



Dear Friends of Wake The Arts,

Happy New Year! I'm Hayden Barnes, Artistic Director of the Secret Artists Series, and I'm excited to welcome you to the January edition of our Wake the Arts Center newsletter.

Our mission at Wake the Arts Center is to weave the arts into the very fabric of the Wake Forest experience, enriching the lives of our students, alumni, faculty, staff, and the broader community and infuse the arts into every aspect of the Wake Forest experience. This month, we are thrilled to highlight two extraordinary events that embody this mission.

First, on January 20, 2025, we will host the Grammy-winning vocal ensemble, **Tonality**. Led by founder and Artistic Director Alexander Lloyd Blake, a 2010 graduate of Wake Forest University, Tonality sings to inspire, innovate, and spark social change through the power of diversity.

Tonality's "America Will Be" program is a collaborative presentation by the Secret Artists Series, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem State University, along with a student string quintet for a special performance of "A Lullaby" by Ryan Murphy with lyrics by Eugene Field. During their time at Wake Forest, Alexander Blake and Tonality will also have multiple engagement opportunities with the campus community.

We encourage you to arrive at 6:40 pm for a talk by **Dr. Claire Crawford**, who will discuss the power of song and sound in the making of a musical democracy. Join us on January 20th in Wait Chapel to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.!

Additionally, we invite you to the opening of the Hanes Gallery exhibition, **Young, Gifted, and Black: The Lumpkin-Boccuzzi Family Collection of Contemporary Art**, running from January 23 to March 29, 2025. This exhibition highlights artists of African descent exploring identity, politics, and art history. Featuring renowned artists like David Hammons, Kerry James Marshall, and Kara Walker, as well as emerging talents such as Tunji Adeniyi-Jones and Sadie Barnette, the exhibition is organized around themes such as dramatic use of color, reclamation of the color black, materiality, and an expanded idea of portraiture.

We look forward to seeing you at these events and throughout the year as we continue to celebrate and elevate the arts at Wake Forest University.

Warmest regards,

Hayden Barnes ('00)
Artistic Director, Secret Artists Series



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



Secret Artists Series: TONALITY, with Alexander Lloyd Blake ('10)

Monday, Jan. 20

7:30pm, Wait Chapel

Founder and Artistic Director Alexander Lloyd Blake ('10) created TONALITY to connect people through song, using choral music to stimulate community conversations about important issues in the contemporary world. On this Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, the 2024 GRAMMY-winning vocal ensemble will present their “America Will Be” program, a renewed vision for an inclusive America.

As an ideal America embraces the full diversity of humanity, “America Will Be” asks questions about the justice system, immigration, climate change, Black Lives Matter, mental health, and LGBTQ+ equity while honoring the promise of a great America.

Join us at 6:40 p.m. for a pre-concert talk. The talk will be given by Dr. Claire Crawford an Assistant Professor in the Department of Politics and International Affairs and the Program of African American Studies at Wake Forest University. Dr. Crawford will discuss the power of song and sound in the making of a musical democracy.

Tickets \$5-\$25. Free for WFU and WSSU students, faculty, staff and retirees. Skip the line and reserve in advance!

Tickets available



Young, Gifted and Black exhibition comes to Wake Forest

Jan. 23 - March 29, 2025

Hanes Art Gallery

Young, Gifted and Black: The Lumpkin-Bocuzzi Family Collection of Contemporary Art opens on January 23 and will highlight artists of African descent whose work explores identity, politics and art history. Join us on Wednesday, February 5 for a lecture by Clifford Owens followed by an opening reception..

[Read more](#)

New at stArt gallery

Overshadowed: Prints from Professor Faber's courses

Jan. 13 - Feb. 7

Reception: Thursday, Jan. 16, 5-7 p.m.

stArt gallery (Reynolda Village)



First at stArt in Reynolda village is “Overshadowed” which features works across Professor Faber's Printmaking Courses. The show exhibits the work of 14 student artists, and is on display from Jan. 13 - Feb. 7. Join us for the reception on Jan. 16!

