



**Dear Friends of Wake The Arts,**

As we round out the year and head into the holidays, I am reflecting on all the powerful ways the arts have brought us together physically on our campus over the past year — at our galleries, performance spaces, lecture halls and auditoriums — and culturally, through the arts capacity to make connections that transcend differences.

With that in mind, I am thrilled to announce the next exhibition in Hanes Gallery: **OF THE TIMES: Sixty Years of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art at Wake Forest University** (Jan. 19 - March 31, 2024). This exhibition celebrates the **60th anniversary of the Mark H. Reece Collection of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art** and the university's one-of-a-kind student-led art buying program. Under the direction of faculty advisors, this premier collection has been amassed by three generations of students. As progressive and radical as it was in 1963, the students' charge has remained consistent over six decades and 16 art-buying trips: to purchase artworks that reflect the times.

Please join us on **January 19, 2024** as we celebrate the opening of the exhibition and toast the students, founders, faculty, and all those who continue to support and shape this unique program and remarkable collection. Kindly **register for the event**.

There are many faculty, administrators, staff, alumni and student interns to thank who helped make this exhibition possible, and many more alumni and supporters to thank for supporting the Reece Collection and student art-buying trip. **OF THE TIMES** is dedicated to **Mark H. Reece** (1917-1988) and all the students who shaped this unique and remarkable collection.

The exhibition runs through March 31st. If you like a private or group tour, please reach out to me!

May your holidays be filled with joy, peace, and precious moments with loved ones.

We send you and your families well wishes for a happy and healthy new year!

Yours,

**Jennifer Finkel**

*Acquavella Curator of Collections  
Office of University Art Collections*



**Want to see what's coming up?  
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## What's Happening

# OF THE TIMES THE



## **Of The Times: Opening Reception (RSVP)**

Jan. 19, 5-8 p.m., Hanes Gallery

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 Jan. 19 - March 31, 2024. Join us on January 19 as we celebrate the Mark H. Reece Collection and sixty years of Wake Forest's one-of-a-kind student art buying program.

**Don't Forget to [RSVP](#)**

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## **Who's Making Things Happen**

### **DeacLink Spotlight: Monet Beatty ('20, MA '21)**

“Build upon your soft skills. Pursue a career or path that feeds your passions. Say thank you often to those that have impacted your life. Enjoy the process, and that your journey will take you on many adventures. Make sure you learn something interesting everyday, and never stop pursuing knowledge.”



— Monet Beatty

MA in Sustainability (2021)

BA in Biology, Minors in Environmental Studies and Dance (2020)

**[Read more](#)**

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## Why I Support Wake The Arts

“My journey with the visual arts began in kindergarten when my teacher shared a painting I had created with my mom. I recently rediscovered that childhood artwork and was surprised by my choice of colors and attention to detail, reminding me of the enduring presence of art in my life. As a visual person and through the encouragement of teachers, like that kindergarten teacher, art became an important part of my life and identity.



During my time at Wake Forest University, my passion for the arts deepened, particularly in the studios at Scales, where I cherished my oil painting classes with respected artists and mentors, like Page Laughlin. Page not only imparted artistic knowledge, but also created a microcosm within Wake Forest where students, regardless of their majors, came together in a true liberal arts environment. Painting next to students with diverse educational interests enriched my artistic experience. Additionally, my Art History classes brought history to life for me in ways I had not anticipated.

While my current career and family commitments reduce my time for creating art, my interest in observing and appreciating art, especially by contemporary artists, flourishes. Wake Forest played a pivotal role in fostering this appreciation, particularly through my involvement with the Student Union Collection of Contemporary Art, now the **Reece Collection**. The unique aspect of student involvement in the buying decisions added an extra layer of significance to the collection. I have fond memories of studying near the very large **Alex Katz painting**, Vincent with Open Mouth, in the Green Room of Reynolda Hall. Not all students necessarily appreciated it, but I enjoyed overhearing their casual conversations and interactions with it.

Wake Forest instilled in me the importance of a liberal arts education, emphasizing its ability to enrich lives and inspire a lifetime of learning. In the spirit of Pro Humanitate, I contribute to the arts at Wake Forest, hoping to share the enriching experiences I had and to enable others to benefit from the transformative power of the arts.”

— Mary McNally (’93)

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## Coming in January...

### Wake the Arts To Do List:

#### Tuesday, January 2

**Words, Music, Memory: Re(presenting) Voices of the Holocaust** Exhibition  
(Lam Museum of Anthropology, Jan. 1 - March 2)

#### Friday, January 19

**Of The Times: 60 Years of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art** Opening  
Reception  
(5-8 p.m., Hanes Gallery)

#### Tuesday, January 23

**Digital Replication and Repatriation:** The Bakor Monoliths of Cross River  
State, Nigeria  
(6 p.m., Lam Museum)

**“Behind These Prison Walls,”** Talk and Pop-Up Exhibit by Lorenzo Steele Jr.  
(5:30 p.m., Scales Lobby)

#### Tuesday, January 30

**Royal Philharmonic Orchestra** Concert, Secret Artists Series  
(7:30 p.m., Wait Chapel)

#### Wednesday, January 31

**Li and Zohn, guitar duo** Guest Artist Recital  
(7:30 p.m., Brendle Recital Hall)

#### Thursday, February 1

**“Azad (the rabbit and the wolf)”** by Sona Tatoyan ('00) multimedia theatrical  
experience  
(7:30 p.m., Tedford Stage)

#### Wednesday, February 7

**“Am I What You Are Looking For?”** Artist’s Talk by Endia Beal  
(5:30 p.m., Scales 102)

#### Sunday, February 11

**“(Re)presenting Voices of the Holocaust”** lecture-recital  
(1 p.m., Brendle Hall)

## Exhibitions

**Of The Times: 60 Years of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art**  
(through 3/31, Hanes Art Gallery)

**Words, Music, Memory: Re(presenting) Voices of the Holocaust**  
(through 3/2, Lam Museum of Anthropology)

**Jane Alexander: stArtyourself**  
(1/22 - 2/16, stArt Gallery)

**Yutong Wang: stArtyourself**  
(1/29 - 3/15, stArt Downtown)

**Good Impressions: Portraits Across Three Centuries from Reynolda and Wake Forest**  
(through 10/27, Reynolda House Museum of American Art)

**Still I Rise: The Black Experience at Reynolda**  
(through 12/31, Reynolda House Museum of American Art)



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