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## "Growing Up" Selected as 2009-10 Common Book for Winthrop

Winthrop University

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## Quick Facts

- Author Russell Baker is a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner.
- The book was selected by a committee representing faculty, staff, students and student life professionals.

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ROCK HILL, S.C. - "**Growing Up**" by Russell Baker was recently selected as the sixth installment of the **Common Book Project** sponsored by Winthrop University. The book was chosen from a pool of eight books and was selected by a committee representing faculty, staff, students and student life professionals.

**Baker**, a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner, authored the nationally syndicated Observer column for the New York Times from 1962-98. The journalist, humorist, essayist and biographer has written or edited 17 books, including "The Good Times," the sequel to "Growing Up."

"**Growing Up**," winner of the 1983 Pulitzer Prize for biography, tells Baker's story of growing up in America during the Great Depression. **Tim Daugherty**, associate dean of University College and common book committee chairman, said students should find inspiration in Baker's story. "The hope-inspiring journey through and beyond a depression-era youth resonates with current economic challenges. The characters and events, in sometimes complex ways, highlight the lifetime work of developing personal and social responsibility," he said.

A customized Winthrop book jacket is being printed through the Core Commitments grant.

The **Common Book Project** is designed to integrate Winthrop students into the university environment and acquaint them with Winthrop's strongly held intellectual and academic values. Students receive information about the book at Orientation and read the book over the summer. Themes and ideas from the common book are incorporated into artwork, programs, presentations and other campus events throughout the semester.

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