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Meg Dubuque
Illinois Wesleyan University

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IWU's Suspended to Travel to Japan,
Release CD

April 19, 2007

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Illinois Wesleyan University's a cappella group Suspended will travel to Asahikawa, Japan in June as a part of the 45th anniversary of the Bloomington-Normal/Asahikawa Sister City relationship.

Traveling to Japan will be the group members, as well as retired IWU associate professor of music Todd Tucker and several Twin City officials and residents.

Suspended and Tucker will perform at a large gathering and possibly a few smaller venues.

"We're really looking forward to the opportunity to share American culture through music," said Suspended member and manager Matt LoPresti, a senior finance and political science double major from Glenview, Ill. "Illinois Wesleyan really focuses on intercultural relationships and studying abroad. This puts into play all that we've been taught for four years."

The group will perform its yearend concert at Illinois Wesleyan on Friday, April 27, at 8 p.m. in the Main Lounge, Memorial Center (104 University St., Bloomington). This event also will be Webcast live online. [View the Webcast.](#)

Suspended, who arranges much of their own music, will also release their upcoming CD, *Until Further Notice*, on April 27. Recorded in Northbrook, Ill. at Dr. C.A.W. Studio, the CD can be purchased for \$12 at the IWU Bookstore and at Suspended performances.

The group performs a wide variety of selections, from "Moondance" by Van Morrison to "Walk like an Egyptian" by The Bangles to "Bibel Ave Maria." Some of the 12 songs included on the album are "Carolina in My Mind" by James Taylor, "Virtual Insanity" by Jamiroquai, "Bless the Broken Road" by Rascal Flatts, "Wicked Game" by Chris Isaac and "Dancing Queen" by ABBA, as well as Suspended's theme song, written by member Ben Johnson, a senior music composition major from Byron, Ill.

Suspended, founded five years ago by IWU student Tim Shelton, class of 2004, performs at numerous campus events and holds two concerts each semester. The group of 12 musicians includes LoPresti; Johnson; Jack Bentley, a junior political science major from Downers Grove, Ill.; Donovan Davis, a senior music education major from Kansas City, Mo.; Eric Gabriel Diaz, a junior music education major from Franklin Park, Ill.; Mike Duback, a junior mathematics major from Ottawa, Ill.; Jeremy Pease, a sophomore vocal performance major from Lake in the Hills, Ill.; Jonathon Sestak, a music and business administration double major from Barrington, Ill. and Paul Teipe, a senior music composition major from Park Ridge, Ill. Auditions are held every fall to replace graduated seniors.

For additional information, or for anyone interested in auditioning or scheduling Suspended for an event, contact LoPresti at suspended@iwu.edu or (309) 556- 2382.



Suspended performed at a reception during the Collegiate Choir tour this spring.

Contact: Meg Dubuque, (309) 556-3181