

**Dear Friends of Wake The Arts,**

Welcome to a wonderful new year!

I don't know about you, but I can't wait to make it through August — the seemingly endless month of planning, meetings, and retreats — and get to the good stuff: making things happen and enjoying the flow of the semester!

As we look forward to a year of classes, plays, concerts, films, and gallery openings, we are also looking ahead to the renaming of our Arts-based center. First IPLACe (the Interdisciplinary Performance and the Liberal Arts Center), 2010-2021, then IAC (the Interdisciplinary Arts Center), 2021-2024, the center will now be called the Wake the Arts Center. Like IPLACe and IAC before it, the center will continue to support guest artist visits, classroom collaborations, commissions, student projects, traditional scholarship, and talk-backs, plays, concerts, film screenings, and more.

As we lean into experiential learning as a **priority for Wake Forest**, we believe that the Wake the Arts Center can help many of us invigorate our teaching as we strive to make WFU the place for active, engaged, imaginative learning. Since the arts are almost always about something other than art, the ways our work can connect to a liberal arts education are nearly limitless. So we hope you will reach out to Chris Zaluski, the Wake the Arts Center co-director, or submit the new **proposal form** if you have an idea for a collaboration.

But first, a little lighthearted fun and a chance to just hang out together! On September 26, you are all invited to attend a reception to celebrate the renaming of the center, and to enjoy the opening show of the University Theatre Season, John Bishop's very funny, campy ***The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940***, which I happen to be directing. Think a kind of 1940 Knives Out, but sillier.

I hope you have a fabulous start to your semester, and I'll see you in Scales!

Yours,

**Dr. Cindy Gendrich**  
*Chair, Department of Theatre and Dance*



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

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## What's Happening



### Kick off the new academic year with Wake the Arts

Collaborate with us! We're hosting a gathering on **Thursday, September 26 at 6 p.m.** in Scales Lower Lobby – learn how the new Wake the Arts Center can help you bring your interdisciplinary ideas to fruition. Afterward, we'll head down the hall to catch *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*, the first play of the Theatre season.

[RSVP](#)



### Collaborate with us!

Our new proposal form is live, and we invite you to be a part of the Wake the Arts Center! The Center supports projects that combine the arts (music, theatre, dance, art, art history, film, creative writing, etc) with each other and/or with other disciplines, centers, and programs. We support project proposals from faculty, students, and staff that range in size from classroom visits to multi-performance events open to the WFU and greater Winston-Salem communities.

[View the proposal form](#)



**The Murder Comedy Murders of 1940**  
*by John Bishop, directed by Cindy Gendrich*

*September 20-21 & 26-28 at 7:30 p.m.*  
*September 22 & 29 at 2 p.m.*

*Tedford Stage, Scales Fine Arts Center*

John Bishop's campy, intricately plotted murder mystery is filled with larger-than-life characters, the twists and turns you'd expect from a good Agatha Christie story, and a healthy serving of silliness. It's winter, 1940, and a blizzard can't keep a group of ambitious theatre folk from assembling at an upstate New York mansion to audition their new musical for a wealthy patron. Bodies begin to drop immediately. Love, ambition, espionage, dad jokes, recipe tips: *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* has it all. The New York Post heralded the show's "diamond wit," and The Village Voice called it "hugely enjoyable." A smart, fun choice for Family Weekend at Wake Forest. Tickets available starting September 3.

### **WFU Theatre**

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#### **Art, Community, and Campus Memorialization Panel Discussion**

*Tuesday, September 24*  
*5:30 p.m., Scales 102*



Join Wake Forest Arts Faculty and Scholars, Dean of Divinity Dr. Corey D. B. Walker, and Baskervill architects for a panel discussion on the intersection of creativity, collective memory, and institutional spaces. The event is inspired by the acquisition of Adebunmi Gbadebo's "Untitled 3, Dolly, 2023," selected by the student-led Reece Art Acquisition Committee for the University Art Collection and on display in Hanes Gallery. Join us for an evening of insightful discussion, challenging ideas, and inspiring visions for a more inclusive and reflective campus environment.

