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New Scholarship Started to Remember April Hilton's Musical Gifts

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Established by her family and friends, the April Renee Hilton Scholarship will provide renewable scholarships to music students.

Hilton, a native of Sumter, S.C., was a choral education major and a member of Winthrop's Chorale, Chamber Singers and Jazz Voices.



ROCK HILL, S.C. - A new scholarship will honor late Winthrop student April Renee Hilton, the girl with a big heart and an angelic voice.

Established by her family and friends, the April Renee Hilton Scholarship will provide renewable scholarships to music students. First preference will be given to students from the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, with second preference to students from Sumter, Clarendon, Richland and Lee Counties in S.C.

April Hilton

Hilton, a native of Sumter, S.C., was a choral education major and a member of Winthrop's Chorale, Chamber Singers and Jazz Voices. She was also an active member of the Zeta Phi Beta sorority.

"She was an outstanding musician who was passionate about keeping the highest of standards in all that she did. Her passing was untimely and unfortunate, and it greatly affected all of us in so many ways. We will never forget her beautiful smile, lovely soprano voice, and attention to artistic detail," said Kathy Kinsey, Winthrop's director of choral activities.

Hilton also shared her musical gift by playing piano for churches across the state, and she sang regularly at Harrison United Methodist Church in Pineville, N.C.

Hilton's untimely passing in 2008 was less than a year before her anticipated graduation in 2009.

For information on making a gift to Winthrop, contact the Office of Development at 803-323-2150.

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