Summer Carillon Recital Series continues
7/01/08

The second performer in Alfred University's 2008 Wingate Memorial Summer Carillon Recital Series will be John Widmann, of Frederick, MD.The program begins Tuesday, July 8, at 7 p.m. Guests may sit on the lawn adjacent to the Davis Memorial Carillon on the Alfred University Campus. Widmann will perform eight pieces, some by Beethoven, Bach, Gheyn, and Cook. Widmann is the city carillonneur in Frederick, where he has played recitals every Sunday at noon for over 16 years. Earlier this season he played at the International Carillon Festival in Springfield, IL.Widmann is a graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania and is nearing completion of a master of music degree from Towson University, Towson, MD. He also is a general/vocal music teacher in Frederick County Public Schools. He continues to teach piano, organ, voice, and carillon. Widmann has been a member of the Guild of Carillonneurs in North America since 1996 and is chairman of the finance committee.The lineup for the remainder of the July series includes: Gordon Slater, Ottawa, CanadaLisa Lonie, Blue Bell, PAHelen Hawley from Hudsonville, MIThe Wingate Memorial Carillon Recital Series honors Dr. Ray Winthrop Wingate (1886-1968), who was a professor of music at AU for 56 years. After the installation of the bells in 1937, he was appointed the University carillonneur and continued in the position until his death. He arranged over 5,000 selections for the carillon and composed nine suites. The Margaret Merrill and Ray W. Wingate Memorial Carillon Foundation funds the series.The carillon at Alfred University is made of a double row of rounded oak levers, called batons (which are struck with loosely clenched fists), with a pedal board (octave and a fifth). The ground floor display by the carillon has information on its history. Guests are welcome to climb the 69 steps to the top to enjoy the view and watch the guest artists at work.Concerts will continue each Tuesday in July, same time, same place.