



4-3-2006

Performance, Scholarship to Honor Late IWU Choral Director

Taylor Kuzniar
Illinois Wesleyan University

Rebecca Welzenbach
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news>

Recommended Citation

Kuzniar, Taylor and Welzenbach, Rebecca, "Performance, Scholarship to Honor Late IWU Choral Director" (2006). *News and Events*. 77.
<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news/77>

This Article is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/ or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.

April 3, 2006

Contact: Rebecca Welzenbach or Taylor Kuzniar, (309) 556-3181

Performance, Scholarship to Honor Late IWU Choral Director

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – The Illinois Wesleyan University Collegiate Choir will honor the legacy of the late David Nott, professor emeritus of voice and former director of choral activity at IWU, with the debut performance of a commissioned choral piece and the presentation of the first David Nott Collegiate Choir Scholarship during the ensemble’s annual spring concert at Wesley United Methodist Church (502 E. Front St., Bloomington) on Sunday, April 9 at 3 p.m.

Nott, who passed away in December of 2004, taught at IWU for 31 years, bringing recognition to an already distinguished choral program. He led the Collegiate Choir on an annual spring break tour, which took the group to all corners of the United States and produced critically acclaimed recordings. Among Nott’s most distinguished students are world-renowned opera singers Roger Roloff and Dawn Upshaw, a two time Grammy Award-winner who is also married to Nott’s oldest son.

A Milwaukee native, Nott graduated from Carroll College, earned a master’s degree in sacred music from the Union Theological Seminary School in New York and received a doctoral degree in musical arts from the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati.

In addition to directing and teaching vocal performance at IWU, Nott organized and led community ensembles, leaving an imprint on the cultural life of Bloomington-Normal.

During Sunday’s concert the Collegiate Choir, under the direction of Scott Ferguson, professor of music and director of choral activities at IWU, will perform “I Am In Need of Music,” commissioned in Nott’s memory by his widow, Anne Nott, along with family and friends. The piece, composed by David Brunner, IWU class of ’75 and director of choral activities at the University of Central Florida-Orlando, will become a part of the Collegiate Choir Commission Series, which was begun in 1952. A pet project of Nott’s during his tenure at IWU, the series, which has added many works to the choral repertoire and led to a number of world premieres at Illinois Wesleyan, is the oldest one of its kind in the United States.

The David Nott Collegiate Choir Scholarship will honor a member of the Collegiate Choir based on his or her commitment to supporting the high performance standards of

Collegiate Choir, appreciation for the inherently collaborative nature of choral singing, demonstrated leadership within the ensemble and affinity for the choral art. The David Nott Scholars, selected by the conductor of the Collegiate Choir and in consultation with the director of the School of Music, will be listed in the printed program of the Honor's Day Convocation.

The Collegiate Choir is dedicated to the performance of the finest sacred and secular choral music of the past five centuries. Students in the choir are selected by audition and tour domestically every spring break and internationally every four years.

For additional information, contact the IWU School of Music office at (309) 556-3061.