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Winthrop University

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Community Service and Celebration Highlight MLK Day at Winthrop

ROCK HILL, S.C. — Winthrop University will honor the life of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. through a special ceremony on Jan. 19 followed by the institution’s largest annual one-day service event on the federal holiday.

Here are the event details:

Sunday, Jan. 19

The Inspiration of Life Celebration will commemorate and honor Dr. King’s life through song and performance. Beginning at 5 p.m. in Tillman Hall, there will be performances by the Association of Ebonites Gospel Choir, Vision of Prayze, Skin Deep and the Vision of Zion dance team.

The event is free and open to the public.

Monday, Jan. 20

Although Winthrop classes are cancelled and offices are closed in observance of the federal holiday on Monday, Jan. 20, many Winthrop students will join their peers from York Technical College and Clinton College to honor Dr. King’s legacy through volunteer work and community service in the Rock Hill and surrounding areas.

More than 300 students have registered for this year’s event, serving more than 25 community agencies.

The event will kick off at 9 a.m. in Winthrop’s Richardson Ballroom on Jan. 20. Students will be greeted by Winthrop President Jayne Marie (Jamie) Comstock and hear a keynote address from Ivan Lowe, chair of the Department of Business Administration at York Tech.

Following the kick off, students will open their “challenge packets,” which will tell them where they will use their service efforts for the day. Students will then travel to their service destinations.

Past community service contributions have been to Meals on Wheels, the American Red Cross, Back the Pack, Renew Our Community, Pilgrims’ Inn and Tender Hearts Ministries, among others. To follow the community service activities on Twitter, use #WUMLK14.

The event is coordinated by Winthrop’s MLK Committee, the Center for Career and Civic Engagement and AmeriCorps VISTA.

For more information on the celebration, contact Kinyata Adams Brown at 803/323-4503 or
For more information on service opportunities, call Laura Foster at 803/323-2141 or email her at foster@winthrop.edu.