



# McNair Scholars Program Newsletter

Winter 2020 Edition



**Summer 2019 Cohort**

▲ Left to right: Sauliha Mitchell, Gabrielle McGee, Monejah Black, Chelsea Harris, Nicholle Lewis, Kiera Alexander, Veronica Worthington, Makeyla McCray, and Mattin Avalon



The Ronald E. McNair Post Baccalaureate Achievement Program is a federally-funded TRIO Program that prepares first-generation, low-income, and underrepresented undergraduates to be successful in doctoral programs.

Winthrop's McNair Scholars Program includes, but is not limited to, a paid summer research experience, faculty mentoring, workshops, GRE and graduate school application preparation, graduate financial aid assistance, and travel to present research and explore graduate program. Learn more at <http://www.mcnairscholars.com>

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# Ten Doctors In Ten Years!



## **Dr. Derion Reid**

Graduation Cohort: **2012-13**

Doctoral Degree & Year: **PhD Chemistry 2019 *Northeastern University***

Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Takita Sumter**

## **Dr. Michael Capps**

Graduation Cohort: **2011-12**

Doctoral Degree & Year: **PhD Mathematics 2019 *Colorado State University***

Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Joe Rusinko**



## **Dr. Diamond Melendez**

Graduation Cohort: **2014-15**

Doctoral Degree & Year: **PharmD 2019 *University of Maryland— Baltimore***

Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Aaron Hartel**



## **Dr. Kristin Ramirez**

Graduation Cohort: **2015-16**

Doctoral Degree & Year: **DPT 2019 *University of Nebraska Medical Center***

Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Janet Wojcik**



## **Dr. Zachary Collier**

Graduation Cohort: **2012-13**

Doctoral Degree & Year: **PhD Research & Evaluation Methodology 2018 *University of Florida***

Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Brad Witzel**



# Ten Doctors In Ten Years!



## **Dr. Ronald Nelson**

Graduation Cohort: **2011-12**

Doctoral Degree & Year: **PhD Chemistry 2017 *Wake Forest University***

Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Takita Sumter**

## **Dr. Kevin Mayes**

Graduation Cohort: **2011-12**

Doctoral Degree & Year: **MD 2017 *University of South Carolina***

Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Christian Grattan**



## **Dr. Ashton Brock**

Graduation Cohort: **2010-11**

Doctoral Degree & Year: **PhD Chemistry 2016 *University of Virginia***

Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Takita Sumter**

## **Dr. Shantelle Igiozee**

Graduation Cohort: **2012-13**

Doctoral Degree & Year: **DPT 2016 *University of St. Augustine Health Sciences***

Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Janet Wojcik**



## **Dr. Brittany Stapleton-Livingston**

Graduation Cohort: **2011-12**

Doctoral Degree & Year: **DPT 2015 *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill***

Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Janet Wojcik, Dr. Kim Wilson**



## Congratulations to Our Recent Graduate, Maya Whaley!

McNair graduate, Maya Whaley received a B.A. in Psychology with a minor in Criminal Justice. Maya is currently looking forward to her next steps in research or attending graduate school in the fall of 2019. Maya received an honorary McNair cord to wear at her graduation, a McNair pin, and one of our stainless steel McNair tumblers for her hard work in the McNair Program. We are so excited for and proud of you, Maya!



*Maya presenting research at SAEOPP*



*Scholars & Staff at Maya's Graduate Luncheon*

# 2019 McNair Photos



## Fast Facts About Our Graduate Associate, Jasmine Goode

1. I graduated from Winthrop University in May of 2019 with a B.A. in Psychology and minor in Health Care Management. I am currently in the Counseling and Development Graduate Program at Winthrop.
2. I am a small town girl. I was born and raised in Union, South Carolina.
3. I have two sisters (I am the middle child) that I am very close to and two beautiful nieces that I love more than anything in this world.
4. I love to travel. I have traveled outside of the country twice to Cancún, Mexico and Jamaica. I absolutely love Jamaica!
5. My ultimate goal in life is to have my own private practice in Mental Health Counseling.




# 24th Annual SAEOPP McNair/SSS Scholars Conference

June 27-June 30, 2019, scholars travelled to the annual SAEOPP McNair/SSS Scholars conference in Atlanta, Georgia, to present their summer research projects. Winthrop took 12 scholars to present, and five of our scholars won awards! We are so proud of all of our scholars' hard work this summer.



