

# November 2023

# Staff Stuff

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## Fall Treats for All

Fall brought treats for all the staff with some new and returning festivities. For the first time, the President's office hosted a Department Decorating Contest and the offices were out of this world and the group costumes were super!

The annual Staff Fall Fest was a great party. Big thanks to the Sernas for hosting and making this event possible! We loved the pumpkins, the costumes, and all the great treats.

The President's Office looked Wonderful in their Wizard of Oz costumes, pictured below.



Fall Treats for All continued on page 4.

The next Staff Conference Meeting is on Friday, November 17 at 2:30 p.m. in Owens G02.



Missed the last meeting?  
View the presentation on the [Staff Conference webpage](#).

## Mark Your Calendars

### Provost Candidates November 13-16

The Provost Search Committee has invited four candidates to campus. You can attend their presentations at 3:30pm in Dina's Place or watch the recordings afterwards.

### Thanksgiving Break November 22-24

This year offices will be closed starting on Wednesday, November 22 for Thanksgiving Break. Have a great holiday!

### Tree Lighting and Christmas Parade December 1

Join us at 6pm on the Tillman Lawn for the 88th Annual Tree Lighting! The Winthrop RockHettes and the Winthrop Chorale and Collegiate Choir will perform.



# Nominees

## for Staff Member of the Month

October nominees will be included in the December issue of Staff Stuff.

Have an awesome coworker? Use the [nomination form](#) to submit their name for Staff Member of the Month.

### Anna Triester Procurement Officer Procurement Services

**How many years have you been at Winthrop?**

This September was one year for me.

**What makes Winthrop special to you?**

Winthrop holds a special place in my heart, a connection that spans back to my childhood in Rock Hill. The captivating beauty of the campus always left a lasting impression on me. In my early twenties, I embarked on a journey as a non-traditional student at Winthrop University. This is when I discovered how amazing the people were at Winthrop University. I had the privilege of learning from some of the finest faculty members and received the best support from a dedicated staff. Reflecting on those years, I can genuinely attest that pursuing my bachelor's degree at Winthrop University was among the most enriching and fulfilling chapters of my life.

**What drives you to make such a difference?**

My strong work ethic is a direct reflection of the values instilled in me by my mother. From her, I

learned the importance of showing up, maintaining a positive attitude, and completing tasks with dedication. Additionally, I consider it a great honor to now serve in a supportive role at the university that played a pivotal role in shaping me into the successful woman I am today.

**What is your favorite part of Winthrop?**

The beautiful campus. Specifically Tillman Hall where I am fortunate enough to work.

**What do you do in your spare time? Hobbies?**

Spending quality time with my precious eleven-year-old daughter. Once she has worn me out, I find solace in reading.

**If you had to tell an incoming student one thing about Winthrop, what would it be?**

Study abroad!

Staff Member of the Month



## Finding

### Big Stuff

Can you find Big Stuff? Each issue of Staff Stuff has the illustration above of our beloved mascot, Big Stuff, hidden somewhere throughout the pages. If you find him, send an e-mail to [staffstuff@winthrop.edu](mailto:staffstuff@winthrop.edu) and tell us where he is. Those who find Big Stuff will be entered into a drawing to win a prize.

Congratulations to our last winner: Hannah Potter, Assistant Women's Lacrosse Coach.

# A Winthrop Welcome

## to our newest hires!

**Bonita Berry**, Administrative Assistant, Psychology  
**Caleb Clinton**, Groundskeeper, Facilities Management  
**Laura Gilstrap**, Assistant Softball Coach, Athletics  
**Shannon Greene**, Program Assistant, Human Nutrition  
**Jess Peeples**, Administrative Assistant, University College  
**Mikayla Sengle**, Program Assistant, University College  
**Graham Vickers**, Program Assistant, Mass  
Communication  
**Morgan Wyatt**, Assistant Softball Coach, Athletics

# Winthrop Fountain

It's been 5 long years since the water flowed from the iconic Winthrop fountain. During Homecoming, faculty, staff, students, and alumni joined the President to watch the newly reconstructed fountain come back to life.

*A more formal event will be held in the spring to thank the donors of the project*



# NAMI Walk

Winthrop staff participated in the National Alliance on Mental Illness' annual NAMIWalk on October 7th! Pictured (from left to right): Kelly Scott from Institutional Effectiveness crossing the finish line; Fatima Castro and Kyle Conrad from Admissions taking a celebratory group photo.



# Spotlight on Staff Assembly



I have been at Winthrop as an employee in various positions in facilities for five years, I have completed three and a half years of college credits (two and a half at Winthrop and my freshman year at Sewanee: The University of the South), I am from Rock Hill, I have five pets (two cats and three huskies), and I enjoy sports, cigars, and hiking.

**Taylor Degen**

**Set-Up Specialist**

**Facilities Management**

# Fall Treats for All (continued)

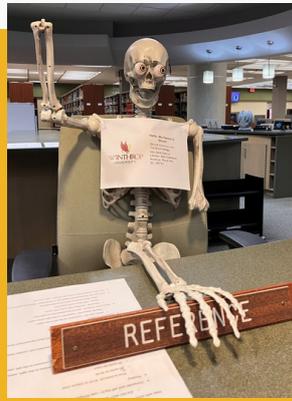
Congratulations to the winners! Jessica Gladden won the pumpkin carving contest with her Pilot Fish Pumpkin, and Human Resources won the office decorating contest with their Area 51 theme



(clockwise from top left) The Admissions Superheroes really showed their stuff, the Cashier's Office was classically spooky, the Alumni crew was cool as can be, and UCM got wild.



