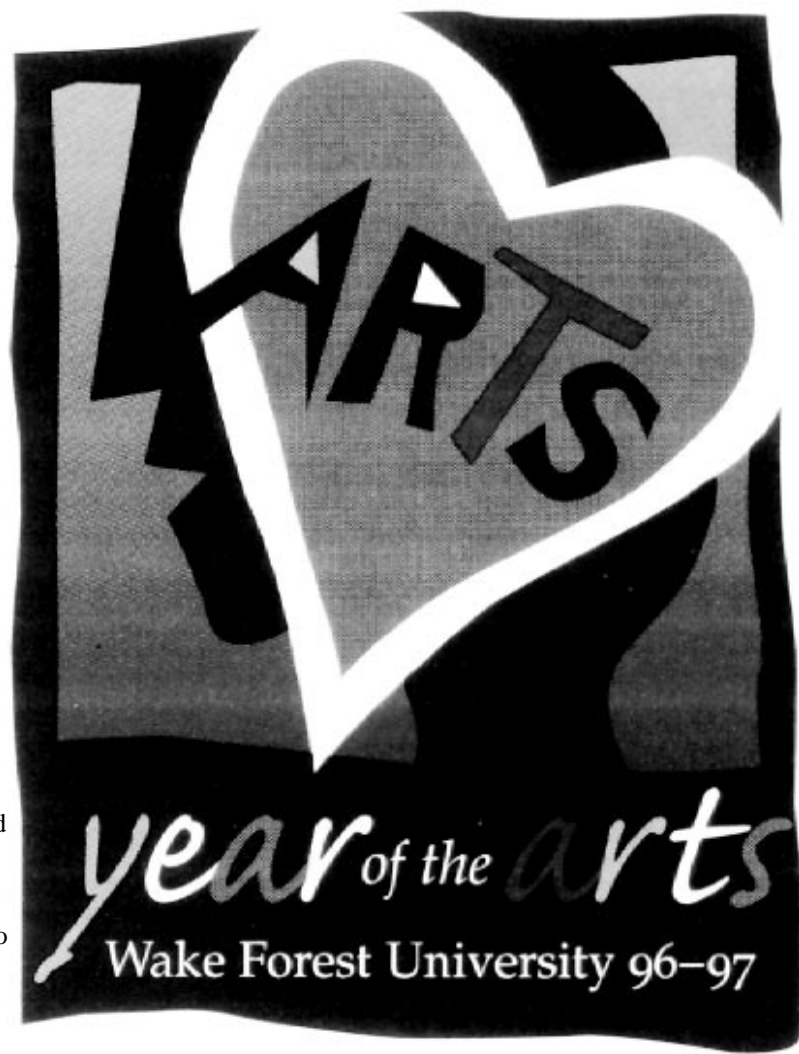


# Celebrating the Arts

*A variety of artists, both local and national will flock to the university to take part in the Year of The Arts celebration*



By **ROBERT SHAW**  
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Art has been called "choreographed attention," the "creation of new spheres," "the religion of expression," "creative philosophy," ...the list goes on. The university has given art a hallowed place in the liberal arts tradition this year with the Year of the Arts celebration funded in part by the Coca-Cola Foundation.

The Year of the Arts, dedicated to former President James Ralph Scales, Jr., was originally the idea of James Dodding, a professor of theater. Dodding believed that the arts at the university were a splendid treasure that needed increased visibility in the larger community outside of Scales Fine Arts Center.

In this aspiration, he conceived a year-long "revitalization and celebration" of the arts.

After receiving an enthusiastic reception from the university administration, Dodding put together a committee of faculty and students that worked for two years lining up the events and initiatives that would make up the project.

The committee consisted of two faculty and two students from each department, plus several administrators.

The four departments of the fine arts curriculum — art, dance, music, and theater — were given resources with which to fund their major events, and over the 1995-96 school year, set up contracts for the artists that would visit the university.

Each department sought to set up projects that combined the highest artistic standards and inspirational potential for students, faculty and the community.

**"Education should be of the mind, the body, and also the spirit and I think that's where the arts come in."**

**James Dodding**  
Professor of Theater

The Arts department decided to celebrate the Year of the Arts with a print suite project directed by David Faber, an associate professor of art. The collaborative effort will include five printmakers from the United States and Canada and a poet.

These artists, all from the midwest, will create a limited-edition suite of prints with a prairie theme. A print suite is a collection of visual and literary images based on a common theme and are primarily framed works.

During the spring, the artists will also lead workshops and discussions for students and faculty.

An art exhibit on the works of William Hogarth is another feature of the art department this semester. Compiled by senior Mary Leigh Cherry, the chairwoman of the Student Year of the Arts Committee, the exhibit depicts the visionary work of this legendary engraver.

