

Date; Saturday, Nov. 19th, 2011

Event: Sinfonietta Pops Orchestra Concert "Christmas at the Woods"

Where: Cecilian Auditorium, St. Mary of the Woods College

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Contact: Betty C. Martin,

Office: 812-535-6440 Home: 812-466-2755 Cell: 812-230-5739

Make "Christmas at the Woods" your musical inspiration for the holidays. The Sinfonietta Pops Orchestra concert will be performed in the beautiful Cecilian Auditorium at St. Mary of the Woods College on Saturday, November 19 at 3:00 p.m. Refreshments at Intermission will be provided by the Board of Directors of the Terre Haute Community Band, Inc. . Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for students, children under 10 free.

Jessie Uchytel, a music student at SMWC, will perform the clarinet solos in the concert opener, "In the Bleak Midwinter." This Christmas carol is based on a poem by the English poet Christina Rossetti in 1872. It was published posthumously in Rossetti's "Poetic Works" in 1904 and became a Christmas carol after it was set to music by Gustaf Holst and appeared in The English Hymnal on 1906.

"Fantasia on Greensleeves" gives the flute section an opportunity to shine. Richard and Barbara Cooper have played first and second flute in the Sinfonietta Pops Orchestra for a number of years. Barbara joined the orchestra when it organized in 1991 while Richard joined the group about 1993. Both enjoy the challenge of performing the solo sections of this hauntingly beautiful melody.

The "Toy Symphony" is a musical work with parts for toy instruments and is popularly played at Christmas. This piece calls on all the "toys" in the percussionists' bag of tricks! "Santa at the Symphony" is a creative arrangement which combines elements of classical and romantic orchestral literature with 20th century pop Christmas songs.

"Winter Wonderland" and "Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow!" are commonly considered Christmas songs but the word Christmas never appears in the lyrics for either song. But they certainly evoke the feeling of the holiday season as does "Winter Sunshine" a popular easy listening tune from composer George Melachrino.

The cello is featured throughout the Chip Davis arrangement of "Stille Nacht" and is beautifully played by cellist Debbie Thompson. The miracle of "Silent Night" is that the words flowed from the imagination of a modest village priest and the music was composed by a musician who was not known outside his village. There was no celebrity to sing at its premiere and yet its message has crossed all borders and language barriers. The song even stopped WWI for a few hours in 1914.

The Terre Haute Sinfonietta gratefully acknowledges grants from Arts Illiana, the Indiana Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts and the City of Terre Haute. For further information contact the Terre Haute Sinfonietta at 812-535-6440.