

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.

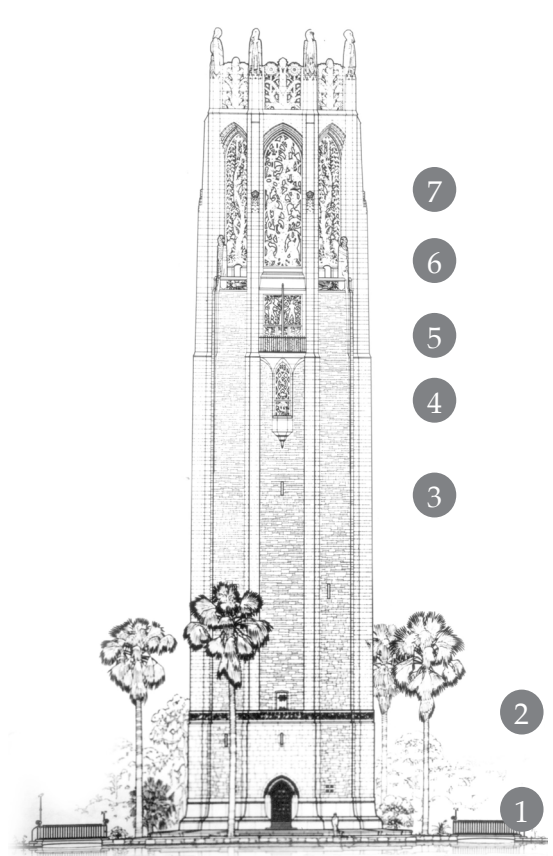
CARILLON

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 24 - 26, 2025

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



Monday at 1:00p.m.
Live performance by Geert D'hollander

Music from the Baroque Era		
Prelude in E Flat Major	Johann S. Bach	1685-1750
From Sonata in F Major	Ioannes Berghuis	1724-1801
Allegro Espressivo – Cantabile		
From Suite No. 4 for Harpsichord	D. Raick	1702-1764
Allemande		

A Contemporary Carillon Composition

From “Sonata Fervida” 2009	Geert D’hollander	b. 1965
----------------------------	-------------------	---------

Andantino Sostenuto

Improvisation

Baroque Selection		
Prelude No. 6	M. Vanden Gheyn	1721-1785
Andante 1746	Ioannes de Gruijtters	1709-1772
“Baroque Suite” 1993, for carillon		
Prelude	Werner van Cleemput	1930-2006
Sarabande		
Menuet		
Rigaudon		

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

Improvisation on a hit from the 40’s

Tuesday at 1:00p.m.
Live performance by Geert D'hollander

English Baroque Music		
From the “Water Music” Suite	George Fr. Handel	
Allegro – Air – Minuet I & II – Hornpipe		
1685-1759		
Romantic Selection		
From Scenes from Childhood Op. 15	R. Schumann	
Reveries		1810-1856
Waltz Op. 12 No. 2 from Lyric Pieces	Edvard Grieg	
Anitra’s Dance from Peer Gynt		1843-1907

A Dutch Carillon Composition		
Ciacona and Fugue	Albert de Klerk	1917-1998

Improvisation

Tuesday at 3:00p.m.
Live performance by Geert D'hollander

Songs Without Words for Piano	F. Mendelssohn
Adagio Op. 53	1809-1847
Spring Song Op. 30 & Duetto Op. 38	

A Movie Soundtrack		
Cavatina The Deer Hunter, 1978	Stanley Myers	
		1930-1993

Two Flemish Carillon Compositions		
Divertimento No. 5 & 6	E. Uten	1919-2001

Adagio for Glass Harmonica	W. A. Mozart	1756-1791
-----------------------------------	--------------	-----------

Improvisation

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

Etudes in a New Age 1988	John Courter
Minims – Visions – Pulsations	
Music from Broadway	
My Fair Lady Medley	Frederick Loewe
Street Where You Live	
Loverly	
I’ve Grown Accustomed	

A Carillon Duet		<i>Performers: M. Myhre & W. De Turk</i>
A Concerto for Two to Play 1981	Ronald Barnes	
Allegro Moderato – Andante – Allegro		

Wednesday at 3:00p.m.
Historic Recording by Bill De Turk

Carillon	G. Fr. Händel
Three Folksongs	
Scarborough Fair	English
Cecilia	Flemish
Auprès de ma blonde	French

Etude for carillon	Gary White
--------------------	------------

Amazing Grace	American
How Great Thou Art	Swedish

Etude for carillon	Gian-Carlo Menotti
--------------------	--------------------

If	David Gates	arr. Gary White
Edelweiss		Richard Rodgers

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.