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"Adopt a Child" Christmas Pageant at the University of Dayton

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DAYTON, Ohio. Friday, December 3, 1971 --- "And Mary brought forth a Child," says the Bible. To honor the birth of this Child, the University of Dayton is again holding its annual Christmas pageant on December 8 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. with its theme "Adopt a Child."

Student groups and individuals on campus adopt underprivileged children for the evening and take them around to the many different events being held. The children will have a wide range of activities they can choose from this year.

The event is coordinated by Kennedy Union Activities Organization. Says Kathy Brennan, KUA's Social Program Director, "This event is U. D. 's way of giving something back to the community, by giving these kids a chance to enjoy Christmas in a way they might not have otherwise."

To show the immediate community around U. D. thanks for its cooperation with the campus over the years, Project South is bringing in children from the residential area surrounding the University. Other student and adult groups are bringing in special groups of the children. A. E. D., the pre-medical fraternity, for instance, is bringing in retarded children for the event.

Several of the groups, which are helping to sponsor the event, are giving programs that will involve the children themselves. Black Theatre is having Drama games in the Kennedy Union Cafeteria, there will be some traditional games in the Women's Gym and children from Ascension Elementary School will present The Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens in the Boll Theatre.

Faculty Wives Club is holding its traditional Open House with refreshments for everyone. KUA is also having the annual tree lighting ceremony outside the Snack Bar at 8:00 p.m.

An innovation in the program is a children's dance sponsored by AIM, the Dayton group who works with handicapped children. According to Kathy Brennan, "Since these ladies are experts at working with children, we hoped they can get the children to participate in this event."

There will also be individual parties sponsored by dorms and groups. Santa Land is in the Browsing Library in the Kennedy Union, and Christmas carolling will take place all around the campus.