



Winter 1-11-2000

Comedian Greg Fitzsimmons to Perform Live at IWU

Sherry Wallace
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news>

Recommended Citation

Wallace, Sherry, "Comedian Greg Fitzsimmons to Perform Live at IWU" (2000). *News and Events*. 5209.

<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news/5209>

This Article is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/ or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.

Jan. 11, 2000

Contact: Sherry Wallace, 309/556-3181

*Funny Bone Comedy Series***Comedian Greg Fitzsimmons to Perform Live at IWU**

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--"The buzz is on and so far, nobody has bombed out," said Kevin Clark, small halls director at Illinois Wesleyan University.

The "buzz" Clark is referring to is all the talk surrounding the new Funny Bone Comedy Series at IWU. Sponsored by IWU's Co-Curricular Programs, the series has received rave reviews and an enthusiastic welcome from the university's student body.

"There are a lot of opportunities at IWU and a lot of new things are being done--this being one of them," said Clark who, with Joe Onorio, also an IWU Residence Hall Director, co-founded the comedy series through their collateral assignments in Co-Curricular Programs. "We put it together and kind of modeled it after the Blue Moon Coffeehouse that brings free acoustic music concerts to the IWU campus.

"Our hope is for this to be an on-going comedy series and we are going to have a comedian once a month for the entire spring semester," said Onorio.

Leading off the comedy series for IWU's spring semester 2000 will be comedian Greg Fitzsimmons. who will perform Friday, Jan. 14 at 8 p.m. in the Main Lounge of Memorial Student Center, 104 E. University Ave., Bloomington.

Admission is free for the comedy series and doors open at 7:30 p.m. Seating will be at round tables, accommodating approximately 400 people.

A native of Los Angeles, Fitzsimmons who has been described by fans as a fresh-faced and hip young comedian, was the host of MTV's "Idiot Savants," a new spin on the quiz show genre.

Fitzsimmons also has been a guest on *The Late Show with David Letterman*, *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, *The Rosie O'Donnell Show* and HBO Comedy Showcase

Clark and Onorio had the opportunity last November to attend the National Association of College Activities Conference (NACA) held in Springfield, Ill. At the conference, student administration from across the Illinois and Indiana regions were able to see performances by musicians and comedians and browse the entertainment booths highlighting various entertainers.

During IWU's fall 1999 semester, students were treated to the comic routines of Wendi Fox, an alcohol education comedian, two local musical talents-- Rebecca Stoelinga, a senior (English literature major) from Wheeling, Ill., who was the opening act for Blue Moon Coffeehouse guest guitarist, singer/songwriter Willie Porter; and sophomore (undecided) David Rossi from Hopedale, Ill., a member of "The Cupboards," who opened for comedian Eric O'Shea at IWU's Titan Jam event last October, with approximately 500 people in attendance.

The lineup for the Funny Bones' spring semester 2000 comedy series is:

Friday, Jan. 14, 8 p.m., Main Lounge, Memorial Student Center

Greg Fitzsimmons

Saturday, Feb. 12, 8 p.m., Main Lounge, Memorial Student Center

Chris Johnson: "An offbeat, high energy, electric comic,"—Joey Edmonds Agency. Johnson who has appeared on "Beverly Hills 90210," will take the audience on a tour of his world and life experiences, and the audience is cautioned to, enter at your own risk!

Wednesday, March 1, 8 p.m., Memorial Student Center

Comedian Leighann Lord, who according to the Minneapolis *Star Tribune* is "a first rate comedian!" Lord has appeared on film (*RadioLand Murders*) and television (*Apollo Comedy Hour, Def Comedy All-Star Jam, Lifetime's Girls' Night Out and VH-1 Stand-Up Spotlight*). Lord--who has opened for entertainers such as comedians Chris Rock, Margaret Cho and Brian Regan; the R&B musical group, The Commodores--represented the United States in the 1997 International Comedy Festival and once wrote for *The Chris Rock Show Pilot*. Lord is the winner of the 1996 NYC Black Comedy Award for The Most Thought Provoking Female Comic and the 1993 and 1994 Official Harlem Week Comedian.

Saturday, April 8, 8 p.m., Main Lounge of Memorial Student Center

Comedian David J, whose humor is said to be "clean and never mean" by his fans, has performed at more than 300 colleges and universities across the United States. David J uses his comic routine to poke fun at his experiences growing up and going to college. He has opened for *Saturday Night Live's* Adam Sandler and Kevin Nealon, was a finalist in HBO's *Kids in the Hall Comedy Challenge* and hosts *The David J Show* every week in New York City.