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Nationally Known Organist Helps Mark End of 50th Anniversary

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Nationally Known Organist Helps Mark End of 50th Anniversary

Quick Facts

Organist Marilyn Keiser will play on Jan. 15 to conclude the 50th anniversary of the D.B. Johnson Memorial Organ.

The 3 p.m. concert will be held in Byrnes Auditorium and is free/open to the public.

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Virtuoso concert organist **Marilyn Keiser** will perform during a 3 p.m. recital on Jan. 15 marking the end of Winthrop's **50th anniversary** of the **D.B. Johnson Memorial Organ**. The recital will be held in **Byrnes Auditorium**, followed by a reception. Both events are free and open to the public.

Keiser, a professor of music at Indiana University, teaches courses in sacred music and applied organ. Prior to that appointment, she was organist and director of music at All Souls Parish in Asheville, N.C., and music consultant for the Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina, holding both positions from 1970-1983.

In constant demand as an organ recitalist and workshop leader, **Keiser** has appeared throughout the United States in concerts sponsored by churches, colleges and chapters of The American Guild of Organists. A native of Springfield, III., **Keiser** holds a bachelor of sacred music degree from Illinois Wesleyan University and master's and doctorate degrees in sacred music from Union Theological Seminary.

Keiser also will hold a workshop at First Presbyterian Church in Rock Hill from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on Jan. 14. She will lecture on her specialty, playing music for the small church. Reservations may be made at 803/328-6269. The cost is \$10.

Winthrop launched a campaign in 2005 to raise funds to restore the **organ** in Byrnes Auditorium and has raised \$215,000. The campaign will conclude June 30.

Named for Winthrop's founding president, the **organ** is widely regarded as one of the most valuable and historic instruments in the Southeast. The *Æolian-Skinner Organ Company*, the Boston company that built Winthrop's treasured piece, constructed many of the finest mid-20th-century organs in the United States.

For more information, contact Winthrop's Office of Development at 803/323-2150.

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