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Mendelssohn Club, other song groups to perform on TV

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MENDELSSOHN CLUB,
OTHER SONG GROUPS
TO PERFORM ON TV

MISSOULA---

Missoula and other western Montana communities will be ringing with Christmas cheer Dec. 22-24 as three University of Montana faculty members join other choral directors and various music groups in presenting seven 30-minute carol programs on television.

Highlighting the performances on KGVO-TV, Channel 13, will be the second annual "Christmas Special" Tuesday, featuring the 52-voice Mendelssohn Club of Missoula under the direction of Dr. Joseph A. Mussulman, an associate professor of music at UM.

The performance by the Mendelssohn Club, a group composed of men from all walks of life who enjoy singing, is scheduled to be televised at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday (Dec. 23). The Mendelssohn Club is in its 25th year in Missoula.

James Thompson, a graduate assistant in music at UM who formerly was director of the Male Chorus at Savannah State College in Georgia, will be piano accompanist for the Mendelssohn group.

Also on the same program will be Esther England, a UM music instructor and mezzo-soprano who will do a low-alto rendition of portions of the Spanish number, "La Virgen lava panales" (The Virgin washes swaddling clothes).

Joining Thompson in accompanying the Mendelssohn singers in the number "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" will be Jerry L. Domer, an assistant professor of music at UM who plays the oboe.

Garrett W. Wolverton, Mendelssohn Club president, will be master of ceremonies on the program.

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Domer earned a bachelor's degree in music education from UM in 1960 and a master of music in oboe from Boston University in 1962. He has played first oboe with the U.S. Army Band and Orchestra, the Portland, Ore., Opera and Symphony, the Northwest Woodwind Quintet and the Robert Shaw Chorale. Domer has taught oboe at Reed College, Lewis and Clark College, Willamette University, and the Vancouver Junior Symphony Music Camp.

Miss England received a bachelor's degree in music, with high honors, from UM in 1967 and for two years studied voice in Munich, Germany, on a Fulbright graduate scholarship. She is a former student of John Lester of the UM faculty and sang leads in several musical productions as an undergraduate. She also played leading roles in dramatic productions.

A schedule of next week's local Christmas music programs has been released through the office of Ray Nicklay, KGVO-TV program director. It follows.

Monday, 6:30 p.m., Sacred Heart Loyola Chorus under direction of Mrs. George D. Lewis, a part-time music lecturer at the University. The program also will include excerpts of Charles Dickens' "Christmas Carol," featuring the Sacred Heart Drama Department students directed by Mrs. David Hunt.

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Mendelssohn Club, followed at 7 p.m. by the Sentinel High School Choir under the direction of Robert Narum.

Wednesday, 5 p.m., Polson High School Choir directed by Mrs. June Muller and narrated by Mervin Lindsey, high school principal; 6:30 p.m., Missoula Methodist Choir directed by J. Neil Dahlstrom, Hellgate High School choral director; 7 p.m., the University of Montana Collegiate Choral and the UM Choir, directed by Donald A. Carey an assistant professor of music, and Dr. Mussulman, respectively.

Final performance Wednesday in the KGVO-TV holiday series will feature the Hellgate High Music Chorus under Dahlstrom's direction at 7:30 p.m.