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# Winthrop Begins Katrina Emergency Relief Response

Winthrop University

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# Winthrop Begins Katrina Emergency Relief Response

## Quick Facts

- Winthrop University has joined Mayor Doug Echols of Rock Hill who convened concerned community leaders from York County to help coordinate a concentrated effort on behalf of the countless victims of this disaster.
- the Winthrop Literary Society and the English Department are sponsoring a poetry and fiction reading at 8 p.m. on Sept. 8 in Barnes Recital Hall to raise money for the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

ROCK HILL, S.C. - **Hurricane Katrina** has wreaked a level of destruction unprecedented from any natural disaster in American history. Many lives have been lost or destroyed, and the extent of human suffering in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama is hard to comprehend. This catastrophe will continue to unfold over the next few weeks and will take months of sustained relief efforts.

**Winthrop University** has joined **Mayor Doug Echols** of Rock Hill who convened concerned community leaders from York County to help coordinate a concentrated effort on behalf of the countless victims of this disaster. Winthrop is committed to helping the affected states and people of our southern region as they start to rebuild their lives and communities in the difficult months that lie ahead.

One of the first efforts by the Winthrop community is the sale of **Mardi Gras beads** for \$1 for "Beads for Needs." All proceeds from sales at campus events will go to the **American Red Cross**.

For more information, contact **Ann-Walton Townsend**, director of AmeriCorps, at 803/323-2520.

In addition, the **Winthrop Literary Society** and the **English Department** are sponsoring a **poetry and fiction reading** at 8 p.m. on Sept. 8 in **Barnes Recital Hall** to raise money for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Published creative writers from Winthrop's Department of English, among them **Scott Ely**, **Susan Ludvigson**, **Evelyne Weeks** and **Jane Smith**, and invited readers will share short selections during the event, called "**Aftermath: A Night of Readings**." Students from the Gulf Coast will present testimonials.

Donations will be accepted at the event. All proceeds will go to the **American Red Cross**. For more information, contact **Jack DeRochi**, assistant professor of English, at 323-4577, or **Gloria Jones**, chair of the **Department of English**, at 803/323-4573.

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