



Fall Dance Concert and more

Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 9:50 AM



Dear Friends of Wake the Arts,

It's been another incredible semester of movement at Wake, and I'm delighted to invite you to our upcoming **Fall Faculty & Guest Artist Dance Concert** (Nov. 20-23). The Wake Forest University Dance Company is committed to providing exciting dance experiences for its students and audiences, including work in contemporary, classical ballet, jazz and tap dance disciplines. This fall we are excited to feature seven pieces of choreography by our program faculty including a series of Pas de Trois by Marius Petipa and Jules Perot restaged by faculty member Sam Shapiro. A new contemporary ballet titled little dance by Chris Martin is set to the music of Bach and performed by Whitney Donohue, Emerson Riegler and Alina Vinokur. New dance faculty member Chelsea Hilding's 7X5 is performed to live accompaniment by Cellist Cori Lee Trenczer (Nov. 20) and Dr. Rachael Keplin (Nov. 21-23). Tap Dance Guest Artist Enrique Rosario breaks tap tradition setting his dance to classical music titled Reimagining Vivaldi featuring Caleb Walsh, Emma McLaughlin and Jessica Barry. Dance faculty member Christina Soriano's new work is set to music by Jon Batiste: American Symphony, Ode to Joyful and Fur Elise-Batiste. The company also dances to the artist Jamiroquai's Canned Heat with my own choreography. This piece is ultimately about the joy of dancing transforming negative experiences into a source of freedom and empowerment. Closing out the concert is Tina Yarborough Liggins's Pump THRU danced to music by Beyonce. The dance is fierce.

Special thanks to our dancers, faculty, and guests for sharing your time and talent. Thank you to all the support behind the scenes that help make this production a success, including our technical director, scene shop assistants, costuming staff, lighting designers, box office staff, stage manager, volunteer crew and ushers. We hope you enjoy the performance.

We still have concerts, film screenings and exhibitions to close out the semester — see below for more details. I hope I'll see you there!

Best,

Nina Lucas-Rice

Professor, Director of Dance Program
Department of Theatre and Dance



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What's Happening



Fall Faculty & Guest Artist Dance Concert

Artistic Director Nina Lucas Rice

Nov. 20-22 at 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 23 at 2 p.m.

The Fall Faculty & Guest Artist Concert will feature modern, jazz, contemporary and classical ballet choreography by our dance faculty and renowned guest choreographers, under the direction of Nina Lucas Rice. This fall faculty choreographers include Chris Martin, Tina Yarborough Liggins, Christina Soriano, Nina Lucas Rice, Chelsea Hilding, Sam Shapiro, and Enrique Rosario. Past guest artists have included: Heather Malloy artistic director of Terpsicorps Theatre of Dance; Broadway dancers Matthew Loehr and Mark Price to name a few.

[Read more](#)



Branford Marsalis brings jazz wisdom to Wake Forest

Marsalis visited Wake Forest's campus to receive the Maya Angelou Artist in Residence Award. He attended several classes with students, where he answered questions and discussed the creative process, the importance of playing for an audience, and knowing the difference between playing a piece accurately and playing it from the heart.

[Read more at WFU News](#)

[Watch the video on Instagram](#)

[View the Photostory](#)



World premiere of “Inter Alia: North Carolina Trees”

“**Inter Alia**” combined music, poetry, ecology and dance in a one-of-a-kind collaboration. It was also the first time the WFU Symphony and UNCSA Symphony played together. Conductor J. Aaron Hardwick put it well, “When we blur boundaries between art forms, institutions, and ideas, we amplify not only our music, but our impact. We build meaning. We build relevance. We build bridges. This project has reminded me again that when we invite in new voices and perspectives, we don’t just make art, we make community.”

[View the Photostory](#)

Documentary screening “Theirs Is the Kingdom”

Thursday, Dec. 4 at 6 p.m.

a/perture Cinema

Free admission

“**Theirs Is the Kingdom**” is a 60-minute documentary film that follows the rare creation of a contemporary fresco mural inside the sanctuary of a small church in Asheville, NC. This is a painting not of the rich and powerful, but of people battling homelessness, addiction, and mental illness. From first sketch to final unveiling, the viewer witnesses the difficulties of this ancient artistic technique while also meeting an ensemble cast of rich, complex characters.



