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Winthrop University

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ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA—Each December, Winthrop University Professor of Fine Arts Jim Connell finds himself "amazed and thankful."

That's due to the overwhelming support and love the Rock Hill community shows each year to the annual Winthrop Holiday Pottery Sale. Now in its 26th year, the sale has become a cherished tradition for the community as well as a major event for the city of Rock Hill's ChristmasVille extravaganza.

"I hate to call the sale an 'institution,' but it's getting there," Connell said. "Hundreds and hundreds of local visitors and shoppers make their way to our sale each year. And each year I am amazed and thankful at the turnout."

The 2015 Holiday Pottery Sale will be on Friday, Dec. 4, from noon-6 p.m. in G-10 Rutledge Building.

Visitors will find many unique, hand-crafted creations from ceramics students and Winthrop faculty, including Connell. Some selections this year include beautifully glazed pitchers, coffee mugs with 3D faces peering out and an exquisite container featuring a bird perched on top. Each selection is sure to satisfy everyone on the gift list.

The same is also a great learning experience for students, Connell said.

"They learn important marketing skills as well as the logistics it takes to stage the event," he said.

Proceeds from every sale go toward purchasing new equipment, bringing in visiting artists and raising money for scholarships.

"This year I have three students on ceramic scholarships, the most I have ever had in one year," Connell said. "There is one freshman and two sophomores, all with very promising futures."

Find your perfect gift and contribute to someone’s future this holiday season.

For more information about the sale, contact the College of Visual and Performing Arts at 803/323-2323.