**Dean of Students Office**



(clockwise from bottom left) Student Affairs was pretty in pink, the Dean of Students office was magical, Dacus had some spine-tingling good references, McNair was haunting, Health Services found their funny bone, and University College was brewing up something good.



## New Representatives!

Join us in welcoming **Kelly Scott** and **Brittany Pigford** as the newest Academic Affairs Representatives on Staff Assembly! Remember, you don't have to be on Staff Assembly to join a Staff Committee. Get more information about all the committees and Staff Assembly members at <https://www.winthrop.edu/staff/>

# Fall Treats for All (continued)



(clockwise from top left) Alvin and the chipmunks put on a show, Financial Aid was busy playing Clue, a clown was spotted outside of Digs, Wayne and Garth came to party on, the Super crew had a pumpkin to match, the Pink Ladies met up with the emerald wizard, everyone was Kenough, staff enjoyed kettle corn from *It's Poppin'*, and the Bookstore staff came straight out of the movie Jaws.



# Campus Updates

You've probably seen a lot of work going on both inside and outside of the buildings on campus. James Grigg, Chris Johnson, and the folks at facilities are keeping us in the loop with all these updates!



Oakland Fence removal is wrapping up.



The McLaurin bathrooms (by the elevators) are getting level floors in preparation for tile, and flood repair will start shortly.



The West Center roof is progressing well.

## Other work in Progress:

- Library roof is complete and is in clean up/final inspection mode, we will restripe the parking lot shortly.
- Boxing repairs on Kinard are on going.
- Wofford Richardson abatement is progressing. We are about to bid the demolition phase.
- Four classrooms had their AV upgraded during fall break. Ten more are planned for winter break. We are also working with the Provost and Deans to order some new classroom furniture for various spaces.
- The Johnson lobby bathrooms had their wallpaper removed and were repainted during fall break.
- The baseball concourse bathrooms were repainted during fall break.
- The Tillman auditorium ceiling repairs are wrapping up and the space should be reopened shortly.



The Music Courtyard is getting an enlarged paver area to make the space more functional for small group performances. This is a shared Eagle Scout, Facilities, and Music department project.



# Upcoming Winthrop Events for Staff

- **Friday Arts Project Hub:** Monday 11/6 and Monday 11/20 at 7pm in OWEN 203. Meet to create art and build community. No art skills are required, and everyone is welcome.
- **Hidden Nest:** every Friday (excluding 11/24), 7:00pm-10:30pm in DIGS 220. Play video game tournaments with Winthrop students and community members.
- **Homecoming Choir Concert:** Saturday 11/11 at 10am in Barnes Recital Hall.
- **Brass Studio Recital:** Sunday 11/12 at 5pm in Barnes Recital Hall.
- **Student Creative Writing Showcase:** Monday 11/13 at 5:30pm in Whitton Auditorium (Carroll). Students will read their fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction to a live audience.
- **WU Talent Show:** Tuesday 11/14 at 7pm in Richardson Ballroom (DIGS).
- **Nigeria or Biafra, The Things That Divide Us (A Play):** Friday 11/17 at 7pm in Plowden Auditorium (Withers).
- **Fall One-Act Festival:** Friday 11/17 at 7:30pm and Saturday 11/18 at 2pm in The Studio Theater (Johnson). Short plays directed by advanced theatre students. Note: contains mature content/language.
- **KWA Fall Showcase:** Saturday 11/18 at 4pm at the Amphitheater. Kpop dance performance with a random play dance afterwards.
- **Fall Dance Showcase:** Thursday 11/30 at 7:30pm in Johnson Theatre. Additional performances on 12/1 at 10am and 12/3 at 2pm.
- **Women's Volleyball:** Saturday 11/11 at 2pm.
- **Women's Basketball:** Tuesday 11/14 at 6pm; Tuesday 11/21 at 11am; Wednesday 11/29 at 6pm.
- **Men's Basketball:** Saturday 11/11 at 5pm; Tuesday 11/28 at 6:30pm.

Go to <https://winthropevents.coursedog.com/> for more information about these and other events.



## Tips, Tricks, & Tools from fellow Eagles

Do you have a tip, trick, or tool that helps you during your work day that you think others might also like to know about? Send an e-mail to [staffstuff@winthrop.edu](mailto:staffstuff@winthrop.edu) and tell us about it!

## Office Decorations

It might seem obvious, but adding a little personal touch to your office can make a big difference in your workday and attitude. Here are some examples of fun decor to spice up those boring white walls (or cubicle dividers). Pictures, funny quotes, toys and seasonal decor are all great ideas!



## For December...

Do you have a story idea or an upcoming event you want to see in the Newsletter?

Send your submissions to [staffstuff@winthrop.edu](mailto:staffstuff@winthrop.edu) to be included in the next issue.