



Dear Friends of Wake The Arts,

I am excited to share with you the success of Wake Forest University's premier orchestral ensemble, thanks, in no small part, to your continued support. As its new director, I am humbled and grateful to be a part of the Wake the Arts family.

First, Brendle Recital Hall was nearly filled for our season opener entitled, **Paving the Way: Clara Schumann & Ludwig van Beethoven**; an interdisciplinary concert project that will now reside here at WFU. Second, our rendition of Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite brought the house to its feet in time for the holiday season. Our annual WFU Department of Music Concerto Competition performance left the jurors and audience in awe of the incredible student talent here at Wake. With this, the Wake Forest University Symphony Orchestra continues with our exciting and audience inspiring season!

The Wake Forest University Symphony Orchestra and Wake Forest University Department of Music are excited to present the "**Side-By-Side & Star Wars**" Concert with members of the Reagan High School Band and Orchestra programs on April 20, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. in Brendle Recital Hall. With culture and collaboration in mind, the evening will include appearances by members of the **North Carolina chapter of the 501st Legion**. It is rumored that Darth Vader himself will be in attendance. The **WFU Jazz Band** will also be performing a popular set of music from a certain cantina on Tatooine. In addition, Director of

Athletic Bands and Percussionist **Dr. Timothy Heath** will be leading the percussion section. WFU Director of Bands, **Dr. Kevin Bowen** will be performing the Star Wars suite as principal trumpet. See more below about this exciting, collaborative concert.

We look forward to continuing concert performance events that bring joy, discovery, and wonder to the WFU community!

Musically Yours,

J. Aaron Hardwick
Director & Conductor,
Wake Forest University Symphony Orchestra



Want to see what's coming up?
See our [Semester at a Glance](#) »

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What's Happening



Director, producer Debbie Allen named 'Maya Angelou Artist-in-

Residence'

Emmy award-winning director and producer Debbie Allen has been named the inaugural recipient of Wake Forest University's Maya Angelou Artist-in-Residence Award. The Award honors world-renowned artists who reflect Maya Angelou's passions for creating, performing and teaching and celebrates exceptional artists for combining achievement in the arts and a commitment to improving the human condition. Allen will visit Wake Forest to educate and engage both the University and Winston-Salem communities on November 13-14, 2023.

[Read more](#)



Wakeville Wrap-up

Wakeville was an amazing celebration of the arts—Wake's first student-organized arts festival. Wakeville brought ALL of the arts together for one unforgettable day of community. Huge congratulations to the incredible students who planned the festival, and thank you to everyone who attended! We can't wait for next year.

[Photo gallery](#)

Participate in NIH-funded research

Are you concerned about your memory? Do you enjoy movement and music? Did you know physical activity, being social, and cognitive challenges are all important for brain health as you get older? And that activities you enjoy, like music and movement, might actually promote brain health? By joining the IGROOVE study, you can have fun and learn something new while helping to create knowledge



about whether participating in the arts can improve heart and brain health. You will learn about music and movement from experts in our community, you can contribute to the future of aging care, and you will be compensated for your time. For more information, please contact Tracy Carroll at 336-713-6683.

[Read more.](#)

Lilly Reed ('23) on Jane Dickson

Lilly Reed ('23) shares the work of Jane Dickson. Dickson's "U Dunk Em" was created in 1984 and purchased as part of the Mark H. Reece Collection of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art in 1985.



[Watch the video](#)

Who's Making Things Happen



STEVE NEDVIDEK ('87)

Why We Give

"Why do we give? It's a fair question. But we'd prefer to think of it as, "Why Do We Give BACK?"

Quite simply, the Wake Forest experience has influenced SO MUCH of our family's trajectory, we feel like there is a certain indebtedness to Mother So Dear. We met at Wake, two of our children graduated from Wake, and now I teach each fall at Wake. There is a love for this place that cements a piece of who we are as a Wake Forest family. In fact, we occasionally are referred to as the NedviDEACS!

But why WAKE THE ARTS? It's not just that three of the four of us have degrees in theatre. It's not just the amount of time members of our family have spent in Scales or under the guidance of world class teachers, directors, and designers. It's the knowledge that the ARTS are the difference-maker. It's the ARTS that create empathy. It's the ARTS that ground the human experience and the human condition. It's the ARTS that give people voice and freedom of expression. It's the ARTS that create a breadth in life that make all other disciplines richer, better, and stronger. And it's the ARTS that push us to be creators, not just consumers.

