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Dateline: Bloomington IWU Graduate Ames Endows School of Art Building and Establishes

Sherry Wallace
Illinois Wesleyan University

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February 9, 1998

Contact: Sherry Wallace, 309/556-3181
or Spencer Sauter 309/454-5686**|| EMBARGO ALERT!!! ||**THIS INFORMATION IS NOT TO BE RELEASED UNTIL
7 P.M. FEBRUARY 9, 1998 (MONDAY)*Dateline: Bloomington***IWU Graduate Ames Endows School of Art Building
and Establishes Scholarship**

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Illinois Wesleyan University Board of Trustees President Craig C. Hart announced today at the Board of Trustees dinner that a \$2.0 million gift has been made to endow the IWU School of Art building. The gift, made in tribute to IWU alumna Joyce Eichhorn Ames, a 1949 graduate, was given by her husband, B. Charles Ames, through the Ames Family Foundation.

The announcement celebration dinner was held in the School of Art's Merwin Gallery. Joining Mr. and Mrs. Ames were daughters Paula Redman and Cindy Hope and B. Charles' brother, John Ames and spouse Marilyn, also IWU alums.

According to Mr. Ames, it is "the Ames family desire to make the School of Art the finest school of art in the nation for a college the size of Illinois Wesleyan University."

In addition to the naming of the School of Art building, the Joyce Ames Scholarship fund has been established to support students majoring in fine arts. The first recipients are: Sarah Anderson, class of '00 (Rockford, Ill.); Vince Fournier, class of '99 (Chanhassen, Minn.); Thomas Grimes, class of '01, (Pittsfield, Ill.); Wendy Konfirst, class of '00, (Lockport, Ill.); Rachelle Street, class of '01 (Dalton, Wis.); Sarah Studnicki, class of '00 (Streator, Ill.), and Lisa Weistroffer, class of '98 (Aurora, Ill).

To celebrate their selection, a scholarship breakfast meeting will be held Tuesday morning, Feb. 10, with the students and Ames family. Eventually, the Ames Scholarship will provide financial grants to ten students per year.

Mrs. Ames, also known as Jay, began her education at University High

School in Normal, Illinois. At IWU, most of her classwork was completed with Professor Kenneth Loomis, who was then head of the Art Department. At that time there were only a handful of students in the art school, and classes were held in a converted residence near the main campus. Mrs. Ames recalls her sculpture class "being conducted in an area that was once a bedroom."

Jay Ames has continued her fine arts education by operating an interior design business for several years, as well as creating the architectural, interior, and landscape design of each of the Ames' homes. She continues to collect art and antiques and supports a variety of organizations associated with the arts. With the endowment she "would like to help the next generation of art students at Illinois Wesleyan receive the same valuable skills and knowledge" that have guided her throughout her life.

B. Charles Ames, a 1950 business administration graduate of IWU and the 1990 Illinois Wesleyan Distinguished Alumnus, holds an M.B.A. degree from Harvard University's graduate School of Business (1954). He has been President of Reliance Electric Co. (1971-1980), Cleveland and the Acme-Cleveland Corporation, Cleveland (1981-1983), CEO (1981-1987), Chairman (1983-1987), and Partner (1987) in Clayton & Dubilier & Rice, Inc., New York, N.Y. He also is a Director of Diamond Shamrock Corp., Warner Lambert Co., M.A. Hanna Mining Co., Harris Graphic Corp., Progressive Corp., and the Cleveland Center for Economic Education.

Ames has authored five articles for the "Harvard Business Review" on strategic planning and marketing for industrial and technical firms. His co-authored, "Managerial Marketing; The Ultimate Advantage," is considered to be the only practical marketing management book for industrial businesses and is used by managers in several leading companies including IBM, Parker Hannifin and Hewlett-Packard. Ames also co-authored "Managerial Marketing for Industrial Firms," and a third book, "Market Driven Management: Prescriptions for Survival in a Turbulent World," was published by Dow Jones Irwin.

Since Illinois Wesleyan's founding in 1850, its central program has consisted of the curriculum in the liberal arts and sciences, leading to the baccalaureate degrees. Schools of music, art, and oratory were established in the 19th century at IWU--in 1919, a Baccalaureate degree in music was instituted, and the School of Drama (since renamed the School of

Theatre Arts) and School of Art were organized in 1946. The College of Fine Arts, combining these three schools, was established in 1948.

The current School of Art building was completed in 1973 as part of the Alice Millar Center for the Fine Arts. Its facilities provide space for teaching and creating art, while its handsomely designed Merwin Art Gallery, and more intimate Wakeley Gallery, continually exhibit the artworks of students, faculty, and guest artists.

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 1,900 students in a College of Liberal Arts, and its Schools of Music, Theatre Arts, Art, and Nursing. Since 1994, these facilities have been added to the IWU campus: a \$15 million athletic center, a \$25 million science building, a \$6.8 million residence hall, and a \$5.1 million liberal arts center. The Carnegie Commission for the Advancement of Teaching ranks Illinois Wesleyan a "Baccalaureate I" institution, a classification that places it among the 159 highly selective National Liberal Arts Colleges. IWU won the 1997 NCAA Division III men's basketball championship.