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Roundtable Event to Address Social Issues During 'Fulfilling the Promise'

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Winthrop in the News

Roundtable Event to Address Social **Issues During** 'Fulfilling the **Promise**

Quick Facts

- The roundtable event is Oct. 7 at 7 p.m. in Dina's Place and will include input from several
- Question Bridge: Black Males is on display through Nov. 14 in the Elizabeth Dunlap Patrick Gallery.

ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA -- Are you frightened about living openly in this country [as a gay black man]? Why is it so difficult for black men to remain themselves? How does it feel to see someone lose their life? What is your definition of a black man?

These and other questions are asked and answered by black men in the Winthrop University Galleries' newest exhibition, "Question Bridge: Black Males" (QB:BM). QB:BM is an innovative transmedia project that facilitates a dialogue between a critical mass of black men from diverse and contending backgrounds and creates a platform for them to represent and redefine black male identity in America.

The new and exciting exhibit is one of several events in "Fulfilling the Promise," Winthrop's commemoration of 50 years of integration at the institution.

The new and exciting exhibit is one of several events associated with "Fulfilling the Promise," Winthrop's commemoration of 50 years of integration at the institution.

A major part of QB:BM is a community engagement event called the "Blueprint Roundtable," inspired by a question of a younger participant to the older participants in QB:BM: "Why didn't you all leave us a blueprint?" The free roundtable event will take place Tuesday, Oct. 7, at 7 p.m. in Dina's Place at the DiGiorgio Campus Center.

Campus partners making the event possible include the John C. West Forum on Politics and Policy, the Office of Diversity and Student Engagement, Winthrop Galleries, the DiGiorgio Student Union and the African-American studies minor.

During the event, a panel of multi-generational participants will discuss leadership, mentorship and critical social issues in the black community, with the hopes of starting dialogue that will lead to strategies for overcoming these issues. Panelists include:

- Board of Trustees member Timothy Hopkins '83, '85, '00
- Sixth-grade science teacher Kambrell Garvin '13
- Wake Forest graduate student Ron Nelson Jr. '11
- Business major Randy Worthy
- Middle-level education major Saani Perry
- South Pointe High School student Joshua Dantzler
- Singer/songwriter Rudy Currence
- Associate Professor of Economics Willis Lewis
- Adjunct Faculty Morenga Hunt

In conjunction with the exhibition, Winthrop students and the community will have an opportunity to

connect with a wider global audience engaging the Question Bridge project's new interactive platforms via website or app.

People can view the exhibit now through Nov. 14 in the Elizabeth Dunlap Patrick Gallery.

To create the ambitious Question Bridge project, artists Chris Johnson, Hank Willis Thomas, Kamal Sinclair and Bayeté Ross Smith traveled the country, collecting more than 1,500 question-and-answer videos from more than 150 men. They molded this rich content into an insightful, provocative and entertaining video installation — a portal into an inner realm of black male consciousness. It has been exhibited at museums, festivals and institutions worldwide.

For more information, contact the Galleries at 803/323-2493, e-mail Karen Derksen at derksenk@winthrop.edu or visit them on Facebook and Twitter.

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