



# WINTHROP INSIDER

YOUR MONTHLY UNIVERSITY UPDATE

May 2021

## GRADUATES CELEBRATE WITH IN-PERSON COMMENCEMENT



During spring Commencement exercises earlier this month, Interim President George Hynd conferred master's, specialist and bachelor's degrees upon nearly 1,000 graduates. He also recognized recipients of the [President's Award for Academic Excellence](#) for having the highest

GPA. Two seniors were also among the [youngest to graduate](#) with a four-year degree. Additionally, three faculty members were recognized for [teaching excellence](#) during the ceremonies. Moments from the Commencement ceremonies are captured on the university's [Facebook](#) page.

## WILLIAMS FAMILY GIFT ESTABLISHES LITERACY COLLABORATIVE

A new collaborative, established through a major gift donated by Board of Trustees member Gary Williams and his wife, Peggy, will offer literacy initiatives for Rock Hill School District children and families and other community agencies. The Williams Family Multicultural Children's Literacy Collaborative will launch this fall and help promote literacy to preK-12 students in York County.

[Read More>>](#)



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: OLIVIA REED '18

Olivia Reed '18, an integrated marketing graduate, is applying for her drone photography license after learning to embrace new skills during the pandemic.



She has always been a lifelong learner and had to put that school of thought into practice when COVID-19 changed

everything. Reed is one of the youngest members on staff and started her marketing career at CHM not long after graduating from Winthrop in 2018.

Her days are varied and projects range from marketing to social media management to videography and photography to content creation across multiple platforms. Her creative spark comes from her audience.

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## YOUR SUPPORT HELPED WINTHROP SURPASS GIVING DAY GOAL



**BLEED GARNET  
GIVE  
GOLD  
DAY OF GIVING**

# THANK YOU

*Thanks to more than 600 donors,  
we've raised **\$72,600**  
for Winthrop during our  
Day of Giving initiative!*

Thanks to our Winthrop community, more than 600 donors, well above the 500 donor goal, contributed over \$72,000 to the university during the #BleedGarnetGiveGold celebration.

Funding supports students through scholarships, providing resources for educators, strengthening and creating groundbreaking programs. View results on the [giving platform](#).

## A MESSAGE FROM THE ALUMNI DIRECTOR

Summer is here and things are somewhat starting to look and feel like our pre-pandemic days.

This is a great time to re-connect with other alumni and explore some of the ways you can become involved with the university.



Also check out our new Facebook profile frames now available and show your garnet and gold pride! Search “Winthrop,” “Winthrop University” or “Winthrop Alumni” when adding a frame to your Facebook profile pic.

We are excited to officially launch Winthrop Connect, our new networking platform for the Winthrop Alumni Association.

[Read More>>](#)

## ESPORTS CLAIMS FIRST NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

The Esports team was crowned the 2021 Rocket League Champion at the Collegiate Esports National Championship earlier this month.

Tristian Correll, pictured, was named the tournament’s Rocket League MVP. During the tournament, Winthrop defeated Northwood University and the University of Akron, the top collegiate Rocket League teams.

“I am so proud of this team and the way they showed up in this tournament,” said head coach Josh Sides. “Especially the mental toughness to be trailing in the third game of a best-of-five series, down 0-2 already in the series, against the #1 ranked team in all of collegiate Rocket League, and to bring it back and win game 3, 4, and 5 to close it out is incredible.”

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**June 1, Crafty Summer Cocktails (Charlotte)**  
7 p.m. via Zoom  
Register by May 30

**June 10, Virtual Yoga (Charleston)**  
7 p.m. via Zoom  
Register by June 8

**June 12, Support Our Furry Friends (Orlando)**  
2 p.m., Sideward Brewing  
Register by June 11

**June 25, TopGolf (D.C.)**  
7 p.m., National Harbor Topgolf in D.C.

Find registration information on the  
Upcoming Event page [here](#).

### SUPPORT OUR FURRY FRIENDS!

The Winthrop Orlando Alumni Chapter is  
partnering with Pet Alliance of Greater  
Orlando to collect pet supply donations.

*Come donate and grab a beverage!*

*Sideward Brewing Company*  
210 N. Bumby Ave  
June 12, 2021  
2-4 p.m.

## FEATURED EVENT: HANGIN' WITH HYND VIRTUAL SOCIALS



**Noon via Zoom**  
**June 15, Columbia Alumni**  
**June 22, Charlotte Alumni**  
**June 29, Atlanta Alumni**  
**June 30, Triangle Alumni**

Follow the [link](#) to RSVP.