



REPORT *on* PHILANTHROPY

FROM UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT AND
THE WINTHROP UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION
2025





In these pages, you'll find updates about Winthrop University and stories that we hope you find inspiring. Because of philanthropy – because of you – Winthrop was able to achieve landmark donor partnership in the 2024-2025 academic year. Gifts from those who care about Winthrop represent a vote of confidence in our mission, and solidarity in moving into the future for all Eagles. Because of giving, Winthrop continues to provide a keenly

focused learning community which is rooted in service, scholarship, and a culture of welcome.

Some highlights for the 2024-2025 academic year include:

- ▶ Nearly **\$8M raised** in support of all things Winthrop — a banner year, and one of the best fundraising years in Winthrop's history.
- ▶ Growth of the Winthrop University endowment to **nearly \$90M**, as a result of thoughtful stewardship by the staff and board of the Winthrop University Foundation and generous gifts from donors.
- ▶ Another successful Day of Giving, which was led by the top-performing Class of 1975.

Read on to learn more about these highlights as well as:

- ◆ Updates about our alumni around the world and this year's Senior Week (p. 4-5);
- ◆ The creation of the Honors College (p. 6-7);
- ◆ The story of one family's multigenerational commitment to giving, and to Winthrop (p. 10-11);
- ◆ Dig deep with two student researchers who discuss their scholarly interests (p. 14-15).

Thank you again for your support of and interest in Winthrop.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin M. Hughes". The signature is fluid and stylized, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kevin M. Hughes
Vice President, University Advancement

CAMPUS STATS

4,894

TOTAL STUDENT BODY

16

DIVISION I NCAA SPORTS

21

AVERAGE
CLASS SIZE

40

U.S. STATES AND 36 COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED IN THE STUDENT BODY

46%

MINORITY POPULATION

3,969

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT BODY

246

FULL-TIME FACULTY

89%

CAREER OUTCOMES RATE*

13:1

STUDENT TO FACULTY RATIO

20+

YEARS AS A *U.S. NEWS TOP
REGIONAL COLLEGE*

925

GRADUATE STUDENTS

100+

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

*89% of graduates report being employed, enrolled in continuing education, serving in the military, or volunteering within six months of completing their bachelor's degree.

Data based on Fall 2024

ALUMNI BY THE NUMBERS

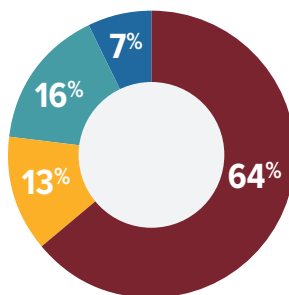
CLASSIFICATIONS

64% UNDERGRADUATE
DEGREE HOLDERS

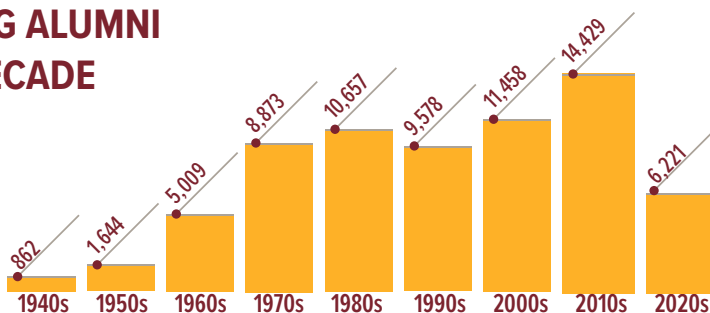
13% GRADUATE DEGREE
HOLDERS

16% NON-GRADUATE

7% LOST/MISSING



LIVING ALUMNI BY DECADE



TRACKING EAGLES ACROSS THE WORLD

More than 68,000 Winthrop alumni span the globe! Our alumni enrich the university and contribute to its mission in a variety of ways including serving as volunteers, providing internship opportunities and career guidance for students and serving as ambassadors for their alma mater. Winthrop alumni stay connected via regional alumni chapters, affinity groups, social media and events.

TOTAL ALUMNI

68,731 in all **50** states,
U.S. territories and overseas
populations and countries
worldwide



TOP 10 STATES

1. South Carolina
2. North Carolina
3. Georgia
4. Florida
5. Virginia
6. Texas
7. Tennessee
8. Maryland
9. California
10. New York

TOP 10 COUNTRIES

1. United States
2. China
3. France
4. Canada
5. Spain
6. Saudi Arabia
7. Brazil
8. Australia
9. Germany
10. Japan

WINTHROP SENIOR WEEK

After a successful inaugural Senior Week in May 2024, the Alumni Association hosted the second Senior Week for the class of 2025! The week of events was held May 5-8 and included the Final Toss: Senior Cornhole Tournament; Muffin but Money: Strategies for Financial Success; Strike a Pose: Professional Headshots; Champagne Toast to the Class of 2025 and the 2.025 Grad Dash. As part of their participation in Senior Week, students



also had the option to contribute any amount to any fund through the senior class gift campaign.