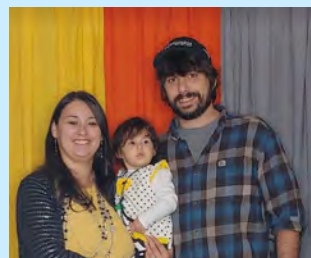
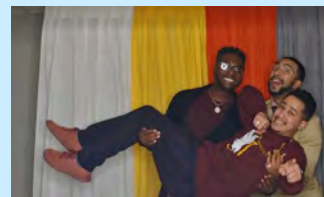
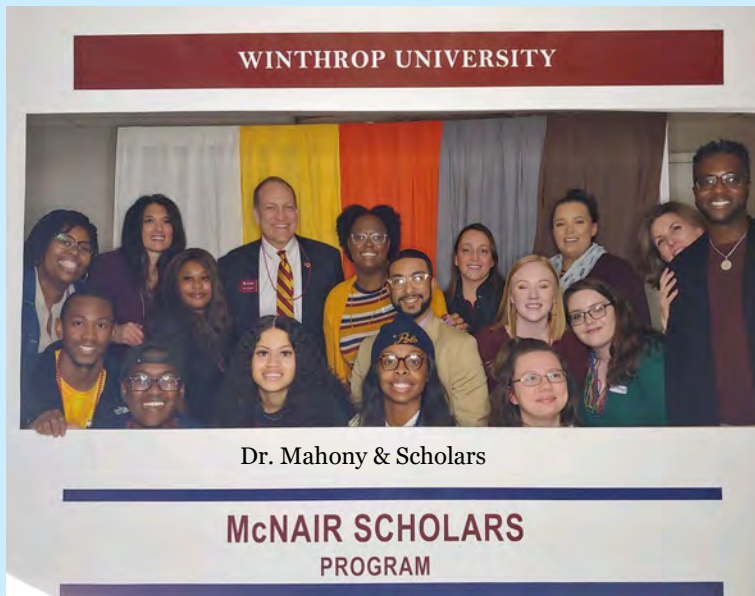
Director and Award-Winning Scholars at SAEOPP

Winthrop McNair Scholar	Presentation Title	Place 
Nicholle Lewis	Optimization of Smooth Muscle Cell Culture for Blood Vessel Tissue Engineering	3rd—Life Science
Monejah Black	The Representation of Female African American College Students on Television: A Content Analysis of A Different World and Grownish	3rd—Social Science
Mattin Avalon	Personalizing Religion: A Qualitative Analysis of New Age Spiritual Identity Online in Postmodernity	3rd—Social Science
Cayla Odom	Silver Nanoparticle Biosynthesis and Calcium Calcite Biomineralization as a	1st— Physical Science
Makeyla McCray	Perceptions of African American Students' Professional Relationships with Faculty at a Predominantly White Institution	2nd—Education



# Winthrop McNair Scholars Program 10th Anniversary Celebration

On November 15, 2019, we celebrated Winthrop's McNair Scholars Program 10 year anniversary. This wonderful event included food, music, a special McNair Photo booth, and door prizes. Current scholars, alumni scholars, and advisory board members participated. We even had a surprise visit from Dr. Mahony!



## Psychology Department Award

At the end of the fall semester, one of our scholars received an award from the Department of Psychology.



Scholar Veronica Worthington received the Outstanding Researcher Award, which is given to a student who is strong in many areas, but demonstrates exceptional research skills (independent work, work with multiple mentors, conference presentations, etc.)

## Scholar Among Scholars Award

### Winthrop McNair Scholars Program

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Dr. Cheryl Fortner-Wood

#### Executive Support Specialist:

Mrs. Barb Yeager

#### Graduate Associate:

Ms. Jasmine Goode

#### Head Writing Coach & WMRB Editor:

Ms. Stephanie Bartlett



Gabrielle McGee was awarded the Scholar Among Scholars Award. The award was originally created in honor of Lauren Green's exceptional work during the SRE, but now each cohort votes for the cohort member they believe best exemplifies the qualities of a McNair Scholar. The 2019 cohort praised Gabrielle in many ways, noting that she "is inspiring, sweet and able to overcome any obstacle that comes her way," and that she "is always supportive from the sidelines." Congratulations Gabrielle!