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Clyburn Staff Member to Give Convocation Speech

Winthrop University

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Clyburn Staff Member to Give Convocation Speech

Quick Facts

- Convocation, traditionally held the day before classes begin, serves as an official welcome to new freshmen.
- Convocation speaker Willie Lyles III '06 is a native of Blythewood, S.C., and graduate of Ridge View High School.



Willie Lyles

ROCK HILL, S.C. - A staff member for U.S. House Majority Whip James Clyburn, D-S.C., will talk about his Winthrop experiences during **Convocation** on Aug. 24 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 Willie Lyles III '06 is a native of Blythewood, S.C., and graduate of Ridge View High School. He served as chair of the Council of Student Leaders his senior year, representing students on Winthrop's Board of Trustees, and belonged to the Association of Ebonites and College Democrats.

After graduation, Lyles worked as a campus organizer for the California State Student Association in Los Angeles to address rising college costs through financial aid. He returned to Rock Hill to work at the Freedom Center on a number of programs to foster cultural awareness, civic participation, youth empowerment and personal financial security. In 2008, Lyles managed the election campaign of S.C. Rep. John R. King, D-Rock Hill, before taking a job on staff with Clyburn.

During Winthrop's Convocation ceremony, students will be welcomed to Rock Hill by Kathy Bigham, chair of the Board of Trustees; Doug Echols, mayor of Rock Hill; Sydney Evans, chair of the Council of Student Leaders; and Marsha Bollinger, 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 the West Center.

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

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