Students who donated \$25 also received a donor medal to wear at Commencement and a water bottle to use throughout the week. Thank you to our 40 senior donors from the Class of 2025 who raised a combined \$1,308!



HONORS COLLEGE

takes flight

This fall Winthrop University officially launched a leadership-focused Honors College. Designed as a hub for existing and new initiatives, the Honors College will function as a high-impact workforce talent incubator for the region. Honors College students, regardless of their major, will hone their leadership acumen by participating in a required series of leadership development seminars, events, and mentorship sessions to include economic development and community leaders.



Dean Grossoehme

Inaugural Honors College Dean Nick Grossoehme has spent the last year steadily recruiting new and current students as well as building out the curriculum. Winthrop had been one of the first universities in the nation to implement an honors program in 1960, but this shift to a full-blown Honors College will ideally attract more students looking for an academic challenge and leadership experience.

Grossoehme said the Honors Program has been an indispensable component of the Winthrop community.

“It gives talented students the opportunity to look deep into themselves,



question what they think they understand, expand the scope of their abilities, and learn more about themselves and their abilities along the way,” he said. “The transition from a program to an Honors College allows us to build on this tradition of excellence in a way that develops transferable skills and creates personal and professional connections with community and industry leaders. The future is bright for Winthrop University and the Honors College.”

More than 450 new and current students will be in the new College this fall, including Corrine Richardson, a biochemistry major on the pre-med track.

“While applying to colleges, I knew that being in a honors program was something that I definitely wanted to do,” she said. “I already loved Winthrop so much, so applying to the Honors College was a no-brainer.”

“What I’m looking forward to most is the connections and opportunities,” she continued. “As a pre-med student, networking is really important, and I’m hoping that the Honors College will give me those opportunities – some of those opportunities being research, job fairs, etc. Things the regular college can provide but doing it the Honors way!”



Corrine Richardson

Each honors cohort will take a leadership course every fall semester with a different focus. Freshman students will study businessman Stephen R. Covey’s seven habits of highly effective people, which were popularized in his 1989 book of the same name. Sophomores will focus inward and discuss charisma, synergy, and understanding others, while juniors will focus on leadership through action. Grossoehme also hopes to partner with a York County Regional Chamber program that pairs small groups with local non-profits for hands-on problem-solving experience.

Of note: donor and alumna Elaine Whitton Davis ’73 of Rock Hill became the university’s first “Angel Investor,” pledging a multi-year unrestricted financial gift in support of the Honors College start up. Want to join her in helping the future of the Honors College and learn more about the great work happening? www.winthrop.edu/honors/

GIVING DAY



APRIL 22-23, 2025

1,011

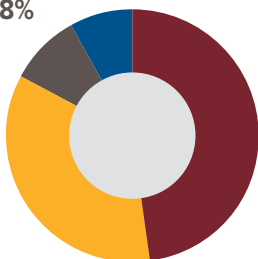
DONORS

\$391,233

RAISED

WHO GAVE?

- Alumni, Children and Spouses of Alumni, **48%**
- Friends, **35%**
- Faculty, Staff and Former Faculty and Staff, **9%**
- Parents, **8%**



144

DONORS

\$35,000

GAVE MORE THAN
TO THE RICHARD W. RILEY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, SPORT,
AND HUMAN PERFORMANCE

DONOR GAVE MORE THAN

\$82,000

TO EAGLE ATHLETICS

TOP TEN CLASS YEARS BY NUMBER OF DONORS

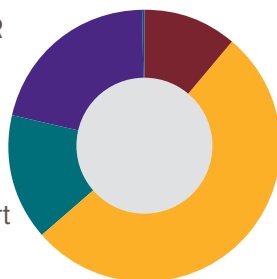
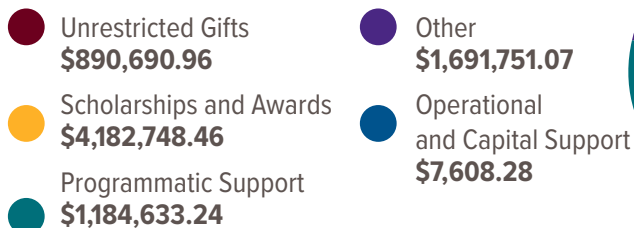
- 1975
- 2025
- 2007
- 2003
- 1964
- 1973
- 2009
- 2027
- 1974
- 1984

