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Winthrop University

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N.C. Art Curator to Welcome Freshmen to Winthrop During Convocation

ROCK HILL, S.C. - A North Carolina art curator will share advice with freshmen during Convocation on Aug. 25 in Byrnes Auditorium.

Convocation, traditionally held the day before classes begin, serves as an official welcome to new freshmen and their induction into the Winthrop community of learners. Offices will close at 3:45 p.m. so that all faculty and staff will be able to attend the 4 p.m. ceremony.

Convocation speaker Lia Newman ‘99 has served as the director of programs and exhibitions at Artspace in Raleigh, N.C., since 2002. She organizes more than 30 exhibitions per year at the non-profit visual art center.

In addition to her duties as curator, Newman maintains and initiates educational programs for Artspace. The extensive programming includes managing the eight-week Summer Arts Program, working with elementary and middle schools on incorporating arts into their curriculum, overseeing an artist residency program for both emerging and established artists, and coordinating community outreach programs with youths in difficult circumstances.

Newman earned a bachelor of arts in art history and a bachelor of fine arts in general studio with concentrations in sculpture and photography from Winthrop. She maintains her own studio at Litmus Studio & Gallery in Raleigh, N.C., and has exhibited her work in South Carolina, West Virginia, Massachusetts and North Carolina. Newman has served as a juror or panelist for several arts organizations and colleges in the Southeast. Newman is beginning graduate studies at Duke University this fall.

During the Convocation ceremony, students will be welcomed to Rock Hill by Kathy Bigham, chair of the Board of Trustees; Doug Echols, mayor of Rock Hill; Tatiana Sosa, chair of the Council of Student Leaders; and Cheryl Fortner-Wood, faculty representative.

Immediately following Convocation, President and Mrs. Anthony DiGiorgio will lead students out of Byrnes and toward Tillman Hall in the traditional blue line procession. The community picnic will follow on the lawn in front of Tillman Hall and Margaret Nance Hall at 5 p.m. The rain location for the picnic is McBryde Hall.

For more information, contact the Office of the President at 803/323-2225.