INTERNATIONAL BLACK THEATRE FESTIVAL®

A NC Black Rep Experience

JUL 27 — WINSTON-SALEM, NC — AUG 1

2026

EVERYBODY

North Carolina A&T State University

Friday, July 31, 2:00pm
Friday, July 31, 8:00pm
Saturday, August 1, 2:00pm
Saturday, August 1, 8:00pm

Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts Mountcastle Forum/Theatre

PHENOMENAL WOMAN, MAYA ANGELOU: A FIRESIDE CHAT • THE BIRTHRIGHT SESSION-LATE NIGHT WITH MATELYN ALICIA • HOLY GROUND • JITNEY • TOPDOG/UNDERDOG • BLOOMING IN DRY SEASON RUNNING FOR MY LIFE • IN THE BLACK • BERTA, BERTA • ART OF WISE SEARCHING FOR WILLIE LYNCH • PURLIE VICTORIOUS • FENCES • BEING BLACK ON BROADWAY • THE LEGEND OF BUSTER NEAL MICHAEL COLYAR'S LATE NIGHT COMEDY • THE TRIAL OF ONE SHORT-SIGHTED BLACK WOMAN VS. MAMMY LOUISE AND SAFREETA MAE • A FIDDLER'S TALE • TERRY STEELE SINGS LUTHER VANDROSS • STORIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE NATIONAL YOUTH TALENT SHOWCASE • MIDNIGHT POETRY JAM MARVIN: THE MARVIN GAYE REVUE • CROSS THAT RIVER • EVERYBODY JOE TURNER'S COME AND GONE • SIZWE BANZI IS DEAD • THE GREAT LOVER • THE BLUEST EYE • THEIR EYES WERE WATCHING GOD ANATOMY OF AN OPERA: NIA IMANI FRANKLIN • STEAL AWAY HOME OUR STORIES...WE ARE, BECAUSE WE WERE • REIMAGINED VOLUME III: YOUNG THANG • PHENOMENAL WOMAN, MAYA ANGELOU: A FIRESIDE CHAT • THE BIRTHRIGHT SESSION-LATE NIGHT WITH MATELYN ALICIA HOLY GROUND • JITNEY • TOPDOG/UNDERDOG • BLOOMING IN DRY SEASON • RUNNING FOR MY LIFE • IN THE BLACK • BERTA, BERTA • ART OF WISE • SEARCHING FOR WILLIE LYNCH • PURLIE VICTORIOUS • FENCES • BEING BLACK ON BROADWAY • THE LEGEND OF BUSTER NEAL • MICHAEL COLYAR'S LATE NIGHT COMEDY • THE TRIAL OF ONE SHORT-SIGHTED BLACK WOMAN VS. MAMMY LOUISE AND SAFREETA MAE • A FIDDLER'S TALE • TERRY STEELE SINGS LUTHER VANDROSS • STORIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE • NATIONAL YOUTH TALENT SHOWCASE • MIDNIGHT POETRY JAM • MARVIN: THE MARVIN GAYE REVUE • CROSS THAT RIVER • EVERYBODY • JOE TURNER'S COME AND GONE • SIZWE BANZI IS DEAD • THE GREAT LOVER • THE BLUEST EYE • THEIR EYES WERE WATCHING GOD • ANATOMY OF AN OPERA: NIA IMANI FRANKLIN • STEAL AWAY HOME • OUR STORIES...WE ARE, BECAUSE WE WERE • REIMAGINED VOLUME III: YOUNG THANG PHENOMENAL WOMAN, MAYA ANGELOU: A FIRESIDE CHAT • THE BIRTHRIGHT SESSION-LATE NIGHT WITH MATELYN ALICIA • HOLY GROUND • JITNEY • TOPDOG/UNDERDOG • BLOOMING IN DRY SEASON RUNNING FOR MY LIFE • IN THE BLACK • BERTA, BERTA • ART OF WISE SEARCHING FOR WILLIE LYNCH • PURLIE VICTORIOUS • FENCES • BEING BLACK ON BROADWAY • THE LEGEND OF BUSTER NEAL MICHAEL COLYAR'S LATE NIGHT COMEDY • THE TRIAL OF ONE SHORT-SIGHTED BLACK WOMAN VS. MAMMY LOUISE AND SAFREETA MAE • A FIDDLER'S TALE • TERRY STEELE SINGS LUTHER VANDROSS • STORIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE NATIONAL YOUTH TALENT SHOWCASE • MIDNIGHT POETRY JAM MARVIN: THE MARVIN GAYE REVUE • CROSS THAT RIVER • EVERYBODY JOE TURNER'S COME AND GONE • SIZWE BANZI IS DEAD • THE GREAT LOVER • THE BLUEST EYE • THEIR EYES

