



WINTHROP
UNIVERSITY
FOUNDATION

2019-20
ANNUAL REPORT

As we review the 2019-20 academic year, we do so with celebration of what we have achieved together and with recognition of the significant changes and challenges posed during the last part of the academic year.

During the course of the academic year, we saw and celebrated great philanthropic efforts by alumni and friends, leading to a banner fundraising achievement of more than \$6.6M raised for Winthrop! Our portfolio also enjoyed the growth seen in markets around the world, with an exceptional return of 22.34%, further growing dollars entrusted to us for support of the Winthrop community.

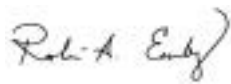
More than 800 students received scholarships during the 2019-2020 academic year, and this investment is one that will yield returns for us all as these students ultimately turn their Winthrop educations into careers and lives that make the world a better place for their being in it. Generous donors created 14 new endowments that will perpetually support students and the Winthrop community.

Even as we faced an unplanned and significant change to instruction and life in general in the spring, our students, faculty, and staff rose to the occasion, switching to remote instruction following spring break. Winthrop worked together as one team to make sure students continued to receive quality coursework as well as support from all facets of the university, though most faculty and staff were also living and working in quarantine, too. In March, we created the Student Emergency and Assistance Fund to immediately deal with the impact of the pandemic on our students and the urgent needs many faced. Read more about that effort on page 9.

Ultimately, as we begin the 2020-2021 academic year, many things are still uncertain. But one thing we do know with certainty — because of the sincere relationships formed between students and faculty, because of the dedication of the faculty and staff who tirelessly serve, and because of the investment of donors in all that Winthrop does, Winthrop will continue to be nimble and responsive in providing not just an education but true support to our talented students as they pursue their education, life vocations, and dreams at Winthrop.


EVAN BOHNEN
*Vice President
for University
Advancement*




Robin Embry '00,'12
*Executive Director,
Winthrop University
Foundation*



■ ALIZA MCMAHON

Recipient of the J.A. Knox Scholarship; the Patricia Harvey Polk Endowed Scholarship in Education; and the Cindy McDaniel Johnson Endowed Scholarship

Aliza McMahon '20 chose Winthrop because it felt like a small school with all the advantages of a larger school; she stayed because of opportunities to get involved and the relationships. Aliza, an elementary education major from Irmo, South Carolina, cites Winthrop for preparing her to be an



excellent teacher, noting that her professors “pushed and influenced [her] to become the best.” As Aliza begins her teaching career, she is grateful to the donors who helped her flourish during her college studies and says “I have gained new perspectives, more confidence, boldness, networking skills, wisdom, education, and passion that will take me far. I could never express my gratitude for how much I have grown during my time at Winthrop.”

■ CHRISTIAN MORRIS

Recipient of the Rock Hill Music Club Scholarship

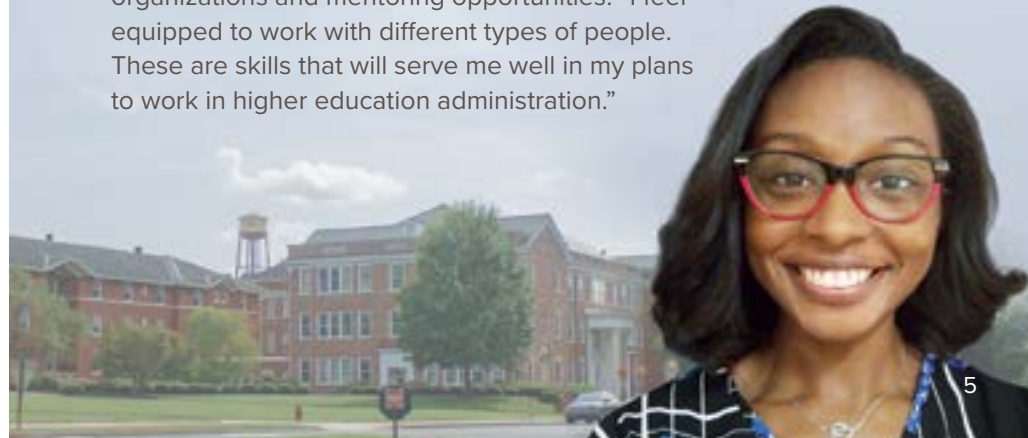
Christian Morris '22 calls his Winthrop experience “nothing other than incredible,” citing welcoming faculty and a beautiful campus environment as central to his time studying music at Winthrop. Coming from Chesterfield, South Carolina, and a small high school music program, Christian worried he wouldn't be ready to study on the college level; but with the help of Music faculty and a lot of hard work, he is ever more prepared for his future career as a musician. Christian is also eager to remain connected with the philanthropy that has supported his studies, saying, “Winthrop has given so much to me, and I intend to give back.”



