Dear Friends of Wake The Arts,

As October leaves fall and the weather gets a little chillier here in Winston-Salem, I write with a heavy heart as we mourn the passing of Theatre Professor Emeritus Dr. Harold Tedford. We celebrate his remarkable life and will forever be indebted to him for all he did to build the Theatre program at Wake Forest. Alumni, I hope you will visit us in Scales Fine Arts Center over homecoming weekend. The Normal Heart, Larry Kramer’s riveting story of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the early 1980’s opens on Friday, October 29th, directed by Brook Davis. To the 100+ theatre and dance alumni who came to the James Dodding virtual reunion event last week, thank you! Your support means so much as we work to endow the theatre scholarship in Mr. Dodding’s name. I hope to see you in Scales soon; our art calendar overflows with events!

Yours,

Christina Soriano
Vice Provost for the Arts & Interdisciplinary Initiatives at Wake Forest University

Follow Us
Look What’s Happening

Doddling Reunion and Scholarship

On October 17th, we hosted an incredible gathering to honor James Dodding, bringing together alumni and colleagues from across the country, from the 1980s to the 2010s. If you ever encountered Professor James Dodding, you never forgot him. With his memory in mind, we have a historic opportunity to fulfill an endowed scholarship that will honor his legacy and support talented Wake Forest Theatre students for generations to come. Please visit the Dodding website for updates and other ways to connect with the Theatre program.

Support the Dodding Scholarship for Theatre

The Normal Heart

*by Larry Kramer, directed by Brook Davis*
*Oct. 29-31 & Nov. 4-7, 2021, Tedford Stage*

The Normal Heart is one of the most important plays documenting the activism and tragedy in the gay community in the early 1980s surrounding the AIDS crisis. This year, 2021, marks the 40th anniversary of the first documented cases of AIDS in the US in 1981. There will also be a talkback following the performance on November 5th, with Dr. Allison Mathews (COMPASS Executive
Director), Rev. Dr. Jonathan Walton (Dean of the Divinity School), and Dr. AJ Mazaris (LGBTQ+ Center director). The Normal Heart has benefitted from the collaborative support of the Interdisciplinary Arts Center, the Department of Theatre and Dance, the Divinity School, the COMPASS Initiative, the LGBTQ+ Center, and the Department of Counseling.

Get tickets

Chemistry and Art History: Learning from the Old Masters

We often categorize science and art as being diametrically opposed. But the reality is that they often work hand in hand, and art conservation is just one example. Last week, over 40 Chemistry majors gathered in Hanes Gallery (along with dozens of additional students via Zoom) to learn about the science of art preservation with master conservator Heather Galloway.

Learn more

The Arts Shine at Undergraduate Research Day

During Family Weekend, 135 students presented the findings of their mentored scholarship at Undergraduate Research Day. Students gave poster presentations on topics including live theater designed to engage children on the autism spectrum, music scores from the “Lord of the Rings” movies, and theatre’s contributions to the prison abolition movement.

Learn more
See IdeasCityWS

Take a look at these great photos of IdeasCityWS, the culmination of a year of creative collaborations between Wake Forest and New York City’s New Museum.

See the photostory

Who’s Making Things Happen

Meet a Presidential Scholar: Yaser Salamah ('22)

Presidential Scholar Yaser Salamah’s thesis performance, “Toler(h)ated,” took place not just on the stage of the Ring Theatre but in locations all across campus. See Yaser perform again this week in The Normal Heart.

Learn about Yaser’s work
Handmade: art in the library

Student curator Quinn Whitman ('23) talks about Handmade: Sculpture from Wake Forest Art Collections, the exhibition he curated under the supervision of Acquavellla Curator of Collections Jennifer Finkel in ZSR Special Collections. The exhibit connects seemingly disparate objects through various three-dimensional mediums. This exhibition features works across Wake Forest’s nine different art collections which were collectively executed over several decades. By placing these works in a location that is highly accessible to the Wake Forest community, this exhibition aims to foster and grow the appreciation of visual art on Wake Forest’s campus.

See the exhibition

IAC Student Advisory Committee

Introducing the Interdisciplinary Arts Center (IAC) Student Advisory Committee — a space where interested students can come together casually a few times a semester to talk about their project ideas, get feedback, collaborate and ask others to join/participate. Spearheaded by stArt Gallery manager Riley Philips ('21) and Zhané Waye ('23), this is a supportive art space, and an opportunity to learn about what other groups and people are doing on campus, so that the students can act as “arts ambassadors.”

To get involved, contact Riley Philips ('21)
Why I support Wake the Arts

“Admiring and supporting the arts have been an important focus of me and my family for many years. I have long held the belief that ‘The arts bring color to an otherwise black and white life.’