INTERNATIONAL BLACK THEATRE FESTIVAL®

A NC Black Rep Experience

Winston-Salem | The City of Winston-Salem salutes the 2026 International Black Theatre Festival.

EVERYBODY

ABSquared Productions

Written by Branden Jacobs Jenkins

ABSquared Productions is a student-led theatre team dedicated to creating bold, thought-provoking, and impactful theatrical experiences. Through collaboration, artistic excellence, and innovative storytelling, the company seeks to challenge audiences while providing performers and technicians opportunities for growth and creative expression. For the International Black Theatre Festival, ABSquared Productions is proud to present *Everybody* by Branden Jacobs Jenkins, a modern adaptation of the medieval morality play *Everyman*. This production explores life, mortality, human connection, and the universal journey toward self-discovery. Through a talented ensemble and dedicated production team, ABSquared Productions continues its commitment to producing meaningful work that inspires conversation and celebrates the power of live theatre.

TECH CREW

Director / Producer ..... Autumn B. Carter

Assistant Director/ Costumer ..... Kaia Brown

Technical Director / Set Designer ..... Christopher Ku

Assistant Technical Director / Light Designer ..... Ava Allyn Bosely

Sound Board Operator ..... C. Wiseman

Stage Manager ..... KC Russell

CAST

Everybody ..... Amber Myers

God, Love, Time, Understanding ..... Jaden Robinson-Dockery

Love, Time ..... Antonius Jones

Usher ..... Kelvin Register

Death ..... Synclaire Jade

Friendship, A, Mind ..... Kaia Michelle

Kinship, B, Senses ..... Kylee Ariel

Cousin, C, Beauty ..... Nailah Carter

Stuff, D, Strength ..... Xavier Chancellor

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SCENES

PLACE:

A contemporary world that exists between life and death.

Scene 1: Here Beginneth

Scene 2: The Summoning

Scene 3: Voice-Over Interlude I

Scene 4: Friendship

Scene 5: Voice-Over Interlude II

Scene 6: Family

Scene 7: Voice-Over Interlude III

Scene 8: Stuff

Scene 9: Voice-Over Interlude IV

Scene 10: Senses

Scene 11: The Encounter and Dance with Love

Scene 12: La Danse Macabre

Scene 13: The Journey

Scene 14: The Descent into the Grave

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WHO'S WHO

Amber Myers (Everybody) Amber Myers is a senior Professional Theatre (Acting) student born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia. She has worked backstage on numerous shows including *Miss Ever's Boys* at the ACTF with Alabama Shakespeare Festival. She made her mainstage debut in *The Wiz* and also performed in *Woes of a Woman*, making *Everybody* her second production with ABSquared Productions. In April, she performed her first lead role in North Carolina A&T Theatre's production of *Skeleton Crew* by Dominique Morisseau. This will be her first time participating in the International Black Theatre Festival and she could not be more excited to bring this story to life. She is grateful to work beside outstanding actors and a phenomenal director who inspires her artistry. She gives all glory to God for this experience.

Antonius Jones (Love)
Antonius Jones is a rising junior Professional Theatre student with a concentration in acting. Born in Italy but is currently a resident in Greensboro North Carolina. While attending A&T, he has recently worked backstage on Miss Evers Boys at the ACTF Alabama's Shakespeare Festival. Antonius played a lead role his freshman year in The Gift of the Magi as Jim and in his Sophomore year in Skeleton Crew as Dez. Now he will be performing as Love,Time, Understanding. He is grateful to God to be a part of the Black Theatre festival, to be acting alongside his castmates and super excited for what the Lord has in store for Him.

