Accessible, functional, and portable: three words describe the Iowa State University campanile-carillon model. This model is a 1:5 scale replica of Iowa State’s beloved campanile and a 27-bell carillon. The ISU Student Carillonneur Leadership Council and the Society of Carillon Alumni and Friends plan to extend the legacy of the Campanile and the Stanton Memorial Carillon with this cross-disciplinary project throughout the United States. Three cities already have witnessed this model in action. I had the honor of singing and performing with the campanile-carillon model during the inaugural trips to Chicago, Davenport, and Cresco, Iowa. It was a blast to be a part of this journey.

GCNA in Chicago
First, we traveled to Chicago for The Guild of Carillonneurs of North America Congress. Moving the campanile-carillon model was a new and nerve-racking process. We transported the model in a 26-foot truck, driven by staff from ISU central receiving. When the truck arrived at The University of Chicago Rockefeller Chapel, all of us were gritting our teeth and waiting to see whether or not the model survived the busy roads of Chicago. Luckily, not a scratch was found. The only downside was that the engineering team ran into technical difficulties with the scissor lifts that could not be overcome in time for this trip. The campanile façades, therefore, could not be put up.

Nevertheless, even without the façades and full visual effect of the campanile, I would say the concert was a huge success. It was stressful at first with the setup of the model and preparing the technology for the performance since we were on a tight schedule. Thankfully, the audience were very patient as they were eager to hear the carillon sound they knew and loved but in a different light.

Congrats Ola on the GCNA Exam!
Ola Carnahan passed the GCNA Associate Carillonneur Exam. She is now an Associate Carillonneur member of the GCNA.

Ola Carnahan was born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska. She studied piano from a young age and enjoyed performing at school events. While playing clarinet in the Fairbanks Youth Symphony, Ola became the youngest member of the volunteer Fairbanks Symphony Choir. She learned to play the carillon at Iowa State University after hearing a carillon concert in Spring 2018. The following semester, she began taking carillon lessons with Dr. Tin-Shi Tam until she graduated in Spring 2022 with an honor degree in Aerospace Engineering. While at Iowa State, Ola was the president of the Student Carillonneur Leadership Council. She helped organizing club events related to the Stanton Memorial Carillon and the Campanile-Carillon Model. After graduation, she hopes to travel and experience bells from across the world.
CONTINUED: AN ADVENTURE WITH A MOBILE CARILLON
BY ALICE PAULY

I would say the model really shined in this case, as the Rhyme & Chimes Concert was a beautiful mélange of poems by Robert Frost as well as classical and pop music that also tied in separate technology. Personally, being able to sing with such a powerful instrument made me feel electrified, and this was just the beginning!

Iowa State Alumni Association in Davenport

Next stop, Davenport! After a hectic day in Chicago, the campanile-carillon model traveled to Davenport, Iowa to perform for an Iowa State Alumni Association event. Members were very sweet and surprised by the reality of the project. They were overjoyed to see how close to completion the model was. Such a mass of support was felt throughout the performance. Even after the concert, members were thrilled trying out our digital carillon tutorial, which allows everyone to play songs on the bells without the need of reading music. Many mingled with us, they were intent on learning more about the project and the Bells of Iowa State.

Howard County Fair in Cresco, IA

After a week of rest, the campanile-carillon model went north to the Mighty Howard County Fair in Cresco, Iowa. This time, the model stretched a few feet taller with most of the façade added. While this trip also included a concert, the environment was undoubtedly different from the previous two events. There were people everywhere and many different attractions. While the attention of our audience may not have been undivided this time around, it was great to see people of all ages played the bells and watched our performance. It was also nice to meet alumni from Iowa State. They were excited to see a small replica of the campus campanile.

I am so thankful to be given this unique opportunity to perform and travelled with the model. Thanks also to Stanton Memorial Carillon Foundation, Iowa State Alumni Association, Iowa State University Department of Music & Theatre and Iowa State University Extension and Outreach (Howard County) for making these trips possible. While we may not have travelled too far out of state yet, the carillon society and student carillonneur leadership council have much bigger plans. We’re not done yet!

