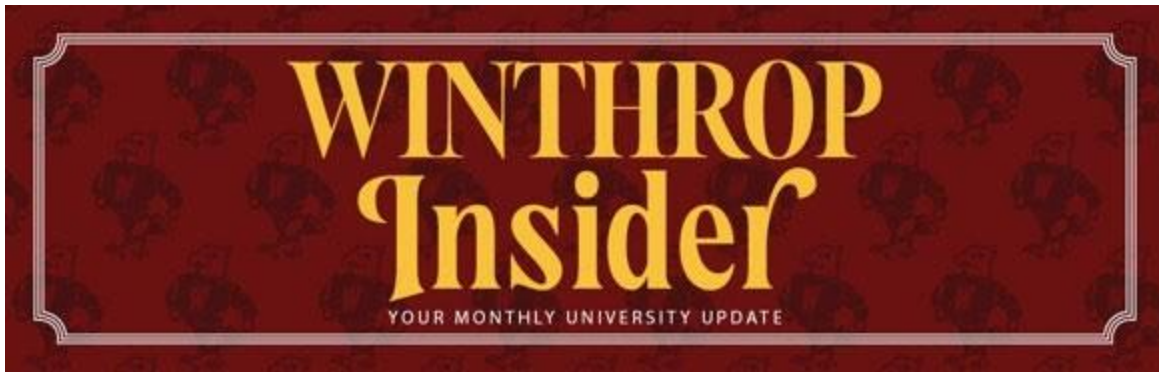




September 2026 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

[City Donates \\$250K to Launch New Engineering Degree](#)

The city of Rock Hill announced gifts of \$250,000 each to Winthrop and York Technical College to encourage manufacturing and job growth in the region. The money will assist Winthrop in establishing the state's first Bachelor of Science in Advanced Manufacturing Engineering degree*. The university aims to enroll its first students in the new degree program in fall 2027. At the Sept. 14 press conference for the announcement, President Edward Serna '02 said that Winthrop looks forward to being a catalyst for manufacturing

growth in the region. *Pending approvals from the S.C. Commission on Higher Education and the Commission on Colleges and Universities.

HOMECOMING AND REUNION

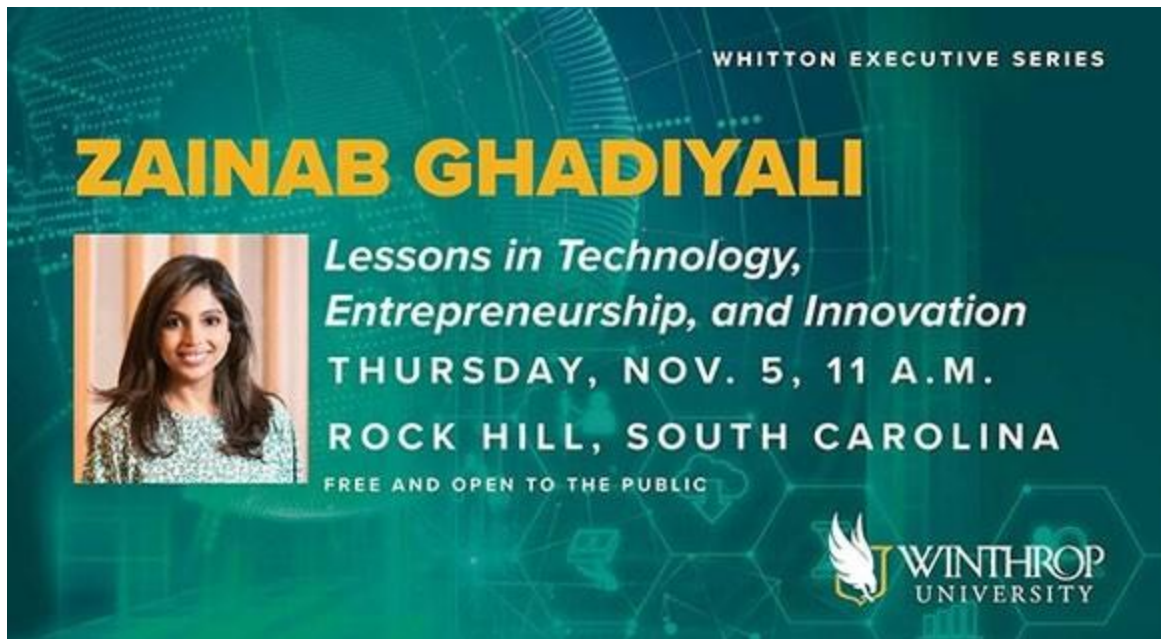
[Registration Now Open for Homecoming and Reunion](#)



Registration is open through Oct. 20 for 2026 Homecoming and Reunion, Nov. 13-14! [Visit the Homecoming and Reunion registration page](#) for more information on how to register for a variety of events. If you'd like to tailgate using a tent on Saturday, Nov. 14, ahead of the women's and men's basketball games, please [purchase your tailgating spot](#) before Nov. 1. Finally, check out the [full schedule](#) of Homecoming and Reunion events, and please make plans to come home to Winthrop in November!

