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Winthrop University

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Madrigal Feaste Brings 16th Century to Winthrop Dec. 4-5

Quick Facts
- The Olde English Madrigal Feaste will be held Dec. 4-5 at 7 p.m. in McBryde Hall.
- Tickets are $35-45, and ticket sales end Monday, Nov. 30, at 4 p.m.

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Come Dec. 4 and 5, Winthrop’s McBryde Hall will be transformed into a 16th-century Christmas gala filled with the voices of madrigal singers, the acrobatics of gymnasts, the antics of jesters and minstrels and the smells of a Renaissance-era feast.

The Olde English Madrigal Feaste will spread early holiday cheer Dec. 4-5 at 7 p.m. The event begins with brass fanfare to introduce the Duke and Duchess of the Manor House as they enter the hall with their guests, all singing. The evening’s menu will include a feast of prime rib, flaming plum pudding and wassail, and during the meal roaming jesters, minstrels and dancers will offer entertainment. The Early Music Consort, harpsichord, bagpiper, brass quintet and the madrigal singers will provide music to accompany the feaste as well as the opening and closing ceremonies.

The Olde English Madrigal Feaste, started in 1986, is a tradition for Delta Omicron and Phi Mu Alpha, two professional music fraternities. Proceeds go to support music scholarships. The event is sponsored jointly by Delta Omicron and Phi Mu Alpha, the Department of Music and the College of Visual and Performing Arts.

Over the years, the feaste has become a cherished Winthrop tradition that offers students, faculty, staff and friends a unique way to celebrate the Christmas season, according to Jennifer McDaniel-Miliken, music librarian and music instructor.

“All of the arts combine together with wonderful food, so the Olde English Madrigal Feaste is a great way to start off the Christmas season," she said.

Madrigal Feaste ticket prices range from $35-$45, and ticket sales end Monday, Nov. 30, at 4 p.m. All seating is reserved. The feaste is part of the City of Rock Hill’s ChristmasVille.

Call the Department of Music at 803/323-2255 for tickets.