INTERNATIONAL BLACK THEATRE FESTIVAL®

A NC Black Rep Experience

JUL 27 — WINSTON-SALEM, NC — AUG 1

2026

JOE TURNER'S COME AND GONE

BNS Productions

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

Benton South Reese 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.

Joe Turner's Come and Gone

BNS Productions

Written by
August Wilson

Founded in Charlotte, NC in 2013 by Artistic Director, Producer, and Playwright Rory D. Sheriff, **BNS Productions** is Charlotte, NC's only African American Repertory Theatre Company. Known for award-winning productions that center the African American experience, the company has engaged audiences nationwide through storytelling that is honest, entertaining, and impactful. BNS Productions has earned numerous honors, including wins at A Taste of Theatre in Chicago and historic appearances at the International Black Theatre Festival in Winston-Salem. Its production of Joe Turner's Come and Gone received multiple 2025 Metrolina Theatre Association Awards, including Outstanding Production and Outstanding Direction. Through theatre, music, and community-centered work, BNS Productions creates meaningful artistic experiences that inspire conversation and celebrate culture. Learn more at BNSProductions.org.

TECH CREW

Director ..... Dr. Corlis Hayes
Production Manager ..... Ericka Cornick
Stage Manager ..... Jessica Macks
Assistant Stage Manager ..... Robert Rankin
Costume Design ..... Emily McCurdy
Wardrobe Master ..... Robert Rankin
Wig Design ..... Aneesah Taylor
Light Design ..... Jennifer O'Kelly
Set Design ..... James Duke
Sound Design ..... Rob Bowser, Dr. Corlis Hayes
Prop Design/Operations Mgr. ..... Chiletta Marie
Education/Outreach Dir ..... Jermaine Nakia Lee
Choreographer ..... Renee Welch Noel
Intimacy Coach ..... Dee Abdullah

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Seth Holly ..... Graham Williams

Bertha Holly ..... Ericka Ross

Bynum Walker .....Dominic Weaver

Rutherford Selig ..... William L. “Bill” Parrish, Jr.

Jeremy Furlow..... Jonathan Caldwell

Herald Loomis.....Jonavan Adams

Zonia Loomis ..... Anastacia Dunca

Mattie Campbell.....Nasha Shandri

Reuben Mercer ..... Thaddeus Faustin

Molly Cunningham..... K. Alana Jones

Martha Pentecost.....Donna Marie

THE SCENE

Set in Seth and Bertha Holly’s boarding house in 1911 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, August Wilson’s Joe Turner’s Come and Gone takes place during the Great Migration, a period when many African Americans left the rural South in search of opportunity and a new beginning in the North. The boarding house serves as a crossroads for travelers carrying their hopes, histories, and dreams into a changing America.

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WHO'S WHO

Graham Williams (Seth Holly): Graham has worked on numerous plays at many theaters over his career, including: Be A Lion - Tin Man (BNS Productions), By Any Other Name An Opus to James Baldwin – Malcolm X/Tony Henderson (DayeLight, LLC), August Wilson's Joe Turner's Come and Gone (BNS Productions), Ja Ja's African Hair Braiding (Three Bone Theatre), Thoughts of a Colored Man - Wisdom (Three Bone Theatre) August Wilson's The Piano Lesson – Avery, (BNS Productions), Speakeasy - Roosevelt (BNS Productions), A Soldier's Play (Free Reign Theatre), Detroit 67 (Theatre Charlotte), Ma Rainey's Black Bottom - Slow Drag (BNS Productions), Fences – Lyons (BNS Productions), Jitney – Booster (BNS Productions), Boys to Baghdad - McClain (BNS Productions); Pipeline - Xavier (Three Bone Theatre); The Meeting -Malcolm X (W. Group Productions); Blood Ties - Bishop (Legacy Theatre Productions).Graham would like to thank his family for loving and supporting him. Motivational Quote: *"Excellence Must Be Pursued."* -Vince Lombardi

Ericka Ross (Bertha Holly): Ericka is excited to perform in this wonderful show again for the 2026 International Black Theatre Festival. Ericka has an MFA from London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art and has performed internationally and across the USA. Ericka also teaches and performs at Children's Theatre of Charlotte. Ericka has recently performed on several different stages in Charlotte, NC: A RAISIN IN THE SUN with Matthew's Playhouse/BNS Production collaboration, SCHOOL OF ROCK (Children's Theatre of Charlotte), and I AM QUEEN CHARLOTTE at Belk Theatre in conjunction with Blumenthal Arts (Epoch Tribe). Ericka also had the opportunity to perform in Nashville, TN in I AM QUEEN NASHVILLE. Ericka recently closed out a sold out run of DISNEY'S FROZEN as Bulda. Ericka gives all credit for her gifts to God and gratitude for the support from family and friends.