“Between Worlds”, photographs by Mike Liu

“The Hands of the Maker”, knit pieces by Kalina Namikas

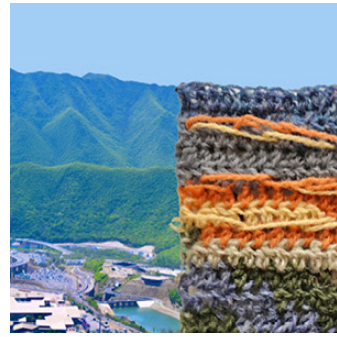
Jan. 27 - March 21, stArt Downtown (Wake Downtown)

Reception: Friday, Jan. 31, 5-7 p.m., stArt Downtown (Wake Downtown)

Kicking off stArt Downtown is a joint showcase of “Between Worlds”, photographs by Mike Liu, and “The Hands of the Maker”, knit pieces by Kalina

Namikas. This will be up from Jan. 27 to March 21, with a joint reception on Jan. 31.

Visit stArt gallery



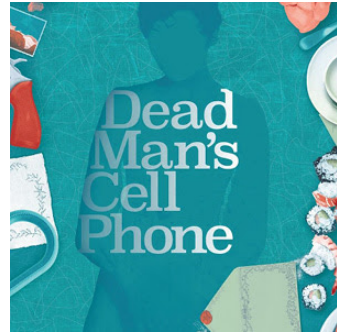
Dead Man's Cell Phone

By Sarah Ruhl, Directed by Brook Davis

Feb. 7-8 & 13-15 at 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 9 & 16 at 2 p.m.

Ring Theatre



When Sarah Ruhl's *Dead Man's Cell Phone* premiered in 2007, the play questioned our connections, our disconnections, and how our lives have changed as we navigate a piece of technology that follows us everywhere, all the time. In 2025, that examination is even more profound. After Jean answers and keeps answering a dead man's cell phone, she stumbles into a complicated world of grand discoveries and adventure. Join us for a whimsical look at humanity, technology, and the life-altering importance of a good bowl of lobster bisque.

Dead Man's Cell Phone opens Feb. 7.

Tickets available

Who's Making Things Happen

Wake Forest University Historical Costume Collection published online

Containing nearly 150 garments from the 19th and early 20th centuries, the Wake Forest University Historical Costume Collection serves as a valuable resource for students and scholars of costume design, theatre history, and performing arts. This years-long project was completed by professor Mary Wayne-Thomas in the



Department of Theatre, along with student researchers.

[See the collection](#)

Wake Women Podcast: Lifting Up the Voices of Women and Girls with Kate T. Parker ('98)

In this Wake Women podcast conversation, photographer Kate T. Parker ('98) discusses her book "Force of Nature" and the importance of empowering young girls to find their voice and believe in themselves. She shares stories of girls who have used their voices to make a difference, and addresses the impact of social media on girls' self-esteem and emphasizes the importance of consuming it with a critical eye. Parker expresses her hope for the future and encourages readers to celebrate their kids for who they are and instill a sense of confidence in them.



[Listen on Spotify](#)

Coming soon:

Thursday, Jan. 16:

Reception for "Overshadowed: Prints from Professor Faber's courses"
(5pm-7pm, stArt gallery)

Monday, Jan. 20:

Secret Artists Series: Tonality
(7:30pm, Wait Chapel)

Thursday, Jan. 23:

"Young, Gifted and Black" exhibition opens
(Jan. 23 - March 30, Hanes Art Gallery)

Saturday, Jan. 25:

Animated Film Screening "Children of the Sea"

(7pm - 9pm, Benson University Center - Pugh Auditorium)

Friday, Jan. 31:

Reception: “Between Worlds/The Hands of the Maker” Mike Liu and Kalina Namikas

(5pm-7pm, stArt Downtown)

A Surreal Mirror: Painting and Collage Exhibition reception

(5pm-7pm, Brockwell Recruiting Center, Farrell Hall Suite A05)

