

**HIGHLIGHTING BLACK
WOMEN FOR WOMEN'S
HISTORY MONTH**

ZANDRA FLEMISTER, JENNIFER
MCCLELLAN, JESSICA WATKINS,
NICHOLE LYNN , JUDGE
DEANDREA BENJAMIN, VIOLA
DAVIS

**DEATH TO
DIASPORA WARS**

THIS DISPERSION HAS
PRODUCED MANY
DIFFERENT SUBCULTURES
TAKING ROOT FROM
AFRICA.

**COUNSELING SERVICES
DISPELS RUMORS**

THE COORDINATOR OF
COUNSELING SERVICES
ADDRESSES THE RUMOR
THAT 'IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO
GET AN APPOINTMENT.'

Est. 1986

THE RMR
RODDEY MCMILLAN RECORD



THE INSPIRATION

Rev. Cynthia Plair-Roddey, a 1967 Winthrop graduate, is a trailblazer for change. She was the first Black student to enroll at Winthrop 10 years after the Supreme Court ended segregation in public schools with their *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. Nine of her friends attended Winthrop alongside her. She was accepted to Winthrop College in the summer of 1964, where she earned a Master of Arts in teaching library science after having graduated from John C. Smith—an HBCU—with two bachelor's degrees. Roddey worked in education for 55 years before she retired in 2017.



The Roddey McMillan Record (RMR) is named after both Roddey and Sheila McMillan, which is one of the many honors that the publication has received since its inception. McMillan was the first Black person to sit on the Board of Trustees in 1983. Before coming to Winthrop, she was one of the first Black students to integrate into the University of North Carolina and the first Black Senate attorney with the South Carolina Legislature after she earned her doctorates in law from the University of South Carolina. Both of the magazine's namesakes have broken glass ceilings for Black women across the country. When the RMR was created by Gail Harris in 1986, she was inspired by these women to establish a safe space for minority students.

The purpose of the RMR is to

“shine a light on the diverse cultures at Winthrop, focusing on the concerns facing the multicultural community on campus.”

Follow our Socials!



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Highlighting Black Women

Viola Davis attains EGOT status

February 5, 2023



WU alumna **Judge DeAndrea Benjamin** appointed to the Fourth Circuit Court of

February 9, 2023 Appeals

Nichole Lynn becomes the first Black woman to represent a player in the Super Bowl

February 9, 2023



Jessica Watkins becomes the first Black woman assigned to the ISS

February 10, 2023

Virginia elects **Jennifer McClellan**, its first Black woman to represent them in Congress

February 22, 2023



Zandra Flemister, the first Black woman employed in the Secret Service, dies at 71

February 24, 2023

The Coordinator of Counseling Services addresses the rumor that 'it's impossible to get an appointment.'

The coordinator encourages students to use the same-day intake model, which she says has been in place for at least 10 years.

Ainsley McCarthy

Gretchen Baldwin, the Coordinator of Counseling Services, said appointments made using the online Mediat Patient Portal have increased. She adds that prior to COVID-19 pandemic, the online portal was much less used as students would schedule visits in-person or over the phone instead. She says the purpose of the Same Day model is to get students the services they need as soon as possible. Counselor's schedules fill up fast, and they could be booked up for three weeks in advance if they used a schedule-ahead model. Every client's first appointment consists of a personal assessment so that the Counselor and student can decide on an appropriate course of action, as well as the date of the next visit. Baldwin also said a same-day appointment model is for student's benefit, but they must read instructions carefully.

"When COVID required us to transition to 100 percent Telemental Health, students became much more accustomed to using the portal, and they asked to be able to schedule their intake appointments via the portal. So, we made that allowance. In the last year, we began to hear a baffling rumor: students didn't think there was any availability in Counseling Services, yet we had unused Same Day Intakes most days during the week," Baldwin said. The appointment policy for Counseling Services on the Mediat Patient Portal website says, "Intake appointments are offered every day on a first-come/first-serve basis."

online scheduling WITH COUNSELING SERVICES step-by-step

WHAT CAN I SCHEDULE ONLINE?

For new clients, the quickest, easiest way to schedule an appointment is through the portal. The only appointments you can schedule online are appointments that will happen TODAY.