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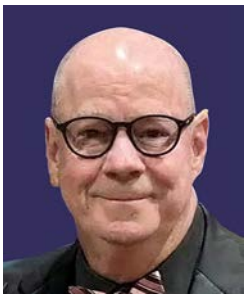
WHO'S WHO

Dominic Weaver (Bynum Walker): Dominic Weaver is originally from Gary, IN. He started his acting journey at Winston-Salem State University. Dominic has studied his craft under professionals like Avis Gray, Faiger Blackwell, Todd Bridges, Ron Dortch and April Turner. Dominic has done some film/TV as well as independent film work and voiceover work. He's done theatre shows such as THE AMEN CORNER (Brother Boxer), THE LAST DAYS OF JUDAS ISCARIOT (Pontius Pilot), SWEAT(Brucie), RIPCORD (Derek), JOE TURNER'S COME AND GONE (Jeremy), FENCES (Gabriel), JITNEY(Doub), TWO TRAINS RUNNING(Hambone), PURLIE VICTORIOUS (Purlie) and WITCH (Frank). This is his fourth show with BNS productions. Dominic is currently featured in the film, THE FORSAKEN on Tubi. He enjoys being a Dad, volunteering when possible, to put smiles on the faces of people in need. He would like to thank the cast, crew and YOU as the audience for supporting the Arts and this production...Without YOU none of it would be possible. YOU are the most important part of any production. *"If you think you're too small to make a difference, try sleeping in a small room with a mosquito."*



William L. "Bill" Parrish, Jr. (Rutherford Selig): A stage regular throughout North Carolina, Bill was recently seen as Rutherford Selig in the Charlotte production of JOE TURNER'S COME & GONE. He has also staged the character *Stage Manager* (narrator) in Thornton Wilder's OUR TOWN at The Green Room Theatre in Newton. His previous credits include stage roles as Tim in THE CAKE, The Porter in Shakespeare's MACBETH at Hickory Community Theatre, Dr. Spivey in ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST at Little Theatre of Gastonia, and Father Ambrose Pennefather in MURDER ON THE NILE at the Old Post Office Playhouse. Grateful to BNS Productions for bringing this August Wilson classic to Charlotte in 2025, and to Dr. Corlis Hayes for casting him alongside these outstanding actors, Bill hopes that you enjoy this timeless American classic, and that you will help to introduce theatre lovers to the award-winning plays of August Wilson – especially his Century Cycle series. After retiring from

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a career in business and sports development, Bill lives in Conover, NC with his theatre-nerd wife Tanya. They both support the performing arts and believe the arts in general to be critical to a community's character, historical depth, and economic vitality.

Jonathan Caldwell (Jeremy Furlow): Jonathan Caldwell is a proud Charlotte native whose passion for acting has been blazing since childhood. What began as a young boy mimicking his favorite television characters has evolved into a commanding stage and screen presence rooted in discipline, depth, and undeniable talent. Today, Jonathan brings that same fearless imagination and electric energy to every role he embodies. A dedicated student of the craft, Jonathan has delivered powerful performances across some of theatre's most demanding works — particularly within the canon of August Wilson. Under BNS Productions he portrayed Youngblood in Jitney, Lymon Jackson in The Piano Lesson, Jeremy Furlow in Joe Turner's Come and Gone, and King in King Hedley II. Each performance further solidified his reputation for balancing vulnerability, intensity, and authenticity on stage. Beyond Wilson's canon, Jonathan delivered a compelling performance as Carl Lee Hailey in Theatre Charlotte's production of John Grisham's A Time to Kill. He also portrayed Flip in Stick Fly with Theatre Charlotte, showcasing his versatility in contemporary drama. Expanding into film, Jonathan appears in A Season for Love (2025), written by Terrance McCloud and produced by Auteur Vision, streaming on Prime and Tubi. For Jonathan, acting is more than performance — it is a calling. Every opportunity to share his gift is met with humility, faith, and deep appreciation for the journey still unfolding.