[Read more](#)



#### **Escape Velocities: New Acquisitions to the Reece Collection of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art**

*Opening Reception: Tuesday, Sept. 24, 6:30-8:30 p.m.*  
*Exhibition: August 21 - December 8*

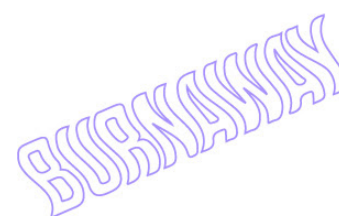
The art selected by the 2024 student members of the **Reece Collection Acquisition Committee** resists being understood as a cohesive body of work, whether based on approach, medium, style, subject, or other typical measure. What these artists and their work do share is something that would likely have discounted them even in the recent past; their imputed "marginality."

[Read more](#)

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#### **Read about the Reece Collection in Burnaway**

Unbeknownst to many across the U.S., even those in North Carolina, Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, has a one-of-a-kind contemporary art collection. It is a collection that students have been entirely responsible for amassing since the early 1960s. In developing each trip's selection, the participants have only one rubric from the institution: purchase



contemporary artworks that reflect the times.

[Read about the article](#)

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### **Secret Artists Series opens with icarus Quartet “Bartók Reborn”**

A Secret Series world premiere! “Bartók Reborn” will be presented by the icarus Quartet, an ensemble of two pianists and two percussionists anchored by Wake Forest Music faculty member Larry Weng. Bartók’s “Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion” will be followed by three new works commissioned by the Secret Artists Series — and written in response to Bartók’s masterpiece — by composers Martin Bresnick, Viet Cuong, and Pulitzer Prize winner Jennifer Higdon.



[Read more](#)

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## **Who’s Making Things Happen**

### **Welcome, new faculty!**

We’re thrilled to welcome many new faculty members in the arts. If you see them on campus, introduce yourself!

#### **Endia Beal**

Visiting Assistant Professor, Photography  
Department of Art



#### **Caryn Greco**

Assistant Professor, Voice  
Department of Music



#### **Karsen Green**

Assistant Professor, Costume Design  
Department of Theatre and Dance



#### **Katherine Gregory**

Visiting Assistant Professor, American Art  
Department of Art



**Mathilde Handelsman**  
Visiting Assistant Professor, Piano  
Department of Music



**Jon Herbert**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Theatre and Dance



**Molly Kaderka**  
Assistant Professor, Painting  
Department of Art



**Nikki Moore**  
Assistant Professor, Latin American Art and  
Architecture  
Department of Art



**Rudy Shepherd**  
Professor  
Department of Art



**Stephen Wrentmore**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Theatre and Dance



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## **Why I Support Wake The Arts: Mary Lucy Bivins ('85)**

“Growing up in Spartanburg, SC, I had the good fortune to see every Broadway

national tour on the stage of Spartanburg's Memorial Auditorium. Little did I know that this early exposure would lead to a career in theatre.

Years later, while living in Winston-Salem, I reached out to Wake Forest University Theatre for further training. I owe a huge part of my career's good fortune to the Wake Forest Theatre Department. For fourteen years, first as a graduate student ('85), then as an adjunct member of the theatre faculty, I received the invaluable training I longed for.

I learned from theatre masters: Harold Tedford, Donald Wolfe and James Dodding. Everyone in the department made my amazing and rewarding experience possible. I could not be more grateful for Wake Forest University Theatre. That is why I give."

— Mary Lucy Bivins ('85)



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### **Podcast: "Take a Leading Role in Your Career and Life" with Kate Lambert ('03)**

Join actor, writer and producer Kate Lambert ('03) on the **Wake Women Podcast** as Mary Tribble ('82, MA '19) learns from her about how she took the leading role in her own career. In the competitive world of entertainment, Lambert learned early on that she needed to set the stage for her own success. Hear Lambert's funny and poignant stories about her successes, setbacks and dreams for the future.



