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04/02/1992 - Founder's Day Marks Eastern's 97th Birthday

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April 2, 1992

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FOUNDER'S DAY MARKS EASTERN'S 97TH BIRTHDAY

CHARLESTON, IL--The history of the fine arts area of Eastern Illinois University will be featured during Founder's Day '92 activities on Saturday, June 20, when the University observes its 97th anniversary.

The public is invited to participate in the day's activities, organized by the University's Centennial Committee. The 1992 Founder's Day theme is "Celebrating 100 Years of Excellence in the Arts." The observance is part of Eastern's centennial celebration, which will continue through the University's 100th birthday on May 22, 1995.

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FOUNDER'S DAY

As a special part of the program, former deans, directors, chairs, faculty and alumni of the fine arts area have been invited to join the activities.

Displays marking historical highlights of Eastern's music, art and theatre departments; the College of Fine Arts; Tarble Arts Center; and related organizations will be featured. The exhibition will open at 9 a.m. in the University Ballroom in the Union and close at 11:30 a.m. It will reopen following the noon Founder's Day luncheon.

A collection of mementos belonging to the late Friederich Koch, Eastern's first professor of music in 1899; Burl Ives, famous balladeer and EIU alumnus; the late Leo Dvorak, the first director of the School of Music; and "pioneers" in the fine arts area will be displayed.

A special feature will be live presentations by representatives of the areas of art, theatre and music, beginning at 10 a.m. in the University Ballroom.

The annual luncheon, open to the public, will be at noon in the Grand Ballroom in the Union and will feature Robert Weidner, EIU professor emeritus of music, as speaker. His topic will be "The History and Significant Accomplishments of Eastern's Fine Arts Programs Through the Years."

The program will also include the presentation of three University service awards and the Livingston C. Lord Distinguished Service Award and the unveiling of a large replica of the centennial coin. The commemorative coins, depicting the centennial logo, will be produced in gold, silver and bronze. Orders will be taken at Founder's Day.

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FOUNDER'S DAY

Those wishing to attend the luncheon can purchase tickets by contacting Eastern's Centennial and Special Events Office at 581-2161, no later than June 18. Tickets are \$8 per person.

Eastern was founded by the Illinois General Assembly on May 22, 1895. The University annually observes its birthday in June. Plans are underway for a year-long celebration of the 100th anniversary from Founder's Day on June 18, 1994, to May 22, 1995.