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Media Advisory

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Media Advisory

Event: Illinois Wesleyan University's School of Music will present opera highlights from composer Gian Carlo Menotti's *The Consul* and *The Medium*.

Date: Dec. 1, 2001 (Saturday)

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Location: Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall, 303 E. University Ave., Bloomington

Admission: Free and open to the public

Background: The Consul is the award-winning opera about the efforts of Magda Sorel to obtain a visa for her family to join her husband, a political exile in another country. The tensions rise as Madga becomes more and more tangled in government bureaucracy and impersonal red tape leading to a shattering climax.

The Medium is an opera about a scam artist Madame Flora, who begins to hear messages from the other world that her accomplices a young girl and deaf mute are unable to hear.

About the director: Linda Farquharson, associate professor of music, opera, music theatre and voice, has been a faculty member at Illinois Wesleyan since 1988. She received her bachelor of music education degree from Ohio State University, her master of music degree from Kent State University, and her doctor of musical arts degree from the University of Illinois.

Farquharson has extensive experience with the opera program at Illinois Wesleyan with over fifty opera and music theatre productions to her credit. Productions under her direction include Le Nozze Di Figaro, The Magic Flute, Carmen, Tender Land, Gianni Schicchi, Die Fledermaus, Brigadoon, including numerous other programs.

Farquharson has served as musical director/associate director for several professional companies such as the Ohio light opera company, the national light opera company, the Kennedy Center, and the Peoria civic opera.

Contact: For additional information contact the IWU School of Music at 309/ 556-3061