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City to Unveil Student-Created Bike Racks at May 7 Mayor's Ride

Winthrop University

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City to Unveil Student-Created Bike Racks at May 7 Mayor's Ride

Quick Facts

- Ten Winthrop fine arts students worked with Shaun Cassidy, associate professor of fine arts, to plan and fabricate the six bike racks.
- The project represents the collaborative efforts of the City of Rock Hill, the Rock Hill Bicycle Club and Winthrop's Sculpture Program.



Morgan Kinne assembles her orange slice-shaped bike rack.



Janet Lasher creates her pottery-styled bike rack.

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Winthrop University **Sculpture I students** will unveil **six handmade bike racks** on Saturday, May 7, during a brief ceremony and procession at the second **Mayor's Ride and Kids Rodeo** in Old Town Rock Hill.

The unveiling will be held just before the 3 p.m. **Mayor's Ride** at City Hall, 155 Johnson St. Winthrop's **Department of Fine Arts** will partner with the city of Rock Hill and the **Rock Hill Bicycle Club** to unveil the city's new artistic bike racks, built during the spring 2011 semester.

These **art structures** are the results of the demand for bicycling facilities throughout Old Town identified in the **College Town Action Plan, Bike Rock Hill Initiative** and special requests from community citizens. A year's worth of coordination and planning allowed Associate Professor of Fine Arts **Shaun Cassidy** to engage his students in the design planning and fabrication of the **functional art project**. This project provided the art students with an opportunity to interact within the community by publicly presenting their work to officials. It also has given them the opportunity to have their work displayed and used in public settings.

The racks were installed and are in use at the entrances of the following businesses:

- City Hall: 155 Johnston St. (two)
- McHale's on Main: 122 East Main St. (back)

- Dee & Lee Unique Hair Design: 155 East Main St.
- Hampton Street Café: 140 East Main St.
- Gettys Art Center: 201 East Main St. (back)

"This collaboration between the city of Rock Hill, the Rock Hill Bicycle Club and Winthrop's Sculpture Program in the Department of Fine Arts is an excellent example of how creative partnerships can make a visible difference in our community and for our students," said Winthrop's Chair of Fine Arts **Tom Stanley**.

The 2.5-mile **Mayor's Ride** will act as a tour to each of the bike rack locations. Participants should bring a bicycle and helmet. The ride starts at 3 p.m. on Hampton Street in front of City Hall in Rock

Hill. Riders will ride at a slow pace between five-10 mph with a police escort. Prior to the ride, a 2 p.m. kids rodeo will be held on Hampton Street.

Another recent partnership with Winthrop's **Department of Fine Arts** is the **Main Street Sculpture Gallery**. The seven metal sculptures are located at Main Street and Dave Lyle Boulevard; this exhibit will change regularly.

The **Rock Hill Bicycle Club** provided funding for bike rack design materials, with the students' design and sculpting talents adding artistic value. The student-artists are Josiah Blevins, Sarah Gregory, Morgan Kinne, Janet Lasher, Carey Morton, Nikki Patrick, Bryanna Smith, Marshall Sykes, John Williams and Scott Wilkins.

For more information about public student art, contact Stanley at stanleyt@winthrop.edu.

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