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Liberty Tree Initiative Encourages Freedom of Expression

Winthrop University

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Quick Facts

- The Liberty Tree Initiative has morphed on a national level into the larger 1ForAll campaign.
- The first event, "Revenge of the Banned Books," on Feb. 7 is organized by English professor Jo Koster and the Winthrop Literary Society.



Justin Brown

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Winthrop has earned a second **Liberty Tree Initiative** grant to illuminate the role freedom of expression plays in creative works, whether in theatre, drama, art, music or even online with user-generated content and social media.

Justin Brown, an assistant professor of mass communication, said the Liberty Tree Initiative has morphed on a national level into the larger 1ForAll campaign. The national campaign is a nonpartisan program designed to build understanding and support for First Amendment freedoms. **1 for All** provides teaching materials to the nation's schools, supports educational events on America's campuses and reminds the public that the First Amendment serves everyone, regardless of faith, race, gender or political leanings.

Winthrop was one of only two institutions nationally to receive a second renewal grant, along with the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. **Brown** and **Karen Kedrowski**, chair of the Department of Political Science, are the principal investigators in securing the grant.

The first event, "**Revenge of the Banned Books**," on Feb. 7 is organized by **English professor Jo Koster** and the **Winthrop Literary Society**. It will be held at 7 p.m. in **Owens Hall G01**.

Other upcoming events coordinated by the **West Forum** and **Department of Mass Communication**:

- **March 2** - "Be Careful What You Say: Hip Hop Music and the First Amendment" (Lakeyta Bonnette, alumna), **Plowden Auditorium**, 7 p.m.
- **March 23** - "Phaedra's Love: A Controversial Play Reading" (Laura Daugherty in Theatre), Black Box Theatre, 6 p.m.
- **April 13** - "Fight The Power: A Performance by Freedom Sings" (highlighting attempts to censor music; Ken Paulson narrating), **DiGiorgio Campus Center Ballroom**, 7 p.m.

For more information, contact Brown at brownj@winthrop.edu.

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IN THE HEART OF THE CAROLINAS