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International Black Theater Festival

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A NC Black Rep Experience

2026 Forsyth County Commissioners

Denise Price, Deputy County Manager
Shontell Robinson, County Manager
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WHO'S WHO

Jonavan Adams (Herald Loomis): Jonavan Adams obtained a BA in Theatre Performance from Appalachian State University. He's been blessed to work with many theatre companies in the Charlotte area over the last 20 years. Jonavan made his IBTF debut in 2022 as Levee in August Wilson's "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom", produced by BNS Productions. He is excited to return with BNS and reprise his role as Herald Loomis in August Wilson's "Joe Turner's Come and Gone". Other recent credits include Walter Lee in "A Raisin in the Sun" produced by Matthews Playhouse, Doaker in August Wilson's "The Piano Lesson" produced by BNS Productions, and Captain Davenport in "A Soldier's Play" produced by Free Reign Theatre. Jonavan has also been blessed to work in TV, commercials, and film. He would like to thank his family, friends, fraternity (Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.), and YOU - the patron - for the support throughout the years.

Anastacia Duncan (Zonia Loomis): Anastacia Duncan is 11 years old and is from Winston Salem, NC. This is her IBTF debut. She is a Company member of The POINTE! Company & Technique Conservatory. She currently trains in ballet, tap, jazz, contemporary, modern, and African, as well as acting and voice. She loves to read, dance, and play in make-up. Anastacia would like to thank God, family, friends, team, and the cast for their love and support! @iamanastacialeilani

Nasha Shandri (Mattie Campbell): Nasha is excited to rejoin the production of August Wilson's "Joe Turner's Come and Gone." Nasha comes off the heels of Michaux Theatre Co.'s "Poof" by Lynn Nottage and BNS Productions' "Be A Lion". She was seen in the Matthew's Playhouse production of Lorainne Hansberry's "A Raisin in the Sun" and Charlotte's Off Broadway's, "The Hamilton Audition" by Suzanne Lambert. Some of her stage credits

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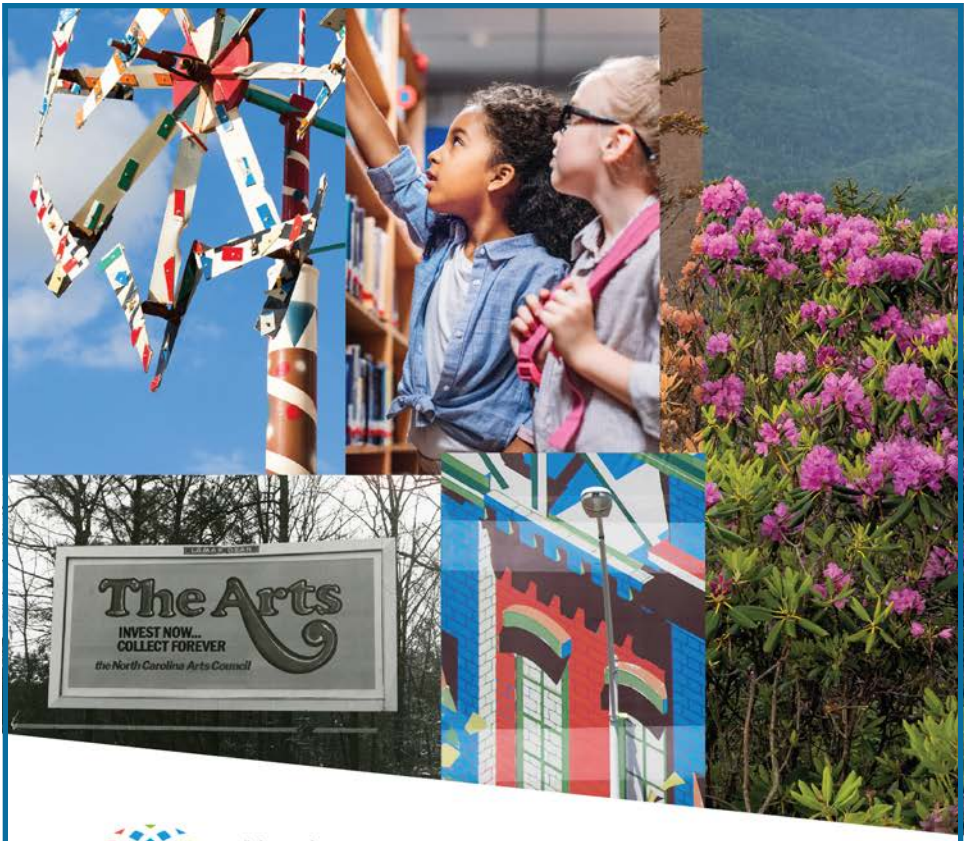
include *Joe Turner's Come and Gone (BNS Productions)* where she was awarded MTA's 2024 Outstanding Supporting Actress*, The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical (Children's Theatre of Charlotte) and Shakin the Mess Outta of Misery (Rock Hill Theatre).* When not on stage, on set, Nasha spends her time creating and collaborating with individuals and businesses through different modalities. Join her on IG @nashashandri to receive positive, empowering messages, tongue-in-cheek jokes, occasional health suggestions, and creative projects!

