STUDENTS CONTINUE TO TAKE CARILLON LESSONS

Three students returned this fall to take carillon lessons, while two more were added to the growing list of carillon student alumni. Students included:

- Ola Carnahan, senior in Aerospace Engineering
- Megan Goodhue, Sophomore in Public Relations
- Susan Koestercraig, senior in Music
- Macklin Derscheid, senior in Music
- Savannah Yap, senior in Genetics
- Tyler Rolston, freshman in Math

FIRST SEMESTER PLAYER MEGAN REFLECTS

Learning to play the carillon has been one of the best experiences I have had in college. I have been playing piano since I was 6 years old, following a lot of what I have learned from my mom.

When I came to college, I wanted to continue my love for music. When I heard that people could learn to play the carillon, I knew I had to find a way I could play myself. The carillon was nothing what I expected. You would think it was similar to a piano, but the way you actually play the instrument is a lot different. It took me several weeks to learn the basic fundamentals of how to play and not confuse the carillon with the piano. Not only did I have to learn the right technique for my hands, but I had to incorporate playing notes with my feet too. I attended lessons every week learning basic scales and working my way up to playing songs. This was very challenging for me at first, but with lots of practice, and the help of my awesome teacher, Dr. Tam, I am now a lot more confident in my playing.

One of my favorite songs I have learned to play is Jingle Bells. I look forward to playing next semester and learning more and more about one of Iowa State’s greatest traditions.
BELLS OF IOWA STATE DAY

The Day of the Gala Anniversary Concert was a busy day. Ames mayor John Haila proclaimed it “Bells of Iowa State Day”. The Stanton Memorial Carillon Foundation (SMCF) held their annual meeting. Former university carillonneur, Dr. Richard von Grabow, was in attendance and spoke to the Foundation, including gifting additional carillon music to Dr. Tam.

The Gala Concert not only included musical selections, but a welcome from Dr. Jeff Johnson, ISU Alumni Association President, a historical slide show presentation on the History of the Stanton Memorial Carillon and Campanile by Robert Lindemeyer, Past President of the SMCF, a dedication from Robert Waggoner, spouse of the University President, remarks from Jennie Gromoll, current president of the SMCF, and remarks on the model project from Dr. Tin-Shi Tam.

Following the concert, a dinner was held where Dr. Tam gave an overview presentation on the model from start to finish. She handed out appreciation awards to Patrick Keep, Casey Cunningham, Amy Brandau, and Jim Heise for their role in the project.
Bells of Iowa State Gala Anniversary Concert
By Megan Goodhue

Throughout the years, ISU alma mater *The Bells of Iowa State* has been very recognizable. Remembered by both alumni and campus visitors, the alma mater is played at sporting events, graduations, and on campus. The campanile and the carillon, also known as the Bells of Iowa State has a long, established history.

Edgar Stanton, 1872 Iowa State alumni, was a very active student and faculty member at the University. After his wife Margaret MacDonald Stanton died, Stanton wanted to establish a monument in her memory. He decided to purchase a chime of ten bells. In 1899, the bells were placed in the campanile on central campus. Today, the original ten bells have increased to fifty, and their influence has grown exponentially.

The University recently celebrated a 120-year-anniversary of the Bells of Iowa State on October 27, 2019 with a Gala Concert. In addition to celebrating the legacy of the Stanton Memorial Carillon, the concert commemorated the opening of the Stephens Auditorium and the founding of Ames International Orchestra Festival Association (AIOFA) fifty years ago. The concert consisted of Iowa State University Symphony Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, the Alumni Choir, and performances of two commissioned works, Jeffery Prater’s *Star Bells* (2002) for carillon and symphony orchestra, and the premiere of Andrew Ardizzoia’s *Fanfares, Anthems, Peals --- Rhapsody on The Bells of Iowa State* for 27-bell carillon, symphony orchestra and choir.

The Gala Concert also unveiled the campanile-carillon model. For the past four years, mechanical engineering students worked on building a 1:5 scale replica of the campanile and a 27-bell carillon that is accessible, functional and portable. This model will serve as an extension of the legacy of Iowa State’s beloved campanile and carillon. It will be used at various University events and outreach programs. The bells will also serve as a musical instrument and an educational tool. Many will enjoy the musical experiences, and learn the complex engineering of the carillon.

There was a significant amount of student involvement in the planning, creating, and building of the model. Students walked in the 2019 Homecoming Parade to display the work they have done during the year. Tours and demonstration of the model were given after the Gala Concert.

The Homecoming Parade, model project, and Gala Concert all honored and celebrated one of the most meaningful traditions at the University, the Bells of Iowa State.

*Star Bells*, featuring the 50 bell carillon on campus.

*Fanfares, Anthems, Peals --- Rhapsody on The Bells of Iowa State*, featuring the 27 bell model carillon.
**Fall 2019 Model Project Students**

The fall 2019 provided an education challenge for the capstone classes as described in student reflections:

David Breno: It was a very dynamic and exciting project. We were the first group to get to assemble everything and to be honest I was surprised things went as well as they did. There were some issues that needed last minute (attention), but in the end it all worked out. Being so different from the standard Capstone design project had its advantages and disadvantages, but overall I preferred the more hands on design and fabrication nature of the project, since much of the paperwork had been completed by previous groups. After so many semesters it was a project that was beginning to get a reputation for never ending.