Jaden Robinson-Dockery (God, Love, Time, Understanding)
Jaden Robinson-Dockery is a graduate in English from North Carolina A&T State University. He is a writer and creative artist with a passion for storytelling, performance, and cultural analysis. Jaden is grateful for the support of his family, friends, and mentors and thanks everyone who has contributed to his journey. He is excited to be a part of this production and hopes audiences enjoy the performance.

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Kaia Michelle (Friendship, A, Mind, Evil)
Kaia Michelle, an alumna of North Carolina A&T State University and a native of Durham, North Carolina, has showcased her talents in various theatrical productions. Her notable roles include Opal in Common Thread Theatre Collective's *Fat Ham*, Emma in The Barn Dinner Theatre's *Just Desserts: A Musical Bake Off*, and Lady in Green in Crown and Curtain Collaborative's *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf*. Additionally, she portrayed the Narrator in Triangle Performance Ensemble's *Black Nativity*. Beyond her stage performances, Kaia Michelle's passion for the arts extends to costume design. This year, she is thrilled to participate in the festival as both an actress and costume designer. She hopes that audiences will reflect on their lives and learn to live life in a way that is fulfilling to them.

Kelvin Lamont Register (Usher)
Kelvin Lamont Register is a multidisciplinary producer, artist, and creator based in North Carolina. With a strong foundation in visual and performing arts, he skillfully integrates storytelling, technical expertise, and creative direction across film, theater, photography, and music. He holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Professional Theater from North Carolina A&T State University.

During his academic tenure, Kelvin contributed to notable stage productions such as Ruined and Othello, and began his choreography career with the adaptation of Soul of Christmas. His passion for music, singing, and dance led him to perform, direct, and choreograph in a variety of productions, including The Wiz Jr. (as Scarecrow), Beautiful: The Carole King Musical (as a Drifter and Dance Captain), and Ma Rainey's Black Bottom (as Slow Drag).

Since 2020, Kelvin has appeared in several films, including Trespasses: She Knows (as Anthony), Haunted Jinks (as Pastor Williams), and Stranger Things Have Happened to Me (as Stephon). His filmography also features the short films Breakfast for Dinner

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International Black Theater Festival

Join Forsyth County in rolling out the purple carpet for the 2026 International Black Theater Festival.

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A NC Black Rep Experience

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(as Edward), Last Gentle Winds of Autumn (as Edmond), and Aggie Pride: The Movie (as Charles Bess).

To explore collaboration opportunities or learn more, visit Register Records Productions.

Kylee Ariel (Kinship, B, Senses)
Kylee Ariel is excited to be a part of *Everybody* and contribute to this powerful exploration of life, mortality, and human connection. She is grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with such a talented cast and creative team and hopes audiences are inspired by the journey shared on stage.

Nailah Carter (Cousin, C, Beauty)
Nailah Carter is a Senior Professional Theatre Major with a concentration in Acting at North Carolina A&T State University. She has been seen on stage in productions such as *7 Guitars*, *Soul of Christmas*, *Black Nativity*, and *The Wiz*. She has also worked behind the scenes as stage manager, wardrobe mistress, wig master, and assistant stage manager. On screen, she has appeared in short films such as *Smile*, *Boxes*, and *Strangers*. In addition, she has choreographed productions for North Carolina A&T, Dudley High School, Atkins High School, and more.

Synclaire Jade (Death)
Synclaire Jade is an uprising senior Professional Theatre major from Chicago, Illinois. In her first year back on campus at North Carolina A&T, she has already contributed backstage as a stagehand for *The Gift of the Magi*. Prior to A&T, Synclaire performed as an ensemble dancer, singer, and actor in productions including *Hairspray*, *In the Heights*, *Once on This Island*, and *Ragtime*. She recently completed her mainstage debut and first leading role as Faye in *Skeleton Crew*. In her short time here, Synclaire has worked diligently to return to the stage and continue growing in her craft. She is deeply grateful to God for this opportunity and honored to help bring this story to life.

