

Dear Potential Candidate,

I am very pleased that you are considering this opportunity to make a difference on Winthrop's Campus. This is not a venture to be taken lightly. The two people that occupy the President & Vice-President seats on the Council of Student Leaders are advocates, ambassadors, servants, and cheerleaders for our University. It will be time contribution and legacy you can leave on the future of the university.

There are minimum qualifications for holding the position. By signing below, you confirm that the information provided on the Council of Student Leaders applications is, to the best of your knowledge, correct. In addition, you consent the release of confidential data including grade information. You are also aware that any information in this application may be used for promotional or other uses as the Council of Student Leaders sees fit.

*The resume, leadership portfolio, and platform statement as well as the names on the ticket will be posted on the CSL website.

Candidate Release: I consent to the release of confidential information on this application including grade information. The information I provide will be posted so that students may review my application prior to casting their decision.

Electronic Signature Release: Jordyn Abtahi, 03/08/2023

Jordyn Abtahi

abtahij2@mailbox.winthrop.edu

EDUCATION

Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC - *Bachelor of Science in Business Administration*
Concentration: Entrepreneurship, Finance
Expected Graduation: May 2025
GPA: 3.763

WORK EXPERIENCE

Thomson Desk Staff, Rock Hill, SC - *Office Host, Night Host*

FEBRUARY 2023-PRESENT

- Act as the resource person in a residence hall office and the first point of contact for residents, visitors, faculty and staff.
- Return early and/or stay late at the beginning of the year, during breaks, and at the end of the year as needed.
- Work in close cooperation with Residence Life and Facilities staff (including the Assistant Directors (AD), Residential Learning Coordinators (RLC), Residence Director (RD), Resident Assistants (RAs) and Custodial/Housekeeping crew).

Sage Automotive Interiors, Greenville, SC - *Summer Design Intern*

JUNE 2022-AUGUST 2022

- Gained corporate level employment experience whilst delving into knowledge of automotive interior design and production for customer car companies.
- Exposed to interior fabric surface design, woven fabrics, knit fabrics, jacquard top stitching (JTS), and Dinamica® production.
- Using the information gained through experience, a curated collection inspired by vintage car interiors blended with predicted future trends was created and presented to the Sage design team, engineers, and management.
- Certain designs were selected to be sent to customers and Sage employees in Detroit, MI.

SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT & LEADERSHIP

Culture Club, Winthrop University - *Vice President*

SPRING 2023-PRESENT

- Develop, strategize, and assist with the creation of events regarding cultural awareness with Culture Club staff
- Identify appropriate sponsors and supporters to facilitate club activities and events

Alpha Kappa Psi Professional Business Fraternity Incorporated - Iota Phi Chapter, Winthrop University -

Secretary SPRING 2023-PRESENT

- Manage all chapter, member, and fraternal documents
- Keep record of all chapter and executive meeting minutes
- Scheduling meeting dates and times
- Ensuring that subsidiary entity governance is maintained in good standing in all jurisdictions.

Council of Student Leaders, Winthrop University - *Annual Member, Public Relations Committee*

FALL 2022-PRESENT

- Facilitate connections and be the liaison between the board of trustees, administration, and the student body · Promote campus-wide events regarding student's concerns and what the council has accomplished in responding to those concerns
- Create and maintain a positive public image of the council as well as the student body
- Communicate with students about issues regarding the university and take action in creating solutions for those issues

LEADERSHIP PORTFOLIO

Jordyn Abtahi

1. What goals do you have for the Council of Student Leaders and how will you achieve them?

The goals we have for the Council of Student Leaders are to increase transparency of what CSL does as a whole to our Winthrop community. Second, we intend to hold CSL members accountable of the obligations they are responsible for once they're sworn in. We want to ensure that our Council as a whole is as efficient as possible. For each committee, we plan to increase the engagement with the Rock Hill community. For Campus Safety, our Chair as well as the faculty advisors have a number of contacts and resources that are willing to work directly with council to increase safety on the outskirts of campus that is touching the city. For Civic Engagement, we want to create a stronger relationship with Student Engagement and Mrs. Kinyata to promote more student involvement, leadership, and engagement workshops. For Public Relations, we intend to look back to the Constitution and encourage committee chairs to enforce individual roles according to skill sets as per the Constitution of the Council of Student Leaders. Lastly for Internal, we want to improve Internal's involvement through having them work alongside Civic Engagement especially in the Spring semester. In conclusion, as a whole we want to empower, encourage, and embolden the Council of Student Leaders through being transparent and providing any additional support to the chairs and the members.