The show leads through 18th century England as seen through the critical eyes of Hogarth. It is on the second floor of the art gallery and can be viewed from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 1 to 5p.m. Saturday and Sunday through Oct. 25.

The dance program commissioned the Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble, one of the most renowned companies in the world, to perform at Brendle Recital Hall Feb. 24. This group will also give a master class to the Wake Forest Dance Company that will be open to the public.

The music department has many plans for this year. Apart from the Secrest Artist Series, these events will combine fine performance with engagements on the role of music in contemporary life.

The gala celebration this Saturday night at 8 p.m. in Brendle will feature composer-in-residence and associate professor of music Dan Locklair's collaboration with Reynolds Professor Maya Angelou in "Since Dawn," a tone poem based on Angelou's poem "On the Pulse of Morning," read at the Inauguration of President Bill Clinton. The Winston-Salem Piedmont Triad Symphony and a 140-person choir drawn from the Wake Forest community will perform, led by Maestro Peter Perret.

The kick-off concert will be a combination of faculty, students and community professionals.

The 200th anniversary of composer Franz Schubert's birth will be celebrated with a "Schubertiad" soiree at the Reynolda House. Peter Kairoff and Teresa Radomski, associate professors of music, will lead this evening of the composer's music.

The final major music event is the Beethoven Symposium March 1-2. The weekend will culminate in a performance recreation of the premiere of Ludwig van Beethoven's "Choral" Ninth Symphony conducted by assistant professor of music David Levy.

The Symposium will also feature a forum titled "Joy's Legacy," a discussion on the historical and artistic impact of the Choral Symphony.

The student projects will include a Student Artist Series and a year of students performing on campus. Student committee member junior Andy Clark said, "The project of students performing around campus will hopefully show students what the department can offer outside of Scales."

The Student Artist Series will consist of the first annual Honors recital, an interdepartmental recital combining music and other fine arts, an all-Brahms recital, and a "Beethoven and His Contemporaries" recital.

The theater department will sponsor a Festival of New Plays Feb. 6-8 and Feb. 20-22. The festival will feature premieres of plays by the university community playwrights, workshops in playwriting, and discussions on various topics in theater with the visiting playwrights and critics. The new plays will be performed in the Mainstage Theatre in Scales.

Theater students, feeling that creative writing should gain greater visibility in the year's events, initiated a series of six writing workshops entitled "Write from the Start." These sessions focus on regional influences in writing, especially North Carolina. Each workshop will cover a different element of the arts. Drama, poetry, journals, novels and essays are among the planned programs.

The first two workshops will be led by members of the faculty. Julie Edelson, Coordinator of Research and Sponsored Programs and a published novelist, discussed prose fiction Wednesday evening, Sept. 25, in De Tamble Auditorium.

Ralph Wood, the Easley professor of religion, will demonstrate the different regional influences at work in the letters of Flannery O'Connor, on Oct. 23.

Playwright Romulus Linney will discuss his Broadway plays that have focused on rural North Carolina on Nov. 9.

The English department will also sponsor an essay contest with the theme "The Value of the Arts in a Liberal Arts Education." The essay contest is open only to students, and all types of writing are welcomed. Three authors of essays will be selected to win \$100 and to read their work at the "Arts in the New Century" symposium in the spring.

The student subcommittee has also sponsored many initiatives of its own in order to maximize student awareness of the Year of the Arts. Senior Halley Kehoe is editing a monthly newsletter that will inform the students of upcoming events and news about the Year of the Arts.



courtesy of the News Bureau

Freshmen received a warm reception during Orientation at the "Year of the Arts Jam," a relaxed and informative evening that gave the new students an orientation to Scales Fine Arts Center and the year's planned events. The evening was also a social event that featured local music groups at Davis Field.

Scales Day is another student-led project with similar goals. Students will have the opportunity to find out how to become more active participants in the arts community.

Students will also have the opportunity to pick workshops in departments in which they have interests

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and informally learn in what ways they can participate in the artistic pursuits of the departments. All departments — art, dance, music, and theater — will sponsor these workshops.



Photos courtesy of Wake Forest Magazine

*Clockwise from top left: Saturday night Maya Angelou will be performing with the Winston-Salem Piedmont Triad Symphony. A 140 member choir made up of students, faculty, and staff will also perform. Dan Locklair, composer-in-residence and an associate professor of music, wrote a symphony to accompany Angelou's poem; Dodding is the mastermind behind the Year of the Arts. A committee of eight students are in charge of developing student-centered events for the Year of the Arts, counter-clockwise from bottom left: senior Mary Leigh Cherry, senior Melanie Smith, senior Lorin Hord, junior Andrew Clark, sophomore Robert Shaw, senior Craig Joseph, and senior Don Pocock.*