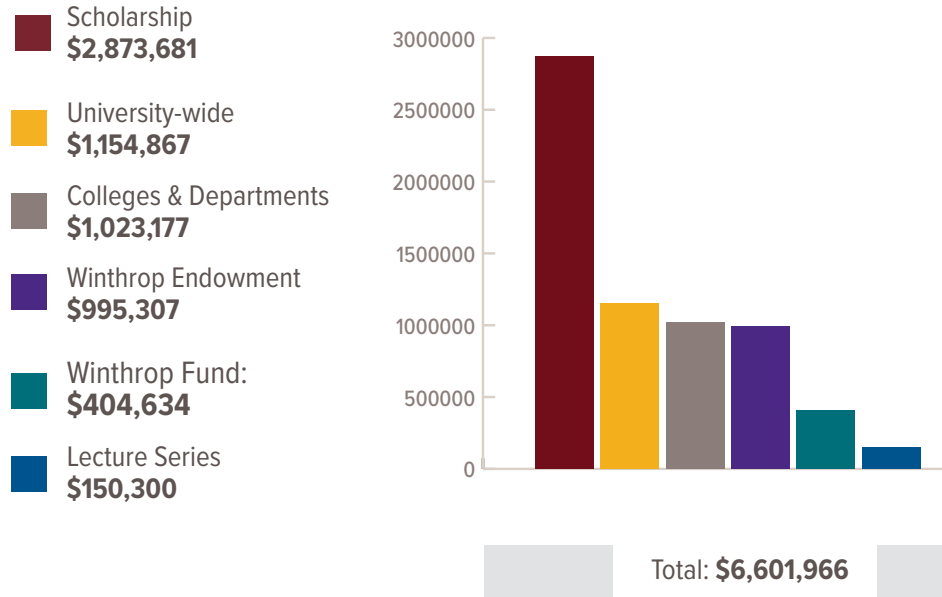
■ GABRIELLE MCGEE

McNair Scholar

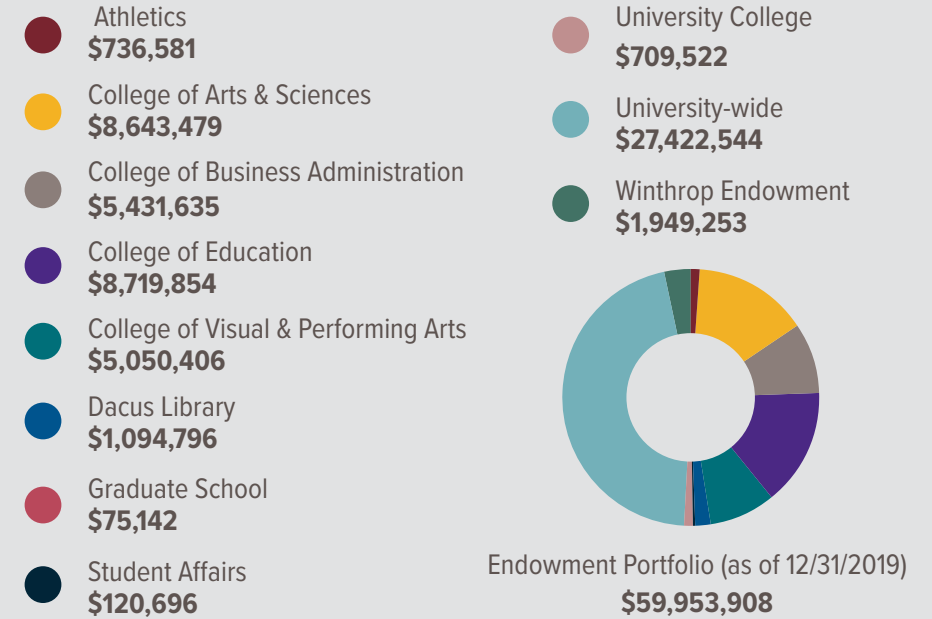
Pointing to her experiences at Winthrop, **Gabrielle McGee '21** plans to give back through a career in higher education. Gabrielle is a McNair Scholar, an exclusive cohort of a federal program on Winthrop's campus that is designed to prepare underrepresented populations for Ph.D. programs through faculty mentoring and research. Her research has focused on the learning experiences of first-generation college students as well as college students of racial and ethnic minorities. Her work is set to be published in an academic journal in spring 2021. Gabrielle's plans to go to graduate school were fueled by her involvement with student organizations and mentoring opportunities: “I feel equipped to work with different types of people. These are skills that will serve me well in my plans to work in higher education administration.”