There are only two types of appointments you can schedule online via the Mediat Patient Portal:

- Intake Appointment (in person or telehealth)
- Call back from the same-day counselor

LOGGING IN

Scheduling online is through the [Mediat Patient Portal](#). Be sure that you are using the FIREFOX or SAFARI browser to ensure compatibility. Log in using the name and password you set up during your initial use of the portal.

Schedule a new appointment by clicking the "Appts" tab on the header bar. *

*If you don't see an appointment tab, call the front desk at 805-525-2206 for assistance.

CHOOSE THE COUNSELING CLINIC

Choose the "Counseling Services" clinic on the following page and click "submit."

SEARCH FOR TODAY'S APPOINTMENTS

Your final search should look like the screen to the right, though you might be searching for a different appointment type.

DO choose all providers - our intake/same day counselors rotate, so you won't know who is working that day to search.

A NOTE ABOUT APPOINTMENT TYPES

- For telehealth appointments, you must physically be in SC at the time of the appointment.
- If requesting a call from a counselor, be sure you complete the paperwork in the patient portal after scheduling and expect a counselor to call within 90 minutes of doing so, regardless of which time you choose.

PICK AN AVAILABLE APPOINTMENT

After you submit your search, all available appointments of that type will show for today. Changing the date won't show any appointments since all online scheduling is only for today's appointments.

Choose an appointment time that works for you, then complete the necessary forms on your forms tab.

If nothing is showing up for today's date, all the available appointments have been scheduled. You can:

- Schedule a call back from a counselor by returning to the appointment search
- OR
- Log on again tomorrow (the earlier the better) and try again!

SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH
Counseling Services
 AT WINTHROP

1 First Time Appointments
 First time coming to see us? (Or perhaps it's been a year or two?)
 We'll schedule your first (intake) appointment for TODAY - we don't pre-schedule these, so if you want to come in on Tuesday, you'll make the appointment on Tuesday morning.
 You can schedule via the [Medicat Patient Portal](#) or call the front desk at 803-323-2206.

2 In Case of Emergency
 If there are no intake appointments available, you can still talk to a counselor!
 On the Medicat Patient Portal, return to the appointment search and choose "call back from same day counselor" as the appointment type. Or, you can call the front desk and request a call back from a counselor today.
 Either way, you'll need to complete some forms on the portal - after you submit those, the counselor will return your call within 90 minutes.

3 Coming Back to Counseling
 If you've met with a counselor here in the past year, you can schedule an appointment through the front desk (call 803-323-2206) - or e-mail your counselor.
 These appointments are "Intake Returns," so you don't have to go through the Same Day Intake process all over again.

4 Ongoing Appointments
 After your first (same-day intake) appointment, you will be able to schedule your follow-up sessions with your ongoing counselor.
 All your follow-up appointments will be scheduled ahead of time, so you can find something that works with your schedule.

5 Counseling for Trauma
 If you've experienced trauma (recent or in the past), and are ready to address it in counseling, you can get connected to a trauma counselor in one of two ways:
 • Follow the instructions above to get an intake with general counseling - once here, ask if SATS (Student Advocacy and Trauma Support) counseling would be a good fit.
 • Contact the SATS coordinator, Itali Jackson (jacksoni@winthrop.edu), for a consultation and ask to begin counseling. This is a good option if you need other resources (housing, legal, advocacy) beyond counseling.

FOLLOW US ONLINE FOR UPCOMING EVENTS, NEWS, AND RESOURCES



"We really don't want anyone to fall through the cracks and not receive services if they need them."

-Gretchen Baldwin

Contact the front desk at
(803) 323-2206

Call or sign-up first thing on the morning you want to come in—they fill up quickly! If the reserved appointments are full, and you feel that you must speak to a counselor, you may Request an Appointment from the Same Day Counselor.” The Winthrop University website also states that “if you are experiencing a crisis or urgent mental health need and cannot wait for your regularly scheduled appointment, please call and request a Same Day Appointment.” To clarify, though 20 to 30 minute appointments are available every day, they cannot be scheduled before the day of the desired appointment. Appointments are available Monday through Friday during business hours. Students who need care outside of operating hours may reach out to their Resident Assistant, Residential Learning Coordinator or, in an emergency, Campus Police. Local Urgent Care is also an option and does not require an appointment.

