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Media Advisory Gianni Schicci

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March 16, 2004

Contact: Erin Wetherille (309) 556-3181

Media Advisory

- Event:** *Illinois Wesleyan School of Music* presents: "Gianni Schicci"
- Date:** March 27 (Saturday) and March 28 (Sunday)
- Time:** March 27 – 7:30 p.m.
March 28 – 2 p.m.
- Location:** Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall
1210 Park St., Bloomington
- Admission:** Free and open to the public
- Program:** The Illinois Wesleyan School of Music will perform the opera "Gianni Schicci."
- Background:** Giacomo Puccini, who wrote the opera, grew up in a family of musicians in Italy and studied at the Milan conservatory. He is considered one of the greatest successors of Verdi in opera composition, and he also wrote "Tosca" and "Madame Butterfly." "Gianni Schicci" tells the story of the Donati family as they mourn the loss of their relative, Buoso Donati. However, when the family learns that Buoso has bequeathed his entire estate to a monastery, they become angry and try to find a way to change his will. Gianni Schicci is the peasant con artist they employ to impersonate Buoso in order to change the will. The plot twists keep the opera an entertaining show.
- Contact:** For more information, contact Linda Farquharson or the School of Music at (309) 556-3025.