Thaddeus Faustin (Reuben Mercer): Thaddeus Faustin is delighted to be making his debut at the International Black Theatre Festival. Thaddeus made his theatrical debut in 2024 with BNS Productions in August Wilsons "Joe Turner's Come and Gone" (Rueben), and most recently had the opportunity to portray Travis Younger in Lorraine Hansbury's "A Raisin in the Sun" with Matthews Playhouse. While new to the big stage, Thaddeus is no stranger to acting in TV and film, with recent roles in the feature film "Jesus Land" (Young David) and some of his favorite TV credits including "Abbott Elementary" (Barbara's Student 1), "The Conners" (Albert) and "Ogden" (Jack). Thaddeus has received training from Acting Out Studios, The Children's Theater of Charlotte and Actorsite. Thaddeus is a creative at heart and loves playing chess, taking care of animals and spending time with friends.

K. Alana Jones (Molly Cunningham): K. Alana, originally from Huntsville, Alabama by way of Columbia, SC, has been involved in the arts from a young age. She sang in church from age 6 to 18 and went on to major in vocal performance. In 2016, she started in ensemble work for stage plays and continues to grow as an actress. She's been in shows like "Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris", "Be a Lion", "A Long Time Since Yesterday", "Speakeasy", "Leaving Watermaine", "For the Love of Harlem", and "Joe Turner's Come and Gone", and "The Color Purple", to name a few.



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WHO'S WHO

From singing, to dancing, to acting, to modeling, to activism, to creating, Alana lives for entertaining and giving a message. Her motto is "the hardest decisions in life are deciding which bridge to burn and which to cross. While you debate, keep giving your magic."

DonnaMarie (Martha Loomis/Pentecost): DonnaMarie is a socially engaged performance artist, actress, director, playwright, and activist who uses theater to amplify marginalized voices, foster community dialogue, and promote intercultural healing and understanding. Guided by her personal mission, "Expanding Minds One Show at a Time," she believes storytelling can inspire connection, reflection, and social change. A Northern California native, DonnaMarie has earned acclaim for bringing depth and authenticity to a wide range of memorable characters, including Lena Younger in A Raisin in the Sun, Dean Hernandez in Baltimore, Dorothy in The Speakeasy SF, Dr. Bessie Delany in Having Our Say, and most recently, Nestra in a new work, Juked by playwright Mildred Lewis. She is honored to add Martha Loomis Pentecost in Joe Turner's Come and Gone to her growing repertoire of powerful and complex roles. DonnaMarie's commitment to storytelling and diverse narratives continues to inspire audiences while creating opportunities for dialogue, understanding, and community engagement through the arts. This production marks several exciting firsts: her debut in an August Wilson play, her first collaboration with BNS Productions, the opportunity to work under the direction of Dr. Corlis Hayes, and her first appearance at the International Black Theatre Festival. She hopes you enjoy every moment of the beauty, brilliance, and humanity that make Joe Turner's Come and Gone a timeless theatrical masterpiece.

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

What drew me to directing *Joe Turner's Come and Gone* is that August Wilson celebrates his characters' rediscovery of themselves as Africans. Throughout the play, Wilson returns to the premise that the solution for the future of African Americans lies in the past. He believed that African Americans desperately need to reconnect with and understand their heritage, for it their source of strength.

There is a deep humanity in this play that resonates with me as an African American. It highlights Black pride, struggle, resilience, and dignity. It is Wilson's most complex and spiritual work of his ten-play American Century Cycle, which chronicles African American life throughout the twentieth century. This masterpiece of American theatre is even more relevant today than when it was first produced on Broadway. As African Americans, we are still faced with racism, limited economic opportunities, housing crises, a search for self-identity, and the role of Christianity as a moral compass in our lives.

I am beyond grateful for the opportunity to have worked with this powerhouse cast and extraordinary team of designers. My cast is a MASTER CLASS, and it is evident in their performances as they bring to life complex characters navigating a pivotal moment in history (1911), where African traditions clash with their Southern Black Culture.

