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16th Annual Musical Festival to Honor Martin Luther King, Jr.

Tia Patsavas
Illinois Wesleyan University

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16th Annual Musical Festival to Honor Martin Luther King, Jr.

Jan. 21, 2014

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— On Thursday, Jan. 23, following the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day national holiday, the Festival of Spirituals and Songs will commemorate the civil rights leader through music and celebration. The festival will be held at 4 p.m. in the Evelyn Chapel (1301 N. Park St., Bloomington), on the Illinois Wesleyan campus and is free and open to the public to attend.

Led by Professor of Music Carren Moham, the event will feature Illinois Wesleyan students and faculty, with guest performers from Illinois State University. The program will highlight compositions written and performed by African-American artists.

With songs about the hardships of slavery and inequality, the event is an “opportunity for people to come together in a positive way to listen to peoples’ stories...” said Moham, who will perform her own arrangement of *Wade in the Water*.

The program will also include: Mark Hayes’ arrangement of *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, performed by Emeritus Professor in Theory Todd Tucker, George Gershwin’s *Summertime*, performed by Mary Nicholas ‘14, and adjunct faculty member Sarah Dale ‘92, Stevie Wonder’s *You and I*, performed by Visiting Assistant Professor of Music Robert Mangialardi and Billy Strayhorn’s *A Flower Is A Lovesome Thing*, performed by Fern Rosetta Sherff Professor of Composition and Theory David Vayo and Assistant Professor of the School of Music Timothy Pitchford.

For additional information about the festival, contact Moham, professor of music, at cmoham@iwu.edu.

Contact: Tia Patsavas '16 (309) 556-3181, univcomm@iwu.edu