



Fall 11-29-1993

Immediate Release : Merwin and Wakely galleries will close on Dec. 1

Carol Brockman
Illinois Wesleyan University

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

Recommended Citation

Brockman, Carol, "Immediate Release : Merwin and Wakely galleries will close on Dec. 1" (1993). *News and Events*. 7198.
<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news/7198>

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.

November 29, 1993

Contact: Carol Brockman, 309/556-3181

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Locals, and Ill, Chic

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Illinois Wesleyan University's Merwin and Wakeley galleries will close Dec. 1 to observe the 5th annual Day Without Art, an event designed to raise community awareness about AIDS.

"AIDS is seriously affecting our lives," said Ann Taulbee, IWU gallery director and associate professor of art.

The art galleries will be closed in the hopes of making a greater statement than displaying draped art work, Taulbee said. A notice about a Day Without Art will be placed outside the gallery, Taulbee said.

The goal of closing the galleries is to broaden community, not just student, awareness of AIDS, she said.

"We all have to do our own part," Taulbee said. "We have to establish an awareness."

New York galleries began the tradition of a Day Without Art in conjunction with World AIDS Day. The World Health Organization, a United Nations special agency, established World AIDS day in 1984.

The original intent of a Day Without Art was to drape art work in black or remove works from display to symbolize the work that would not be created by artists lost to AIDS. Since then many galleries have participated, with some featuring art works that help to spread AIDS awareness.

Illinois ranks 7th among the 50 states in reported AIDS cases. From June 1981 to September 1993, 10,662 cases were reported, according to the U.S. Public Health Service hotline.

Throughout the United States, from June 1981 to September 1993, there has been 204,390 total AIDS-related deaths and 339,250 AIDS cases reported, according to the hotline.

The current HIV-AIDS Quarterly Surveillance Report, produced by the Atlanta-based Centers for Disease Control Prevention, estimated that in 1994 newly diagnosed AIDS cases will number 43,000 to 93,000. Currently, it estimates that one million people in the United States are infected by this disease, which attacks the body's immune system.

HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) is spread through sexual intercourse, by sharing of hypodermic needles, from an infected mother to her baby, and through infected blood or blood products. Most people who contract HIV develop AIDS. Currently, no cure exists.

The IWU galleries will reopen Dec. 2, resuming normal hours.