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Winthrop University

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Family Trust Commissions Student Artwork for New Headquarters

ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA - Family Trust Federal Credit Union has commissioned Winthrop University students and recent graduates to create art for its new headquarters to be constructed on White Street in downtown Rock Hill.

The six pieces will be in the lobby, a community room, an employee canteen and the board room. Pieces will reflect the history of Rock Hill, Family Trust’s ties to the textile industry, the credit union’s core values and service to the community. Materials include railroad ties, ceramics, steel and colored glass.

The alumni and student-artists are:

- **Chelsea Arthur ’14** of Greenville, B.F.A., general studio, with emphases in sculpture and jewelry/metal.
- **Nicole Davenport** of Anderson is a senior pursuing a B.F.A., general studio, with emphases in sculpture and printmaking.
- **Samantha Oliver ’13** of Rock Hill graduated in December with a B.F.A. in ceramics. She is a non-degree graduate student at Winthrop.
- **Christopher Smalls** of Beaufort is a senior pursuing a B.F.A. in jewelry/metal.
- **Kaitlyn Walters ’13** of Greenville, B.F.A., general studio, with emphases in photography and sculpture.

“Winthrop University plays an important role in the history of Rock Hill, and in the economy of York County,” said **Lee Gardner**, Family Trust president/CEO. “This project helps us tap into the wealth of hidden talent there to make a meaningful and impactful contribution to our project and to the redevelopment of the Knowledge Park.”

The 36,000-square-foot, three-story building returns the credit union’s headquarters to the area where it opened in 1957 in a stock room at Rock Hill Printing and Finishing Co. The $8 million project will include a full branch, an atrium, and a terrace for employees. Construction is expected to begin this spring in the heart of the Knowledge Park, an area that links the university to downtown and is being redeveloped for jobs, housing, food and retail.

“This opportunity provided by Family Trust and their design team gives our students the kind of professional experience required to succeed in their chosen fields,” said **Tom Stanley**, chairman of Winthrop’s Department of Fine Arts. “It allows real community engagement through meaningful collaborative projects.”
Watch the student-artists discuss the project in this video.

For more information, contact Sula Pettibon, vice president of marketing/public relations, at 803/326-2127 or e-mail her at spettibon@Familytrust.org.