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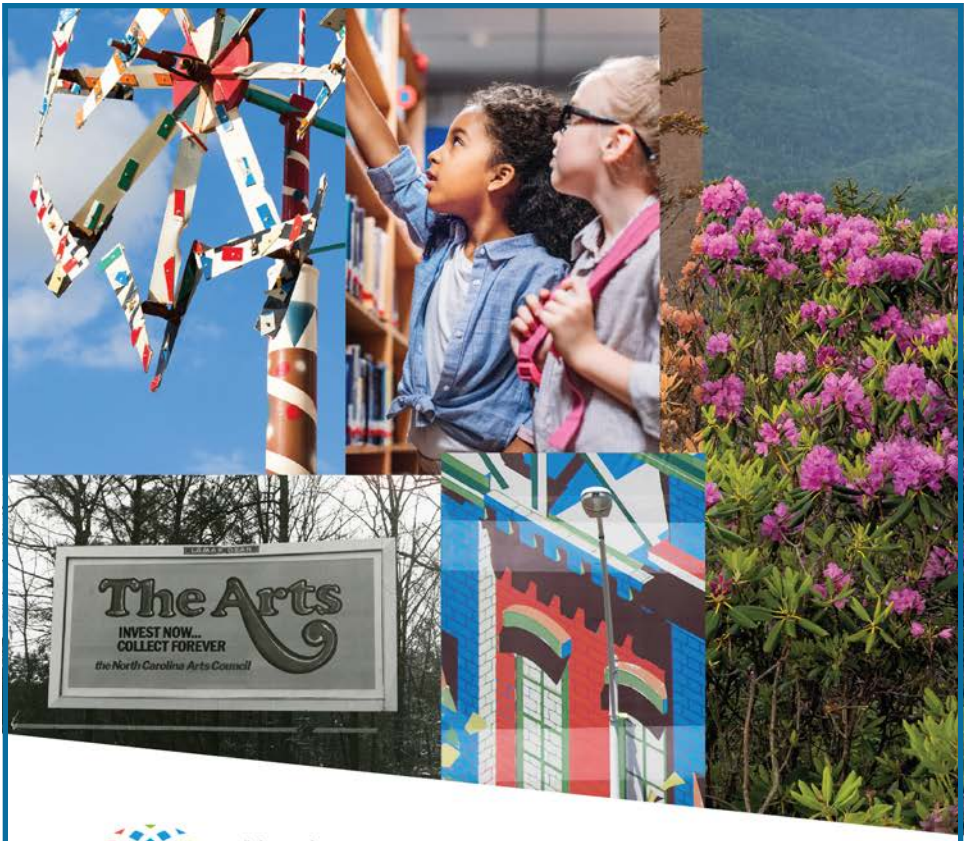
WHO'S WHO

Xavier Chancellor (Stuff, D, Strength)
Xavier Chancellor is a native of Kansas City, Missouri, and a current student at North Carolina A&T State University. He has appeared in several university productions and was recognized for his portrayal of Ben in *Miss Ever's Boys*. Xavier made his professional debut at The Black Academy of Arts and Letters in Dallas, Texas, in *The Cruxifiction* by Curtis King. A God-fearing artist, he is passionate about storytelling and continues to develop his craft through dedication, versatility, and a commitment to authentic performance.

Autumn Blair Carter (Director)
Autumn Blair Carter is a Spring 2026 graduate of the BFA Professional Theatre Program at North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University. She is a director, writer, and emerging scholar committed to creating theatre that amplifies marginalized voices. Autumn's directing is defined by clarity, emotional truth, and a research-driven commitment to representing various identities with care and nuance. She has developed a process rooted in ensemble-centered collaboration, rigorous textual analysis, and a deep respect for the lived experiences that shape each narrative. As both an artist and future educator, Autumn strives to make theatre that is as intellectually grounded as it is transformative. Her creative pursuits extend to playwriting, arts education advocacy, and contributing to the content used within student education. Autumn is currently preparing for graduate studies in directing, where she plans to continue developing original works, expand her scholarly research, and further refine her artistic practice.

Christopher Ku (Technical Director / Set Designer)
Mr. Ku is the shop foreman at North Carolina A&T State University. He earned his degree in Technical Theatre from Greensboro College. Prior to joining A&T, Mr. Ku worked as a carpenter at Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte and Triad Stage in Greensboro. His experience in scenic construction and technical production continues to support the success of student and departmental productions.



