Is the Tower ever open to the Public?

Members at the Donor level and above can view the Founder’s Room on one of four tours conducted each year.

1. Founder’s Room
2. Chao Research Center (Archives)
3. Maintenance Workshop
4. Anton Brees Carillon Library
5. Carillonneur’s Studio
6. Keyboard Room
7. Carillon (60 bells)

Architect: Milton B. Medary (Philadelphia)

Purpose: To house the carillon; serve as a centerpiece for the Gardens; the private use of the Bok family

Built: 1927-1929

Height: 205 feet (62.5 meters)

Weight: 5,500 tons (5,000 metric tons)

Structure: Steel frame with brick walls; outer facing of pink and gray Georgia marble and Florida coquina, a limestone of shell and coral fragments

Foundation: 118 reinforced concrete piles, 13-24 feet (4-7 meters) underground with a concrete cap of 2.5 feet (0.8 meter)

Sculpture: Lee Lawrie (New York City); herons at the top, eagles at the base of the bellchamber; all sculptures were carved on-site

Colorful Grilles near the top: Ceramic tiles designed by J.H. Dulles Allen (Philadelphia)

Brass Door and Wrought-iron Gates with Birds: Samuel Yellin (Philadelphia); depicts the Biblical story of Creation

Inscription under the Sundial: This Singing Tower with its adjacent Sanctuary was dedicated and presented to the American people by Calvin Coolidge, President of the United States, February 1, 1929.

Bellfounder: John Taylor Bellfounders, Ltd. (Loughborough, England)

Size: 60 bronze bells

Bell weight: Smallest bell at 16 lbs. Largest bell at 11+ tons (10+ metric tons) Total of 63+ tons (57+ metric tons)

Adaptations for carillon of melodies or of music written for other instruments have been made by the recitalist, except for those arrangers identified by the following:

* Anton Brees

Announcing the hour strike:

Lake Wales Nocturne (excerpt) Johan Franco
9:00 Prelude Johann Sebastian Bach
9:30 Sarabande (for carillon) Benoît Franssen
10:00 Somber Pavane (for carillon) Ronald Barnes
10:30 Andante Joseph H. Fiocco
11:00 Spring Morning (for carillon) Geert D’hollander
Sorrowing
11:30 Andante (for carillon) Ronald Barnes
12:00 Prelude VI (for carillon) Matthias vanden Gheyn
12:30 Chaconne * Auguste Durant
1:00 CONCERT
2:00 Dreaming (for carillon) Geert D’hollander
2:30 Andante (for carillon) Ioannes de Grauijters
3:00 CONCERT
4:00 Waltz Edvard Grieg
4:30 Cortege (for carillon) John Courter
5:00 La Volta William Byrd
5:30 Solveig’s Song * Edvard Grieg

* Anton Brees
Thursday at 1:00p.m.
Live performance by Wade FitzGerald

Introduction
Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring  J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
arr. Albert Gerken

Music for the SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket launch, May 30, 2020
Asteroids  Gary White
Nocturne for a balmy night  J. Franco (1908-1988)
Blue Ridge Nocturne  Johan Franco
The Poltar
La Barrieta dance  Fabritrio Caroso
arr. Arne Abbenes

Popular Songs  arr. Sally S. Warner
I’ll Be Seeing You  Sammy Fain
Always  Irving Berlin

Organ Concerto No. 1  Johann Sebastian Bach
Allegro – Grave – Presto  arr. Albert Gerken

Closing: Heroes  David Bowie

Thursday at 3:00p.m.
Live performance by Wade FitzGerald

Opening
We Gather Together  Chorale and Fantasia  J. Franco
(1908-1988)

Selections from Serenade II  R. Barnes (1927-1997)
II. Minuet – III. Flamenco – IV. Ballade

North American Folk Music
Simple Gifts  Shaker hymn, arr. Milford Myhre
O, toi belle hirondelle  French-Canadian, arr. E. Allard
Take Me Home, Country Roads  J. Denver, arr. van Ulf

Closing
Across the Universe  The Beatles

Friday at 1:00p.m.
Live performance by Geert D’hollander

Name That Tune “Kids Version”

Friday at 3:00p.m.
Historic Recording

Three Pieces for Small Carillon (1986)  A. de Klerk
Festive Overture  Under a Green Linden
The Poltar
La Barrieta dance  Fabritrio Caroso
arr. Arne Abbenes

Popular Songs  arr. Sally S. Warner
I’ll Be Seeing You  Sammy Fain
Always  Irving Berlin

Organ Concerto No. 1  Johann Sebastian Bach
Allegro – Grave – Presto  arr. Albert Gerken

Saturday at 1:00p.m.
Live performance by Wade FitzGerald

Introduction: Sonnerie  R. Barnes (1927-1997)

Evocations of Spain
Pavana & Lagrima  F. Tárrega, arr. J. Stam
The Geometric Chimneys of Ghiell Palace  J. Courter

Meditations
Etude Study  Gary White
Gymnopedie No. 1  Erik Satie (1866-1925)

Popular Songs
Crazy Little Thing Called Love  Queen
All You Need Is Love  The Beatles

Saturday at 3:00p.m.
Live performance by Wade FitzGerald

Introduction: Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring  J. S. Bach

Music for the SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket launch, May 30, 2020
Asteroids  Gary White
Nocturne for a balmy night  J. Franco (1908-1988)
Blue Ridge Nocturne  Johan Franco
Across the Universe  The Beatles

Uplifting Music  John Courter, 1941-2010
Rondo in Lydian Mode
Variations on “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star”  J. Courter
Theme – Var. 1 – Waltz tempo – Andante religioso
Finale: homage to van den Gheyn’s Prelude 1

Closing: Heroes  David Bowie

Sunday at 1:00p.m.
Live performance by Wade FitzGerald

Introduction: Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring  J. S. Bach

Hymns
Hymn of Thanksgiving  Chorale and Fantasia  J. Franco
All Creatures of Our God and King  arr. B. Buchanan
Amazing Grace  arr. Milford Myhre

Songs from The Sound of Music
My Favorite Things – Edelweiss

Water Music
Fountain Reverie  Percy Fletcher arr. Scott Hummel
On the San Antonio River  R. Byrnes (1949-2004)

Sunday at 3:00p.m.
Live performance by Wade FitzGerald

Introduction: Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring  J. S. Bach

North American Carillon Music
Prelude and Pastoral  J. Courter (1941-2010)
Toccata No. 10  Johan Franco (1908-1988)
Pastel in Bronze  Albert Gerken

Music by Erik Satie (1866-1925)
Gymnopedie No. 1
Gnossienne Nos. 1 & 2

Songs by The Beatles
Here Comes the Sun  Across the Universe