Cutting through cultures, geographies, race, socioeconomic status and other issues, the arts form an important base of common appreciation and joy. We have instilled a passion for the arts fully into the lives of our children and our families. Supporting arts initiatives, particularly at the formative years of students is an important factor of who we want to be as parents and integral members of our community. We stand wholly committed to the Wake the Arts initiative and everything it seeks to achieve. Bravo Wake Forest.”

— John Metz (P ’21, P ’24)

Why do you support #wakethearts?

Mark Your Calendar

Wake the Arts Homecoming Weekend

Thursday, Oct. 28

- Blue sky thunder days: Sculpture & Photography by Steve Gurysh (’06)
  Artist Talk
  5:30 p.m., Hanes Gallery

- Blue sky thunder days: Sculpture & Photography by Steve Gurysh (’06)
  Reception
  6:30 p.m., stArt Gallery

- Secrest Artists Series: Jean-Guihen Queyras, cello
  7:30 p.m., Brendle Recital Hall
Friday, Oct. 29

- **Art Department Homecoming Reception**
  3 p.m.-5 p.m., Scales breezeway

- **Chamber Choir Concert**
  6:30 p.m., Brendle Recital Hall

- **The Normal Heart** opening night
  7:30 p.m., Tedford Stage

Saturday, Oct. 30

- **The Normal Heart**
  7:30 p.m., Tedford Stage

Sunday, Oct. 31

- **Homecoming Worship Service**
  Featuring the Gospel Choir and Concert Choir
  11 a.m., Wait Chapel

- **The Normal Heart**
  2 p.m., Tedford Stage

- **Halloween Orchestra Concert**
  Midnight, Brendle Recital Hall

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**Art Roundup**

The next few weeks are packed with visual art events, with exhibition receptions, alumni, visiting artists, and workshops. (pictured: Annie Leist ('96), painter, educator at MoMA with specialization in disability access)

**Wed, Nov. 3**
Artist Talk with Rashaun Rucker
1:30 p.m., Hanes Gallery

**Fri, Nov. 5**
*An Evening of Asian Music (Gamelan and Chinese Ensemble)*
Wed, Nov. 10
Annie Leist (WFU ’96, painter, educator at MoMA with specialization in disability access): “Beacons”
5 p.m. / Room 102, Scales Fine Arts Center
Hosted by: Department of Art

Thu, Nov. 11
Annie Leist (’96): “The Disability Lens: Essential Human Perspectives on Art, Culture, and Museums”
3-4 p.m. / Reynolda House Museum of American Art

Tue, Nov. 16
Dr. Amelia Rauser, “Black Bodies and Neoclassical Whiteness in the 1790s”
5-6:30 p.m. / ZSR Auditorium
Hosted by: Department of History, Department of Art

Tue, Nov. 16
Gallery Talk with Jorge Tacla and Cristin Tierney
5 p.m., Hanes Gallery

Thu, Nov. 18
Emilio Rojas Artist Talk: “Go Back to Where You Came From: A Lecture Performance by Emilio Rojas”
5 p.m. / Rm 102, Scales Fine Arts Center
Hosted by: Department of Art

Fri, Nov. 19
“Tracing: Conversation with Artist Emilio Rojas and WFU Class of 2013 Alumna, Laurel V. McLaughlin”
12:30-2:30 p.m. / Room 103, Scales Fine Arts Center
Hosted by: Department of Art

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Fall Faculty & Guest Artist Dance Concert

Directed by Nina Lucas
Nov. 18-21, 2021

The Fall Faculty & Guest Artist Dance Concert will feature modern, jazz, contemporary and classical ballet choreography by our dance faculty and renowned guest choreographers, under the direction of Nina Maria Lucas. This fall includes alumni guest artist Monet Beatty Artistic Director of MD Dance Company. Past guest artists have included: Andre Tyson, former member of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre; Heather Malloy artistic director of Terpsicorps Theatre of Dance; Broadway dancers Matthew Loehr and Mark Price; and dance faculty from UNCSA and UNCG.

Learn more
Ongoing

**Means of Identification**
New Acquisitions to the WFU Student Union Collection of Contemporary Art
Through December 10, 2021, Hanes Gallery
[Learn more]

**mutable/imutable**
Oct. 18-Dec. 11, stArt Gallery
“This body of work explores the process of identifying the things I can control and letting go of the things I can’t control.” The paintings of Kaylah Bozkurtian (’22) are on display at stArt Gallery, with a reception on November 11.
[Learn more]

**Blue sky thunder days: Sculpture & Photography by Steve Gurysh (’06)**
Oct. 25-Nov. 15, stArt Gallery
stArt is proud to welcome back Steve Gurysh (’06) to share his sculptures and photography in the 2021 Homecoming exhibition. “Blue sky thunder days” is a solo exhibition by Steve Gurysh (’06), presenting three distinct but intersecting bodies of work, each illuminating the erratic, causal relationships within a global ecological crisis. Speaking to a time of accumulating and disassociated anxieties, Blue sky thunder days reverberates through distant and hyperlocal circumstances.
[Learn More]