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IWU Alums Make Music for Leukemia

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IWU Alums Make Music for Leukemia

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Illinois Wesleyan University will host a special concert on Sunday, April 29 at 2 p.m. in the Westbrook Auditorium of Presser Hall (1210 Park St., Bloomington) featuring The Thirty-Third Illinois Volunteer Regiment Band. The concert is offered to benefit the Leukemia-Lymphoma Society of McLean County.

Tickets for the concert are \$15 in advance or \$18 at the door. They are available at the Coffee Hound (205 W. North St., Normal) and The Garlic Press (108 W North St, Normal).

The band portrays a group of musicians of the same name from Central Illinois who gathered at State Normal University, which is now Illinois State University (ISU) in 1861 to volunteer for the union cause. It is a recreation of the sights and sounds of the Civil War era and performs pieces from that time period or before. Members wear authentic Union uniforms, kepis and brogans, and many of the instruments played are antiques from the mid-1800s. A narrator tells stories about the songs to facilitate the program.

The Thirty Third Illinois Volunteer Regiment Band has performed in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Ohio, Missouri and Kentucky. In 2000, the group appeared at IWU for the University's sesquicentennial celebration, and in 2005, the band was selected by the Joint Task Force Inaugural Committee to appear at the 55th Presidential Inaugural Parade in Washington, D.C. Recently, the band performed at Vicksburg, Miss. for the re-dedication of the Illinois Monument at the Vicksburg National Military Park.

Upcoming performances include a concert on the quad of ISU on Monday, July 2, a performance at Milner Library (201 North School St., Normal) on Saturday, Aug. 25 and ISU's Homecoming Parade on Saturday, Oct. 13.

Several members of the band are Illinois Wesleyan alums, including C. Roland Hill, class of 1951, Marie Ann Schlemmer Hill, class of 1952, Mark Lareau, class of 1992 and Sara Simpson, class of 1970.

For additional information, visit The Thirty-Third Illinois Volunteer Regiment Band Web Site at www.33rdband.org.

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