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IWU's Blue Moon Coffeehouse Opens 15th Season

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – The Blue Moon Coffeehouse, now in its milestone 15th year, opens on Sept. 23 in the Memorial Center (104 E. University St, Bloomington). Returning for an eleventh time is singer-songwriter Susan Werner. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the show begins at 8:00 p.m.

The Blue Moon events are \$10 for the public and free for Illinois Wesleyan students with a valid student I.D. This newly added admission fee has been implemented in order to maintain the program's level of high quality performers. Since its inception in 1992, the series has expanded from its originally intended student audience to a much broader crowd ranging from local community members to listeners from around the Midwest.

"We love having the community come out," Associate Dean of Students Darcy L. Greder says. The program has been revered as a "gift to the community" and, according to Greder, is recognized for being a great listening room and is one of the best national venues to offer a "live, organic experience." Greder believes that many of the performers return to the series because of the Blue Moon's enthusiastic audiences and the positive connection that the show creates within the community.

Tickets for the Blue Moon are available at the Garlic Press, 106-108 W. North St. in Normal, and at the IWU Memorial Center main desk on the day of the show starting at 6:00 p.m. Cash, checks and credit cards are accepted for sales via telephone, and all payments must be made in cash on the day of the show. All tickets are general admission.

Susan Werner has generated a following among the Blue Moon community and is praised for her energy and humor by her audiences. Werner has been ranked among "pop/folk's fastest rising new stars," and her music, which brings a definite jazz influence to contemporary folk, has been said to be reminiscent of greats such as Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Patty Larkin and Dar Williams. Her critically acclaimed fourth album, released in 2004, *I Can't Be New*, resonates the styles of Diana Krall and Ella Fitzgerald.

Other performers at the Blue Moon this fall are Natalia Zuckerman on Oct. 28, Peter Mulvey on Nov. 18 and Ann Reed on Dec. 9. Tickets for these shows are on sale now.

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For tickets or additional information, contact the Blue Moon Coffeehouse information line at (309) 556-3815 or visit the Blue Moon Web site at <http://titan.iwu.edu/~bluemoon/>.