I have directed six of Wilson's ten American Century Cycle plays, each of them multiple times, and each experience has been life changing. However, *Joe Turner's Come and Gone* will always be the most important play I have ever directed because it moved me closer to God. I am truly blessed that August Wilson's plays have led me to my purpose.

— Corlis Hayes, Director

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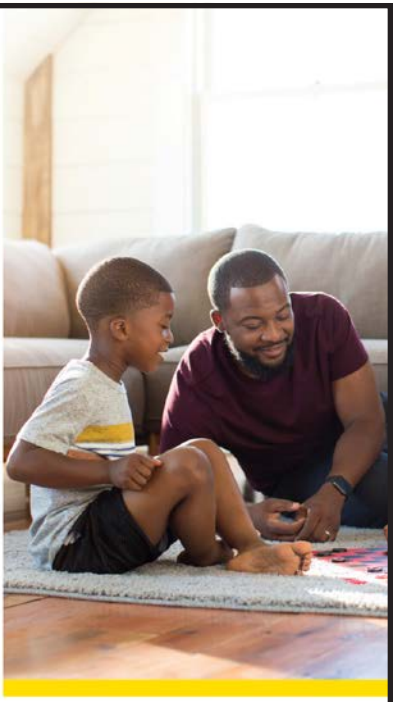

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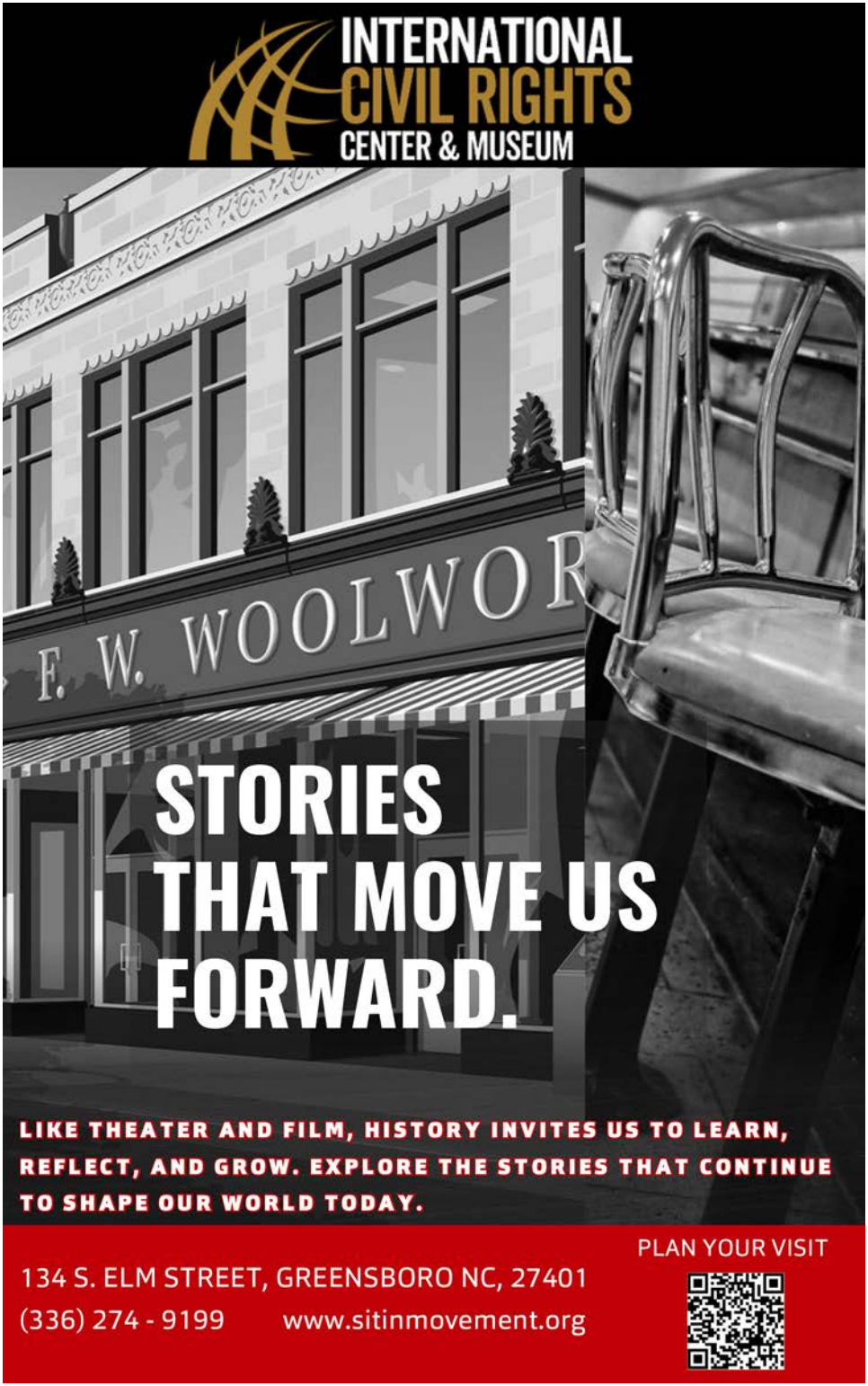
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Nico Amortegui, *Be a Wildflower*, 2025. © 2025 Nico Amortegui. Courtesy of the artist.

