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Dear Friends of Wake The Arts,

On Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021, we celebrated the resilient class of 2020 at their commencement ceremony on Hearn Plaza. In his address, President Hatch powerfully reminded the class: “my challenge for you today is to live in hope.” In that spirit, I am thrilled to share a beautiful new arrangement of our alma mater, sung by music majors Brianna Coppolino ('20) and Julianne Zhu ('21). Their striking performance deserves two minutes of your time as we reflect on the remarkable WFU class of 2020, and their enduring successes as WFU alumni.



As we look ahead, I remind us of the IdeasCityWS Marketplace of Ideas Festival in Bailey Park on Saturday, October 2nd. This free, outdoor, family-friendly event will feature interactive exhibits from two dozen local creative organizations, representing progressive contributions in art, tech, design, and culture as well as lots of live music and engaging panel discussions. It will be an exciting day of civic joy as we herald our beloved city, Winston-Salem- the city of Arts and Innovation.

In this e-letter, don't miss the return of Wake Forest Theatre on the Tedford Mainstage, nominations for our new Maya Angelou Award, and the incredible work of some of our brilliant alumni. As always, I welcome your feedback. **Drop me a note** and say hello!

Yours,



Christina Soriano

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

Follow Us



Look What's Happening



IdeasCityWS

October 2, Bailey Park (Winston-Salem)

Art, tech, design, and culture lead the way forward at the IdeasCityWS **Marketplace Of Ideas festival** featuring interactive exhibits from two dozen local creative organizations. On display will be a range of working ideas poised to move our communities forward as we reimagine a post-pandemic Winston-Salem.

[Learn More](#)



Men on Boats

Sept. 23-26, 2021

Wake Forest Theatre is back! Join us in the beloved Tedford Theatre for the first time since Spring 2020 as we get swept into Jacklyn Backhaus's fabulous revisioning of John Wesley Powell's 1869 expedition down the Green and Colorado Rivers. Called by Time Out New York, "A thrilling, gender-flipped slice of manifest destiny," Men on Boats is a theatrical joy ride, perfect for anyone in need of a little adventure.

[Get tickets](#)

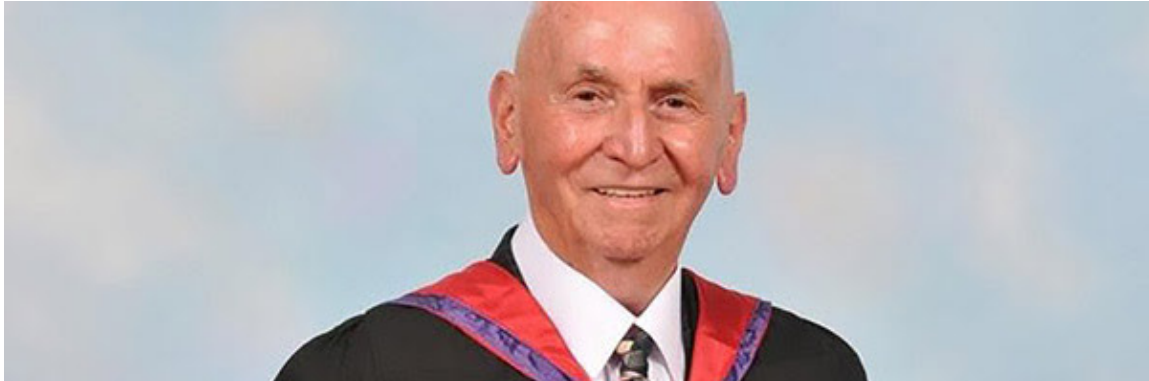


Maya Angelou Award nominations open

Revered WFU Reynolds Professor Dr. Maya Angleou's messages of hope, joy, tolerance, courage, inclusion and social justice are foundational characteristics

for a fulfilling life. The purpose of the Wake Forest University Maya Angelou Award is to honor world-renowned artists for their excellence in the Arts and their commitments to humanity in the spirit of the University Motto, *Pro Humanitate*, and to continue Dr. Angelou's legacy.

[Learn more](#)

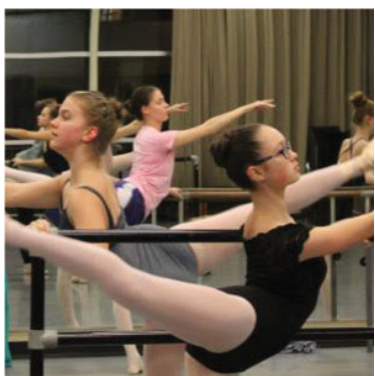


James Dodding Reunion and Scholarship Celebration

Oct. 17, 7 p.m. ET

On Oct. 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**. Look for your email invitation in the coming week and be sure to register! Questions or ideas? Beth McAlhany with Wake the Arts would love to be in touch at mcalhabd@wfu.edu.

[Learn more](#)



Community Ballet

In a celebration of resilience, students from the Winston-Salem community returned to **Community Ballet**, continuing over 35 years of excellence and service. Ballet classes are open to all children ages 5-18. Please contact Leslie Spencer, spenceld@wfu.edu for registration information. Do you have a young dancer in the Winston-Salem area interested in studying ballet? For class placement, contact Brantly Shapiro, shapirbb@wfu.edu.

