



Dear Friends of Wake The Arts,

As the music director for our upcoming production of “**Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom**,” I am thrilled to offer a word of welcome in this month’s Wake the Arts e-letter. This production celebrates a dynamic collaboration between WFU Theatre, Wake the Arts, NC Black Repertory Theatre, and Wake Forest University School of Divinity. It also celebrates the life of teenager **Lynda Blackmon Lowery**, the vivacious and intrepid woman behind the memoir that inspired this performance. On her 15th birthday, Ms. Lowery was marching from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama during the Voting Rights March of 1965. Now a lifelong advocate for voting rights, she will be joining us at Wake Forest! Join us for aWakenings Worship on Tuesday morning, October 31st, at 11am in Davis Chapel where she will share about her inspiring journey. We are also excited to welcome Forsyth County public schools to witness this transformative theatrical production, which will also feature a community, faculty, staff, and student choir, which I am privileged to direct. Join me as we revisit the resilience and strength of Civil Rights heroes like Ms. Lowery on our Tedford mainstage theatre beginning October 27.

Music is a restorative and compelling force that binds us together and also points us to the beauty in our differences. I’m happy that many events in October celebrate a spirit of collaboration like “Paving the Way,” with guest artist Courtney D. Jones and the Wake Forest Symphony Orchestra. Homecoming

weekend, join over 60 alumni that will return for a very special WFU Choral Alumni Homecoming concert under the leadership of our Music department colleague, Dr. Chris Gilliam.

And don't miss the Music Department's Virtual Wavelengths series, which brings additional guest artists into the classroom virtually to interact with students. This semester's guests include award-winning bassist and scholar **Jairo Moreno**, Emmy-winning video game and film/TV composer **Inon Zur** and Senior Writer at Rolling Stone **Brain Hiatt**. I look forward to bearing witness to these collaborations with many of you in and around Scales and the School of Divinity.

Yours,

Joshuah Brian Campbell

Director of Worship, Music & the Arts and Director of University Gospel Choir at Wake Forest School of Divinity



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

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What's Happening



Arlington Weithers artist talk

Oct. 19, 3 p.m., Hanes Gallery

Artist Arlington Weithers, whose works are on view in Hanes Gallery until December 8, will give an artist talk in the gallery on Oct 19 at 3 p.m. He will discuss the large-scale “white paintings” that are the focus of this exhibition, **WHITE | Balance**, as well as his experience a Black artist of the Guyanese diaspora who has lived and worked in the US for many years. His ambitious “white paintings” provide an immersive experience of scale, surface, contrast, subtlety and complexity. But Arlington Weithers’ talk will also focus on how his works disclose and resonate with issues of “whiteness” in our culture.

[Read more](#)

Cole Swenson & Michael Snediker poetry reading

*Oct. 19 at 5 p.m.
ZSR auditorium*

A poetry reading by brilliant writers Cole Swensen and Michael Snediker.



[Read more](#)



Homecoming Choir Alumni Reunion Concert

Oct. 22, 1:30 p.m.,
Brendle Recital Hall

Welcome home, Deacs! See multiple generations of Wake Forest Choir members perform together in Brendle Recital Hall this Homecoming Weekend. All choral alumni are also invited to join former and current faculty for a weekend of events in conjunction with Homecoming Weekend 2023. Meet some of the choir members who are returning and hear words of wisdom they share with current students.

[Read more](#)

Choir Alumnus Diana Stegall ('88)

“Be active in your professional associations and tap into the networking (aka connections) that is available. If there are conferences or educational events, these interactions can help you refine what aspect of your field is of most interest, and take advantage of opportunities for job shadowing, resume reviews, and practice interviews.”

— Diana Stegall ('88)



[More about Diana on DeacLink](#)

Choir Alumnus Suzanna Griffith ('91)

“Always pursue your dreams — networking is very important in the arts. ‘Who you know’ goes a long way. I obtained confidence from my years at WFU. Small

class size + great teachers = great life long friends.”

— Suzanna Griffith ('91)

