



Dear Friends of Wake The Arts,

Hello from Scales Fine Art Center. My name is Morna O’Neill, and I am an art historian and chair of the Art Department. I am delighted to be writing this welcome message for what I am calling “Artful April!” Maybe that tagline will stick?

The creative energy that animates life inside and outside of the classroom has been on full display all month long. From the fast, funny musical *Urinetown* to the WFU Symphony Orchestra Latin Rhythms concert, every week brings something new. The inspiring **Wakeville Arts Festival 2024**, the student-organized interdisciplinary arts festival, a newer April event, is fast becoming a vital campus tradition. More than 100 students showed off their creative talents and many more engaged with the arts community.

A lively calendar has also animated the Art Department in recent weeks. In partnership with the Business School, we recently hosted Dr. Amy Whitaker to deliver the third Acquavella Distinguished Lecture in Arts Management. An associate professor in NYU Steinhardt School’s Visual Arts Administration Program, Dr. Whitaker’s invigorating lecture on “NFTs, the Creative Economy, and the Future of Art” centered on artistic risk-taking, both creative and financial. Her deeply interdisciplinary talk, drawing upon finance, law, anthropology, and art history, was a model of the “radical collaboration” that we strive for here at Wake Forest. We are grateful to the leadership and commitment

of Alex Acquavella ('03). He has played a crucial leadership role in Wake the Arts, and we are grateful for his guidance in shaping the vision of what the arts can be on campus and what they can mean to the community.

The power of art to animate the liberal arts curriculum was also on full display at the “**reveal**” of the works selected by the student committee for the Reece Collection of Student Acquired Art. The group made bold and important acquisitions that further diversify representation in the collection. A personal favorite for me was Melissa Cody’s Summer Bloom (2023). She is a Navajo/Diné textile artist who reimagines traditional weaving techniques through digital technologies. I’m excited to introduce students to this work and place it in dialogue with Navajo blankets in the Lam Anthropology Museum for my class in Fall 2024, Art 103: Survey of Global Art. I’m sure we are all looking forward to seeing this and other selections on display in Hanes Gallery in the coming months.

Our Artful April continues with the annual **Student Art Exhibition** at Hanes Gallery, featuring artwork by students selected by studio art faculty. Please join us for the exhibition opening on Thursday April 25, from 5-7 p.m. And hope to see you in the Tedford State for the student choreographed dance concert, April 25-28.

Yours,



Dr. Morna O’Neill
Professor and Chair, Art Department



Want to see what’s coming up?
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What's Happening



Art Reveal: Buying trip students add new works to the Mark H. Reece Collection of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art

The tradition continues as the 2024 Wake Forest University Reece Collection Acquisition Committee students presented the artwork they've selected to add to the renowned **Mark H. Reece Collection Of Student-Acquired Contemporary Art**. Beginning in 1963, students under the direction of faculty advisors have traveled to New York City every four years to purchase contemporary art for the Collection. This revered tradition has empowered three generations of students to amass a premier collection of contemporary art. 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.

Click below to see what this year's students have selected and watch the students present the work they've purchased.

[Read more](#)



Spring Student Choreographic Concert

April 25-27 at 7:30 p.m.

April 28 at 2 p.m.

Tedford Stage

The Spring Student Choreographic Concert will feature selected work by student choreographers under the direction of Dance faculty and artistic director Tina Yarborough-Liggins. The Spring Concert gives WFU students the opportunity to present their choreography across a range of dance styles.

[Read more](#)



Marco Sartor with the WFU Symphony Orchestra

Thursday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.

Brendle Recital Hall

WFU Symphony Orchestra Latin Rhythms Concert featuring Dr. Marco Sartor, guitar (Brendle Recital Hall). Highly acclaimed classical guitarist and WFU faculty Dr. Marco Sartor will join the WFU Symphony Orchestra for an exciting end to the orchestra's 2023-2024 season! Featuring Joaquin Rodrigo's famous Concierto de Aranjuez, this entire concert will feature works focusing on Spanish and Latin American composers.

[Read more](#)



“Art and Accessibility” featured in TechX 2024

At TechX, Wake the Arts is leading the way in art exhibition accessibility — exploring collaborative and future-looking efforts to use technology and tactiles to deliver a more accessible and inclusive art exhibition. The combined efforts of Art Collections staff, art interns, and the IS Technology Accessibility team brought new and foundational features to the Reece Collection 60th Anniversary Exhibition at Wake Forest University.