TOP TEN FUNDS BY NUMBER OF DONORS

- WINTHROP FUND
- VOLLEYBALL EXCELLENCE FUND
- BLACK ALUMNI COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
- COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES DEAN'S EXCELLENCE FUND
- SOFTBALL EXCELLENCE FUND
- MACFEAT LABORATORY SCHOOL FUND
- WINTHROP SCHOLARSHIP FUND
- FRIENDS OF DACUS LIBRARY
- COLLEGE OF BUSINESS DEAN'S EXCELLENCE FUND
- COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, SPORT, AND HUMAN SCIENCES DEAN'S EXCELLENCE FUND

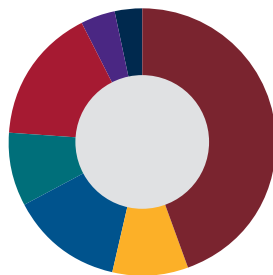
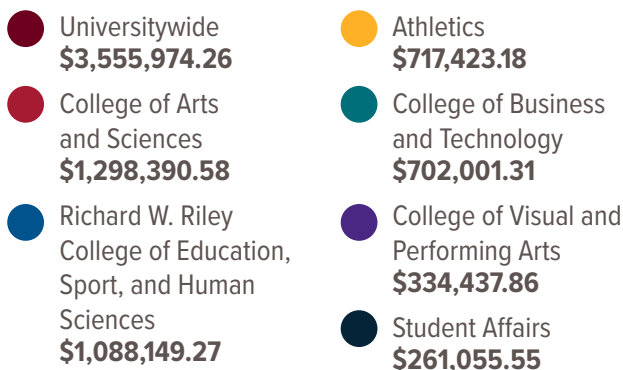
PHILANTHROPIC MILESTONES

GIVING BY FUND CATEGORY 2024-25 ACADEMIC YEAR



Total: **\$7,957,432.01**

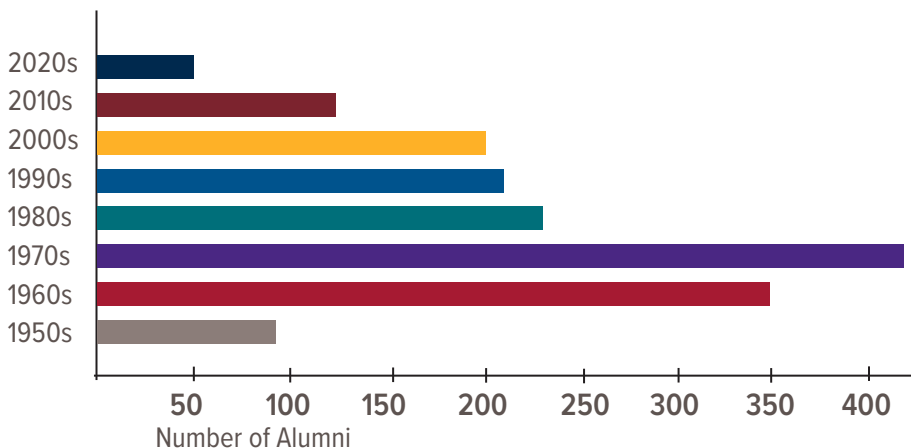
GIVING BY DIVISION 2024-25 ACADEMIC YEAR



Total: **\$7,957,432.01**

*According to CASE standards for reporting

ALUMNI GIVING BY CLASS YEARS 2024-25 ACADEMIC YEAR



A FAMILY TRADITION

The Godbold Family Creates Cycle of Service and Care



Margaret Eleazer Godbold

Some families just have it in their DNA. The love of learning. Or the spirit of serving others. Or the desire to pay it forward. The Godbold family has the market cornered on all three.

Margaret Eleazer Godbold '34 was known for her quiet devotion to her family, to the Rock Hill community, and to her alma mater. She taught in South Carolina schools from her graduation in 1934 through 1947, and in 1947 became the sixth-grade supervisor at the Winthrop Training School. She later became an English teacher for a veterans' training program in Rock Hill, then returned to Winthrop as the seventh-grade supervisor at Winthrop Training School.

She married John Jake Godbold, who served at both Northside Elementary and then as principal of Ebenezer Avenue Elementary (1937-942) prior to serving as the principal of Rock Hill High School from 1943-1967.