David Harmon: Most senior design projects are a good challenge for seniors but ours was certainly unique. The months leading up to the unveiling at the concert were certainly stressful. Setting the model up for the first time was as well with all the hours (we) put into it that week. That long day we spent together is something we will remember. Once it was done it was great to see all our hard work had paid off. It was amazing to see how much the Campanile means to alumni and the connection they have to it.

Jessica Storer: The Carillon-Campanile project has been a work in process for eight semesters now. At the beginning of the semester, we all thought, "What have we gotten ourselves into?" but by the end, we realized how rewarding it was. Each team faced our own challenges and failures, but we quickly figured out ways to overcome them. Also, being the first semester to ever put the entire model together was such a rewarding experience. All of the hard work and dedication we each put into this project was put on display for many to see at the Gala Anniversary Concert and seeing it come to life was amazing.

![Image of students](image_url)

*(left) The Mechanical Engineering Capstone Senior Design Class included: l. to r. Devin Harmon, Sam Vande Loo, Daniel Schwalb, Loke Jien Wong, David Breno, Courtney Smyth, Jessica Storer, Ryan Freiburg, Jesse Bowdino, Professor James Heise.*

*(right) The Electrical, Computer, and Software Engineering Senior Design Class included: l. to r. Samuel Habel, Ryan Roltgen, Yicheng Hao, Kienan Otto, Gabriel Stackhouse, Grant Mullen.*

**Dr. Richard von Grabow Back for Gala Concert**

One of the many guests at the Gala Concert was former University Carillonneur Dr. Richard von Grabow. He was excited to see the model carillon. Former carillon students of Dr. von Grabow were in attendance at the concert and excited to be able to visit and reminisce with him.

![Image of guests](image_url)

**Homecoming Parade**

The 2019 ISU Homecoming parade took place on October 20th. Dr. Tin-Shi Tam served as Grand Marshall. The Student Carillon Leadership Council, along with the Mechanical Engineering Capstone class provided a parade entry to announce the upcoming Gala concert and unveiling of the carillon-campanile model.

![Image of parade](image_url)
FALL 2019 CARILLON FIELD TRIP
BY: OLA CARNAHAN

At 8:30 AM on Friday, August 23rd, carillon students Cavannah Yap, Ola Carnahan, and Macklin Derscheid met at Iowa State Music Hall. It was still a week before classes began for the Fall semester, but these three students already had plans to start the school year early. Led by Iowa State University Carillonneur, Dr. Tin-Shi Tam, the group prepared to take a three-day trip to Illinois to visit carillons.

On the agenda for this trip were three main stops: Elsah, Centralia, and Springfield. Each location has a carillon the students had never seen before, and provided them with a chance to play an unfamiliar instrument.

That afternoon, the group made their way to Principia College in Elsah, a small private college located by the Mississippi River, where they were able to meet with Professor Rose Whitmore and got a behind the scenes tour of the school’s massive organ and the chapel. This meant getting to see the interior of the 3,069-pipe Casavant organ and climbing into the bell tower to see the carillon bells.

The Jean L. Rainwater Carillon was finished in 1998, but due to an issue with the original set of bells, all thirty-nine bells were replaced only a year later. Iowa State students enjoyed playing hymns on the carillon alongside the Martin Ott organ in the chapel, a possible duo performance with the two instruments in the future.

After spending the night in Alton, it was a four-hour drive to Centralia, home of the impressive Centralia Carillon Tower. After meeting with Roy Kroesen, the Centralia carillonneur, and enjoying some local pizza, students got the opportunity to climb the tower and get a close look at the sixty-five bells. The largest bell, nicknamed “Great Tom,” was big enough for all three to stand inside!

That evening, Dr. Tam performed a carillon recital as guest carillonneur of the Centralia Summer Series. The concert was attended by many locals, and was an excellent addition to Centralia’s yearly summer concerts. Dr. Tam and her students then attended a dinner party with the carillon community in Centralia and all had a wonderful time discussing Centralia, ISU, and carillons.

The next day had the long drive back to Ames on the itinerary, but there was enough time for the group to make a quick stop in Springfield before returning to Iowa. Located in the gardens of Washington Park, the Thomas Rees Memorial Carillon is one of the largest carillons in Illinois. While the park was beautiful, technical difficulties prevented them from touring the carillon. Lightning had struck the tower during a storm recently and left the elevator - the only access to the bells and playing cabin - unreachable. While this was a disappointment, everyone agreed that seeing the tower and the gardens surrounding it had been worth it anyway.

Finally, after a three-day field trip, Dr. Tam and her students returned to Iowa State campus. Each year, Dr. Tam takes a trip with her students to experience different carillons, different bells, and meet with different people. Carillons may vary greatly across the United States and around the world, but carillonneurs everywhere are always willing to show their unique instrument and cultivate students’ passion.