From firsthand experience in the classrooms on the Reynolda Campus, I can attest to the power of watching students make connections to life lessons as they perform on a stage, or build in the WakerSpace, or study a painting at Reynolda House. I have seen their eyes light up when they practice design thinking to solve business problems. I have seen them get a clearer understanding of a better way forward when they begin to think and create with the perspective of an artist. The ARTS have a power, richness, and depth that will make them better and round them out as people and as professionals. In our home and as a family, we know this to be true.

That's why we give back. That's why we give to WAKE THE ARTS.

And we hope you will, too."

— Steve and Sue Nedvidek

Steve will be co-teaching Arts & Innovation in the Fall with Professor Cindy Gendrich.



Dodding awardees

Congratulations to Vir Gupta ('25) and Riley Shanaghan ('25), talented recipients of the inaugural Dodding Theatre Award. Vir and Riley will both travel to Prague this summer to participate in the Prague Quadrennial. They were celebrated in a

ceremony in the Ring Theatre on March 20, 2023.

The support and contributions of alumni, faculty, and staff are making it possible for Wake Forest students to pursue their theatre passions in ways they never thought possible — not just this year, but year after year, in perpetuity. We look forward to celebrating the best of Wake Forest Theatre each year at this time.

[Read more](#)

Meredith Mulhearn ('01) Workshop

April 19, 5:30-7 p.m.

WakerSpace (Parking Lot Q)



Work with esteemed artist and alumna Meredith Mulhearn ('01) to explore the intersections of consumerism, plastic waste, and art as you create your own tapestries out of plastic waste! Materials will be provided but participants are encouraged to bring their own plastic bags/food wrappers cut into strips 1" – 2" wide. Tapestries will be displayed in the Women's Center next year! Hosted by the Office of Sustainability, Wake the Arts, and WakerSpace / Information Systems.

There is limited space available, and priority will be given to students. Be sure to sign up soon while space is still available!

[Register](#)



Giles-Harris Competition winners

Congratulations to the winners of the 46th Annual **Giles-Harris Music Competition**. Generously begun and sustained through our incredible donors,

these competitions are open to all full-time undergraduate students currently taking individual instruction through the Department of Music.

2023 Piano Competition Winners:

- Eric Wang ('24), student of Larry Weng (The Sinal Prize, First Place)
- Katherina Tsai ('25), student of Larry Weng (The Marc and Kirk Elvy Award, Second Place)
- Alice Chong ('26), student of Larry Weng (The Virts Prize for Pianistic Expressiveness)

2023 Open Competition Winners:

- Malachi Woodard ('24), tenor, student of Bryon Grohman (The Joseph Pleasant Sloan and Marguerite Nutt Sloan Award, First Place)
- Medb Glatt ('26), violin, student of Jacqui Carrasco (The Patricia Sloan Mize Award, Second Place)
- Cami Wilson ('24), soprano, student of Bryon Grohman (The Richard Heard Award For Outstanding Performance by a Singer)
- Janani Krishnakumar ('26), flute, student of Kathryn Levy (The Award for Outstanding Performance by a Non-Music Major)

Mark your calendar

Face to Face: Kristin Chenoweth

*April 12, 7:30 p.m.,
LJVM Coliseum*

On April 12, 2023 Face to Face will host Emmy- and Tony Award-winning actor and singer best known for her role as Glinda in the musical "Wicked," Kristin Chenoweth at 7:30pm at LJVM Coliseum. Face to Face Speaker Forum is a signature speaker series featuring world-renowned voices of influence and change. This community-facing series brings acclaimed speakers to Winston-Salem to discuss a wide variety of topics including politics, arts and culture, business and innovation, social justice and global issues.



