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December 2019



Fall Commencement Recognizes Graduates, Award Winners

Winthrop conferred degrees to nearly 350 graduates during the Dec. 14 Commencement ceremony. [President Dan Mahony](#), who oversaw his final Commencement, presented the President's Award for Academic Excellence to Savannah Crosby, a psychology major from Great Falls, South Carolina, and the [Kinard Award for Excellence in Teaching](#) to Assistant Professor of Athletic Training Alice McLaine and Professor of Political Science Chris Van Aller. Gloria Jones '84, the retiring dean of University College, delivered the keynote address.

View more [graduation highlights](#) on Facebook.



Construction Moves Forward on Miracle Park

On Dec. 11, Winthrop and Rock Hill leaders turned out for the groundbreaking of [Miracle Park](#), which is located across from the Winthrop Coliseum. Construction is moving forward on the 15-acre project designed for people of all ages and abilities to play and work. The park, when completely built, will include two Miracle fields, two multi-purpose fields, a special needs playground, and a café that will employ people with disabilities.



Volleyball Finishes Up Incredible Season

The Eagles capped off an impressive season by remaining undefeated in conference play to claim the Big South Championship and to earn the conference's automatic berth in the NCAA tournament. This was the program's sixth conference championship and the first Big South crown for the Eagles since 2006. Other highlights were Chuck Rey being named the conference's [Coach of the Year](#) for the second straight year and senior Siani Yamaguchi was also named the conference's Player of the Year. [Read More>>](#)



Student Voter Turnout Earns Gold Seal for Winthrop

Winthrop recently earned a Gold Seal from the All In Democracy Challenge for its impressive 2018 student voter turnout in the midterm elections. Winthrop students' turnout was at 40.1 percent, thus qualifying the university as a Gold Seal winner with a turnout of between 40 and 49 percent. Overall turnout for college students was 40.3 percent in the 2018 midterm election. [Read More>>](#)



Strengthening the Winthrop Network

Thanks to everyone who attended a Winthrop alumni social this fall. A record number of alumni attended these fun networking events that help welcome alumni to Winthrop's 10 regional chapters. Check out social highlights on [Facebook](#). View the upcoming events for 2020 and make plans to attend! [Read More>>](#)

Reasons to Give this Season



What's Your Reason to Give?

During this season of giving, the Winthrop community is grateful for the support of alumni and friends. Your gifts help create a model learning community that produces successful graduates prepared for a lifetime of leadership and service in an increasingly global society. Please consider making a gift to the Winthrop Fund this season. There are several ways to make a gift to Winthrop.

[Read More>>](#)



Alumni Director's Letter: Alumni Input Needed, Pre-Game Socials and More

Winthrop is seeking input from alumni, faculty, staff and students on developing an institutional project that focuses on student learning as part of the accreditation process by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). To participate in the project, please complete the brief two-question [survey](#). Also, as we close out 2019, the Alumni Association would like to thank all our alumni who made our year successful.

[Read More>>](#)



Alumni Spotlight: Elizaveta Zaytseva '12, '15

Elizaveta Zaytseva '12, '15 believes learning to adapt in culturally diverse environments is one of the most valuable skills graduates should develop as they think about post-grad life. As a regional reporting manager for Atlas Copco, she travels internationally and embraces the different cultural experiences.

[Read More>>](#)

Calendar of Events

Dec. 24-Jan. 1, Winthrop Offices Closed

Jan. 9, Pre-Game Social for Women's Basketball vs. USC Upstate

(Game time: 6 p.m.)

4 p.m., [RJ Rockers](#), Spartanburg/Greenville

Jan. 11, Pre-Game Social Doubleheader

Women's Basketball vs. Presbyterian College (Game time: 2 p.m.)

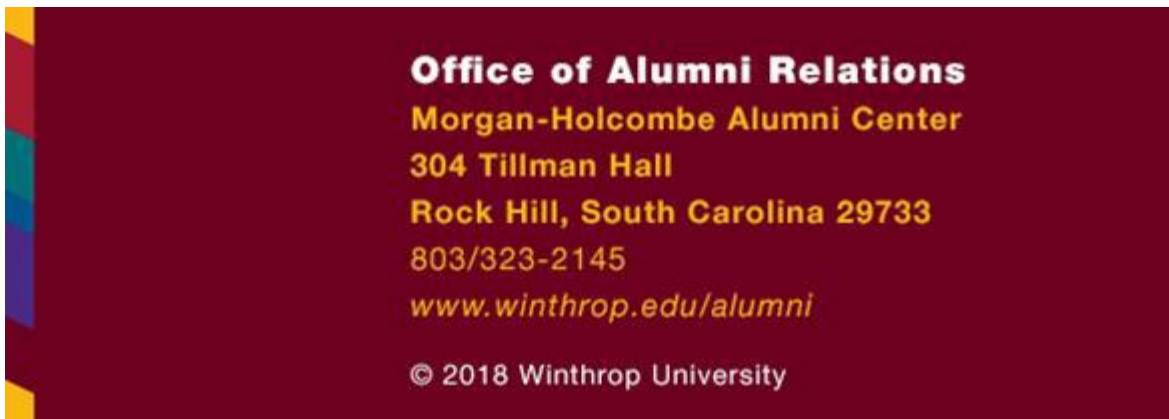
Men's Basketball vs. Gardner-Webb (Game time: 7 p.m.)

12 p.m., [Slow Play Brewing](#), Rock Hill

Jan. 30, Pre-Game Social for Men's Basketball vs. Charleston Southern

(Game time: 7:30 p.m.)

5:30 p.m., [Wild Wing Café](#), Charleston



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