

Tatiana Lukyanova set to open Wingate Summer Carillon Recital Series

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Tatiana Lukyanova

ALFRED, NY Tatiana “Tanya” Lukyanova will deliver the opening performance in the 2018 Wingate Memorial Summer Carillon Recital Series at Alfred University, scheduled for each Tuesday in July beginning on July 10.

Lukyanova will perform on Alfred University’s Davis Memorial Carillon at 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 10. Her program will feature classical works by Bach, Handel, Rachmaninoff, and Shostakovich, as well as selections from musicals and TV shows. The recital is free and will be held rain or shine.

She was trained in Russia, earning a bachelor’s degree in piano and organ performance from the Novosibirsk State Conservatory and a master’s degree in organ and carillon from St. Petersburg State University. She completed postgraduate organ studies at St. Petersburg State Conservatoire and carillon studies at the Royal Carillon School in Mechelen, Belgium.

Lukyanova moved to the United States in 2012 and is currently the organist and accompanist at the South United Methodist Church in Manchester, CT, and carillonneur at the First Church of Christ Congregational in New Britain, CT. She also works with her husband, Chris Walton, who is an organ builder. In 2014, she passed the examination recital at the Congress of the Guild of Carillonneurs of North America, achieving carillonneur member status.

Three other carillonneurs will perform during the 2018 Wingate Memorial Summer Carillon Recital Series: Jim Fackenthal on July 17; Gordon Slater on July 24; and Carlo van Ulft on July 31. Each of those free concerts will begin at 7 p.m.

Alfred University's Wingate Memorial Summer Carillon Recital Series honors the first University carillonneur, Dr. Ray Wingate, professor of organ, who served as carillonneur from the arrival of the first 35 bells on campus in 1937 until his death in 1968. More than 20 additional bells were added over the years, some replacing original bells, and a new keyboard was installed in 1953, covering four octaves from C to C. Pedals span one octave, plus a musical fifth. The original tower on which the bells were hung was an oil derrick, hearkening back to the days when the Alfred and Wellsville areas were part of the northeast oil and gas fields mined for carbon-based fuels. The current steel tower was built in 1953, and modified in 1980.

The Wingate Memorial Summer Carillon Recital Series is generously funded by the Margaret Merrill and Ray Winthrop Wingate Memorial Carillon Foundation. The summer series was created by the late Margaret "Peggy" Wingate Rase to recognize and honor her parents' love of carillons and their dedication to the Davis Memorial Carillon.

Concerts are held rain or shine and guests are advised to bring folding chairs and warm clothes. The opening concert July 10 is being held as part of the Fifth Annual MostArts Festival hosted by Alfred University.

Host for the July 10 recital is Steve Crandall, Alfred University librarian emeritus. Also hosting the series is Laurel Buckwalter, Alfred University carillonneur emerita. Crandall, who learned to play the carillon during his undergraduate years at Alfred, and Buckwalter will be available to answer questions about the carillon. Guests are also welcome to climb the 69 steps to the top of the carillon, enjoy the view, and watch the guest artists perform.