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WHO'S WHO

Ava Allyn Bosley (Assistant Technical Director / Light Designer)
Ava Allyn Bosley is a Senior Professional Theatre Technology major at North Carolina A&T State University, where she has focused her skill set on mastering the craft of Lighting Design. This training has led to her earning highly sought-after positions as Electrician, Lighting Programmer, Assistant Lighting Designer, and Master Electrician at prominent companies such as the American Dance Festival and the Virginia Theatre Festival. In addition to her work behind the stage, Ava was a pre-professional dancer for 13 years.

KC Russell (Stage Manager)
KC Russell is a Technical Theatre student at North Carolina A&T State University who has worked on numerous productions in a variety of technical and leadership roles. Recent credits include *Skeleton Crew* (Master Electrician), *Everybody* (Sound Board Operator), *Miss Ever's Boys* (Fly Rail Operator), *Chicken and Biscuits* (Lighting Technician), *NEAT* (Stage Manager), and *Harlem Stage*, *Gift of the Magi*, and *Jaja's African Hair Braiding* (Assistant Stage Manager). KC is excited to continue growing as a theatre artist and contributing to meaningful productions both on and off the stage.

C. Wiseman (Sound Board Operator)
C. Wiseman is a sophomore Kinesiology student at North Carolina A&T and has done theatre since high school. C had the pleasure of working on *Everybody* as Sound Designer and has also worked on productions such as *Gift of the Magi* and *NEAT* with North Carolina A&T. C hopes you enjoy the show!

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

When my mentor entrusted me with the opportunity to direct this play, I understood it as a call to create something more than a performance. From the very beginning, directing *Everybody* was never, for me, about chasing a "good performance." It was about building a world and experience. A living, breathing space where every element could speak its own language and every choice could carry meaning.

Nothing in this production is accidental. Every choice you encounter in this production has been made with intention. I wanted to build a world, one that could be entered, felt, and carried. From the architecture of the set, to the specific tree placed within it, to the scent folded into the paint, each detail is there to speak. The different spaces within this world reflect the many phases of life: the beauty, the chaos, the innocence, the grief, and the becoming.

The costumes, the music, the textures, and the movement have been chosen not just to decorate the story, but to deepen it. I wanted this process to be an offering, to the cast, to the production team, and to you, lovers of art. It was important to me that we did not simply work beside one another, but that we became collaborators in the truest sense, building something honest enough to be called art. What you see tonight is the result of many hearts and hands choosing to meet each other fully in the work.

So as you experience this production, I invite you not to limit yourself to entertainment alone. Let yourself enter this world. Let your ego take a back seat. Allow yourself to feel whatever rises. Whether that be joy, discomfort, recognition, tenderness, grief, wonder, I challenge you to feel it all. For these 90 minutes, may this be more than a play. May it be a space to connect more deeply with yourself, with those beside you, and with the world waiting beyond these walls.

With love,
Autumn B. Carter

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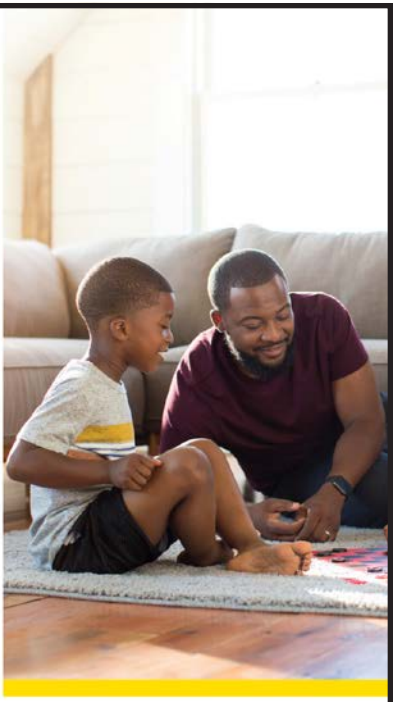

