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Alumna's Scholarship Supports Women Pursuing Degrees in Math, Sciences

Winthrop University

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Alumna's Scholarship Supports Women Pursuing Degrees in Math, Sciences

Quick Facts

- Sadie Livingston Boyer '58 and her husband, Dale, have established the Sadie Livingston Boyer – Dale Boyer Endowed Scholarship Fund to encourage young women pursuing careers in math and science.
- Boyer, herself a former scholarship recipient, said she hopes that her scholarship will “even the field a little bit” for women seeking careers in math and science.



President Anthony DiGiorgio and First Lady Gale DiGiorgio, left side, with Sadie and Dale Boyer

ROCK HILL, S.C. - In an era when few women worked in the fields of mathematics, science, and engineering, **Sadie Livingston Boyer '58** made a name for herself at [NASA Langley Research Center](#).

Now she and her husband, Dale, have established the **Sadie Livingston Boyer – Dale Boyer Endowed Scholarship Fund** to encourage young women pursuing careers in math and science.

Boyer originally established the renewable scholarship as a bequest after her lifetime that would provide **scholarship opportunities** for students majoring in **mathematics, chemistry, biology,**

environmental studies, human nutrition, or pre-engineering, with first preference given to female students. However, Congress' recent decision to reinstate the **IRA Charitable Rollover** provision of the Pension Protection Act encouraged the Boyers to begin funding the scholarship early with several recent gifts.

The **IRA Charitable Rollover provision** benefits those age 70 ½ or older who must take a **Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)** from retirement savings, offering a tax-advantaged way to make a charitable gift to support Winthrop. Gifts to the university can be designated to any fund or department that donors choose to support. The Boyers' recent contributions will allow the **Sadie Livingston Boyer – Dale Boyer Endowed Scholarship Fund** to begin funding during Boyer's lifetime, with the first scholarship awarded in fall 2014.

Boyer, herself a former scholarship recipient, said she hopes that her scholarship will “**even the field a little bit**” for women seeking careers in math and science.

The **Newberry, S.C., native**, who earned her B.S. in mathematics at Winthrop, worked for the **NASA Langley Research Center** in Hampton, Va., for 32 years, retiring as **assistant chief of the programs and resources division**. She began her career with NASA as a **National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics mathematician** in the Flight Research Division, where she became the first woman to be **first author of a NASA technical paper**.

Boyer later worked in the Scientific Computer Division. She earned a number of awards throughout her career, including the [NASA Exceptional Service Medal](#). Boyer and her husband, a retired engineer, reside in Virginia.

Boyer said that she's "extremely grateful" to Winthrop for providing her with the strong educational foundation that made her career successes possible. She believes that the gift of education – particularly a Winthrop education – is a gift that continues to give.

"We believe that education is a huge key to leading a successful, independent, and happy life," said Boyer. "Education gives back, and then maybe one day those scholarship recipients will give back."

For more information about these special gifts and projects, or to learn about giving to Winthrop, please contact **Amanda Stewart**, director of program administration in the Office of the Vice President, at 803/323-1450.

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