



11-6-2006

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Recommended Citation

ReCupido '09, Amanda, "Carpe Diem String Quartet to play Guest Recital" (2006). *News and Events*. 109.

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November 6, 2006

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Carpe Diem String Quartet to play Guest Recital

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Illinois Wesleyan University’s School of Music will host a guest concert given by the Carpe Diem String Quartet on Nov. 19 at 3:00 p.m. in Westbrook Auditorium of Presser Hall (1210 N. Park St., Bloomington). The Ohio group will be presented as part of the Illinois Chamber Music Festival, an outgrowth of the IWU Chamber Music Camp and Festival that, until now, has only been held in the summer.

The event is free and open to the public.

In addition to performing a concert, the Carpe Diem Quartet will offer master classes to Illinois Wesleyan students. Carpe Diem’s founding members formed the quartet in order to share their passion for chamber music and expand their national and international visibility. Even though the group is relatively new, they have already earned critical acclaim as a premier chamber ensemble with a diverse repertoire and passion for audience engagement.

According to the group members, Carpe Diem is deeply committed to the music of our times and has already embarked on several ambitious projects. The musicians are also members of the Columbus Symphony Orchestra.

By naming the event as part of the Illinois Chamber Music Festival at Illinois Wesleyan, the program takes on a year-round presence. Nina Gordon, associate professor of cello and chamber music and founder/director of the IWU Summer Music Program, hopes to present another concert in the spring of 2007 to give the program a “concert window” of summer, fall and spring for the year-round festival.

The IWU summer festival program included an intensive chamber music training camp open to high school and junior high school students. Participants attended daily coaching, rehearsals, master classes and performances by students and faculty.

For additional information, contact Gordon at (309) 556-3828.

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