Wednesday, Feb. 5:

Artist talk by Clifford Owens

(5:30pm, Hanes Art Gallery)

“Young, Gifted and Black” reception

(6:30pm - 8pm, Hanes Art Gallery)

Tuesday, Feb. 6:

Gallery Late (5:30-8pm, Hanes Art Gallery)

Friday, Feb. 7:

Dead Man’s Cell Phone, by Sarah Ruhl

(7:30pm, Ring Theatre)

Saturday, Feb. 8:

Dead Man’s Cell Phone, by Sarah Ruhl

(7:30pm, Ring Theatre)

Sunday, Feb. 9:

Dead Man’s Cell Phone, by Sarah Ruhl

(2pm, Ring Theatre)

Wednesday, Feb. 12:

Mindfulness in Hanes Gallery

(5:30pm)

Thursday, Feb. 13:

Dead Man's Cell Phone, by Sarah Ruhl
(7:30pm, Ring Theatre)

Friday, Feb. 14:

Dead Man's Cell Phone, by Sarah Ruhl
(7:30pm, Ring Theatre)

Saturday, Feb. 15:

Dead Man's Cell Phone, by Sarah Ruhl
(7:30pm, Ring Theatre)

Senior Recital: Jacob Kathman, trombone
(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Sunday, Feb. 16:

Dead Man's Cell Phone, by Sarah Ruhl
(2pm, Ring Theatre)

Flute Fest
(3pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Deacs Like Me: Mentors and Mentees Tour
(4pm-5pm, Hanes Art Gallery)

Tuesday, Feb. 18:

Film screening: "We Are, Because We Were"
(6pm-8pm, ZSR Library Auditorium 404)

Tuesday, Feb. 25:

WFU Wind Ensemble
(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Wednesday, Feb. 26:

Faculty Recital: Mathilde Handelsman and Edward Cho
(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Friday, Feb. 28:

Concerto Competition Winners Concert

(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Sunday, March 2:

Presidential Scholar Recital: Nora Resk, soprano

(3pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Monday, March 3:

Film screening: “We Were Here: The Untold History of Black Africans in Renaissance Europe”

(ZSR Auditorium, 5pm-7pm)

Film screening and discussion: “Sick-Amour: A Love Story”

(5:30pm-8pm, Scales 102 | Reception: Scales Lobby)

Wednesday, March 5:

Artist Talk by Tomashi Jackson

(5:30pm, Hanes Art Gallery)

Thursday, March 6:

Secret Artists Series: Vijay Iyer Trio

(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Gallery Late (5:30pm-8pm, Hanes Art Gallery)

Monday, March 17:

Guest Artist Recital: Dr. Yevgeny Yontov, piano

(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Wednesday, March 19:

30th Anniversary Screening/Discussion: Hoop Dreams

Saturday, March 22:

48th Annual Giles-Harris Music Competitions

(10am-3pm)

Tuesday, March 25:

Film Screening: Rising Hope
(5pm-7pm, ZSR Auditorium 404)

Wednesday, March 26:

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

Friday, March 28:

WFU Choirs Concert
(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Saturday, March 29:

“Young, Gifted and Black” exhibition closes
(Hanes Art Gallery)

Exhibitions

- **Young, Gifted and Black,**
Hanes Art Gallery (Jan. 23-March 30)
- **Overshadowed: Prints from Professor Faber’s courses,**
stArt Gallery, Reynolda Village (Jan. 13-Feb. 7)
- **Between Worlds / The Hands of the Maker: Mike Liu and Kalina Namikas,**
stArt Downtown (Jan. 27-March 21)
- **Reynolda House Museum of American Art:**
 - **Leigh Ann Hallberg: Phenoms**
(through Oct. 19)
 - **Andrew Wyeth at Kuerner Farm: The Eye of the Earth**
(Feb. 15-May 25)
- **Lam Museum of Anthropology:**
 - **Poems Made to Wear: Traditional Colors in East Asia**

(through Aug. 16)



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