



Fall 11-18-1999

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Recommended Citation

Munds, Jessica, "IWU Students Record, Produce and Market Christmas Season Compact Disc for Charity" (1999). *News and Events*. 828.
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Nov. 18, 1999

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IWU Students Record, Produce and Market Christmas Season Compact Disc for Charity

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.-- For the second consecutive year, Illinois Wesleyan University students and faculty members have recorded, produced and marketed a Christmas season CD, which includes "Away In a Manger," "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," "Silent Night," and 13 other classic and contemporary Christmas carols.

"As we were in the process of selling last year's edition, people already started talking about what we would do for this year," said Clint W. Sabin, an IWU junior public relations major from East Peoria, Ill., who graduated from Metamora High School.

Over 35 IWU students and faculty members are involved in this project, which is expected to raise more than \$8,000 for the *Peoria Journal Star's* Christmas Fund, which goes towards the purchase of food and toys for the needy in Central Illinois. Last year, the sale of *A Musician's Christmas* raised nearly \$5,000 for the *Peoria Journal Star's* Christmas Fund.

"This is good, quality music, and all the profits go to charity," said Sabin.

The CD was recorded Oct. 9-11 in IWU's Evelyn Chapel, which is known for its excellent acoustics. Dan Solovitz, a 1999 IWU graduate from Rochester, Minn., who is planning to enter the recording business, recorded the CD.

One thousand copies of Edition II of *A Musician's Christmas*, manufactured by the Bloomington-based Sinewave Studios, Inc., will be available by Thanksgiving. Each CD will cost \$10, and copies of last year's recording are still available for \$8.

Selections from the second edition of *A Musician's Christmas* include:

- **Angels We Have Heard on High** (trumpet solo)
 - Stephen J. Thompson (trumpet), a junior music major from Lacon, Ill.
 - Jason Mondello (piano), a senior music education major from Lindenhurst and Grayslake, Ill.
- **Away in a Manger** (violin solo)
 - Luke Herman (violin), a senior music education major from Waukegan, Ill.
 - Jason Mondello (piano)
- **God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen** (trombone trio)

- Mark Thomson (trombone), a senior music major from Shannon, Ill.
- Kevin Van Prooyen (trombone), a senior music education major from Lombard, Ill.
- Jennifer Tuttle (trombone), sophomore music education major from Mokena, Ill.
- **The Virgin's Slumber Song** (woman's vocal solo)
 - Jessica Bicknell (soprano), a senior music education major from Bluffs, Ill.
 - Alicia Levin (piano), a sophomore music major from Oshkosh, Wis.
- **I Saw Three Ships** (piano solo)
 - A.J. Robb (piano), a freshman music composition major from Mt. Prospect, Ill.
- **O Little Town of Bethlehem** (clarinet solo)
 - Rachel Throckmorton (clarinet), a junior music education major from Petersburg, Ill.
 - Alicia Levin (piano)
- **Go Tell It On the Mountain** (jazz combo)
 - Sean Parsons (piano), a senior music major from Peru, Ill.
 - Graham Czach (bass), a junior music composition major from Hoffman Estates, Ill.
 - Mark Thomson (trombone)
 - Dan Witte (drums), a senior music education major from Niles, Ill.
- **Pat-A-Pan** (flute solo)
 - Sarah Sipll (flute), a junior music education major from Joliet, Ill.
 - Alicia Levin (piano)
- **Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy** (bassoon quartet)
 - Ryan Caldwell (bassoon), a sophomore music major from Fulton, Mo.
 - Alexander Laurie (bassoon), a freshman math and music major from Lebanon, Ill.
 - Sean Wise (bassoon), a sophomore biology major from Hampshire, Ill.
 - Jason Mondello (bassoon)
 - Diana Hammer (bassoon), a junior Spanish and sociology major from Polo, Ill.
- **Do You Hear What I Hear?** (male vocal solo)
 - Brian Williams (baritone voice), a senior music major from Canton, Ill.
 - Sean Parsons (piano)
- **What Child Is This?** (jazz piano solo)
 - Sean Parsons (piano)
- **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** (cello quartet)
 - Vanessa Rogers (cello), a senior music education major from Metamora, Ill.

- Christine Mah (cello), a junior elementary education major from Buffalo Grove, Ill.
- Lori Morgan (cello), a freshman music major from Chesterfield, Mo.
- Bethany Von Behren (cello), a junior music major from Peoria, Ill.
- **Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree** (vocal ensemble)
 - The Illinois Wesleyan University Chamber Singers under the direction of J. Scott Ferguson, IWU associate professor of music and director of choral activities
- **Silent Night** (oboe solo)
 - Allison Baker (oboe), a senior music major from Springfield, Ill.
 - Alicia Levin (piano)
- **Ave Maria** (female vocal solo)
 - Carren Moham, IWU assistant professor of voice
 - Ben Blozan, IWU professor of piano
- **O Holy Night** (string quartet)
 - "The Ethos String Quartet"
 - Luke Herman (violin)
 - Sharon Chung (violin), a senior music major from Buffalo Grove, Ill.
 - Deanna Herman (viola), a freshman music major from Waukegan, Ill.
 - Karl Knapp (cello), a senior music major from Ft. Atkinson, Wis.

Members of the CD committee include: Ben Johnson, a senior accounting major from Shorewood, Ill.; Joe Maffia, a junior political science and English major from LaGrange, Ill.; Jeremy Nicholas; a junior music major from Kenosha, Wis.; Pete Weber, a senior education major from Arlington Heights, Ill.; and Sabin.

Edition II of *A Musician's Christmas* is sponsored by IWU's Alpha Lambda chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

Founded in 1898 at Boston's New England Conservatory, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia is a national professional music fraternity. Notable members of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia include composer Samuel Barber, bandleader Duke Ellington, actor Andy Griffith, opera singer Luciano Pavarotti, children's television personality Fred Rogers, trumpeter Doc Severinson and composer John Phillip Sousa.

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia's goals are to increase public awareness of music's key role in enriching the human spirit, as well as to promote advances in music research, education and performance.

Edition II of *A Musician's Christmas* can be purchased at these locations:

- Wonders of Wildlife Gallery and Framing, 4700 N. University St. Peoria, Ill. 61614 (309)693-9453.
- Dixon Fisheries, 1807 N. Main, East Peoria, Ill. 61611

(309)694-6823.

- Kidder Music, 7728 N. Crestline Dr., Peoria, Ill. 61615

(309)692-4040.

- The Music Shoppe, Inc., 126 E. Beaufort St., Normal, Ill. 61761 (309)452-7436.
- IWU Bookstore, 1207 1/2 N. Main St., Bloomington, Ill. 61701 (309)556-3059.

The CD also be purchased through the mail by sending a check made payable to "Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia" to 303 E. Chestnut St., Bloomington, Ill. 61701. Mark the check to the attention of *A Musician's Christmas* and add \$2 for shipping and handling.