50 Years of Scales, New Funding & Fall Performances

Wed, Nov 11, 2026 at 12:10 PM

Dear Friends of Wake the Arts,

I hope you had a chance to enjoy some of the many Homecoming activities this past weekend, including taking your photo by the new banner celebrating **Scales' 50th anniversary**. We've been exploring creative ways to capture the stories and celebrate the history and legacy of the past 50 years, and we look forward to sharing more as these initiatives unfold.

We also have exciting news! The Wake the Arts Center is introducing **new funding opportunities** for Wake Forest faculty. Our new **Research Grant in the Arts** will support faculty creative work and arts scholarship through three annual grants of up to $6,000 each. The grants are designed for faculty working in Theatre, Dance, Art, Art History, Music, Film, Documentary Film, and Creative Writing. We're thrilled to offer a new source of support for our talented faculty and their creative endeavors, and applications are due December 18. Please reach out with any questions.

We also encourage all **faculty, staff** and **students** to apply for our **ongoing project grants**. This year, we've already supported 18 projects, including an impressive seven film screenings on campus and in the community. The next screening is the Academy Award-nominated documentary **VIVA VERDI!** on Tuesday, Nov.17, at 4 p.m. at the Intergenerational Center. This screening is free and open to the public and we hope to see you there!

From new funding opportunities and the new **Wellbeing Concert Series** to the upcoming **Fall Faculty and Guest Artist Dance Concert** and our continued celebration of Scales, there is so much to look forward to. These efforts reflect our belief in the importance of leading with an arts mindset — now more than ever. We're grateful for our Wake the Arts community and invite you to join us as we see where that creative spirit takes us next.

Best,

Christopher Zaluski
Co-director, Wake the Arts Center
Program Director, Documentary Film Program



Follow Wake the Arts Events on your Google Calendar

Follow Us

Funding Opportunities from Wake the Arts

Research Grant in the Arts (RGA)
The Research Grant in the Arts (RGA) provides funding for creative or scholarly projects for faculty of all ranks in areas within the arts, including Theatre, Dance, Art, Art History, Music, Film, Documentary Film, and Creative Writing. Faculty in these disciplines are encouraged to apply if they have a new creative work or arts scholarship for which they need but do not have funding.

The deadline for submissions is Dec. 18, 2026.

More information

Wake the Arts Residency Program
Wake the Arts believes that our faculty's creative work deserves time and space to be reinvigorated. We are pleased to announce that we have reserved space for an artist residency in partnership with **Trillium Arts** in Mars Hill, NC. Enjoy access to studio space and Airbnb living space at no cost to you. Disciplines such as music, theatre, dance, creative writing, film, and visual art are eligible to apply.

The deadline for submissions is Dec. 18, 2026.

More information



London Stage residency brings hands-on Shakespeare workshops to Wake Forest

When Actors From The London Stage visited Wake Forest University to perform Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing, their presence extended far beyond the stage. While their sold-out performance at Brendle Recital Hall was a highlight, behind the scenes the five guest actors spent a week leading hands-on workshops and engaging directly with students across campus.

The troupe visited undergraduate classrooms and Wake Forest's law school, offering exercises in movement, public speaking and stage combat. The actors also led a Wake Forest Lifelong Learning session focused on Shakespeare in performance.

Read more



Secrest Artists Series: Vox Luminis performs Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610
Thursday, Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m.
Brendle Recital Hall

Under the meticulous direction of Lionel Meunier, Vox Luminis delivers a breathtaking interpretation of Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610 that highlights the Belgian early music vocal ensemble's signature blend of individual vocal character and seamless choral unity.

Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610 (formally titled "Vespro della Beata Vergine") is a monumental work of sacred music that bridges the Renaissance and Baroque periods. Published while Monteverdi was working in Mantua, it combines traditional Gregorian chant with innovative compositional techniques of the emerging Baroque style.

Read more



Music Ensembles

Our Music Department ensembles have been rehearsing for weeks and are ready to take the stage. See the upcoming concerts below. All concerts take place in Brendle Recital Hall and are free and open to the public.