Both educators were known for their dedication in the classroom and to their students and communities. To their family, they were Mammy and Grand-D – a firm foundation of a loving family, and models for what it means to serve others. In 1992, former students established the J.J. Godbold Endowed Scholarship, and, later, family established the Margaret Eleazer Godbold '34 Endowed Scholarship, both scholarships dedicated to supporting aspiring teachers.



John Jake Godbold

The Winthrop connections don't stop there: Margaret's son, John J. Godbold Jr., also attended Winthrop Training School. John Godbold Jr. and wife, Linda, are also known for their steadfast support of Winthrop Athletics. The Athletic Training Room at the Winthrop Coliseum is named in their honor, and John was inducted into the

Winthrop Athletic Hall of Fame in 2024.

John Godbold Jr. credits his parents and their influence to the ongoing family tradition of philanthropy: “These scholarships are a testament to my parents’ dedication to education. They loved their students and the institutions they represented. Former students often tell me how much my parents impacted their lives in an encouraging way, and that makes me very proud. It is wonderful to think that they are still impacting students today through their Winthrop scholarships.”

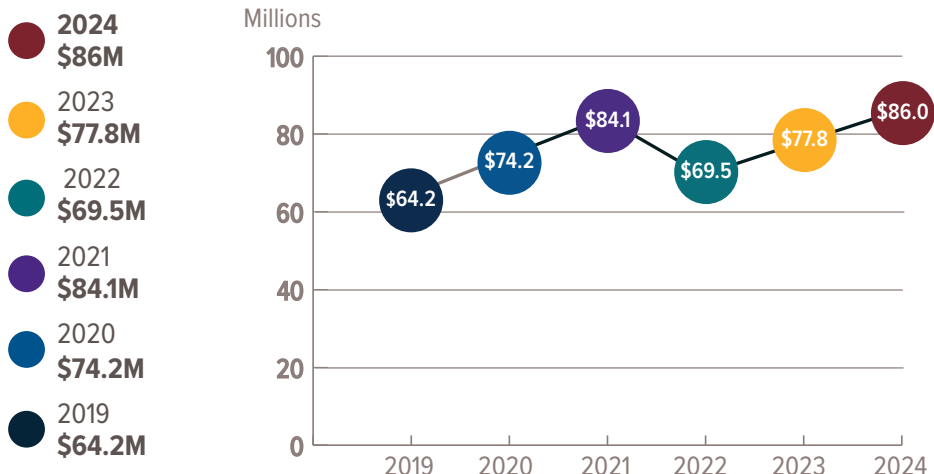
John Godbold Jr., wife, Linda, and daughters Susan Stuppnig and Meg Godbold ’99 and ’02 (College of Business) continue to give back to Winthrop and to engage with the recipients of the family scholarships, meeting them, mentoring them, and staying in touch. Meg once welcomed a student recipient to stay with her during her trips to campus to finish up her studies at the family home Meg resides in near campus. Both sisters place a priority on encouraging those who receive the family scholarships and keeping apprised of their careers post-Winthrop. Susan Stuppnig points to the family tradition of philanthropy and service, noting that “Mammy and Grand-D led by example. Education was highly valued, and they both dedicated their lives to educating others in so many different capacities. They were such amazing role models for me and they are the reason that I became an educator. I consider it a privilege to carry on that family tradition in their honor.”

Rock Hill and Winthrop have been mainstays in Meg’s life from birth. Growing up, Meg recalls many visits to Winthrop to see her grandfather and so having the opportunity to move back to Rock Hill, attend Winthrop University and raise her son, Clay, in the family home was a full-circle moment in her life that she is thankful for: “Winthrop’s program offered to ‘non-traditional’ students was pivotal in my success as a student. As a single mother, it allowed me to balance motherhood, getting an education and working without feeling overwhelmed. When we started the scholarship for my grandmother, it was important to me that others like me have every opportunity to successfully obtain their educational goals.” The Margaret Eleazer Godbold ’34 Scholarship is specifically for non-traditional students pursuing degrees to teach, honoring this part of the family legacy.

The Godbold family tradition of caring honors Winthrop and paves the way for students who will then become role models to their students, carrying on the family tradition far beyond even the reaches of campus in a perpetual cycle of care and service.

PHILANTHROPIC MANAGEMENT

PORTFOLIO GROWTH



USE OF PORTFOLIO FUNDS 2024



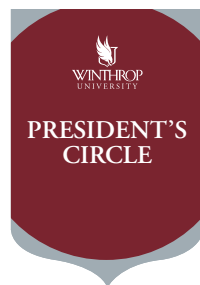
Figures are based on unaudited numbers.