WHITTON EXECUTIVE SERIES

[Zainab Ghadiyali to Headline Annual Whitton Executive Series](#)



Zainab Ghadiyali '09, Winthrop's 2017 Outstanding Young Alumni Award winner, will be the featured speaker at the Nov. 5 Whitton Executive Series. She will discuss "Building What Doesn't Exist: Lessons in Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation" at the 11 a.m. free event. She will share practical lessons from moving between engineering, product leadership, and entrepreneurship: how to learn faster than the problem changes, build with purpose, recover when plans break, and turn an unconventional path into an advantage. Ghadiyali received a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Winthrop and master's degrees in industrial engineering and computer science from the University of Wisconsin - Madison. Sponsored by Elaine Whitton Davis '73, the Whitton Executive Series was developed to provide free or low-cost access to current state-of-the-art knowledge relevant to business practice. [Register here](#).

WINTHROP JEWELRY

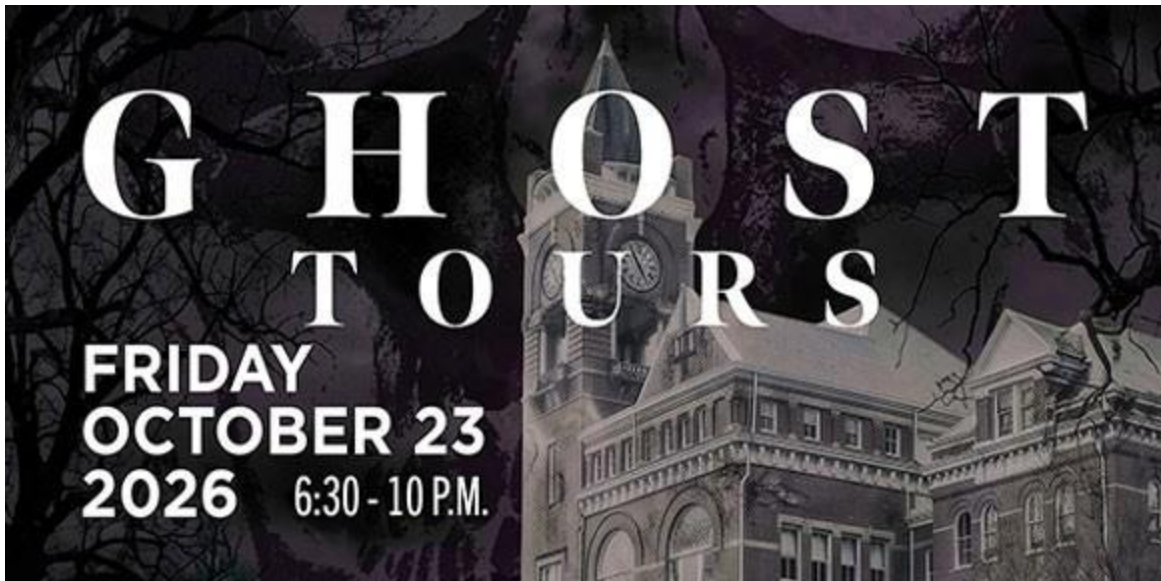
[Show Your Winthrop Pride Each Day With an Official Ring, Jewelry](#)



Show pride for your alma mater with Winthrop jewelry! If you are a degree-holding alumnus, a current student who has completed 54 credit hours, or a graduate student who has completed at least 18 hours at Winthrop, you are eligible to purchase the [Official Winthrop Ring](#) and other Winthrop jewelry! Purchase your Official Winthrop Ring, stackable rings or collegiate tag as a lifelong reminder of your Winthrop experience. [Shop the website](#) with our exclusive partner, Jostens, or call 800/854-7464. Save \$50 when you design and purchase your college class ring on Jostens.com and use promo code ALUMNI50 at checkout. On-campus Ring Days will be held Oct. 6-7 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in the DiGiorgio Campus Center lobby. Come and check out the Official Winthrop Ring and other Winthrop jewelry in person! You can receive up to \$150 off your ring when you order in-person at the table!

GHOST TOURS

[The Always Popular Ghost Tours Return Oct. 23](#)



In the fall of 2005, the [Student Alumni Council](#) established Ghost Tours, an event that explores the campus legends and historical figures that have shaped Winthrop. Ghost Tours are led from the basement of Tillman Hall to the 4th floor. All proceeds from this event support the Winthrop Fund. [Purchase tickets online for \\$10.](#) Tours will start from McBryde Hall and leave every 15 minutes from 6:30-10 p.m. Please be advised that the tour will involve walking outdoors between buildings and taking stairs from Tillman's basement to the 4th floor with limited elevator access. The tour also involves strobe lights, loud noises and other special effects.

VIRTUAL ALUMNI BOOK CLUB

[Latest Virtual Book Club Reading Selection Begins Oct. 9](#)



The final book for the 2026 Virtual Alumni Book Club is "The Correspondent" by Virginia Evans. The reading period is Oct 9-Dec. 11. [Read a summary and reviews](#) for it. [Join the free Virtual Alumni Book Club](#).

[A Message from the Alumni Director](#)



We have so many wonderful events coming up in the next few months! Our Legacy families will be celebrated at Family Day; the Atlanta Alumni Chapter is hosting a Meet and Mingle; there's the always popular Ghost Tours; and Homecoming and Reunion! And while I know it may seem far off, we're already planning for the 91st Annual Tree Lighting! We are incredibly excited about all of the opportunities that our alumni have to get involved, reconnect and just have fun. We hope to see you at one event or as many as your schedule allows! Check out our [upcoming events calendar](#) to see what's coming up.

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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