

TOWER

**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.

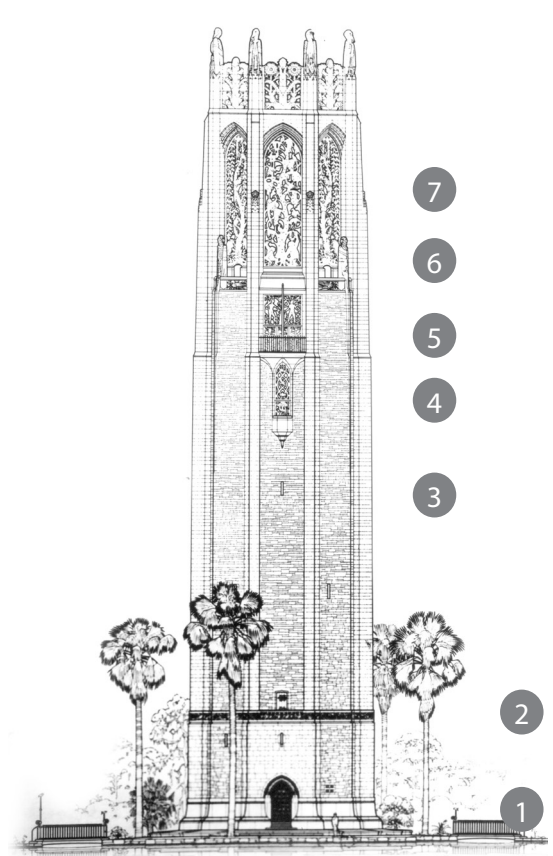
CARILLON

**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



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)

Is the Tower ever open to the Public?

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

CLOCK MUSIC

Announcing the hour strike:  
**Lake Wales Nocturne** (*excerpt*)                      Johan Franco

9:00    **Prelude**                                              Johann Sebastian Bach

9:30    **Sarabande** (*for carillon*)                      Benoit 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 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 arrangers identified by the following:

\* Anton Brees

DAILY CARILLON MUSIC

OCTOBER 20 - OCT 22, 2025

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



Monday at 1:00p.m.

Live Performance by Geert D’hollander

Preludio No. IV Matthias vanden Gheyn 1721-1785

North-American Carillon Music

Hear the Tolling of the Bells Robert Kleinschmidt  
1910-1959

Introduction & Sicilienne 1981 Ronald Barnes  
1927-1997

Music from the Romantic Era

Prelude Op.28, No.15 & Nocturne Op.9, No.2  
Fr. Chopin  
1810-1849

Waltz Op.12, No.2 Edward Grieg  
1843-1907

Improvisation

Monday at 3:00p.m.

Live Performance by Geert D’hollander

Preludio No. IV Matthias vanden Gheyn 1721-1785

Movie Soundtracks

Harry Lime Theme The Third Man, 1949 A. Karas  
1906-1985

Love Story 1970 Francis Lai  
b. 1932

North-American Carillon Music

Sonorities from Suite No. 1 John Courter  
1942-2010

Ode to Saint Rombouts 1982 Johan Franco  
1908-1988

Improvisation

Tuesday at 1:00p.m.

Live Performance by Geert D’hollander

Prelude and Fugue on “Old 104th” R. Barnes  
1927-1997

From Strings to Bells arr. Carlo van Ulf  
10 Bagatelles, Op. 73, for Guitar M. Giuliani  
1781-1829

No. 6 Grazioso – No. 8 Allegro – No. 9 Minuetto

Romantic Belgian Carillon Music

Gavotte Pastorale Leon Henry  
1888-1955

Lamento from “Sonatine”, 1958 Gaston Feremans  
1907-1964

Improvisation

Tuesday at 3:00p.m.

Live Performance by Geert D’hollander

Preludio No. III Matthias vanden Gheyn 1721-1785

North American Carillon Music

Air and Dance 1998 Alice Gomez b. 1960  
From “A Sacred Suite” 2018 G. D’hollander  
b. 1965

“Regina Coeli” Queen of Heaven, Rejoice

Dutch Contemporary Carillon Music

Sonatine II for Carillon Sjef van Balkom 1922-2004  
Andante – Allegretto – Adagio – Allegro

From “Pocahontas” Disney Alan Menken b. 1949  
Just around the River bend – If I Never Knew You  
The Virginia Company

Improvisation

Wednesday at 1:00p.m.

Historic Recording by Milford Myhre

Prelude from Cello Suite No. 6 Johann S. Bach  
arr. Albert Gerken

Hymns

My Faith Looks Up to Thee Olivet arr. P. Price  
Go to Dark Gethsemane Petra arr. A. Gerken  
O Sacred Head Telenann arr. A. Gerken

Folk Music from British Isles

The Jolly Miller of the Dee England arr. R. Barnes  
Greensleeves England arr. M. Myhre  
Goodbye, My Lover Goodbye Ireland arr. J. Lannoy  
Loch Lomond Scotland arr. M. Myhre

Wednesday at 3:00p.m.

Historic Recording by Milford Myhre

Hymn-Preludes Roy Hamlin Johnson

With Broken Heart and Contrite Sigh  
Forty Days and Forty Nights

Tunes for Clay’s Musical Clock George Fr. Händel  
Minuet – Aria – Air  
Pastel in Bronze for carillon, 1974 Albert Gerken

Music from Folklore

Vive la Canadienne! French Canada  
Little Rock on the High Mountain French Canada  
The Jolly Miller of the Dee England arr. R. Barnes  
The Vicar of Bray England  
Carnival of the Animals Camille Saint-Saens  
Tortoises

A Tradition of Excellence

Anton Brees (Antwerp, Belgium) served as our first carillonneur from 1928 until his death in 1967. Named in his honor, the Anton Brees Carillon Library is the largest and most comprehensive carillon library in the world.

Milford Myhre retired in June 2004 after 36 years as our carillonneur. He obtained his musical training at the University of Nebraska, the University of Michigan and the Royal Carillon School “Jef Denyn” in Belgium. President for both the GCNA and the World Carillon Federation, he has performed on three continents during his distinguished career of more than 50 years.

William (Bill) De Turk was director of carillon services from July 1, 2004 to October 31, 2011, after serving as assistant carillonneur and librarian since 1993. A native of the Philadelphia area, he received a bachelor of music degree cum honore from Heidelberg University in Tiffin, Ohio, and master of music degree in organ performance from the University of Michigan.

Geert D’hollander was named Bok Tower Gardens’ fourth full-time carillonneur in October 2012 and is one of the finest in the world. He has studied piano, chamber music, choral and orchestral direction, fugue, and composition at the Royal Conservatory in Antwerp, Belgium, and carillon at the Royal Carillon School in Mechelen, Belgium. He has taken first prize in more than 30 international competitions for carillon or composition.