RECOGNITION SOCIETIES

We recognize our donors' generosity through various recognition societies. These societies not only honor our donors but also illustrate how their support fosters excellence at Winthrop.

The President's Circle

Recognizes annual donors giving \$1,000 or more each fiscal year. Members lead the Winthrop community in promoting a culture of giving to have a profound impact on the university and its students. Members can take pride in the support provided to Winthrop and have the benefit of connecting with each other at exclusive events.



Winthrop Loyal

Celebrates donors who have given any amount for the previous three consecutive years or more. Gifts of any amount, to any area of Winthrop, count toward memberships and is based on qualifying gifts to the Winthrop University Foundation between July 1 and June 30. Winthrop Loyal Society members are a community of more than 1,200 donors, and are among our most loyal constituents helping ensure students are given every opportunity to succeed both in and out of the classroom. Whether you are new to supporting Winthrop or have been a part of the Winthrop University donor community for years, securing your membership is easy — make a gift today!



D.B. Johnson Society

D.B. Johnson, Winthrop's founding president, had a vision. With a gift of \$1,500 from the Peabody Foundation headed by Robert Winthrop, D.B. Johnson created what is today one of South Carolina's top-performing public universities. The D.B. Johnson Society consists of a loyal group of individuals who have included Winthrop University in their estate plans. Like Robert Winthrop, members of the D.B. Johnson Society know that the plans they make today will provide perpetual support to Winthrop University and its mission.



Each gift to Winthrop makes a difference. Thank you for your support of Winthrop students past, present, and future!

NICHOLAS YONKIN



RESEARCH PROJECT: How Did American Consumerism Impact the Fall of the USSR?

HOMETOWN: Greer, South Carolina

MAJOR: Social Studies Education

DREAM JOB: Teaching



Q: Where did your interest in the Cold War and its demise come from?

A: I've always been interested in that era of history, the clash of ideologies, the reactions countries had and how they started having the Red Scare.

Q: In your thesis, you talk about how historians and economists don't always look through other lenses. Why do you think so many fail to look at the Cold War's end through the lens of those disciplines?

A: In my work, I looked at historians and economists. Both looked at how the USSR collapsed, and both would show the importance of different conclusions. Historians gave credit to domestic reasons while economists gave foreign credit to the collapse. Though some do look through the lens of others, many look at the problem only through their own lens. I believe that is because we do not stress the importance of interdisciplinary learning/writing. So many fall into the habit of discussing a problem through one lens.

Q: Even though the Cold War is considered to have ended in 1991, are there any relevant lessons that can apply to the world today?

A: I believe many of the aspects of the cold War can be applied to modern day, especially looking at politics.

Q: Anything you want to say about the scholarship support you've received at Winthrop?

A: The scholarships granted to me by throughout the years were a ton of help in lightening the load of the financial struggle.

(THE SHOWCASE OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ENDEAVORS)

CHRISTIAN TENNARIELLO



RESEARCH PROJECT:

The Impacts of eNASCAR on the Motorsports Industry and the eNASCAR College Series on Universities

HOMETOWN: Basking Ridge, New Jersey

MAJOR: Sport Management

DREAM JOB: A leadership position on a racing team



Q: Where did the interest in NASCAR and its eNASCAR gaming originate?

A: I've always been interested in cars, from both a technical and business perspective. I became especially interested in motorsports during the COVID-19 pandemic when I started competing in virtual motorsports races. After moving to South Carolina to attend Winthrop, I began to follow NASCAR more closely, primarily due to the numerous jobs related to the series in the Charlotte area. Last year, while researching virtual races I could compete in, I found an advertisement for the eNASCAR College Series, which gave me the idea.

Q: What kind of information were you able to gather, and how did you go about it?

A: The majority of the information I gathered was from interviews with several motorsports industry professionals, including a real-world NASCAR driver who started his career in eNASCAR. Those interviewed discussed the unique opportunities that eNASCAR creates for NASCAR and how the eNASCAR College Series creates opportunities for universities. The real-world driver also explained some differences between racing in the simulator versus real life. I also competed in the eNASCAR College Series, which allowed me to experience eNASCAR firsthand.

Q: Can you give us an example of one of the valuable insights you found?

A: During one of my interviews with a NASCAR employee, they discussed how eNASCAR was used in developing the race course for the Chicago Street Race event. Before building the track in real life, iRacing, the platform eNASCAR uses, created a prototype version of the track to test out the layout virtually. They then used the information gathered from the virtual race to make necessary layout changes for the real-life track. NASCAR also set up simulators around downtown Chicago for fans to drive the track as a way to create excitement before it was built in real life.

When Eagles
soar together,
we can fill
the sky.

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