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11/04/1980 - Christmas Madrigal Feast

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News

Eastern Illinois University
CHARLESTON, ILL. • 217-581-2820
HARRY READ, Director of Information and Publications

November 4, 1980
L/A

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL --Eastern Illinois University will hold its sixth annual Christmas Madrigal Feast in the Grand Ballroom of the University Union Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 4, 5, and 6 at 6:30 p.m.

According to William Clark, Robert E. Snyder and Robert Wiseman, who are coordinating this year's feasts, the event will center around a four-course dinner of Beef Wellington, wassail, and flaming ginger cake. Pre-dinner and dinner entertainment will be provided by the EIU Chamber Singers, John N. Maharg, director, and a brass ensemble, Harold Hillyer, coordinator. Performers will be costumed in medieval dress.

The special feature of this year's feast will be the after dinner presentation of the chamber opera by Gian Carlo Menotti, "Amahl and the Night Visitors". This work has appeared on national television for the last decade at Christmas, Snyder said.

According to Clark, tickets for the event are priced at \$12.50 each, and reservations will be taken beginning Nov. 7 at the Union Box Office. Mail orders will be taken after this date and reservations will be assigned in the order they are received. Those ordering tickets should include a stamped self-addressed envelope along with their check made payable to Eastern Illinois University. Tables will seat 6, 8 or 12 guests this year according to Clark. Wiseman said, "It's really a first-come -- first served situation, so we encourage everyone to mail ticket orders as early as possible."

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madrigal feast
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Approximatley 1000 people have attended the Feast each year since its origin in 1975, according to Snyder. Maharg said, "The Chamber Singers will sing some new and some familiar songs that everybody enjoys during the Christmas season."