[Read more](#)

Living Room Theatre: Ghostmans by Jeannine Foster-McKelvia

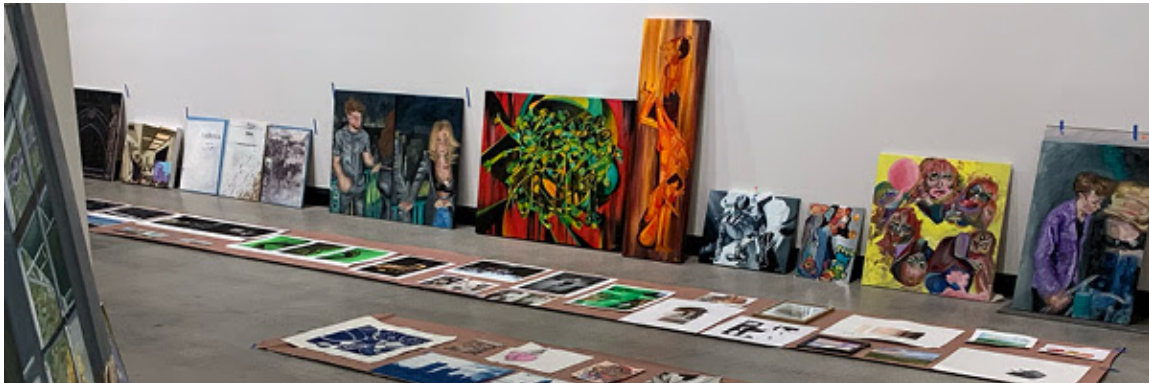
April 18, 7 p.m.

Davis Chapel



When two young men, pursued by the Klan, leave a small town in 1939 Mississippi for the big city in the North everyone's life changes, mother and sons. One family's dreams, and disappointments, wrapped in segregation, the criminal justice system, and a mother's love. NC Black Rep brings its free staged reading series to the campus of Wake Forest University. Three new plays by up-and-coming, nationally recognized playwrights will be presented over three months in the school's famed Davis Chapel.

[Read more](#)



Hanes Student Show Opening

April 20, 5-7 p.m.,

Hanes Gallery

The Annual Student Art Exhibition in Hanes Gallery features artwork by Wake Forest University undergraduate student artists selected by studio art faculty. Included works represent a variety of media including painting, prints, drawings, sculpture, photography, and video. Six students will each receive a \$100 Hanes Gallery Award. There will also be opportunities for the sale of artwork through stArt gallery's consignment program, and a number of works will also be purchased for Wake Forest's J.P. Anderson Collection of Student Art. Award recipients will be announced during the opening reception.

This year's opening reception of the Annual Student Art Exhibition will also be a celebration of the inaugural Hanes Gala. All visitors are invited to visit the opening in an outfit that responds to this year's theme, Fashion as Art // Art as Fashion. In honor of the student artists and their work, the lower Lobby of Scales will be transformed with decorations, red carpet, and Gala paparazzi.

[Read more](#)



Side by Side: WFU Symphony Orchestra plays alongside local high school

April 20, 7:30 p.m., Brendle Recital Hall

The Wake Forest University Symphony Orchestra and Wake Forest University Department of Music are excited to present the “Side-By-Side & Star Wars” Concert with members of the Reagan High School Band and Orchestra programs. Bring friends and family for this night of Star Wars themed activities. Star Wars costumes and characters are welcome! This event is free and all are welcome.

A recent New York Times article noted that composer John Williams' music, “... permeates popular culture to a degree unsurpassed by any other contemporary composer.” Concerning Star Wars, though set in a “galaxy far, far away,” the music, like the film, feels venerable, familiar, and human — the connection for what has become a cultural phenomenon.

[Read more](#)



Spring Dance Concert

April 20-22, 7:30 p.m.

April 23, 2 p.m.

The Spring Student Choreographic Concert will feature selected work by student choreographers under the direction of Artistic Director Chris Martin. The Spring Concert gives WFU students the opportunity to present their choreography across a range of dance styles. This event is free and all are welcome.

[Read more](#)

Larry Weng to Perform at Carnegie Hall

Tuesday, May 16, 8 p.m.

Weill Recital Hall (Carnegie Hall)

Professor Larry Weng will fill Carnegie Hall with the sounds of Schumann, Bach, and Schubert this May. Save the date for a Wake the Arts reception after the concert! More information will be forthcoming. If you have questions, contact Christina Soriano (sorianct@wfu.edu).



[Read more](#)

Music Events This Month

4/11 Student Chamber Concert

4/14 Chamber Choir: Spain & Portugal Tour Preview

4/17 Alex Moukala, Composing & Producing Video Game Music (virtual artist visit)

4/18 WFU Jazz Ensemble

4/20 "WFU Symphony Orchestra: Side by Side & Star Wars with Reagan High School Symphony"

4/21 Senior Honors Recital: Alice Hauser

4/21 Wake Choirs Masterworks Series Chamber Choir & Concert Choir

4/23 Wake Forest University Wind Ensemble



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