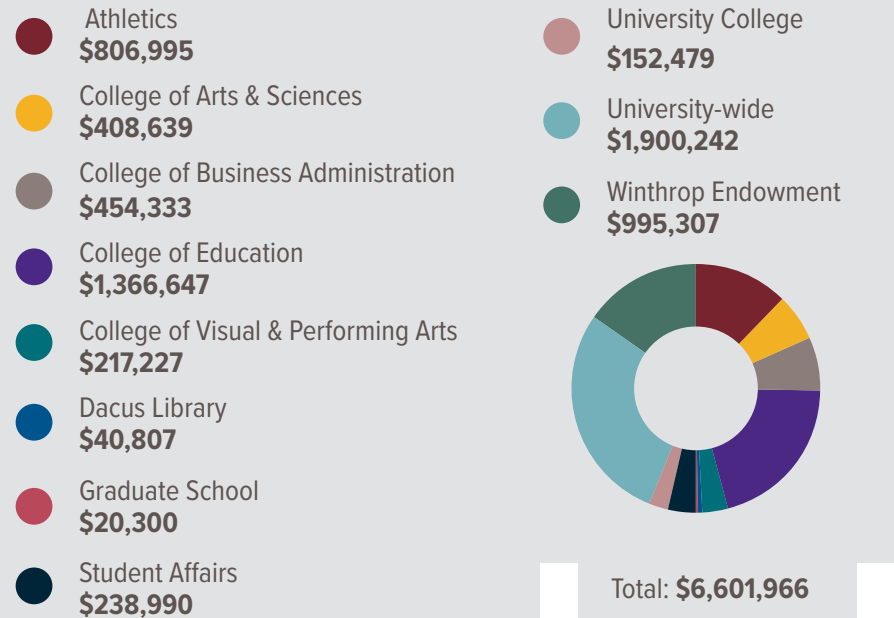
PURPOSE OF GIFTS AS OF DECEMBER 2019



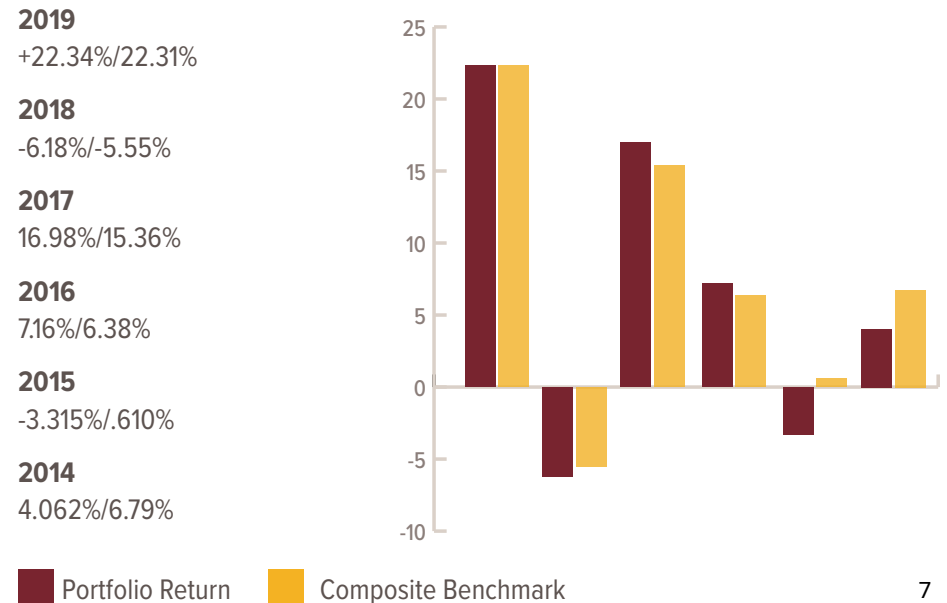
ENDOWMENT DESIGNATIONS BY AREA AS OF DECEMBER 2019



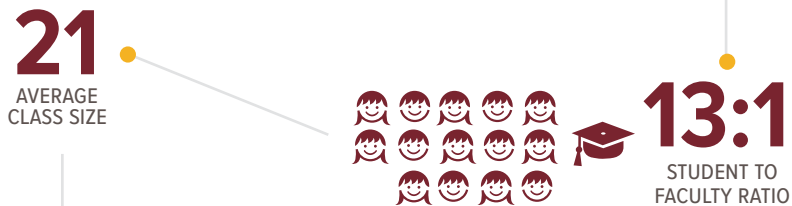
DESIGNATION OF GIFTS CALENDAR YEAR 2019



HISTORICAL RETURNS OF PORTFOLIO WITH BENCHMARKS BY CALENDAR YEAR



WINTHROP BY THE NUMBERS



Data based on Fall 2019



STUDENT EMERGENCY AND ASSISTANCE FUND

In March, our students left for spring break, not knowing the rest of the semester would be moved to remote learning and they would only return to collect their belongings from residence halls as the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown schools and workplaces across the country. The many ripples of the pandemic changed life for a lot of students, with some losing jobs and others experiencing job loss by parents or family members who normally helped pay tuition or other expenses.

