FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ECU Hosts Film Screening, Culmination of Events Commemorating Fall of Berlin Wall

GREENVILLE, N.C. (Nov. 13, 2014) — East Carolina University will culminate the series of events commemorating the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall on Wednesday, November 19, with the film screening “Following the Ninth: In the Footsteps of Beethoven’s Final Symphony,” followed by a multidisciplinary panel discussion asking, “Can Music Change the World? The Arts and People’s Protests.” This is a Wellness Passport event, which will begin at 5:30 p.m. in Hendrix Theater, and is free and open to the public.

Beethoven’s symphony resonates as an international anthem of hope. It buoyed the protesters in Tiananmen Square, provided solace to Berliners tearing down the Wall and to those struggling for freedom in Pinochet’s Chile. The documentary traces the use of Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony during these critical turning points in history.

The film also gives rise to a broader question, which the panelist will engage; do the arts and humanities have a role in stimulating or promoting social change?

Co-sponsors of the event include the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences; Harriot College’s Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, and Department of Sociology; the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center; ECU’s Student Activities Board; the SAB Film Committee; and the ECU School of Music, and School of Art and Design.

For additional information, contact Susan C. Pearce, associate professor of sociology (252-328-2544; pearces@ecu.edu), or Susanne Jones, associate professor of German (252-737-2390; jonessu@ecu.edu). Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should call 252-737-1016 (Voice/TTY) at least 48 hours prior to the event.

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