Alumni Awards At Weekend Luncheon Recognize Outstanding Graduates

Winthrop University

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Kristen Gebhart Magee, from left, Delores Johnson Hurt, Marty Grigsby, President Jayne Marie (Jamie) Comstock, Johnny Deal and Chris Bennett

Quick Facts

Five alums - Chris Bennett, Delores Johnson Hurt, Kristen Gebhart Magee, Marty Grigsby and Johnny Deal - were honored with awards during the Alumni Reunion Celebration.

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Winthrop University presented awards to five alumni at the Nov. 9 Alumni Reunion Celebration luncheon in McBryde Hall.

The following awards were presented by President Jayne Marie (Jamie) Comstock to:

• Outstanding Young Alumni: Chris Bennett '09
  Bennett lives in Chapel Hill, N.C., and is working on a doctorate in medicine at the University of North Carolina. He has made an impact in his field as a research fellow at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and as a visiting scientist at the Johns Hopkins Institute of Genetic medicine, as well as contributed his medical and bi-lingual skills at a low-income medical clinic.

• Alumni Professional Achievement Award: Delores Johnson Hurt '68
  Hurt, of Charlotte, N.C., is a civil rights activist, journalist, philanthropist, entrepreneur and educator. She was one of the first African Americans accepted into Winthrop and finished as the first black undergraduate. She recently retired as a French teacher in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school district and was recently inducted into the Women’s History Hall of Fame at the Levine Museum of the New South in Charlotte.

• Alumni Distinguished Service Award: Kristen Gebhart Magee '95
  Magee, a healthcare professional in Greenville, S.C., provided strong leadership in helping restructure the Winthrop Alumni Association to develop reunion methods for alumni groups, to enhance Winthrop’s Homecoming experience, and to expand the Alumni Association’s role in student recruitment.

• Mary Mildred Sullivan Award: Martha “Marty” Callahan Grigsby '63
  Grigsby, of Clemson, S.C, celebrated her 50th college reunion this year and was hailed as one of the Golden Girls. She played an integral role in raising more than $50,000 for an endowed scholarship for her reunion class. To date, she has helped raise more than $250,000 overall for scholarship money to help future generations of university students.

• Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award: Johnny Deal '84
Deal, of Camden, S.C., is a retired banker from First Palmetto Savings Bank and has been a gracious contributor as a goodwill ambassador.

For more information about the awards or to nominate someone, contact Debbie Garrick, associate vice president of development and alumni relations, at 803/323-2145 or e-mail her at garrickd@winthrop.edu.