Friday, Nov. 13:
WFU Choirs Concert (7:30 p.m.)

Sunday, Nov.15:
Gamelan Giri Murti & WFU Steel Pan Ensemble (3 p.m.)

Thursday, Nov. 19:
Student Chamber Music Concert (7:30 p.m.)

Friday, Nov. 20:
WFU Jazz Ensemble (7:30 p.m.)

Friday, Dec.4:
WFU Symphony Orchestra and WFU Wind Ensemble's Sounds of Joy: A Holiday Gala at Wake (7:30 p.m.)



VIVA VERDI! & the operatic music of Jake Heggie in concert

VIVA VERDI! is an intimate glimpse into the lives of the celebrated opera singers and musicians currently living out their 'third act' while mentoring international music students who live among them at Milan's unique retirement home, Casa Verdi, built by the composer Guiseppe Verdi in 1896. The Oscar-nominated documentary showcases how music remains a source of purpose, expression, and joy well into later life. Producer Christine La Monte will share her insights on the production and impact of the film.

Deepen the journey into opera with contemporary composer Jake Heggie, whose work will be performed in two venues. The Wake Forest Department of Music shares a recital from Wake Forest Music faculty and community professionals featuring the art songs of Heggie. And the Piedmont Opera hosts a double feature of Heggie's one-act operas Another Sunrise and Before It All Goes Dark.

The Art Songs of Jake Heggie (free event)
Monday, Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m.
Brendle Recital Hall

VIVA VERDI! Film screening and conversation (free event)
Directed by Yvonne Russo
Produced by Christine La Monte
Tuesday, Nov. 17, 4 p.m.
Intergenerational Center for Arts & Wellness

Heggie & Scheer's one act operas: Another Sunrise + Before It All Goes Dark
Tuesday, Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.
*Piedmont Opera Hanesbrands Theater (**tickets available here**)*

More information



Faculty Piano Performances

Tonadas & Doloras: Echoes of Chilean Soul
Concert and Lecture by Dr. Yong Im Lee Federle, piano
Tuesday, Nov. 17, 6 p.m.
Porter Byrum Welcome Center
Kulynych Auditorium

Music of Morton Feldman: Louis Goldstein, piano
Professor Emeritus Recital
Wednesday, Dec. 2, 8 p.m.
Brendle Recital Hall

Larry Weng, piano
Faculty Recital

Tuesday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m.
Brendle Recital Hall



Fall Faculty and Guest Artist Concert
Artistic Director Nina Lucas Rice
Nov. 19-21 at 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 22 at 2 p.m.
Tedford Stage, Scales Fine Arts Center

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 Kara Wilkes. 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.

Tickets available



Hank Willis Thomas: High Visibility
Through Dec. 2

Hanes Gallery of Art

Conceptual artist **Hank Willis Thomas** (b. 1976) addresses themes of race, identity, history, and mass media through his multidisciplinary practice. For over a decade, Thomas has worked with retroreflective vinyl, the material used to make highway and street signs, to illuminate histories past and present. When light hits the surface of this medium, it is reflected back toward the source, like car headlights striking a traffic sign.

More about Hank Willis Thomas: High Visibility

Face to Face Speaker Forum with Michael Schur
Thursday, Dec. 3, 6-7:15 p.m.
Wait Chapel



Wake the Arts is pleased to be a sponsor of Michael Schur's visit with the **Face to Face Speaker Forum**. Michael Schur is an Emmy Award-winning television writer and producer best known for creating The Good Place and co-creating Parks and Recreation and Brooklyn Nine-Nine. He is also the bestselling author of How to Be Perfect: The Correct Answer to Every Moral Question, which explores moral philosophy with his signature humor, and co-author of the recently published Big Fan: Two Friends, 82,490 Miles, and The Wild, Wonderful Sports We Love. The Program for Leadership and Character has invited him to take part in a moderated Face to Face Speaker Forum conversation about character, and we're expecting a delightful evening. The event will be held on December 3 at 6 p.m. in Wait Chapel. Lower-level seating may be purchased in advance **here**; free general admission tickets will be made available to Wake Forest faculty, staff, and students through **Face to Face**.

