Is the Tower ever open to the Public?

Members at the Brass Door level and above can receive an exclusive tour of the Founder’s Room.

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)

INSIDE THE SINGING TOWER
Thursday at 1:00 p.m.
Live Performance by Geert D’hollander

Prelude No. 2 M. Vanden Gheyn (1721-1785)
From the 1746 Antwerp Carillon Book
Andante Diedonné Raick 1703-1764
Menuet Champetre Henri J. de Croes 1705-1786
Siciliana Ioannes de Gruijtters 1709-1772

Music from the Romantic Era
Spring Song Songs Without Words F. Mendelssohn 1809-1847
Humoresque Op. 151 No. 7 A. Dvorak 1841-1904

Black History Month
Improvisation on African-American Spirituals

Thursday at 3:00 p.m.
Live Performance by Geert D’hollander

Black History Month: African-American Spirituals
Golden Crown
Nobody knows the trouble I’ve seen
Mary had a baby
Deep River
A Composition for two to play C. D’hollander & 1965
From “A Summer Serenade” 2012 Duet with Annie Gao
Promenade
Siciliana

Improvisation

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

Spanish Temperament
Sonata in D Major Mateo Albeniz 1755-1831
arr. K. Keldermans
Leyenda Isaac Albeniz 1860-1909
arr. A. Gerken

Black History Month: Unforgettable Performers
Aretha Franklin
Where did our love go
Whitney Houston
I Wanna Dance With Somebody

Improvisation on hits from the 30’s

Friday at 3:00 p.m.
Live Performance by Geert D’hollander

Baroque Selection
Prelude No. 6 M. vanden Gheyn 1271-1785
Andante 1746 Ioannes de Gruijtters 1709-1772

“Baroque Suite” 1993 for carillon Werner van Cleemput
Prelude – Sarabande 1930-2006
Menuet – Rigaudon

North American Carillon Music
Introduction and Sicilienne Ronald Barnes 1927-1997

Black History Month
Improvisation on African-American Spirituals

Saturday at 1:00 p.m.
Live Performance by Claire Janezic

Sacred Suite
Geert D’hollander & 1965
Da Pacem Domine – Regina Coeli – Sancti Spiritus

Folk Song Arrangements
Simple Gifts Joseph Brackett 1797-1882
All the Pretty Little Horses Trad. African American
Sweet William Traditional Appalachian
Swing Low, Sweet Chariot Trad. African-American

In the Air
Mist Against the Cathedral Claire Janezic & 2000
O Toi Belle Hirondelle Trad. French Canadian
Walking in the Air The Snowman H. Blake & 1938

Little Prayer Evelyn Glennie & 1965

Saturday at 3:00 p.m.
Live Performance by Claire Janezic

By Matthias Vanden Gheyn 1271-1785
Prelude IX
Sicilienne from Sonata for violin and continuo

From the Mechelen School
Sprookje Jef Rottiers 1904-1978
Passacaglia, Choral and Fugue B. Franssen 1893-1978

Songs without words
First Venetian Gondola Song F. Mendelssohn 1809-1847
Song Without Words Stef Nees 1901-1965

Improvisation on “Greensleeves”

Sunday at 1:00 p.m.
Live Performance by Claire Janezic

Vocal Baroque Music
Jesus Joy of Man’s Desiring J. S. Bach 1685-1750
Che si puo fare Barbara Strozzi 1619-1677
Lachrimae Pavan John Dowland 1563-1626
Ombra Mai Fu George Frideric Handel 1685-1759

Modern Carillon Literature
From Suite II for Carillon Henk Badings 1907-1987
Toccata Octafonica – Aria Hexafonica Charters
Roy Hamlin Johnson 1929-2020

Music from Movies
A Time for Us Nino Rota 1911-1979
Moon River Henry Mancini 1924-1994

Sunday at 3:00 p.m.
Live Performance by Claire Janezic

Prelude IX Matthias Vanden Gheyn 1271-1785

Baroque Selections
Alman Robert Johnson 1583-1633
Prehodiun, Fuga, and Allegro Lute J. S. Bach 1685-1750
Les Barricades Mystérieuses Fr. Couperin 1668-1733
Sonata 12 Isabella Leonarda 1620-1704

Adagio – Allegro, e presto – Vivace e lento
Spiritoso – Tempo primo

In conclusion
Hallelujah Leonard Cohen 1934-2016
Campane a Sera Nino Rota 1911-1979