Broken to Better Urgent Care
 (803) 818-3932

Riverview Family Medicine
 803/366-7443

Campus Police
 (803) 323-3333

SC Legislature Heightens Abortion Ban Discourse

Kimberly Boensch

In early January the South Carolina Supreme Court deemed Governor McMaster's fetal heartbeat bill unconstitutional based on the right to privacy given in the 10th amendment of the state constitution. However, that doesn't mean that efforts to restrict abortion rights in the state have been halted.

There are currently a dozen bills in the South Carolina state legislature that directly pertain to abortion and reproductive rights despite the recent state Supreme Court decision.

The latest actions taken regarding these 12 bills have happened as recently as mid February according to legislative tracking website BillTrack50. Five of these bills aim to protect abortion rights while the other seven mean to restrict these rights.

The most restrictive bills in the legislature right now are nearly identical bills in language and intent- H.3774 and S.0240, which are both titled "Abortion Ban with Exceptions". The exceptions in these bills specify that abortion at any point in gestation would not be allowed but that contraception methods would remain legal and the ban would not apply in cases of rape, incest, fatal fetal anomalies and threats to the patient's life. S.0240 states it will "ban abortions... provide for exceptions to the ban on abortions, protect the use of contraceptives... provide that physicians or other licensed professionals shall lose their license for violations of this article, and to provide that a woman's name may remain anonymous in proceedings initiated pursuant to this article."

Legislators in the state's House of Representatives decided to pass House bill 3774 on Feb. 15 in a 83-31 vote according to The State. Now the bill will cross over to the Senate to vote on whether or not it will become law.

Sen. Margie Matthews, a Democratic representative from District 45, describes the introduction of these new bills in spite of the Supreme Court ruling as "knee-jerk" reaction by the "heavy hand of a bunch of men." She sponsors a bill that seeks to eliminate sales and luxury tax for menstrual hygiene products as well as diapers. Matthews is the lone sponsor of the bill that currently offers the most protection for reproductive rights in South Carolina: Senate bill 349, titled "Reproductive Freedom: Constitutional Ballot Question". The bill cites Article I, sections three and ten of the South Carolina Constitution's Declaration of Rights, which give citizens of the state equal protection under the law as well as protection from unreasonable invasions of privacy. Senate bill 349 seeks regulation of abortion by the general assembly and says that the state is not permitted to deny or interfere with personal decisions such as reproductive freedom. Republican Senator Sandy Senn from Charleston echoed a similar idea as Matthews, stating "There's no way the court can make an informed decision with the scant legislative record... It was ramrodded through committee and it's been ramrodded on this floor." She, too, voted no on one of the bans. To make your voice heard on the issue of abortion in the state of South Carolina, contact your senators and representatives today.

Death to Diaspora Wars

Raquel Simon

Note: Inspired by @missxtinab on Instagram.
Please support the original creator.

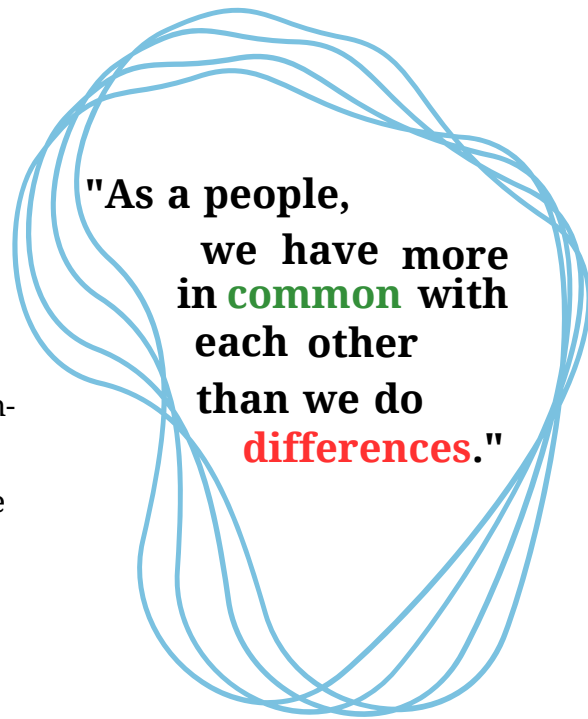
The African Diaspora is known as the communities of African descendants dispersed throughout the world due to historical migration—whether by force or by choice. It can be simply defined as people of African origin living outside of the continent Africa— the Motherland. Black people exist everywhere: Europe, the Americas, the Caribbean, and of course Africa.

This dispersion has produced many different subcultures taking root from Africa. It is said all the time that there is no one way to be black. However, this does not stop a culture clash and even a competition of sorts between members of the diaspora.