[Listen on Spotify](#)



**NC  
BLACK  
REP**



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### **Nathaniel Avery ('24) and Malachi Woodard ('24) intern with the International Black Theatre Festival**

Two recent Wake Forest graduates joined the staff of the 35th annual International Black Theatre Festival this summer. Hear from Nathaniel Avery ('24), who shares his thoughts about the experience of working as an intern and how his theatre degree prepared him for his future. Wake the Arts and the WFU School of Divinity were proud to be lead sponsors of this year's festival and the Luce Foundation-funded project "Finding Holy Ground: Performing Visions of Race and Justice in America."

[Watch the video](#)

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### **Community arts highlight: Ribbon-cutting for the "5" Royales mural**

Winston-Salem's newest mural pays tribute to one of its legendary bands, The "5" Royales. Commissioned by the city's Public Art Commission, the mural is by Florida-based artist Elio Mercado. Jennifer Finkel, Acquavella Curator of Wake Forest's Art Collection and Chair of the Public Art Commission, celebrated the unveiling of the mural with the mayor and family and friends of the acclaimed quintet.



## Wake the Arts To Do List

### Wednesday, August 21

**“Escape Velocities: New Acquisitions to the Reece Collection of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art”** opens (Hanes Gallery, 8/21 - 12/8)

Information Session on Visual Arts: Art History and Studio Art (Scales 103, 3pm)

**“New Works in The John P. Anderson Student Art Collection”**  
(stArt gallery, August 19 - September 13)

### Thursday, September 12

Mattos Paschal ('14) Coffee Chat (SFAC, 11am)

Mattos Paschal ('14) Art Alumna Talk (Hanes Gallery, 5:30pm)

### Friday, September 20

**“The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940”** theatre (Tedford Stage, 7:30pm)

### Saturday, September 21

**“The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940”** theatre (Tedford Stage, 7:30pm)

### Sunday, September 22

**“The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940”** theatre (Tedford Stage, 2pm)

### Monday, September 23

**Maggie Hodge ('25) solo show opens** (stArt gallery: Reynolda Village)

### Tuesday, September 24

**“Art, Community, and Campus Memorialization Panel Discussion”** (Hanes Gallery, 5:30pm)

**“Escape Velocities: New Acquisitions to the Reece Collection of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art”** reception (Hanes Gallery, 6:30pm)

**Tanganza: Faculty and Guest Artist Concert** with Jacqui Carrasco and Marco Sartor (Brendle Recital Hall, 7:30pm)

### Thursday, September 26

**“The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940”**  
theatre (Tedford Stage, 7:30pm)

### Friday, September 27

**“The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940”**  
theatre (Tedford Stage, 7:30pm)

### Saturday, September 28

**“The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940”**  
theatre (Tedford Stage, 7:30pm)

### Sunday, September 29

**“The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940”**  
theatre (Tedford Stage, 2pm)

### Monday, September 30

**icarus Quartet: “Bartók Reborn”**

Secret Artists Series (Brendle Recital Hall, 7:30pm)

**Thursday, October 3**

**Maggie Hodge ('25) solo show Reception**

(stArt gallery: Reynolda Village, 5pm)

**Friday, October 4**

**Wind Ensemble Concert**

(Brendle Recital Hall, 7:30pm) **Sunday, October 6**

**Faculty Trio Concert**

(Brendle Recital Hall, 3pm)

**Exhibitions**

**Escape Velocities: New Acquisitions to the Reece Collection of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art**

(Charlotte and Philip Hanes Art Gallery, August 21 - December 8)

**Maggie Hodge ('25) solo exhibition**

(stArt gallery, September 23 - October 11)

**Reynolda House Museum of American Art:**

**Founder’s Vision: The Private Collection of Barbara Babcock Millhouse**

(8/24 - 12/15)

**Still I Rise: The Black Experience at Reynolda**

(through 12/31)

**Good Impressions: Portraits Across Three Centuries from Reynolda & Wake Forest** (through 10/27)

**Smith & Libby: Two Rings, Seven Months, One Bullet**

**Lam Museum of Anthropology:**

**Life after Death: Celebrating Day of the Dead**

(9/10 - 12/6)

**Poems Made to Wear: Traditional Colors in East Asia**

(10/15/24 - 5/1/25)

**Poets and Publishers of the Black Arts Movement**

(ZSR Special Collections - 625, through December)



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