More about Suzanna on DeacLink

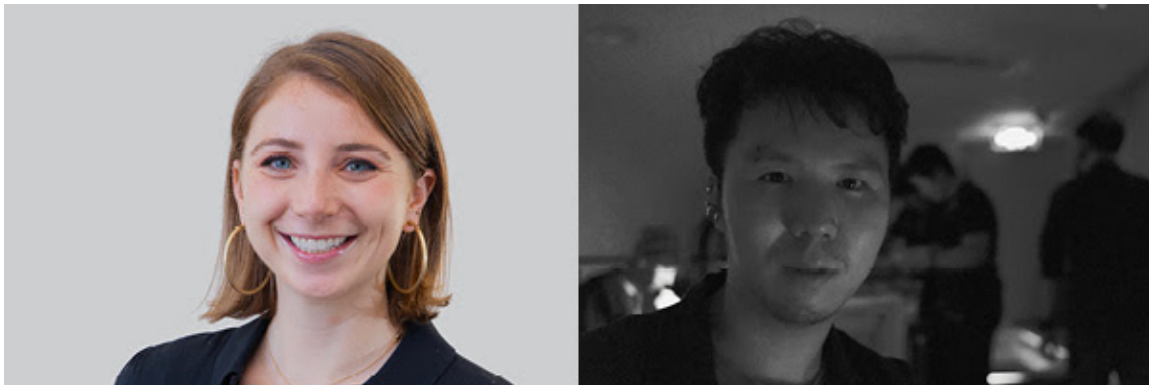


Choir Alumnus Chris Mixter ('00)

“Spread yourself around...don't be a “one lane Deac.” In addition to my major, I also had choir, an a cappella group, my fraternity, and, at least for a little while, club swimming. The result of all of those things? An incredibly diverse set of experiences and friends that I continue to rely on today.”

— Chris Mixter ('00)

More about Chris on DeacLink



Fall Alumni Exhibition: Caroline Perkins ('16) and Yan Cheng ('19)

Oct. 23 - Nov. 10

stArt Gallery (Reynolda Village)

All events in spacetime exist together, with the events that haven't yet occurred being as real as those in our immediate past, or AEISETWTETHYOBARATIOIP, is an exhibition by Yan Cheng of videos and works on paper that, in the artist's words, “Beckon viewers to transcend the confines of linear time and embrace the idea that all moments coexist within a timeless present... It encourages us to view the world through a lens that recognizes events yet to unfold as equally real as

those in our past, echoing T.S. Eliot's poignant words, "Time present and time past / Are both perhaps present in time future."

[More at stArt Gallery](#)



Paving the Way: Origin Stories

Featuring Courtney D. Jones

Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m.

Brendle Recital Hall

This interdisciplinary event brings guest artist Dr. Courtney D. Jones, who will perform with the Wake Forest Symphony Orchestra. Orchestra director Aaron J. Hardwick established the Paving the Way Series in collaboration with the Interdisciplinary Arts Center last year to spotlight the artistry of underrepresented communities.

Also, don't miss the Music Department's Virtual Wavelengths series, which brings additional guest artists into the classroom virtually to interact with students. This semester's guests include award-winning bassist and scholar Jairo Moreno, Emmy-winning video game and film/TV composer Inon Zur and Senior Writer at Rolling Stone Brain Hiatt.

[Read more](#)

"The Faces of Wood"

Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Speaker Lecture by Dr. Julia Bryan Wilson (Columbia University)

Tuesday, Oct. 24 at 5:30 p.m.

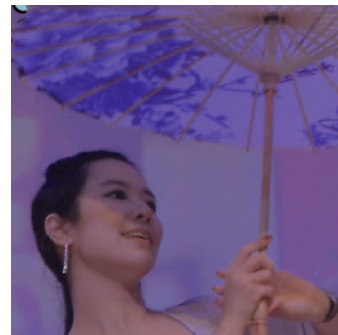
Scales 102

Dr. Julia Bryan-Wilson is Professor of LGBTQ+ Art History and core faculty in Columbia University's Institute for the Study of Sexuality and Gender. She studies feminist and queer theory, theories of artistic labor, performance and dance, production/fabrication, craft histories, photography, video, visual culture of the nuclear age, and collaborative practices.



[Read more](#)

Exploring the Arts of Chinese Dance Thursday,
Oct. 26 at 5 p.m.
Scales 102



Exploring the Arts of Chinese Dance, is a dynamic and immersive event designed to introduce our audience to the rich and diverse world of Chinese performing arts. Through live demonstrations, hands-on workshops, and engaging discussions, our guest speaker, Dr. Melody Yunzi Li, and discussant, Ms. Shu-Yu Huang, will shed light on Chinese dance, its historical significance, and its connections to literature and film. Simultaneously, Ms. Huang will draw parallels and distinctions between Chinese dance and traditional opera, specifically Kunqu. This project is partially funded by the [Interdisciplinary Arts Center](#).



Secret Artists Series: Dublin Guitar Quartet
Thursday, Oct. 26 at 7:30 p.m.
Brendle Recital Hall

Described as a “quartet with a difference” by the Irish Times Dublin Guitar Quartet is the first classical guitar quartet entirely devoted to new music. Since its formation at the Dublin Conservatory of Music and Drama, the DGQ has worked to expand the limited repertoire by commissioning new works and adapting contemporary works from outside of the guitar repertoire.