Join Director Chris Zaluski for a post-screening discussion.

[More about the film](#)



Buy student art for the holidays at stArt Gallery

Reception: Nov. 19, 5-7 p.m.

On view: Nov. 17 - Jan. 13

stArt gallery, Reynolda Village

Let it Show is a celebratory exhibition at stArt gallery at the end of every fall semester. The show features student works from class assignments to personal projects in a variety of media. During the opening reception, gallery visitors can enjoy light refreshments and vote for their favorite works. The artists who created the three "crowd favorites" will receive a prize.

[Learn more](#)

Who's Making Things Happen

Dan Locklair receives American Prize Ernst Bacon Memorial Award

Composer Dan Locklair has been named the winner of The 2025 American Prize Ernst Bacon Memorial Award for the Performance of American Music in the Professional Composers Category for his Requiem for SATB chorus (divisi), soloists (SATB), organ and string orchestra.



The American Prize in Composition recognizes and rewards the best composers in America of works for orchestra, chorus, concert band, chamber ensemble, theater, opera, dance or film that have been publicly performed, or read and recorded.

More about Locklair's award

In Memoriam: Lillian Shelton, Artistic Director of the Secrest Artists Series from 1985 to 2013

The Secrest Series concert last week featuring classical guitarist Raphaël Feuillâtre was dedicated in loving memory of Lillian Shelton, who served as Director of the series from 1985 to 2013. She led, worked, and collaborated with campus leaders to enhance students' appreciation of the performing arts and offered the larger community the opportunity to witness the talents of world-class soloists, orchestras, ensembles, and dance groups. Current Secrest Director Hayden Barnes delivered commemorative remarks at the opening of the concert.



Lillian Shelton obituary

Coming soon

Wednesday, Nov. 19

Object of the Month: Cigarette Box by Edward F. Caldwell & Company
(11am, Reynolda House Museum of American Art)

stArt: Let It Show! exhibition RECEPTION
(5-7pm, stArt Gallery Reynolda Village)

Carrboro Film Festival Collab
(7pm, WFU Graduate School - Brookstown Campus)

Music Faculty and Guest Artists Concert
(7:30-8:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Thursday, Nov. 20

Fall Faculty & Guest Artist Dance Concert
(7:30pm, Tedford stage)

Student Chamber Music Concert
(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Friday, Nov. 21**Fall Faculty & Guest Artist Concert**

(7:30pm, Tedford stage)

Jazz Ensemble concert

(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Saturday, Nov. 22**Fall Faculty & Guest Artist Concert**

(7:30pm, Tedford stage)

Sunday, Nov. 23**Fall Faculty & Guest Artist Concert**

(2pm, Tedford stage)

L.I.T. Fall Showcase

(8pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Wednesday, Dec. 3**Musical Empowerment Fall Recital**

(6:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Film screening: Un divan à Tunis (Arab Blues)

(7pm, ZSR auditorium)

Thursday Dec. 4**Theirs is the Kingdom:** Film screening and discussion (6pm, a/perture cinema)**Friday, Dec. 5****Caroling Fridays at Reynolda**

(2:30pm, Reynolda House Museum of American Art)

Innuendo Winter Concert

(6:30pm, Reynolda Hall)

Sounds of Joy: A Wake Forest Holiday Gala

(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Sunday, Dec. 7**Family First Workshops: Holiday Printmaking**

(2-4pm, Reynolda House Museum of American Art)

Annual Lovefeast

(7pm, Wait Chapel)

Monday, Dec. 8

Musical Theatre Showcase

(7pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Friday, Dec. 12

Caroling Fridays at Reynolda

(2:30pm, Reynolda House Museum of American Art)

Friday, Dec. 19

Caroling Fridays at Reynolda

(2:30pm, Reynolda House Museum of American Art)



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