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Illinois Wesleyan Will Celebrate a Variety of Traditions with Holiday Events

Nov. 21, 2014

Illinois Wesleyan University will observe the holiday season with events celebrating a variety of cultural traditions.

On **Tuesday, Dec. 2**, the Black Student Union will host a **Kwanzaa Dinner** at 6 p.m. in the Memorial Center, Turfler Room. The African-American and Pan-African holiday celebrates "The Seven Principles of Kwanzaa": self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith.

On **Wednesday, Dec. 3** there will be a **sing-a-long** of the "Christmas" portion of **Handel's "Messiah"** with Illinois Wesleyan's Collegiate and University Choirs and faculty soloists at 11 a.m. in Evelyn Chapel.

Students can make holiday cards, wrap gifts and create winter crafts **Wednesday, Dec. 3** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sponsored by the Dean of Students, **"Wrapping It Up"** will be held in the DugOut.



IWU Hillel will sponsor a **Hanukkah Dinner** on **Wednesday, Dec. 3** at 6 p.m. in the Memorial Center, Turfler Room. Attendees will learn about the story and traditions behind the Jewish holiday, and students and faculty of the Jewish faith will have the opportunity to celebrate Hanukkah on campus. IWU Hillel hopes to increase awareness of religious diversity through this event, and share part of their faith with the Illinois Wesleyan community



The third annual **"Light the Night: A Multicultural Celebration of the Season of Light"** will be held on **Thursday, Dec. 4** at 8 p.m. in Evelyn Chapel. Light the Night celebrates the stories, songs and meanings of various December holidays. Following the celebration, attendees can join a candlelight procession to Joslin Atrium for a reception with global holiday foods. The event is a part of the 3D series, a campus-wide collaboration that encourages diversity, dignity and dialogue at Illinois Wesleyan.

"Light the Night is an exuberant evening that reflects the wonderful diversity of our campus and leaves students energized and connected for a long week of exams and papers ahead," said Rev. Elyse Nelson Winger, University Chaplain.

Illinois Wesleyan's holiday events will conclude with the School of Music's **Christmas Choral Concert** on **Sunday, Dec. 7** at 3 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church, Bloomington.

By Danielle Kamp '15