

Summer carillon series at AU continues with artist from Albany

7/03/02

The 2002 Wingate Memorial Summer Carillon Series continues at 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 9, with a recital by one of three city carillonners in Albany, NY. The program to be performed by Amy Heebner is eclectic, ranging from a Bach prelude originally written for organ to Shostakovich's Second Waltz, "Praeludium voor Beiaard" by Edward Denyn, and "Preludio No. 2 in C Major" by Matthias van den Gheyn. On the popular side, she'll play three Welsh tunes arranged by Milford Myhre, an anonymous English tune called "America" and "America the Beautiful," both arranged by Leen't Hart, the Shaker hymn "Simple Gifts," "Carrousel" by Liesbeth Janssens, and Tom Turpin's "St. Louis Rag." A native of Bucks County, PA, Heebner learned to play the carillon at Middlebury College, where she earned a BA in 1993. She received her master's degree in library science from SUNY at Albany in 1997 and now works as a librarian at the New York State Library. She has given concerts at various carillons in New York and New England and became a carillonner member of the Guild of Carillonners in North America in 2000. The 7 p.m. recital series continues July 16 (Suzanne Magassy) and July 23 (Julia Walton.) The Wingate Memorial Summer Carillon Series, named for 56-year AU professor of music Dr. Ray Winthrop Wingate (1886-1968), is funded by the Margaret Merrill and Ray W. Wingate Memorial Carillon Foundation. Margaret Wingate Rase is the trustee. Dr. Wingate also served as University Carillonner from 1937, when the bells were installed, until his death. The recitals are free and open to all. The sound of the carillon is best enjoyed on the lawns, where picnicking is encouraged, or on Upper College Drive. The only view from the ground of the carillonner in action is found on the lawn in front of the apartments behind Howell Hall. Visitors may also climb the 69 steps to the top to watch the artist, but are cautioned to be quiet.