



## December 2022



### December Commencement Confers Degrees to Over 350 Graduates

President Edward Serna '02 presided over his first Winthrop Commencement ceremony on Dec. 17. More than 350 December and August graduates earned undergraduate and graduate degrees during the ceremony. Serna expressed his excitement as he told the crowd that he did not have the opportunity to attend his own Winthrop Commencement ceremony in 2002 because he already had moved and started his graduate work, so attending this ceremony was very special to him as a Winthrop graduate and as president. Serna is pictured with President's Award recipients Christian Peters, left, and Atley Livingston. The two graduates were recognized for having the highest GPA. Political Science Professor Adolphus Belk Jr., who received the [2022 Distinguished Professor Award](#) during the May Commencement ceremony, delivered the Commencement address, and

English Professor Kelly Richardson received the Kinard Award. Read more about Richardson below.

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### **English Professor and Alumna Kelly Richardson Honored with Kinard Award**

Winthrop honored English Professor Kelly Richardson '93, '95, with its top teaching award at its Dec. 17 Commencement ceremony. A professor in the College of Arts and Sciences, Richardson is the 2022 recipient of the James Pinckney Kinard and Lee Wicker Kinard Award for Excellence in Teaching. The award was established in honor of former president James Pinckney Kinard and his wife, Lee Wicker Kinard, in 1984 by their family. [Read More>>](#)

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## Winthrop Earns Reaccreditation from SACSCOC

Winthrop's accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) was reaffirmed at the group's annual meeting on Dec. 6. Winthrop seeks institutional reaccreditation every 10 years.

Preparing for the review took two years and included the submission of two reports, a Compliance Certification Report and a Quality Enhancement Plan.

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## Kevin Hughes Named Vice President for University Advancement



Kevin Hughes, associate vice president of advancement with the New College Foundation, The Honors College of Florida, will be Winthrop's new vice president for university advancement, joining the university on Jan. 17. Hughes has spent 12 years in higher education advancement roles, working at both Denison University and Stetson University College of Law prior to his current position with the New College Foundation. The university conducted a national search for the vice president position. [Read More>>](#)

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## **Dorothy Barber Completes 52 Years of Winthrop Service**

The close of 2022 will bring about the end of Dorothy Barber's dedicated employment at Winthrop after 52 years. She joined the Ida Jane Dacus Library staff in 1970 as a clerk typist and over the years has held various positions in accounting, technical services, and her most recent position as executive support specialist for the dean. One of the first African-American professional staff members to be employed full time at Winthrop, Barber also is one of its longest-serving employees. Barber is pictured at her retirement reception earlier this month with Dacus Library Dean Kaetrena Davis Kendrick '95. [Read More>>](#)

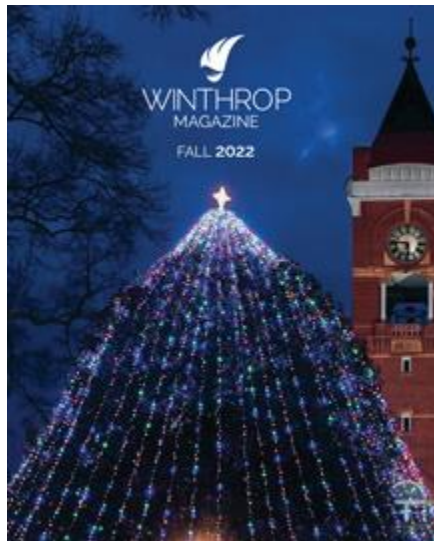
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## A Message from the Alumni Director

What a year! The Alumni Association hosted nearly 50 events that engaged students and alumni, including three welcome receptions for President Edward Serna, Alumni Chapter events, three 50-year class reunions, collaborative events with faculty and Winthrop Athletics, and, of course, all the fun we had during Homecoming and Reunion. Nearly 700 alumni participated in virtual and in-person events this year! As we enter a new year, we hope you make plans to connect with Winthrop and your fellow alumni. [Read More>>](#)

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## Explore the Fall Edition of the Winthrop Magazine

In the fall Winthrop Magazine, please read about the university's magnificent campus trees, the cybersecurity program and how it is preparing students for in-demand careers, the U.S. Disc Golf Championship's two-decade relationship with Winthrop's impressive course, and compelling profiles on freshman legacy student Kayleigh Moses and alumni Gary Simrill '91 and Alrinthea Carter '02.

[Read Now>>](#)



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*The mission of the Alumni Association is to honor the traditions and values of Winthrop University through the engagement of alumni worldwide.*

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Winthrop University

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