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February 13, 2009

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The Blue Moon Coffeehouse presents Cheryl Wheeler

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Cheryl Wheeler will perform Saturday, Feb. 21 at 8 p.m. at Illinois Wesleyan's Blue Moon Coffeehouse. The performance will take place in the Young Main Lounge of the Memorial Center (104 E. University St., Bloomington). Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. and coffee and light pastries will be available.

Wheeler, a singer-songwriter of contemporary folk music, was born in Timonium, Md., where her first professional gig was at the Steak and Ale Restaurant. She has performed since the age of 12 and started to write her own songs at age 17. Wheeler began her career touring in the Washington D.C. and Baltimore areas. In 1976 she moved to Rhode Island where she continued to perform her music. She currently lives in Massachusetts.

Wheeler's live concerts include singing as well as comic routines and serious discussions. About half the songs she performs in concert are not from her albums, which have been released on seven different major labels. Wheeler's latest albums include *Different Stripe* (2003), *No Previous Record* (2003) and *Defying Gravity* (2005). Although she generally tours alone, Wheeler has toured with Kenny White who, on occasion, opens for her and also sings harmony during her sets. In 1988, she participated in a trio concert with fellow folk singers Shawn Colvin and Mary Chapin Carpenter.

Described by critics as "sarcastic, cynical and sardonic to the point of hilarity," Wheeler's music often presents an emotional portrayal of someone or a hilarious situation. Many of Wheeler's songs have been covered by famous recording artists such as Peter, Paul and Mary ("75 Septembers"), Maura O'Connell ("Summer Fly"), Dan Seals ("Addicted") and Suzy Bogguss whose cover of "Aces" scored her a number one hit in 1991.

Students, faculty and staff can attend the concert for free with a valid ID; tickets for the public are \$10 and are currently available at The Garlic Press (108 W. North St., Normal), through the telephone request line at (309) 556-3815 and on the night of the show at the venue.

For additional information about the concert, visit the Blue Moon Coffeehouse Web site at <http://titan.iwu.edu/~bluemoon/>. For more information regarding Wheeler, visit her Web site at <http://www.cherylwheeler.com>.

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