NOW OPEN DOWNTOWN

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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

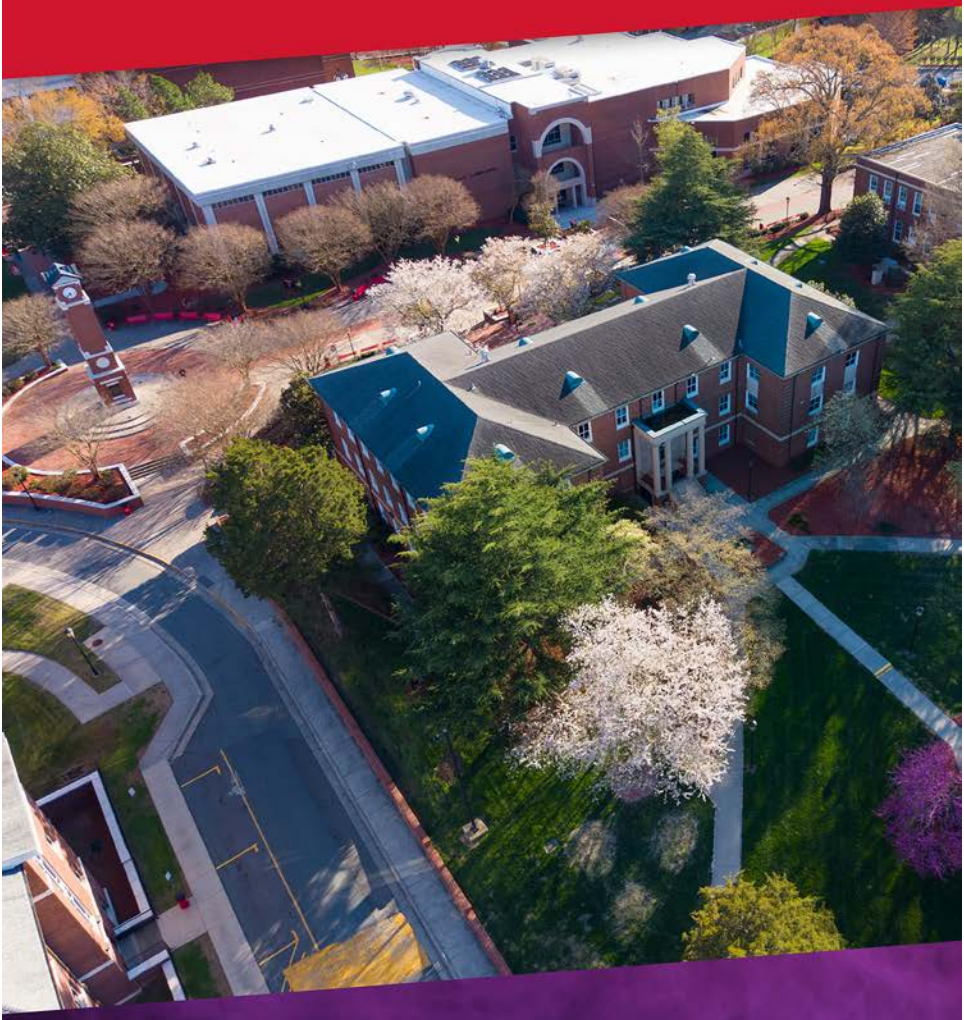
NCMA Winston-Salem Downtown is centrally located at
400 W Fourth St, Suite #130

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

WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY

welcomes

the INTERNATIONAL BLACK THEATRE FESTIVAL



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