[Read more](#)



“Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom”

Oct. 27-28 & Nov. 2-4 at 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 29 & Nov. 5 at 2 p.m.

*Based upon the book by Lynda Blackmon Lowery,
as told to Elspeth Leacock and Susan Buckley*

Developed by Ally Sheedy

Adapted for the Stage by Fracaswell Hyman

Directed by Jackie Alexander

“My story is about being able to help change things no matter what your age.” —
Lynda Blackmon Lowery

Alongside Martin Luther King Jr. and her neighbors and friends, teenage Lynda Blackmon Lowery walked from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama during the Voting Rights March of 1965 on her 15th birthday. Based on Lowery’s memoir, traditional and original Gospel and Freedom songs frame the journey of a brave young American heroine. A **joint production** of the Wake Forest University Department of Theatre & Dance and the Loire Valley Theatre Festival. This project is supported in part by funding from the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional support provided by Wake Forest’s **Interdisciplinary Arts Center**.

[Read more](#)

**“Considering Matthew Shepard” WFU Concert
Choir with the Winston-Salem Symphony
Chorus**

Sunday Oct. 29 at 3 p.m.

Brendle Recital Hall



Join us for a powerful and moving performance of “Considering Matthew Shepard,” by Wake Forest University Choirs Concert Choir and the Winston-Salem Symphony Chorus.

“Approaching the eve of the 20th anniversary of Matt’s murder, composer Craig Hella Johnson responded with his first concert-length work. The three-part fusion oratorio speaks with a fresh and bold voice, incorporating a variety of musical styles seamlessly woven into a unified whole. The composer sets a wide range of poetic and soulful texts by poets including Hildegard of Bingen, Lesléa Newman, Michael Dennis Browne, and Rumi. Passages from Matt’s personal journal, interviews and writings from his parents Judy and Dennis Shepard, newspaper reports, and additional texts by Johnson and Browne are poignantly appointed throughout the work.” — Dr. Christopher Gilliam, Director of Choral Activities

Tickets available



A Conversation with Debbie Allen

Nov. 12, 4 p.m.

Wait Chapel

Debbie Allen is the inaugural recipient of the Maya Angelou Artist-in-Residence Award. Join us this Fall as we honor the powerful legacy of Dr. Maya Angelou and celebrate the remarkable career of Ms. Debbie Allen.

[Read more](#)

Save the Date: Reece Collection 60th Anniversary Celebration

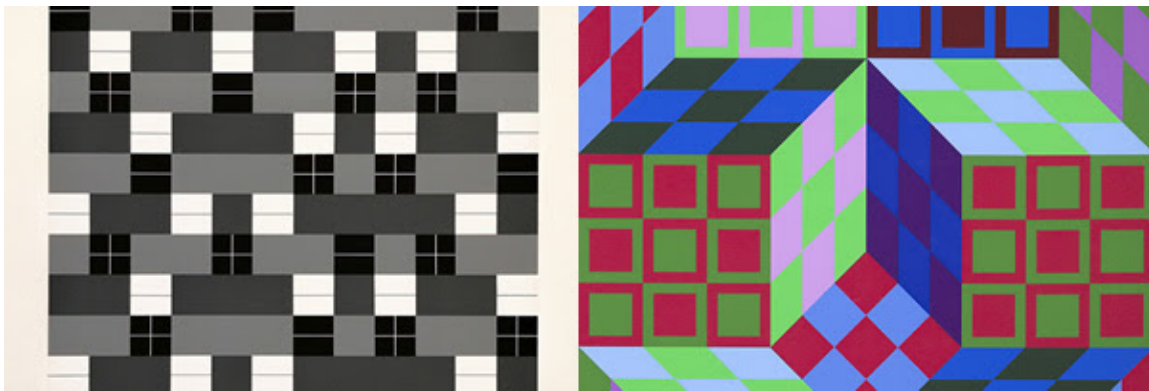
Jan. 19, 2024

Of The Times: Sixty Years of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art at Wake Forest, an exhibition at Hanes Gallery in Scales Fine Arts Center will run from January 19 - March 31, 2024. Join us on January 19 to see more of this historic Collection in person than ever before.



[Read more](#)

Who's Making Things Happen



Meet the newest members of the WFU Collections

Donated by alum Terry Scarborough ('74), artworks by Elaine de Kooning, Franz Kline, Roy Lichtenstein and more have now become a permanent addition to the Wake Forest University Art Collection. Terry's lifelong devotion to art began here at Wake Forest, and she has been acquiring artwork from well-known artists since then. With this recent generous gift of five artworks, students, faculty and staff will have the opportunity to interact with them, as Scarborough did 49 years

ago in the halls of the University.

