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For Immediate Release

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August 29, 1995

Contact: Bob Aaron, 309/556-3181**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Susan Brandon and Dwight Drexler will kickoff the faculty recital series at Illinois Wesleyan University Sept. 7 (Thursday) with a "one piano, four hands" performance of music by Brahms, Ravel, Poulenc, and von Weber.

The 7:30 p.m. recital in Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall, will mark the last Brandon-Drexler performance, an IWU tradition. Drexler, IWU class of 1934, is retiring from public recitals at age 83.

The recital is open to the public. There is no admission charge.

The program includes: Eight pieces, Op. 60 by Carl Maria von Weber (1786-1826), Waltzes, Op. 39 by Johannes Brahms (1833-97), Mother Goose Suite by Maurice Ravel (1875-1937) and Sonata (1918) by Francis Poulenc (1899-1963).

Drexler was a member of IWU's piano faculty for 45 years, serving as chairman of the piano department and twice as interim director of the School of Music. In addition to his undergraduate degree from IWU, Drexler earned degrees from Chicago's American Conservatory of Music and the University of the Pacific. He was named IWU's Century Club honoree in 1961 for outstanding teaching and other contributions to the university. Drexler has performed extensively as a piano soloist and ensemble player.

Brandon earned an undergraduate degree at Bowling Green State University (BGSU) in Ohio and a master of fine arts degree in performance from the University of Iowa. Brandon was on sabbatical leaves in 1985 and 1991 in Vienna, Austria, where she studied two-piano literature and music for piano duet with Hans Graf, professor of piano at the Vienna Academy of Music. She has done additional study with Jerome Rose, professor and artist-in-residence at BGSU.

Brandon and Drexler perform frequently at IWU and in guest recitals regionally. In May, 1990, they performed in Vienna, Austria. During January and the spring semester of 1993, Brandon studied original manuscripts by Brahms, Schubert, and Dvorak in Vienna and Prague.

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*Locals
Chicago
area*