[Learn more](#)



Dr. Wentz attends Hanes Gallery opening

We were delighted to host Dr. Wentz, Wake Forest's dynamic new president, at the opening of "Means of Identification: New Acquisitions to the WFU Student Union Collection of Contemporary Art" in Hanes Gallery. Dr. Wentz spent time engaging in conversation with students and touring the new additions to Wake Forest's **Student Acquired Collection of Contemporary Art**.

[Learn more](#)

Who's Making Things Happen

Faculty in the News



Jacqui Carrasco: Tango on PBS and at the NC Art Museum

The Lorena Guillén Tango Ensemble, featuring WFU violin professor Jacqui Carrasco, captured first place in the North Carolina Folk Festival's inaugural

“Not Your Average Folk Contest” and was featured in a mainstage performance this September at the festival. The ensemble also won first place in the World Music category of the North Carolina Museum of Art’s “Music at the Museum Contest” this summer. PBS-NC recorded live performances of the winning ensembles at the museum and will air them this fall. Brava, Jacqui!

[Learn more](#)



Peter Kairoff inducted into Steinway & Sons Teacher Hall of Fame

Congratulations to WFU piano professor Peter Kairoff for being inducted into the Steinway & Sons Teacher Hall of Fame. Peter says, “The Steinway piano is the most responsive and colorful in the world! It seems to intuit my musical intentions even before I am aware of them, and it inspires me to reach for even more beautiful sonorities and shadings.” The induction event will be held in New York City on October 1.

[Learn more](#)

Alumni in the News



CLÍO Awards Opener: Bri Butler ('14) and Lauren Lukacsko ('13)

You won't believe your eyes. Bri Butler ('14) and Lauren Lukacsko ('13) teamed up to open up this year's virtual CLÍO Awards with their mind-blowing dance video “Empty Spaces.” Choreography and dance by Bri Butler, video production by Lauren Lukacsko.

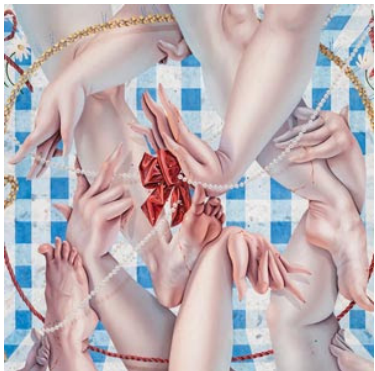
[Watch this](#)



Bentrice Jusu ('13): Firefighter Artist

“Art, to me, is more risky than firefighting, and I’m using art to start the necessary dialogue in this town about what happens, and what can happen, and how art can be a catalyst to drive those conversations — about change.” A profile of the irrepressible Bentrice Jusu ('13).

[Learn more](#)



Sarah Slappey ('06) solo exhibition at Sargent's Daughters in NYC

In “Self Care,” the Brooklyn-based painter shows off a new body of works, including paintings on canvas and paper, and a series of drawings, that explore the darker and more extreme aspects of idealized femininity. The imagery in her paintings reflects a South Carolina upbringing that was overflowing with exaggerated versions of how girls should look and dress. Slappey herself said: “All of the paintings have a kind of quiet violence.” For the artist, the ideas and imagery of femininity can be a double-edged sword.

[Read about Sarah in Artnet](#)



Why I support Wake the Arts: Cristin Tierney ('93)

“The Wake The Arts (WTA) campaign has received remarkable support from students and their families, alumni, faculty and staff. To me, this demonstrates that the university is doing something right. There are now more opportunities than ever for the Wake community to engage with the arts and connect with a strong cultural network. We must capitalize on this. Wake Forest needs a

dedicated space with a more vibrant and inviting environment for the presentation and exhibition of all arts. I will continue to be a supporter and advocate for this movement with *Pro Humanitate* at its core.”

– Cristin Tierney ('93), owner of **Cristin Tierney Gallery**

Cristin was awarded the first Wake Forest Distinguished Arts Ambassador in 2019 and is the Co-Chair of the Steering Committee for the 60th Anniversary of the **Wake Forest Student Union Collection of Contemporary Art**.

Mark Your Calendar



Reimagining the Queer Experience through Reynolda's Collection

Oct 17, 2021, 3:00 p.m., Reynolda House Museum of American Art

[Learn more](#)



Means of Identification

New Acquisitions to the WFU Student Union Collection of Contemporary Art

Through December 10, 2021, Hanes Gallery

[Learn more](#)



FINAL WEEKEND for New Works in the John P. Anderson Student Art Collection

Through September 25, stArt Gallery

[Learn more](#)

Jean-Guihen Queyras

The logo for 'secrest ARTISTS SERIES' is displayed on an orange background. The word 'secrest' is in a large, white, lowercase sans-serif font. Below it, 'ARTISTS' and 'SERIES' are written in a smaller, white, uppercase sans-serif font, separated by a small circular icon containing a stylized 'S'.

October 28

Voted “Artist of the Year” by readers of the Diapason and “Best Instrumental Soloist” for the Victoires de la Musique Classique in 2008, internationally renowned French cellist Jean-Guihen Queyras presents a program of works for unaccompanied cello by Bach and Britten, concluding with the magisterial Sonata for Solo Cello by Hungarian composer Zoltan

Kodaly.

Buy tickets

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