



**United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County**  
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## **Shining the Spotlight on Wake County Students**

[Raleigh, N.C.] – The United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County is proud to co-sponsor the 2017 Pieces of Gold tomorrow, March 8 at Memorial Auditorium. Pieces of Gold is a night of music, song and dance performed by 900 talented Wake County students representing 30 elementary, middle and high schools.

This is a wonderful opportunity for students to share their talents and skills in an elegant performance venue for members of the community and parents. Produced by Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) and with continued support from the City of Raleigh Arts Commission (Gifts of Gold Visual Art Show) and Wake Education Partnership, the funds generated from ticket sales provide direct support for WCPSS Arts Education programs.

“We have a strong partnership with Wake County schools,” says Eleanor Oakley, President and CEO of United Arts. “We are pleased to be a part of this event—a staple in Wake County for more than 30 years. It is a powerful demonstration of the importance of the arts for the people in our community.”

Cline Design, EY, Publix Super Market Charities and Six Forks Smiles are corporate sponsors for this year’s event.

For more information about Pieces of Gold, contact Karla Heinen at [kheinen@unitedarts.org](mailto:kheinen@unitedarts.org) or (919) 839-1498, ext. 211.



*Wendell Magnet Elementary School Students perform during the 34th annual Pieces of Gold event, March 9, 2016, Lynn Atkins (teacher).*

*The United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County, based in Raleigh, NC, was incorporated in 1990. Our mission is to build better communities through the support and advocacy of the arts. For the 2016/17 school year United Arts is helping bring in teaching artists to 137 schools in Wake County through its Artists in Schools program. The United Arts Council also offers grants to organizations, communities and individual artists and provides services to the community such as advocacy, resource development, professional/leadership development and special projects. The grants, programs and services of United Arts reach over 1.2 million people annually in Wake County.*

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