Over his nearly 30-year career, Michael Schur has created or co-created shows like "A Man On The Inside," "Rutherford Falls" and the new show "Dig" on Peacock. He has also served as Executive Producer on "The Office," "Hacks" and "Master of None," among others. His first TV writing job was at "Saturday Night Live" where he spent seven seasons, including three as the producer of "Weekend Update" with Tina Fey and Jimmy Fallon. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife Jennifer and their two children.

Learn more



Rudy Shepherd's work in NYC at Kates Ferri Projects
Through Dec. 13
561 Grand Street NYC 10002

Rudy Shepherd is having an exhibition in New York City, "**Forms of Belonging: Justin Lim & Samuel Nnorom & Rudy Shepherd**." The show is on display until December 13, so be sure to catch it if you're nearby!

Coming Soon

Thursday, Nov. 12
Relax and Craft Pop-Up, hosted by the Intercultural Center
(Intercultural Center - Benson 346)

Secrest Artists Series: Vox Luminis: Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610
(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Friday, Nov. 13
WFU Choirs Concert
(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Sunday, Nov. 15
Gamelan Giri Murti & WFU Steel Pan Ensemble
(3pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Monday, Nov. 16
The Art Songs of Jake Heggie
(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Tuesday, Nov. 17
Let It Show: exhibition opens

(stArt Gallery)

VIVA VERDI!, directed by Yvonne Russo and produced by Christine La Monte - film screening and conversation
(4pm, Intergenerational Center for Arts & Wellness)

Tonadas & Doloras: Echoes of Chilean Soul concert and lecture by Dr. Yong Im Lee Federle, piano
(6pm, Porter Byrum Welcome Center, Kulynych Auditorium)

Relax and Craft
(3-7pm, Visual Resource Center - Scales 110)

Piedmont Opera: Heggie & Scheer's one act operas: Another Sunrise + Before It All Goes Dark
(7:30pm, Hanesbrands Theater) Tickets

Wednesday, Nov. 18
Let It Show: reception and art sale
(5-7pm, stArt Gallery)

Thursday, Nov. 19
Student Chamber Music Concert
(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

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

Friday, Nov. 20
WFU Jazz Ensemble
(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

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

Framing Justice: A Symposium / Flash Point: The Civil Rights Photography of Danny Lyon
(10am-4pm, Reynolda House Museum of American Art)

Saturday, Nov. 21
Fall Faculty & Guest Artist Dance Concert
(7:30pm, Tedford Mainstage)

Sunday, Nov. 22
Fall Faculty & Guest Artist Dance Concert
(2pm, Tedford Mainstage)

Monday, Nov. 30
Lighting of the Quad
(7-8:30pm, Hearn Plaza)

Wednesday, Dec. 2
Professor Emeritus Recital: Music of Morton Feldman: Louis Goldstein, piano
(8pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Thursday, Dec. 3
Face to Face Speaker Forum with Michael Schur
(6-7:15pm, Wait Chapel) Collage Night (5pm-8pm, stArt Gallery)

Friday, Dec. 4
Holiday Gala: WFU Woodwinds & WFU Symphony Orchestra
(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

Saturday, Dec. 5
Lydia Smith: Artist Talk on Cyclorama
(Norwood Mound)
(6pm, The Carnegie Gallery)

Sunday, Dec. 6
2026 Lovefeast Service
(7pm, Wait Chapel)

Monday, Dec. 7
Student Film Screening Featuring Works from ART-114: Introduction to Film and Video Art
(7pm - 8:30pm, Scales 102)

Tuesday, Dec. 8
Faculty Recital: Larry Weng, piano
(7:30pm, Brendle Recital Hall)

View this message in your browser

Change your address

Update your email preferences or unsubscribe

Privacy Policy

Our Motto Means More

Make a gift today »

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
1834 WAKE FOREST RD., WINSTON-SALEM, NC 27109
1.336.758.5000