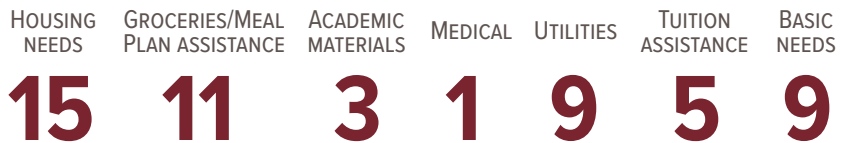
But as Winthrop alumni, friends, faculty and staff do, the Winthrop family stepped up. The creation of the **Student Emergency and Assistance Fund** allowed donors to make gifts that could immediately be put to work to help students who found themselves in emergency situations due to the impact of the pandemic.

Through the summer, we were immediately able to assist 30 students with emergency needs because of generous donor philanthropy. As we continue into the fall, we know students will continue to feel the impact of the pandemic on their lives in a variety of ways, and students will continue to face unforeseen circumstances as a result. We look forward to this fund providing ongoing resources to deal with immediate and crucial needs for our students as they arise. To join the effort, visit www.winthrop.edu/give and choose Student Emergency and Assistance Fund as your Gift Designation.

STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND



TYPES OF GRANTS AWARDED



As of Sept. 15, 2020

*Some grants cover more than one area

■ MICHELLE HAMILTON

Elizabeth Hope Reed Fellow

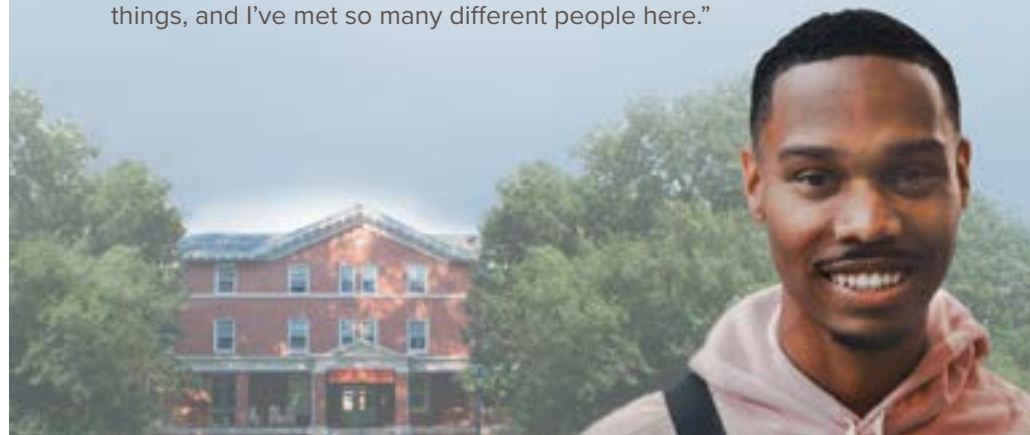
Michelle Hamilton '19, '23 loved her undergraduate work at Winthrop so much that she wanted to immediately begin graduate work. The social worker, wife, and mother from Travelers Rest, South Carolina, knew how much work — and how much fun — a second degree would be after her undergraduate experience. But because of that experience, she knew it would be worth it. Even balancing a full-time job, being a wife and mother, and her studies, Michelle found that she could “juggle many obligations yet enjoy the Winthrop educational experience.” She also knows Winthrop prepares its graduates well, already planning that she “will likely hire Winthrop graduates, knowing the type of education and experience they received.”



■ MARTIN JACKSON

Close Scholar

Grandson of a Winthrop graduate, history major **Martin Jackson '22** knows he'll be prepared for his planned career as a judge. Martin, a Close Scholar, does service work alongside his studies each semester. He knows well how much that means to those he helps, as he and his mother have had tough financial times over the years but persevered with help from others, especially Martin's grandmother. Martin knows that his dedication to his studies at Winthrop will serve him well, saying “Winthrop has prepared me for work beyond what my major entails...I have a variety of skills that allow me to be adept at many things, and I've met so many different people here.”



■ ALEXUS ALSTON

Recipient of the Student Emergency and Assistance Fund

Alexus Alston '20, a senior psychology, community-based learning major from Murrells Inlet, South Carolina, who will graduate in December 2020, credits donor support for being able to finish her Winthrop degree, noting “I really appreciate everything that Winthrop has done for me. Thank you to all of the donors who contributed so that I had an opportunity to finish my senior



year and get a quality education.” Like many students, Alexis was affected by the pandemic. Being able to get a little help with rent allowed her to stay in the area and continue to work this summer so that she can pay her tuition and housing for the fall semester. See more about this special fund for students on page 9.



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