2. As the Chair/Vice Chair of the Council, you are often in the spotlight and criticized. How do you respond to criticism and what do you take away from it?

When it comes to criticisms themselves, I want to validate the concerns students have about me as a leader of the student body. When criticisms are addressed, it is a time for me to learn more about myself and how I come across to others. We may have the best intentions, but our point of view and our personal development can act as a blind spot to how others view us. What I take away is not arguing over the facts. I do not think who is "right" or "wrong" matters; what matters is getting to the root of the issue and how I can be a better representation for the people on campus.

3. What do you believe is your greatest strength and weakness when it comes to leadership?

Passion is where I would begin with strengths. Throughout my day, I hear the concerns that students have and I want to have a conversation with them as a person. I validate the best I can while providing any points of information regarding the university's perspective on said issue. Secondly, I am innovative when it comes to organizational structure and thinking outside of the box when it comes to solving student concerns. It is understandable that there are certain guidelines to be followed when fixing things,

but have we thought about it from another approach? Third, I empower others. Working with council, no matter what your position is, you work with them. The same goes for CSL working with the student body. It is a collaborative effort. Empowering those is important to collaboration because they will believe in themselves and you as a leader. My first weakness is that if I work through a set of ideas and find one I particularly enjoy, I prefer to stick to that idea. Of course I love to hear others perspectives and input, but after trial and error I can become very attached if the other options do not seem to be working. Second, I communicate with a team on the information they need to know, but I sometimes leave out details that pertain to the information by mistake. Third, I can be quite self-critical. I try to be the best version of myself that I can be, so when I have moments that go against who I am trying to be it can be hard for me to process initially. However, I do not let my weaknesses define who I am and I am working on them every day to turn them into strengths.

4. Detail a time that a group was under your leadership and how you lead them and resolved any conflicts that arose. How did you lead, and how did they respond?

Last semester, I took an African American Studies course. One of our major assignments was writing a twelve to fifteen page paper addressing a current issue that African Americans still face today. When we started to strategize the roles of each individual and our timeline, I took on a leadership position. It was not until later when my groupmates pointed it out to me that I took on this role. When we started on the paper, a conflict that arose was that the sections that each person was assigned to write was not long enough to reach the page count minimum. To solve this issue, I read over each of their paragraphs and supplied them with some extra information and sources so that they could go into more detail with their section of the paper. I tried to make sure the entirety of what parts they felt that their section needed to add length without it becoming repetitive. It was left to their discretion of how they would use the information provided or use it at all. Near the end of the paper's completion, the reaction my groupmates was positive. They thanked me for guiding them in the right direction for their specific role.

5. You have heard that Winthrop University students want to decorate their graduation caps, but administration has firmly said no. How would you go about addressing the issue with students and administration?

I would first begin with validating how they feel. As someone who expresses myself through my clothing, I would be just as frustrated that I could not add another feature of individualism to my graduation day. I would explain that the essence of the cap and gown itself represents unity among the student body. Then, I would provide alternatives of personal expression that avoids tampering the appearance of the graduation cap. I would explain that students that they have the freedom of expression

through their choice of a graduation stole, cords, sashes, hair, makeup, shoes, etc. that is appropriate for an academic setting and aligns with Winthrop's core values.

TICKET PLATFORM STATEMENT

The perspective of the student body should not be taken lightly. The student perspective is crucial in decision-making regarding education, university concerns, and campus life. Students feel a lack of harmony, information, and representation. We must validate their concerns by establishing unity, integrity, and visibility.

Unity means embracing diversity and collaborating to create solutions that work for everyone. Inclusive spaces on campus need improvement, and we aim to encourage the blending of cultures. Free expression is important, and we will provide safe spaces for open discussion. Our goal is to bridge divides and create a more united, cohesive campus.

Winthrop is working on projects for the student body, but communication about these goals and accomplishments is not as openly discussed. As leaders, we wish to promote open conversations between faculty and students. This way, those who wish to have an inside look at those who run campus operations are able to do so. Further, we will work with the financial committee to make financial statements more user-friendly, and on campus resources will be promoted better. We prioritize clear communication from the administration to empower informed decision-making along students.

Visibility helps with student engagement by providing awareness of opportunities and resources available to them. Students have addressed concerns with isolation exclusion in supposed to be “inclusive” spaces. To aid this issue, we will start by asking what makes students feel visible? We then can work directly with smaller student organizations and underrepresented populations. Opening our ears up for all voices allows us to create new opportunities for students.

These values form the foundation for our leadership platform. We are committed to a system that is student-centered and prioritizes their needs. Pushing for unity, integrity, and visibility leads to students having faith in the university and those who represent them.