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## Winthrop Selected to President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll

Winthrop University

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# Winthrop Selected to President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll

## Quick Facts

- Winthrop given federal recognition for its commitment to service-learning and civic engagement.
- Honorees chosen based on service projects and other factors.

ROCK HILL, S.C. - The **Corporation for National and Community Service** honored Winthrop University with a place on the **President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll** for exemplary service efforts and service to America's communities.

Launched in 2006, the **Community Service Honor Roll** is the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to service-learning and civic engagement. Honorees for the award were chosen based on a series of selection factors including scope and innovation of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for service, and the extent to which the school offers academic service-learning courses.

At Winthrop, the university offered several programs that aided the community. Among them were a wellness program to increase physical activity for local elementary students, a Model United Nations program to teach high school students about the international organization, a walk to raise money to fight poverty around the world, a trip for education majors to work with Nicaragua students and fraternity and sorority mentoring programs for at-risk students.

"In this time of economic distress, we need volunteers more than ever. College students represent an enormous pool of idealism and energy to help tackle some of our toughest challenges," said **Stephen Goldsmith**, vice chair of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service, which oversees the Honor Roll. "We salute Winthrop University for making community service a campus priority, and thank the millions of college students who are helping to renew America through service to others."

Overall, the Corporation honored six schools with Presidential Awards. In addition, 83 were named as Honor Roll With Distinction members and 546 schools, including Winthrop, as Honor Roll members. In total, 635 schools were recognized. A full list is available at [www.nationalservice.gov/honorroll](http://www.nationalservice.gov/honorroll).

The **Honor Roll** is a program of the Corporation, in collaboration with the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. The **President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll** is presented during the annual conference of the American Council on Education.

Recent studies have underlined the importance of service-learning and volunteering to college students. In 2006, 2.8 million college students gave more than 297 million hours of volunteer service, according to the **Corporation's Volunteering in America 2007 study**. Expanding campus incentives

for service is part of a larger initiative to spur higher levels of volunteering by America's college students. The Corporation is working with a coalition of federal agencies, higher education and student associations, and nonprofit organizations to achieve this goal.

The **Corporation for National and Community Service** is a federal agency that improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. The Corporation administers Senior Corps, AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve America, a program that supports service-learning in schools, institutions of higher education and community-based organizations.

For more information, go to <http://www.nationalservice.gov>.

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