

Kentucky Professor, Carillonneur, and Composer to Perform on AU's Carillon

7/11/00

Alfred, NY -- John Courter, professor of music and college organist at Kentucky's Berea College since 1971, will give the second recital in Alfred University's Wingate Summer Carillon Recital Series on Tuesday, July 18. Concerts in the four-week series, which runs Tuesdays through Aug. 1, are at 7 p.m. on the Davis Memorial Carillon on campus. There is no admission charge. Courter, who has won two international prizes for his compositions "Gregorian Triptych" and "Evocation," will perform music from the Baroque era to the 20th century. His program includes two works by J.S. Bach, which he chose to mark the 250th anniversary of Bach's death, and Henry Purcell; folksongs from five nations plus his own "Variations on Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star"; and music from American film and theater, including "The King and I," "Oklahoma!" and "The Sound of Music." A carillonneur member of the Guild of Carillonneurs in North America since 1992, Courter serves on GCNA's national board and judges GCNA's Composer's Competition. Alfred University Carillonneur Laurel Buckwalter, host of the series, said guests may listen from the lawns or the Upper College Drive area. To see the musician in action, there are two vantage points. One is the lawn of the apartments behind Howell Hall; the other -- for those willing to climb 69 steps -- is the top of the glass-enclosed carillon itself.