



Fall 10-13-2000

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### Recommended Citation

Weber, Kate, "IWU Professor Receives 13th ASCAPLU\$ Standard Award for Music" (2000).  
*News and Events*. 946.  
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Oct. 13, 2000

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## **IWU Professor Receives 13th ASCAPLU\$ Standard Award for Music**

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--For the 13th consecutive year, David Vayo, associate professor of music music composition and theory at Illinois Wesleyan University and organizer of the IWU New Music Cafe, has won an award for his musical compositions from the New York-based American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP).

"Though it is not a record, 13 awards is quite an achievement and even a little bit unusual," said Ken Cicerale, director of the ASCAP award program.

Although it varies from year to year, approximately 1,500 awards are presented each year. According to Cicerale, more than 90,000 members belong to ASCAP.

ASCAP is a performing rights organization whose main purpose is to compensate composers for performances and broadcasts of their music. Not only does it support classical composers, but popular lyricists and songwriters, as well. The organization grants licenses and collects fees for the public performance of copyrighted musical works by its members. ASCAP then passes along royalty payments to its member composers.

According to a letter sent to IWU President Minor Myers, jr. from Marilyn Bergman, ASCAP president and chairman of the board, the "cash awards reflect [ASCAP's] continuing commitment to assist and encourage writers of serious music."

"The awards give moral support," Vayo explained. "ASCAP recognizes what composers are doing and realizes there isn't a lot of money in royalties. These awards provide encouragement to composers like myself to continue what we are doing."

Every year, members of ASCAP fill out a form listing the number of compositions they have completed in the past year, when and where they were performed, any recordings completed and any additional awards received.

The ASCAP panel that recommended Vayo included:

- David Bowden, conductor and music director of the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic and Terre Haute and Carmel (Ind.) Symphony Orchestras.
- Carolyn Jennings, professor of music and associate dean for fine arts at St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn.
- Tim Page, author and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist for the Washington Post.
- H. Robert Reynolds, director of bands and instrumental studies at the University of Michigan.

- Fred Sherry, world-renowned cellist and member of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, New York, N.Y.

"The people who determine the award winners are not employed by ASCAP, so, though the awards are funded by ASCAP, the awards are really a show of encouragement and support from the composers' peers in the field," Cicerale said.

Vayo plans to take academic leave for the second semester of this school year, made possible by the \$38,000 Guggenheim Grant he was awarded this past April. The grant is provided for by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation and was established in 1925 by U.S. Senator Simon Guggenheim (1867-1941). The foundation serves as a memorial to the former senator's son who died in 1922.

"This award buys time for creative people. It allows me to dedicate an entire semester to composing," Vayo said.

Vayo plans to spend second semester composing a piece for chamber orchestra. He recently completed an untitled piece for harpsichord and bass clarinet for two Dutch performers. The piece will premiere within the next year.

Vayo also has composed Symphony: Blossoms and Awakenings; Five Small Packages for string quartet; Study in Carmine and Coral for the piano; Poem, a chamber music piece for flute, violin, clarinet, cello and piano and Wings, a piano and cello piece paying homage to Vayo's interests in Brazilian pop music and jazz. Vayo's compositions have been performed or broadcast more than 200 times worldwide.

Vayo joined the IWU faculty as an assistant professor of composition and theory in 1991, after teaching at Connecticut College, the National University of Costa Rica and the National Symphony Youth Program of Costa Rica.

A native of New Haven, Conn., Vayo earned bachelor's and master's degrees in music composition at Indiana University. He earned a degree in musical arts composition in 1990 from the University of Michigan.

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls more than 2,000 students in a College of Liberal Arts, and individual schools of Music, Theatre Arts, Art and Nursing. Since 1994, these facilities have been added to the IWU campus: a \$15-million athletics and recreation center, a \$25-million science center, a \$6.8-million residence hall, a \$5.1 million Center for Liberal Arts and a \$1.65-million baseball stadium.