[Watch the presentation](#)



Wakeville 2024

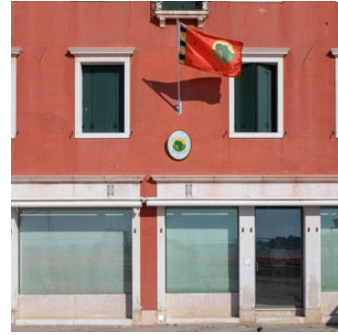
Now in its second successful year, Wakeville, a student-led, interdisciplinary arts festival at Wake Forest with many creative offerings including music, dance, theater, visual art, film and comedy, involved nearly 500 attendees. On April 6, Wakeville offered a spotlight on our campus arts community and showcased the entrepreneurial spirit of our creative and committed arts students.

[Read more](#)

Who's Making Things Happen

All-African People's Consulate

“All African People's Consulate” by Dread Scott is a functioning consulate for an imaginary Pan-African, Afrofuturist union of countries, promoting cultural and diplomatic relations. The premise of the Consulate is the opposite of most existing immigration chokepoints; while those often function to constrain admittance and movement, this Consulate facilitates ways to let one in. In a convivial setting, one is invited to stay, converse, and interact in organic, spontaneous ways. The project is organized by Open Society Foundations and The Africa Center, with support from Cristin Tierney Gallery (Cristin Tierney '93), Wake Forest University, and Art Events. It is curated by Paul Bright, Director of Hanes Gallery at Wake Forest. The Consulate opens on the Grand Canal at Castello Gallery and will be open from April 17 - Sept. 29. It is a collateral event of the prestigious 60th International Art Exhibition — La Biennale di Venezia.



“Capitalism and colonialism made it very easy for money, resources and capital to travel seamlessly. And law and policy and armies were set up to make that happen. But people were tightly regulated, and that legacy continues today. The AAPC actually implicitly challenges that whole notion and is bringing together the types of people who will be part of upsetting, turning over and changing that.” — Dread Scott

[Read more](#)

Faculty Spotlight: Sule James

“Art is what it takes to be human”

Art History Professor Sule James is guiding his students toward a deeper understanding of humanity through art. As a teacher-scholar postdoctoral fellow in the department of art, he educates his students from the variety of perspectives that inform his work. His emphasis as a postdoc remains on teaching, although the position permits him to engage in research and write. James specializes in the interdisciplinary field of visual studies, “a study of images and issues,” he summarized. “Many issues overlap and intersect. Our world is a visual world, human culture is a visual culture,” he added. He is teaching Wake Foresters not merely how to look upon



the human experience but how to live into it.

[Read more](#)

Riverrun Film Festival

Featuring Wake Forest Documentary filmmakers
Friday, April 26, 5:30 p.m.
Hanesbrands Theatre

The North Carolina Shorts, Program Three: Winston Stories features a number of Wake Forest filmmakers, including William Zimmerman, S. Cagney Gentry, Parker Beverly and Ammar Basha.



[Read more](#)

Wake the Arts To Do List

Tuesday, April 23

[Jazz Ensemble Concert](#)

7:30 p.m., Brendle Recital Hall

[Laugh Tracks](#)

8 p.m., Ring Theatre

Wednesday, April 24

[Laugh Tracks](#)

8 p.m., Ring Theatre

[Laugh Tracks](#)

10 p.m., Ring Theatre

Thursday, April 25

[WFU Symphony Orchestra Latin Rhythms Concert featuring Dr. Marco Sartor, guitar](#)

7:30 p.m., Brendle Recital Hall

[Spring Student Choreographic Concert](#)

7:30 p.m., Tedford Stage

Opening Reception: Student Art Exhibition

5:30 p.m., Hanes Art Gallery

Honors In Studio Art Candidate Exhibitions: Sabrina Bakalis ('24)

April 25-May 5

Hanes Mezzanine

Friday, April 26

“smile, you’re alive” Mansi Patel ('24) exhibition closes

stArt — Reynolda Village

WFU Choirs Concert

6:30 p.m., Brendle Recital Hall

Spring Student Choreographic Concert

7:30 p.m., Tedford Stage

Saturday, April 27

Spring Student Choreographic Concert

7:30 p.m., Tedford Stage

Innuendo Spring Concert

7:30 p.m., Brendle Recital Hall

Sunday, April 28

Wind Ensemble Concert

3:30 p.m., Brendle Recital Hall

Spring Student Choreographic Concert

2 p.m., Tedford Stage

Friday, May 1

Reception for “Stacked Against” Curated by Caroline Mederos ('26)

5 p.m., stArt Gallery)

Monday, May 13

Honors In Studio Art Candidate Exhibitions: Clayton Bi ('24)

May 13-20, Hanes Mezzanine

Exhibitions

The Art of Noticing: Sabrina Bakalis ('24)

(Brockway Recruiting Center — Farrell Hall, through May 20)

Seen & Unseen: Photographs by Imogen Cunningham

(March 1 - June 2, Reynolda House Museum of American Art)

Poets and Publishers of the Black Arts Movement

(through December, ZSR Special Collections - 625)

Lam Museum of Anthropology



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