Epilogue

It was amazing finally getting to travel with the model carillon after seeing everything come together over the years. Everyone was so excited to hear us play and learn about the instrument! I had just as much fun listening to audience members trying out the carillon tutorial as I did performing. While I’ve completed my undergrad, I hope to hear (and play!) the model again in the future!  ~ Ola Carnahan

I agree that being a part of the model carillon’s inaugural trip was a wonderful experience! I think everyone did a great job with their pieces as well as working together as a team to adapt and overcome the challenges we were faced with. I really enjoyed sharing our music with others and giving them the opportunity to play the model themselves. I can’t wait to see how this project evolves and I look forward to participating in future events and trips with the model carillon.  ~ Tanner Smith

I loved having the model carillon on display at the county fair. Everyone was excited to see the model. We were there for 5 hours and there was always someone coming up to play the carillon. It was absolutely wonderful to bring this model to a community and spark people’s interests in the carillon.  ~ Carolyn Riedel
IOWA STATE FIGHTS
O we will fight, fight, fight for Iowa State,
And may her colors ever fly.
Yes, we will fight with might for Iowa State,
With a will to do or die,
Rah! Rah! Rah!
Loyal sons forever true,
And we will fight the battle through.
And when we hit that line we’ll hit it hard
ev’ry yard for I.S.U.

BELLS OF IOWA STATE
Green Hills for thy throne,
And for crown a golden melody,
Ringing in the hearts of all
Who bring thee love and loyalty.
Dear Alma Mater,
Make our spirits great,
True and valiant,
Like the Bells of Iowa State

RHYMES & CHIMES
Sunday, June 19, 2022, 3-4:30 p.m. CT
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport, Iowa

Poems by Robert Frost
and carillon music featuring
Iowa State University
Campanile-Carillon Model
PROGRAM

Welcome
Jeff Johnson (PhD ‘14)**, Lora and Russ Talbot
Endowed President and CEO, ISU Alumni Association

Brief Remarks
Tin-Shi Tam, Charles T. and Ivaladele Cobb Cowacie
Professor of Music and university carillonneur

Concert

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening
Stopping by Woods  
Bruce W. Tippette  
(b. 1985)

Alice Pauly, soprano
Tin-Shi Tam, carillon

Atmosphere
Path of the Wind  
Joe Hisaishi  
(b. 1950)

Tanner Smith, carillon

The Road Not Taken
River Flows in You  
Yiruma  
(b. 1978)

Ola Carnahan, carillon

Iris by Night
Over the Rainbow  
Harold Arlen  
(1905-1986)

Alice Pauly, soprano
Tin-Shi Tam, carillon

A Line-Storm Song
Song of Storms  
Koji Kondo  
(b. 1961)

Tanner Smith, carillon

Tree at My Window
Lean on Me  
Bill Withers  
(1938-2020)

Tin-Shi Tam, carillon

Iowa State Fights and Bells of Iowa State
Lyrics on back page

Following the concert, you are invited to take a closer look at the model carillon and ask questions.

Thank you to our event donors for making this event possible:

Joy (’76) and Chet (’76) Boruff**
Doug (’71) and Ellen (’72) Nelson**
Larry (’73) and Pam Pithan**
Kay Runge (’69)**
Mike Steffensen (’58)**
Kurt (’85) and Kristyn (’85) Tjaden**

About the Model Carillon

The campanile and carillon is an Iowa State University tradition remembered with affection by both alumni and campus visitors. This model serves as an extension of that legacy.

This 1:5 scale replica of the campanile and a 27-bell carillon that weighs 3,000 pounds is accessible, functional, and portable and took years to complete. Students, faculty, and staff on campus were involved.

Senior design classes and cross-disciplinary collaboration helped design and create the model. Mechanical engineering capstone students focused on the final system and transportation design details. ISU Theatre design students completed the removable campanile facade that attaches to a 21.5-foot scissor-lift bell tower.

** denotes ISU Alumni Association life member