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)

An 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.

The Tower was built by Milton B. Medary, Philadelphia architect, in 1927-1929. It is 205 feet (62.5 meters) high and weighs 5,500 tons (5,000 metric tons). The structure is a steel frame with brick walls and outer facing of pink and gray Georgia marble and Florida coquina, a limestone of shell and coral fragments. The foundation consists of 118 reinforced concrete piles, 13-24 feet (4-7 meters) underground, capped with a concrete cap of 2.5 feet (0.8 meter).

The Tower is adorned with sculptures by Lee Lawrie, including herons at the top and eagles at the base of the bellchamber. All sculptures were carved on-site. Colorful grilles near the top are ceramic tiles designed by J.H. Dulles Allen, Philadelphia. The brass door and wrought-iron gates with birds were designed by Samuel Yellin, Philadelphia, and depict the Biblical story of Creation.

A dedication inscription under the sundial reads: 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.

The Carillon is housed within the Tower and consists of 60 bronze bells, the smallest weighing 16 pounds and the largest weighing 11+ tons (10+ metric tons). The total weight of the bells is 63+ tons (57+ metric tons).

Inside the Tower:

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)

CLOCK MUSIC

Announcing the hour strike:

Lake Wales Nocturne (excerpt) Johor Franco
9:00 Prelude Johann Sebastian Bach
9:30 Sarabande (for carillon) Benoit Fransens
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 Gruijtters
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

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

* Anton Brees

DAILY CARILLON MUSIC

MAY 19 - MAY 22, 2022

Carillon Concerts at 1:00 and 3:00 p.m.

LAKE WALES, FL
BOKTOWERGARDENS.ORG
Thursday at 1:00 p.m.  
Historic Recording by William De Turk

Or Let the Merry Bells Ring ‘Round!  G. Fr. Händel
Introduction & Sicilienne for carillon  R. Barnes

Music
Simple Gifts  Shaker hymn
Wondrous Love  Appalachian hymn
Amazing Grace  American hymn

Music of Mozart
Three German Dances
Rondo a la turca

Friday at 1:00 p.m.  
Historic Recording by William De Turk

Prelude for Harpsichord  George Fr. Händel

Romantic Selection
Welcome, Sweet Springtime  Anton Rubinstein
Country Gardens  Percy Grainger
Sonnerie from Sonnerie II for carillon  R. Barnes
 commissioned in 1979 by Bok Tower Gardens
dedicated to M. Myhre & Nellie Lee Bok

Irish Music
When Irish Eyes are Smiling
Be Thou my Vision O Lord of my Heart
Paddy Whack jig
O Danny Boy

Saturday at 1:00 p.m.  
Historic Recording by Milford Myhre

America, the Beautiful  Samuel A. Ward
Music of the American Revolution  arr. M. Myhre
Washington's March No. 1
The President's March
Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean
Washington's March No. 2

Songs by Stephen Foster  arr. M. Myhre
Jeannie with the Light Brown Hair
The Camptown Races
My Old Kentucky Home – Beautiful Dreamer
Eternal Father, Strong to Save  William Whiting
United States Navy Hymn  arr. M. Myhre
The Star-Spangled Banner  Francis Scott Key
United States National Anthem  arr. M. Myhre

Sunday at 1:00 p.m.  
Historic Recording by William De Turk

Sonnerie from Serenade II for carillon  R. Barnes
 commissioned in 1979 by Bok Tower Gardens
dedicated to M. Myhre & Nellie Lee Bok
O, Thou Beautiful Swallow  Émilien Allard
dedicated to Nellie Lee Bok, 1970

American Music  arr. M. Myhre
Simple Gifts  Shaker Hymn
To a Wild Rose  Edward MacDowell
Listen to the Mockingbird  Richard Milburn
Higher Ground  Charles H. Gabriel
Ragtime Bells  John Courier

Friday at 3:00 p.m.  
Historic Recording by Milford Myhre

Music from France
Carillon Prelude No. 1 1935  Robert Lannoy
Menuet from Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme  J. B. Lully
Pavane from Style Renaissance  Paul Wachs
 arr. Jacques Lannoy

Instrumental Transcriptions
Violin Fugue  Johann S. Bach
arr. Ronald Barnes
Allegretto for piano  Franz-Joseph Haydn
 arr. M. Myhre

Hymns  arr. M. Myhre
Ode to Joy  Ludwig van Beethoven
Christ is Made the Sure  Henry Smart

Sunday at 3:00 p.m.  
Historic Recording by Milford Myhre

Prelude & Fugue on Old 104th 1988  Ronald Barnes

Folksongs from Abroad  arr. M. Myhre
In My Father's Garden  France  Touraine
Loch Lomond  Scotland
Mus I Denn  Germany  Bavaria

Music from Spain
El Vito dance  Andalusia
arr. Sally S. Warner
Amelia's Story  Catalonia
arr. N. Yepes

French Opera Music
Habanera from Carmen  Georges Bizet
 arr. M. Myhre

Thursday at 3:00 p.m.  
Historic Recording by Milford Myhre

American Carillon Music
Prelude 1971  Donna Gleason
Etude 1965  Gary White
Reflections 1965  Gary White

Three Spirituals  arr. Earl Chamberlain
Swing Low, Sweet Chariot
Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen
Little David Play on your Harp

American Carillon Music
Prayer for Peace 1962  Jean Miller
Promenade 1964  Ronald Barnes

Hymns  arr. M. Myhre
Built on the Rock paraphrase  tune L. Linderman
They'll Know We Are Christians  Peter Scholtes