

Arts & Medicine: So, You Want to be a Conductor?

Monday, May 12, 2025

In – Person

Choose your Time and Location!

12 pm – 12:50 pm – Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist
Hanes Building - Classroom 5043

Medical Center Blvd, Winston Salem, NC

or

6 pm – 6:50 pm – UNCSCA School of Music Complex
Room 167

1533 S. Main Street, Winston-Salem, NC



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Register online at www.nwahec.org/75363

Program Overview

What skills are required to lead an orchestra and how does a music director work with their musicians to create a beautiful performance experience for the audience? Winston-Salem Symphony Music Director Michelle Merrill will lead participants in a “conducting 101” class where they will learn the essential skills of baton movement and identify exactly what physical gestures and comments elicit the desired musical responses from the musicians. She will share the secrets of great performances and identify how easily a conductor can disrupt the team of skilled musicians who have differing levels of anxiety about performing.

By participating in this arts-based course learners are expected to improve their communication, empathy, collaboration, and teamwork skills. They will develop a greater sense of cultural humility, enabling them to engage with patients and colleagues in ways that respect cultural, social, and individual differences. These changes will ultimately lead to more inclusive, equitable healthcare environments and better patient outcomes.

Who Should Participate

This activity is designed for physicians, APPs, nurses, and other healthcare professionals interested in exploring empathy and communication through art.

As part of our commitment to creating a space where all BELONG, Northwest AHEC provides education and encouragement for respectful care for all, regardless of socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, language, nationality, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, geography, disability, and age.

Objectives

Upon completion of this activity, participants should be able to:

- Enhance teamwork skills and the ability to give clear verbal directions by practicing effective communication.
- Enhance empathy by learning to “read the room,” developing the ability to recognize and respond to the emotional cues of patients and healthcare team members.
- Improve teamwork skills and verbal direction to foster stronger connections and better communication in clinical environments.

Credit

- Accreditation: The Wake Forest University School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.
Credit: The Wake Forest University School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.
- 1.0 Contact Hour from Northwest AHEC
Nurses: This educational activity (1.0 contact hour) can be applied toward your continuing competence plan for maintaining your current licensure with the North Carolina Board of Nursing.

Before selecting credits, please review our general [Credit Glossary](#) but note not all programs offer all credits.

Provided by:

The University of North Carolina School of the Arts and Northwest Area Health Education Center (AHEC), a program of Wake Forest University School of Medicine and part of the NC AHEC System.

Faculty



Michelle Merrill
Winston-Salem Symphony

Michelle Merrill has been inspiring audiences throughout the country with her sharply detailed and vibrant performances. A passionate and dynamic artist, she is the Music Director of both the Winston-Salem Symphony and the Coastal Symphony of Georgia, where she has ignited the growth and expansion of each orchestra's offerings both on and off the stage.

Registration

\$30 – Registration Fee

Participants can choose which location they would like to attend: Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist or University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

Registration fee includes instructional and administrative costs, certificate of completion.

Register and pay online at www.nwahec.org/75363 or complete and return the attached registration form. Payment by credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express) accepted online. Personal check, corporate check, money order or Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Health internal transfer accepted by mail.

Payment Policy — Payment is required on or before entrance into any Northwest AHEC activity. If a corporate payment has not been received before the activity start date, you will be required to provide a personal credit card or check. To avoid personal payment, you should check with the financial staff at your organization to determine status of payment. If and when the corporate payment is received, Northwest AHEC will issue a full refund based on your original form of payment.

Refund Policy — Cancellations received in our office at least two weeks (14 business days) before the activity will receive a 100 percent refund. Registrants cancelling between two weeks and five full business days prior to the first day of the event will be refunded at 70% of the registration fee subject to a minimum \$25 cancellation fee. The registration fee will not be refunded if a cancellation is received less than five days before the activity. Cancellations must be written in an email. You may send a substitute in your place.

When planning for an educational activity, registration fees are not based on credit hours or agenda. Registration fees are based on expenses such as meeting room rentals, food, equipment, staff, etc., and are not adjusted by issues such as cancellation of speakers or other unforeseen circumstances. Every effort will be given to ensure the activity is a success.

Note — Attendance at this activity grants permission for Northwest AHEC to use any photographs, audio, video, or other images from this activity for promotional or educational purposes. Please notify a Northwest AHEC staff member if you have concerns.

For additional information contact Samantha Garvens at 336-713-7754 or sagarvens@wakehealth.edu.

Join us for other dates in this series!

May 6 - [Check Your Pulse and Find Your Groove](#)

May 14 - [Art and Empathy](#)

May 15 - [Come Out of the Shower](#)

May 19 - [Follow the Follower](#)