



2020 Outstanding Young Alumni Award Kambrell Garvin '13

Winthrop University recognizes young alumni, age 35 or younger, whose service to the university, service to the community and professional achievements have reflected positively on all alumni and the university.

The recipient of the 2020 Outstanding Young Alumni Award is Kambrell Garvin '13.

Garvin, an attorney with McGowan, Hood & Felder, currently serves as a Democratic member of the South Carolina House of Representatives, representing House District 77 in Richland County, Columbia, South Carolina.

He has been actively engaged with his community since his days as a young community leader; he organized his first voter registration campaign at the age of 10. As a Winthrop student, he was heavily involved on campus in several student clubs and organizations. During his freshman and sophomore years, he led the historic South Carolina NAACP Youth and College Division as president. Garvin also served two terms as the Student Government Association president, was crowned Homecoming King in 2012 and served as a student representative on the Board of Trustees. Additionally, he was a voting member of Winthrop's 10th presidential search and selection committee in 2012.

Kambrell earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with minors in African American Studies and Sociology from Winthrop University (2013); Master of Science in Education from Johns Hopkins University School of Education (2016), and his Juris Doctor from the University of South Carolina School of Law (2019).

A longtime equitable education advocate, Garvin joined Teach for America after graduating from Winthrop and later worked as a public school educator for three years in Walterboro, South Carolina. During that period, he was a member of the South Carolina Education Association.

Wanting to follow in the footsteps of his grandfather - the first Black representative of his local city council - Garvin entered the political arena in 2018.

The Columbia, South Carolina, native currently serves as the vice chair of the Richland County Legislative Delegation and the parliamentarian for the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus. He is a member of the First Nazareth Baptist Church, Columbia Branch NAACP, South Carolina Association for Justice and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

He is married to his college sweetheart, Monique Patton Garvin '14, and the couple resides in Blythewood, South Carolina, with their daughter, Wrenley Primrose, and a Yorkshire Terrier poodle named Chloe.