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"Songs of Mark Twain's America" to be Performed at IWU

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"Songs of Mark Twain's America" to be Performed at IWU September 28, 2005

BLOOMINGTON, III. – Illinois Wesleyan's Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society and Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society will host folk singer Judy Cook, who will perform "Songs of Mark Twain's America" on Wednesday, Sept. 28, at 7 p.m. in the Hansen Student Center (300 Beecher St., Bloomington).

The event, sponsored by the IWU History Department and the IWU American Studies Department in addition to the honor societies, is free and open to the public.

Cook's "Songs of Mark Twain's America" will tell tales from the age of steamboats, minstrel shows, civil war and cowboys. The Virginia native, who has been on the road since the early 1990s, is known for her interpretations of traditional songs, from early Americana tunes to the spiritual hymns of the British Isles.

Phi Alpha Theta, founded on March 17, 1921, at the University of Arkansas, currently has 820 active chapters with a total of 275,000 members nationwide. The society, which has had a chapter at IWU since 1966, offers over 25 scholarships regularly available to students and hopes to promote the study of history through the encouragement of research, publication, and the exchange of ideas between scholars.

Sigma Tau Delta, founded in 1924 by Judson Q. Owen, a 1913 graduate of IWU, is one of the largest members of the Association of College Honor Societies with over 600 active chapters. The society, which has had a chapter at IWU since 1998, strives to bring distinction to college students of English language and literature who have made outstanding achievements, and also recognizes the accomplishments of professional writers who have significantly contributed to the literary world.

For additional information, contact Matt Cassady, president of Phi Alpha Theta, at mcassady@iwu.edu, or Megan Mondi, president of Sigma Tau Delta, at mmondi@iwu.edu.

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