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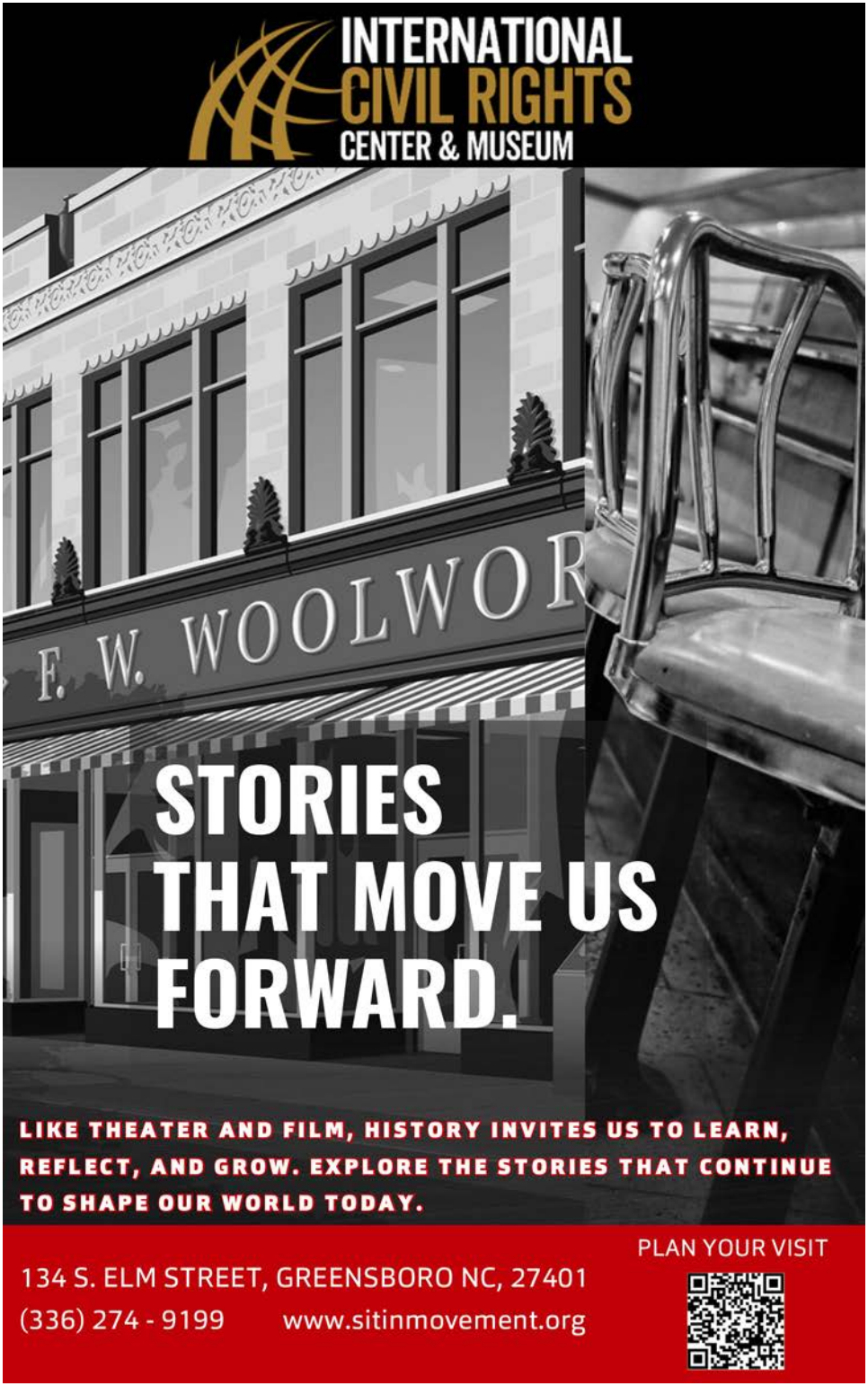
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Nico Amortegui, *Be a Wildflower*, 2025. © 2025 Nico Amortegui. Courtesy of the artist.

NOW OPEN DOWNTOWN

DISCOVER THE ART OF NOW IN NORTH CAROLINA

The North Carolina Museum of Art, Winston-Salem (formerly SECCA) is pleased to announce a new exhibition and program space, now open in the heart of downtown Winston-Salem.

