

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.

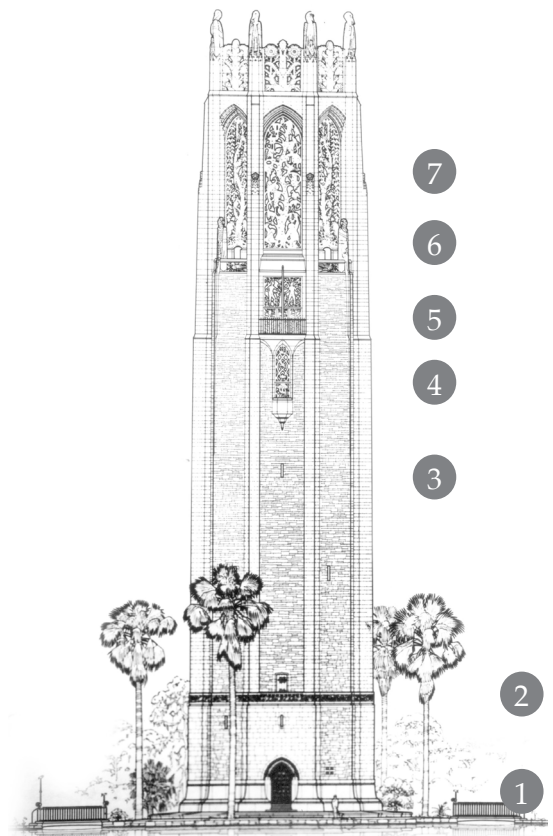
CARILLON

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 | 4. Anton Brees Carillon Library |
| 2. Chao Research Center (Archives) | 5. Carillonneur’s Studio |
| 3. Maintenance Workshop | 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:		
Ring, Bells, Ring	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	
9:00	Blow Away the Morning Dew Morning Has Broken	England Ireland
9:30	The Rainbow Connection	William & Ascher
10:00	Prelude No. 3 The Old Refrain Ballet of the Ducklings	Matthias vanden Gheyn Fritz Kreisler Robert Lannoy
10:30	Sketch for Carillon	Katherine M. Warne
11:00	Amelia’s Story	Catalonia
11:30	Listen to the Mocking Bird	Anonymous
12:00	Allegretto for the Sarabande The King’s Majesty	Franz J. Haydn Francis Poulenc Graham George
12:30	The Street Where You Live	Frederick Loewe
1:00	CONCERT	
2:00	Roses White and Roses Red	Sir Arthur Sullivan
2:30	The Swan	Camille Saint-Saens
3:00	CONCERT	
4:00	America, The Beautiful	Samuel A. Ward
4:30	Tenting Tonight	Walter Kittredge
5:00	Sunrise, Sunset	Jerry Bock
5:30	Lead, Kindly Light	John B. Dyke

DAILY CARILLON MUSIC

NOVEMBER 17 - 19, 2025

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



Monday at 1:00p.m.

Live performance by Geert D'hollander

Prelude No. III Matthias vanden Gheyn
1721-1785

Operatic Selections
“Pas des Fleurs“ Flower Duet from “Lakmé” Léo Delibes
1836-1891

“Una Futriva Lagrima“ Gaetano Donizetti
1797-1848
A Furtive Tear, from “L’Elisir d’Amore”

A Composition by the Performer
Spring Morning – Layers
Accents – Reflection
from “Ludus Modalis”, 10 Studies for Carillon, 2010

Waves of the Danube Ion Ivanovici 1845-1902

Monday at 3:00p.m.

Live performance by Geert D'hollander

Improvisation on a hit from the 40’s

Two Aria’s by Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750

Adagio from the “Italian Concerto”, BWV 971

Aria “on the G String” from the Suite, BWV 1068

From the Tower’s Archives
Sonatina Daniel G. Steibelt
Allegro 1765-1823
Moderato con espressione

Improvisation on a hit from the 50’s

Tuesday at 1:00p.m.

Live performance by Geert D'hollander

From the Tower’s Archives
The Death of Ase Edvard Grieg
1843-1905
The Old Refrain Fritz Kreisler
1875-1962

The Berghuis Manuscript Collection 1741-1801
Sonata in F Major Ioannes Berghuis
Allegro – Cantabile 1724-1801
Sonata in G Major Johann A. Just
Allegro – Grazioso – Menuet – Allegro 1750-1791

Improvisation

Tuesday at 3:00p.m.

Live performance by Geert D'hollander

Harpsichord Transcriptions
Suite in D Minor George Fr. Haendel 1685-1759
Allemande – Courante
Sarabande I & II – Ciacona

Salon Music
“Melodie D’Amour” H. Englemann

A Composition by the Performer
Four Miniatures Geert D’hollander b.1965
- Spring Flowers at the U.S. Capitol Grounds
- The Reflection Pond at Bok Tower
- A Court Dance at the Biltmore Gardens
- Central Park in the Fall

Wednesday at 1:00p.m.

Historic Recording by Milford Myhre

Allegro Ioannes de Grujtters
A Popular Selection
If David Gates
arr. Gary White

Dutch Carillon Composition
Old Rondeau for carillon 1974 Wim Franken

Caribbean Folk Song
There Once was a Little Boat Puerto Rico
arr. Raymond Keldermans

American Carillon Compositions
Melodeon for carillon 1982 Timothy Hurd
Flamenco for carillon 1980 Ronald Barnes

Wednesday at 3:00p.m.

Historic Recording by Bill De Turk

Prelude for Carillon Ronald Barnes

Music of Johann Sebastian Bach
Prelude in C Major
Siciliano
Bist du bei mir
Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring

Rondino for carillon J.H. Kersbergen

Lake Music for carillon Terry Vaughan

A Popular Selection
Let Me Call You Sweetheart Leo Friedman
Over There George Cohan
Till We Meet Again Richard Whiting
Smiles Lee Roberts

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.