[Read more](#)

Why I Support Wake the Arts

“My interest in art really began at Wake Forest. When I was a junior, a friend introduced me to the art hanging in Reynolda Hall. He especially liked a large piece by Leonard Baskin. Many years later I was in an antique mall in Connecticut and saw a small etching for sale by Baskin. It was only \$135 and I was amazed that I could own a piece of art by a famous artist. My passion as a collector started that day.



I have never studied art history but I started buying pieces I loved, especially concentrating on mid-century works on paper by known artists. Once I was bitten by the art bug, my collection grew. How fortunate to live with this art! With passion, research and advice from art dealers, the value of my collection has turned out to be a great investment as well.

As my collection expanded and I grew older, I began to worry about what would happen to my art works in the future. My goal was to share them with students who could appreciate and study the pieces. When someone from the University Development office came to visit and heard about my interest in art, he said ‘Wake has a great collection of art that is enjoyed in offices, hallways and public spaces.’ The seed was planted.

My will now states that my collection will go to Wake Forest. I have already begun sending a few pieces with the advice, encouragement and help of the wonderful Paul Bright and Jennifer Finkel. The Wake the Arts program is beyond exciting and I am lucky to be a small part of the future of Wake Forest.”

— Terry Scarborough ('74)

Kairoff inducted into the Steinway & Sons Teacher Hall of Fame

Congratulations to Music professor Peter Kairoff, who has been inducted into the Steinway & Sons Teacher Hall of Fame in a ceremony in New York City.

[Read more](#)



Events at a Glance

Wednesday, Oct. 18

“What Aesthetics Matter”(5 p.m., ZSR 404)

Thursday, Oct. 19

Arlington Weathers: gallery discussion and reception (3 p.m., Hanes Gallery)

Poetry Performance: Cole Swensen & Michael Snediker (5 p.m., ZSR auditorium)

Copyright: Mark W. Lawson: President, ECS Publishing Group (5 p.m., Scales M208)

Sunday, Oct. 22

Choral Alumni Reunion Concert (1:30 p.m., Brendle Recital Hall)

Monday, Oct. 23

“Fall Alumni Exhibition: Caroline Perkins ('16) and Yan Cheng ('19)” opens (10/23 - 11/10, stArt gallery)

Tuesday, Oct. 24

“The Faces of Wood” by Dr. Julia Bryan Wilson (Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Speaker) (5:30 p.m., Scales 102)

Guest Artists Recital: Douglas Jurs, piano and Jennifer Lien, soprano (7:30 p.m., Brendle)

Thursday, Oct. 26

Exploring the Arts of Chinese Dance (5 p.m., Scales 102)

Dublin Guitar Quartet (Secret Artists Series) (7:30 p.m., Brendle)

Friday, Oct. 27

Virtual Wavelengths: Jairo Moreno (10 a.m., Zoom)

“Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom” Opening night! (7:30 p.m., Tedford Stage)

“Paving the Way: Origin Stories” Orchestra Concert with Courtney Jones (7:30 p.m., Brendle)

Saturday, Oct. 28

“Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom” theatre (7:30 p.m., Tedford Stage)

Sunday, Oct. 29

“Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom” theatre (2 p.m., Tedford Stage)

“Considering Matthew Shepard” WFU Concert Choir with the Winston-Salem Symphony Chorus (3 p.m., Brendle)

Tuesday, Oct. 31

Halloween Concert: WFU Symphony Orchestra (5 p.m., Brendle)

Wednesday, Nov. 1

“Dead Birds Flying High” documentary film screening (7:30 p.m., ZSR Auditorium)

Thursday, Nov. 2

POET-TREES (5 p.m., Autumn Room, Reynolda Hall)

“Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom” theatre (7:30 p.m., Tedford Stage)

Student Showcase Concert (7:30 p.m., Brendle)

Friday, Nov. 3

“Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom” theatre (7:30 p.m., Tedford Stage)

Saturday, Nov. 4

“Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom” theatre (7:30 p.m., Tedford Stage)

Sunday, Nov. 5

“Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom” Final performance (2 p.m., Tedford Stage)

Tuesday, Nov. 7

Chamber Choir Concert (7 p.m., Brendle)

Wednesday, Nov. 8

“Le ciel, la terre, et l’homme” documentary film screening (7:30 p.m., ZSR Auditorium)

Thursday, Nov. 9

Arab Women's Revolutionary Art and Francophone Comics (5:30 p.m., ZSR Auditorium)

Sunday, Nov. 12

Debbie Allen: Maya Angelou Artist-in-Residence (4 p.m., Wait Chapel)



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