Open Wednesday through Sunday, the space invites visitors to interact with art and artists, generate ideas and connections, and support our state's creative ecosystem.

GALLERY HOURS

WEDNESDAY	1PM	→	5PM
THURSDAY	1PM	→	7PM
FRIDAY	1PM	→	5PM
SATURDAY	11AM	→	5PM
SUNDAY	1PM	→	5PM

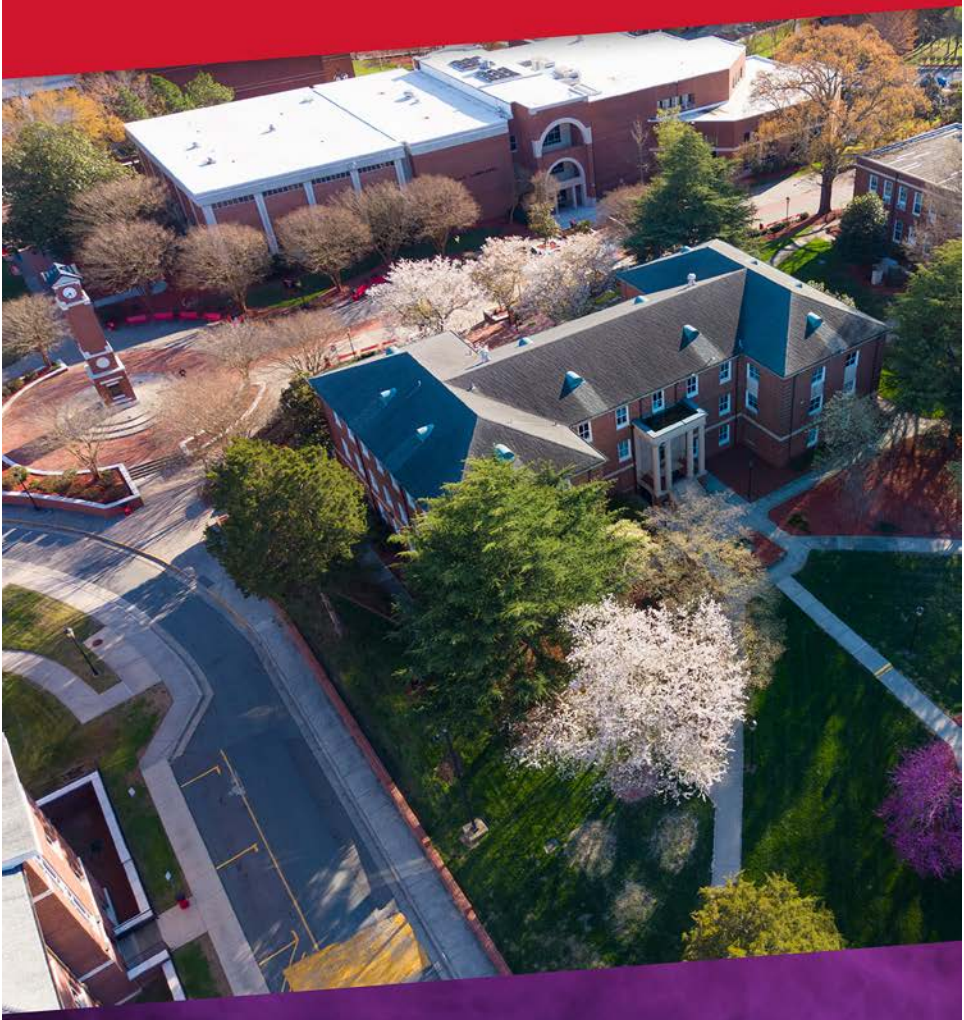
NCMA Winston-Salem Downtown is centrally located at
400 W Fourth St, Suite #130

Admission is free and open to the public. Learn more at
www.ncmawinstonsalem.gov

WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY

welcomes

the INTERNATIONAL BLACK THEATRE FESTIVAL



INTERNATIONAL BLACK THEATRE FESTIVAL®

A NC Black Rep Experience

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Our Mission: "Helping all people reach their God-given potential in spirit, mind and body."