, quarantine, and social distancing have become all too familiar in our vernacular these days and we as individuals have been forced to confront and comfort ourselves during these lonely times.”

[See the virtual exhibition](#)



The Last Plant

Inspired by **Cross Pollination** exhibit themes and Reynolda’s historic Gardens, Reynolda partnered with Wake Forest University post-graduate teaching fellow **Janice Lancaster** to imagine “The Last Plant,” an interdisciplinary dance performance. This performance makes connections between the biodiversity of plants in the historic greenhouse (ca. 1913) and our responsibility to their homes in the wild. A human-plant collaborative endeavor, dancers open their senses to patterns of plant intelligence, variegations, and communication. Ultimately, the film illustrates a creative collaboration that partners hope will foster future site-based learning opportunities and performances at Reynolda. Funded by Art Bridges.

[See the video](#)

Who's Making Things Happen



Theatre alums together in the spotlight

“I’m thrilled to finally announce that I’m playing the role of a lifetime!” Natalie Cordone (’01) stars as Maria Callas in The Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma’s production of Master Class, directed by Michael Baron (’92). The show opens this September.

[Learn more](#)



Dance alums on fire in Music Carolina

Monet Beatty (’20), Kamryn King (’20), and Desirae Starnes (’19) worked together alongside Wake Forest faculty members and other creatives to produce an astonishing evening of beauty, warmth, and passion as part of this summer’s Music Carolina festival at the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art.

[See the performance](#)



Melissa Proctor ('02) Joins Board of High Museum of Art

Melissa M. Proctor ('02), formerly a Presidential Scholar in Visual Art, joins the board of the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, GA.

[Learn more](#)



Meet David Hagy

“I always believed great work could come from positive environments, and Wake Forest proves this!”

— Orchestra Director David Hagy, recently featured in [The Daily Deac](#).

[Read more](#)



Why I support Wake the Arts: Cathy Brooks (P'23)

“I am the parent of Emma Brooks, a Sophomore dance minor and a member of the Wake Performance Company. My daughter has danced her whole life. She sees the world through choreography—always fluid, and unique to her surroundings. Dance has taught her to be

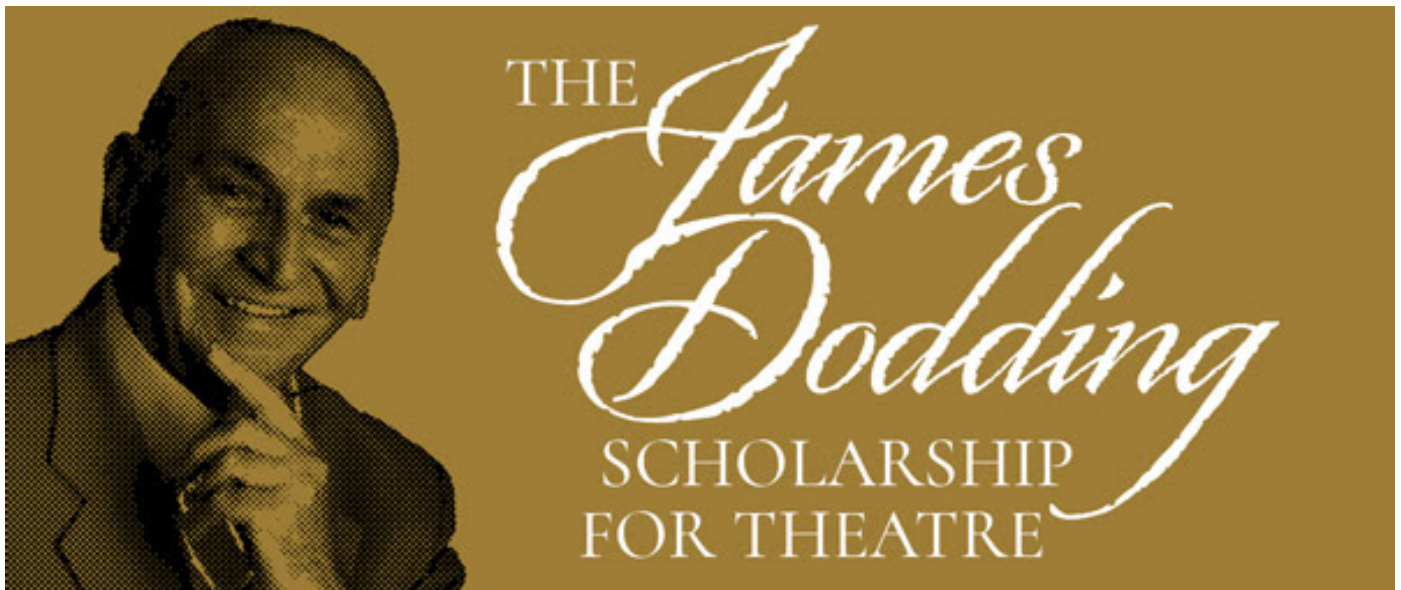
vulnerable yet confident; graceful yet strong. These qualities have permeated and enriched all areas of her life. More than ever, we now need graduates and leaders that will think like Emma. We need fluid, creative problem solvers that are strong in their convictions yet empathetic to contrasting views.

The beautiful thing about Wake Forest is the fact that faculty and policy makers recognize the value in her unique skillset. Her creativity is cultivated and celebrated. And as a parent, that is really all you dream for your child.”

— Cathy Brooks (P’23)

Why do you support Wake the Arts?

Mark Your Calendar



Join us for the James Dodding Reunion

On October 17, reunite with alumni who were influenced by the inimitable Professor James Dodding and help us complete funding of a new scholarship in his name. Jim Dodding was a force for good and for good theatre at Wake Forest University — let’s get together virtually to support this effort to honor a remarkable scholar, actor and teacher and to ensure his legacy for generations of talented Theatre students to come. Details and updates will continue to be posted on the **Dodding web page**. Mark your calendar!

Learn more



The O’Keeffe Circle: Artist as Gallerist & Collector

*Reynolda House Museum of American Art:
September 10, 2021*

The experimental paintings and drawings of Georgia O’Keeffe found their greatest early advocate in Alfred Stieglitz, the gallerist and photographer whom she married in 1924. Quoting extensively from her letters, this exhibition explores O’Keeffe as a gallerist in New York and as collector in her New York apartments and residences in New Mexico. She was highly judicious in selecting the art that shared her home, claiming that “My home is simple, but I aim to make it simpler!”

The promised gift for the Reynolda House Museum of American Art, O’Keeffe’s Cedar Tree with Lavender Hills, 1937, will be joined by works by Isamu Noguchi, Alexander Calder, John Marin, Marsden Hartley, Charles Demuth, and Arthur Dove.

Image credit: Georgia O’Keeffe, Cedar Tree with Lavender Hills, 1937, Promised Gift of Barbara B. Millhouse, © 2021 Georgia O’Keeffe Museum / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

Buy tickets

Men on Boats

Sept. 17 – Sept. 26
Ring Theatre

Written by Jaclyn Backhaus and directed by Cindy Gendrich, “Men on Boats” takes place in 1869, when John Wesley Powell traversed the Green and



Colorado Rivers from Wyoming to the Grand Canyon. This play tells their story. It has boats, white water rapids, rock climbing, fishing, camping, fights, snakes, DANGER. ADVENTURE. FUN.

The characters in this play were historically cisgender white males, but the cast is made up entirely of people who are NOT — people who would not have been on these boats.

Buy Tickets

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