A Woman at Carnival

Shutterstock



As a people, we have more in common with each other than we do differences. Black Studies scholars refer to these similarities as “Africanisms.” This can be witnessed in foods, religious practices, and more. For example, Jollof Rice of West Africa, pelau of the Caribbean, and jambalaya of Louisiana are all traditional rice dishes with heavy spices, meats, peas, and various vegetables. “Many in the black community believe that one group is superior to another, but in order to heal, grow, and achieve our full potential, we must come together as one and put our differences behind us,” said Shaniya Jeffcoat, Haitian-American social work major.

The focus for the members of the Diaspora should be the centuries of destabilization due to the slave trade, colonization, and capitalism. We focus heavily on a disconnect between each ethnicity, instead of the creator of said disconnect. The Diaspora wars are alive and well as a weapon of mass distraction for black communities everywhere.

While it is important to understand that blackness and black culture are not monolithic, this understanding needs to be rooted in acceptance for each other. There needs to be a shift in mindset for how we have dealt with the circumstances of African dispersion. We cannot allow slight differences in culture and history to create a division in the greater fight for liberation.

Critical Race Theory Potentially in *Critical Condition*

Sam Hyatt

Critical race theory (CRT) has been in the spotlight for several years now, polarizing educators, parents and politicians alike.

According to Stephen Sawchuk at Education Week, “the term ‘critical race theory’ is now cited as the basis of all diversity and inclusion efforts regardless of how much it’s actually informed those programs.” Adolphus Belk echoed similar notions in the February issue of the RMR.

Numerous videos have surfaced on social media sites displaying emptied bookshelves in school classrooms and libraries due to restrictions placed on what materials students can be exposed to. In South Carolina, the House presented a bill titled “Transparency and Integrity in Education Act”, or H. 3728. According to Javon L. Harris from The State, the bill would “prohibit certain concepts, including those considered to be promoting critical race theory, from being taught in South Carolina’s public schools.”



SC Democrat Cezar McKnight Jeffrey Collins/AP

The bill’s text states that it will prohibit public schools from “suggesting that by virtue of a student’s race or sex, that student bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race, sex, ethnicity, religion, color, or national origin.” It will also allow parents, or anyone else, to have access to and review the school’s curriculum and instructional materials.

The bill passed the house on Feb. 8 with a vote of 83-34, proceeding to the Senate.

Representative Jermaine Johnson, a Democrat from Richland County, plans to introduce a bill that will counter the Transparency and Integrity in Education Act. In an interview with The State, representative Johnson said “This bill was born out of people being uncomfortable with Black history. Personally, I feel that’s a slap in the face. If we’re going to talk about fact-based history, then tell the truth. White people killed and hung people that looked like me. Is that indoctrination?”

"If we're going to talk about fact-based history, then tell the truth. White people killed and hung people that looked like me. Is that indoctrination?"

-Rep. Jermaine Johnson

This bill comes at a critical time in South Carolina history, as the state continues to suffer from a teacher shortage. Teachers continue to voice concerns about legislation interrupting their teaching, disrupting the flow of education and ultimately harming students, on top of feeling overworked and undervalued. More educators may begin to leave the field.

The State reported “a record 1,474 teacher and school-based service positions were vacant to start the 2022 school year, a survey of South Carolina’s public-school districts found.” This bill, once presented as a “benefit” for the public education system in the Palmetto State, may prove to have the opposite effect.

Monkeypox Affected Minorities Disproportionately in 2022

Sam Hyatt

“Black people are over-represented among the cases”

-Jen Christensen

The first case of Monkeypox was announced in the United States on May 18, 2022, when a man from Boston, Massachusetts contracted the virus while traveling to Canada. After returning back to the United States, he was hospitalized in Boston.

According to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), monkeypox symptoms include fever, chills, swollen lymph nodes, exhaustion, muscle aches and backaches, headache, respiratory symptoms and a rash that looks like pimples or blisters that might be painful or itchy.

During this time, people should quarantine away from both people and animals to prevent further spread.

After the virus entered the country it began to disproportionately affect marginalized communities.

According to an article by Jen Christensen “Black and Hispanic people are more likely to get monkeypox but less likely to be vaccinated.” Christensen goes on to cite the CDC, stating “Nearly 38 percent of monkeypox cases are among Black people, yet they represent only 12 percent of the US population. Hispanic or Latino people make up 19 percent of the US population but account for 29 percent of the cases as of

August 27.”

