Fall 2022 Semester Carillon Performers

Student carillonneurs performed multiple concerts on both the model and on the Stanton Memorial Carillon.

Stanton Memorial Carillon Concert
- Carol of the Bells Student Concert - Dec 9

Campanile-Carillon Model Concerts
- Student Concerts in the Sukup Atrium - Oct 7 & Nov 4
- Family Weekend Open House in the Sukup Atrium - Oct 15
- ISUAA Circle Induction Concert at the Alumni Center Newlin Terrace - Oct 21
- Homecoming Kickoff in the Alumni Center Parking Lot - Oct 30

Student players this semester included:
- Ashlyn Haack, senior in Mechanical Engineering
- Tanner Smith, sophomore in Software Engineering
- Alice Pauly, junior in Music
- Rebekah Veldboom, junior in Environmental Science
- Carolyn Riedel, Assistant Teaching Professor, Aerospace Engineering
- Ellie Grace Lashier, freshman in Music and Religious Studies

Iowa State Biographical Dictionary Updated and Online

The history of Iowa State University spans more than 160 years and includes the lives of thousands of individuals. The Iowa State University Biographical Dictionary project, which began in 2014, provides an online reference of nearly 500 contributors to the growth of Iowa State, from its inception in 1858 through the early years of the 21st century. Each entry includes name, date, quick facts, education, career and contribution to Iowa State. A brief listing of primary and secondary sources accompanies each essay. Photographs of selected individuals and their contribution are included when available. The dictionary is published by University Museums. Of interest to the Society: Herman Knapp, Ira Schroeder, Margaret Stanton, and Tin-Shi Tam.
Iowa State University Department of Music & Theatre hosted “A Woven Tapestry” festival September 8-10, 2022. This three-day event was a celebration of Iberian music for carillon, piano, harpsichord and organ with concerts, lectures, masterclasses, workshops and tours of the Stanton Memorial Carillon.

The carillon events started on Friday night with “An Evening of Iberian Music”, a student and faculty concert in the Martha-Ellen Tye Recital Hall. Performers included Tin-Shi Tam, Cownie Professor of Music (University Carillonneur), and two carillon students Ashlyn Haack and Ellie Grace Lashier, along with piano students and professors of piano, cello and violin. This concert was both students’ first carillon performance after starting lessons only two weeks prior, and the first appearance of the campanile-carillon model on stage inside the Simon Estes Music Hall. This long-awaited premier was received with great excitement and intrigued by the audience. After the concert, the stage was filled with audience members exploring the carillon model, learning how the actions work, and trying their hands at playing the instrument.

The festival continued Saturday with a lecture and a recital by guest artist Carol Anne Taylor. Taylor is the carillonneur at The Cathedral Santuario de Guadalupe in Dallas, Texas and the Principal Organist at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church in Keller, Texas. She visited carillons in Spain and came back with a passion for bringing Spanish literature to the American audience. In her lecture “The Carillon and Hispanic Music - A Great Match”, she shared how dance melodies of Spanish music make it a perfect match for the carillon, especially melodies from Spanish guitar music. The restriction of how many notes can be played at a time on a guitar makes the transcription to carillon a simple process and can be a basis for many arrangements. Taylor has arranged many songs for carillon, including a collection of 15 Spanish hymns entitled The Spanish Liturgical Year for Carillon. She shared that the liturgical music for the Catholic mass in Spain is different from most other countries because the Catholic churches in Spain are allowed to keep their traditional music instead of conforming to the traditions of other countries. These unique songs were the inspiration for this collection.

Taylor’s recital on the Stanton Memorial Carillon included many Hispanic and Spanish music. The selections ranged from La Bamba to pieces from her The Spanish Liturgical Year and everything in between. While the day was chilly and rainy, the performance still drew a crowd and even inspired some spontaneous dancing to break out. Much of the audience was able to experience the bells of Iowa State in a new way through Taylor’s performance. It was exciting for both carillon students and visitors to be able to visit with the guest afterwards. The carillon events concluded with tours of the campanile.

In conjunction with the festival, the Stanton Memorial Carillon Foundation sponsored the 2022 ISU Carillon Composition Competition. This competition was held to encourage young composers under age 35 to write original compositions for carillon. The winning composition is “Idle Spires for carillon” by Caspian Scott from Chisholm, Australia.

This festival was filled with firsts for many of the students and visitors of Iowa State, both those that study carillon and those that do not. It has inspired a new interest in Iberian music and the beautiful music of the carillon.
The Student Carillonneur Leadership Council (SCLC), which consisted of six students and Dr. Tin-Shi Tam during the fall semester, kept busy putting on and actively participating in more than eight events. Our group was able to interact with and introduce the Campanile-Carillon Model to a large range of people, from offering kids the opportunity to play the model to presenting a concert for an ISUAA special event to meeting the carillonneur of The Cathedral Santuario de Guadalupe. Many of the events involved entering new territory for our group, which both brought challenges and necessitated improvements for the model and our group.

The second weekend in September, SCLC attended and participated in ‘A Woven Tapestry,’ a festival put on by the Department of Music and Theater. Two of our student carillonneurs, Ellie Grace Lashier and Ashlyn Haack, performed in a concert for the festival, which was a combination of students and faculty playing from selections rooted in Spanish culture. This required transporting the model from its current home in the Sukup Atrium to Music Hall and allowed our group to further work out the logistics of efficient transportation. Following the concert, many enjoyed getting a closer look at the model.

October was packed with events for SCLC, including an open house for Family Weekend, an outdoor concert for the Alumni Association, and Homecoming Kickoff, as well as our monthly Friday concert. The concert for the Alumni Association was especially memorable, although in contrast to our typically informal concerts. This event and venue allowed us to showcase the beauty of the model and interact with individuals who have a deeper interest than our usual audience in the instrument and what it stands for. Homecoming Kickoff, however, was also an opportune event for our group. It was like a miniature fair and brought several people, including students, families from the Ames community, and even President Wintersteen, by the model. It was a fun time to interact with a broader community and share our progress.

We ended the semester in the campanile, giving tours at WinterFest and playing holiday music during prep week. The tours were very well attended and it was fun to see so many people curious and enthusiastic about the campanile. Some seniors told us they had been waiting for an opportunity to go up in the campanile since before the pandemic. Finally, putting together individual concerts and a group concert for our final was a fun way to end the semester.