Fall 10-16-2014

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Winthrop University

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Alumni Awards Luncheon to Recognize Five Outstanding Graduates

ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA – Five outstanding Winthrop alumni will be recognized with 2014 Alumni Awards during the Alumni Awards Luncheon Nov. 15 as part of 2014 Homecoming & Reunion Weekend.

The following awards will be presented at the luncheon:

Mary Mildred Sullivan Award: Linda Driggers Williams ’64, ’69, ’80 – Williams, a resident of Rock Hill, remains very active with her alma mater. A regular donor, she served on the Eagle Club Board from 2003-2004. Williams, one of the "Golden Girls" from the Class of 1964, was instrumental in raising funds for "Metamorphosis," a bronze sculpture installed on Scholars Walk. She is a member of the Alumni Reunion Committee and a former member of the Alumni Steering Committee (1993). Williams received the Alumni Distinguished Service Award in 1992. This award, established in 1940, recognizes a Winthrop alumna for selfless dedication of time, energy and talent in service of others.

Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award: Jimmie Williamson ’80, ’85 – Williamson is the president and executive director of the S.C. Technical College System, a system composed of 16 technical colleges located strategically across the state and its statewide workforce training programs: readySC™ and Apprenticeship Carolina™. He worked previously for Agape Senior, where he served as chief human capital officer. He is a former member of the Winthrop University Board of Trustees. In addition, Williamson is a past recipient of Winthrop's Professional Achievement Award. This award is the male equivalent of the Mildred Sullivan Award.

Alumni Distinguished Service Award: Gina Price White ’83 – White serves as director of the Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections at Winthrop University. A resident of Chester, S.C., she is working toward an M.A. in history at Winthrop. In 2008, she received a presidential citation for her contributions to Retrospect, the archives' newsletter; the archives' digitization project; work with Winthrop's Model U.N.; and her participation in collecting veterans' oral history interviews to preserve. This award recognizes a Winthrop alumna/us who significantly contributes to the quality of life in his/her community, the development of values and morals within others and serves as an outstanding citizen.

Alumni Professional Achievement Award: Jeffrey Revels ’93 – Revels works as artistic director for Orlando Repertory Theatre, where he oversees every detail associated with a theatrical production and supervises the theatre's educational offerings. Revels, a resident of Orlando, Florida, also oversees the theatre's partnership with the University of Central Florida, where students may earn a M.F.A. in theatre for young audiences. This award is presented to an alumna/us who has made significant contributions to his/her professional field while exemplifying high moral and business...
Outstanding Young Alumni Award: Chisa Johnson Putman '03 – Putman, an attorney for South Carolina Legal Services and Rock Hill resident, has worked with the Winthrop Alumni Association, the Winthrop Foundation and Winthrop Athletics. In addition, she has been involved with the Association of Ebonites, Black Dance in Motion, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and Pi Sigma Alpha. She serves as a member of the boards of directors for York County Habitat for Humanity and Keystone Substance Abuse; the Family Nurture Committee for Habitat for Humanity; chairperson for the Human Relations Committee for the City of Rock Hill; and more. This award recognizes a Winthrop alumna/us age 35 or younger whose service to the university, service to the community and professional achievements have reflected positively on all alumni and Winthrop.

For more information about the awards, or to nominate someone, contact the Morgan-Holcombe Alumni Center at 803/323-2145 or email wualumni@winthrop.edu.