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## Common Book Author Visit Highlights Spring Programming

Winthrop University

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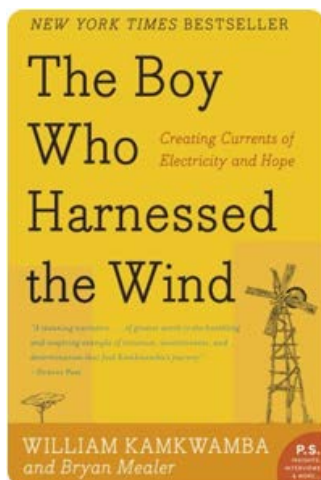
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# Common Book Author Visit Highlights Spring Programming

## Quick Facts

- Common Book author William Kamkwamba will visit campus on April 3 at 11 a.m. in Richardson Ballroom.
- All events are free and have cultural event status.



ROCK HILL, S.C. — **William Kamkwamba's "The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind,"** Winthrop University's current **Common Book**, has inspired a series of related programming throughout the spring semester, including an April visit by the author.

In the book, William, his family and his community wrestle with the clash between Christianity and long-held beliefs about the spirits that inhabit their world. They struggle with corrupt government officials; access to education; and the impact of the natural world on their water supply, their food supply and their health. But William recognizes early in his life that education--even knowledge that is self-acquired-- can bring important, life-changing innovation to his village.

All spring 2014 programs are free cultural events and will be held in **Dina's Place** unless otherwise noted. Programs include:

### Thursday, Jan. 30, 11 a.m.

In a lecture entitled "It Happened on the Way to War," author and activist Rye Barcott will talk about a summer he spent in Kibera, a poor neighborhood in Nairobi, Kenya, while a college student.

### Tuesday, Feb. 4, 11 a.m.

In a lecture entitled "Shamanism, The Negative and Positive Aspects of Indigenous Medical Knowledge," **Associate Professor of Anthropology Rick Chacon** will provide a balanced picture of shamanism. Shamanism is typically defined as a religious practice in which a "shaman" gains powers through a trance or religious experience.

### Tuesday, Feb. 11, 11 a.m.

**Bryan McFadden**, a geography instructor, will talk about Malawi's geographical location and take a look at the life of the average Malawian. The Common Book is set in Malawi, a country located in southeast Africa.

### Tuesday, Feb. 18, 6 p.m.

The Department of Political Science, the Peace, Justice, and Conflict Resolution and Women's Studies programs, and the Center for Career and Civic Engagement will collaborate on an interactive global Common Book cultural event to raise awareness about global hunger and poverty, and raise money for a local and a global cause. It will take place in the Tuttle Dining Room in McBryde Hall.

### Thursday, April 3, 11 a.m.

Common Book author **William Kamkwamba** visits campus to talk about the events that inspired his book. It will take place in the Richardson Ballroom in the DiGiorgio Campus Center.

### Thursday, April 10, 11 a.m.

In “Global Ecological Footprints,” [Marsha Bollinger](#), chair of the [Department of Interdisciplinary Studies](#) and the Dalton Endowed Chair for Environmental Sciences and Studies, will discuss the impact of our consumer choices on the ecological health of the planet. She will compare lifestyles in several countries, including Malawi and the United States.

For more information on the Common Book, visit the [Winthrop University Common Book Project website](#).

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[\[Back to Previous Page\]](#)

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