According to the CDC website, as of Feb. 25, 2023, there have been 30,193 total cases of confirmed Monkeypox, 32 deaths in the United States and 85,922 cases globally.

The CDC additionally states that “At this time, data suggests that gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men make up the majority of cases in the current monkeypox outbreak. However, anyone, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, who has been in close, personal contact with someone who has monkeypox is at risk.”

Although there seems to be a decline in cases, it is believed that in the next outbreak these same communities will be affected.

“Black people are over-represented among the cases,” Christensen said. “They make up 9 percent of the population in the country but 11 percent of the cases. Only 9 percent of those who got their first vaccine dose identify as Black. It is not totally clear what’s driving the differences, but this isn’t the first disease to see such inequities, said Dr. Chyke Doubeni, chief health equity officer at Ohio State University. Unless something drastically changes, he said, we’ll see the same pattern in the next outbreak. So far, there have been 1,191,641 Monkeypox vaccines administered in the United States and its territories including Guam, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Northern Marianas. According to the CDC, California, Illinois and Florida have given the most vaccines as the count is over 50,000 vaccines. Currently JYNNEOS is the primary vaccine to protect against Monkeypox in the United States. Those eligible are encouraged to receive the 2-dose vaccine to prevent the contraction of Monkeypox in the next outbreak of the virus.

The Relationship Between Media and Toxic Masculinity

Emory Lewis

While masculinity is a social construct that can be claimed by anyone despite gender identity, it is more commonly associated with cisgender men. As far as masculinity goes, however, the social pressures and conversations surrounding it have become more polarizing in recent years. Many responses to the idea of the gender spectrum have been to hold fast to social expectations regardless of how they negatively affect others. This type of behavior encapsulates what we know as toxic masculinity.

Increasingly, conversations glorifying sexism and violence against women and gender non-conforming people are hailed as prime examples of what it means to be a “true man.” These ideals have slowly begun to bleed into the media that we consume and are now opening up doors for young children, particularly boys, to try to follow in the footsteps of these creators.

One of the biggest creators that perpetuates these harmful narratives is Andrew Tate. Born Emory Andrew Tate III, he was a kickboxer who gained fame from being on the show *Big Brother* (from which he was removed following a sexual assault and physical abuse investigation). Tate also has a vast following on Twitter that consists of 4.5 million people. Before Tate was arrested, he was popular in the media for his comments about women, children, and health concerns. In regard to women having children, he said “I think the most important thing anyone can do in their life is have children... When I speak to some of these feminists who are like ‘I don’t want kids’, I think you are the most miserable stupid bitch in the world.” Tate seemingly does not believe in systemic racism either, or protesting for change, as he states “There is an elite club that you’re not in and none of them people are arguing about the dumb shit you’re arguing about. So, if you’re looking at this race thing, you

feel like going on the street and marching... You need to drop that crap, get your money up, and transcend.” Tate has also been featured on podcasts like the “Fresh and Fit” podcast hosted by Myron Gaines and Walter Weekes. This podcast has been known for having a negative outlook on masculinity and life in general. For example, co-host Walter Weekes has been quoted saying “women’s only goal is to get resources out of men without having to put out [sexually].” He has also said, “Men should be allowed to cheat in relationships while women stay loyal; men have the mental capacity to do so while women do not.” Both of these hosts also post questionable YouTube videos under various titles as “Pull Girls Easily” and “Why being faithful is the women’s job”. These comments along with Tate’s actions have all been video recorded and are available to most general audiences with one simple click, despite their mature content. There are also a plethora of videos showing how easy it is for new users or users without social media accounts to come by this content. Having videos that present a positive connotation between misogynistic thought and ability to gain money perpetuates toxic masculinity to wider markets, primarily young boys. According to Insider, one South Carolina educator says, “Because I’m a female, they [students] often don’t respect what I have to say when I ask questions or ask them to be responsible.” Andrew Tate, Myron Gaines, and Walter Weekes are not to blame solely for the perpetuation of toxic masculinity in the media, but the way that these men have such a pull in the social media community creates a sense of fear in society for the evolution of male-identifying students. If this rhetoric is allowed to continuously be preached and is readily available to students, it will be detrimental to society.

Black Business Spotlight



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