

Thomas J Emery Memorial Sponsors Carillon Summer Concerts

BY RANDY YORK

The Thomas J. Emery Memorial will again be sponsoring a Summer Carillon Concert Series in Dogwood Park. The series, featuring carillonneur Alan Bowman, will begin on Memorial Day, Monday May 26th, at 2 p.m.

The summer series will include 17 carillon concerts on Sunday evenings at 7 p.m. from June through Labor Day. The special events for 2025 include the Memorial Day Concert, the 4th of July Concert, a concert during Taste of Mariemont, and a Labor Day concert. A complete schedule that includes the carillonneur and evening program can be found at www.mariemont.org.

Alan Bowman is a Carillonneur Member of the Guild of Carillonneurs in North America and was a 2024 and 2025 Carillon Fellow at Bok Tower Gardens in Lake Wales, Florida, performing winter concerts and work in the carillon archives through the GCNA's Ronald Barnes Memorial Grant.

Following Larry Weinstein's retirement in March 2024, Alan was appointed Carillonneur of the Deeds Carillon and looks forward to playing again this summer at the Mary M. Emery Memorial Carillon in Mariemont.



The weekly concerts consist of a wide variety of early music, classical arrangements, and popular music for all ages. In addition to the patriotic-themed holiday concerts, there will also be a children's concert scheduled for late July.

The Mary M. Emery Memorial Carillon was dedicated on November 16, 1929. The Carillon was a gift from Miss Isabella F. Hopkins in memory of her sister, who founded the Village of Mariemont.

The original 23 bells and the tower were dedicated in 1929 to the youth of the Village. These original heavy bells, at the lower end of the musical scale, came from the foundry of Gillett & Johnston in Croydon, England.

In 1969, an additional 26 bells were added to create a full concert instrument of 49 bells in a chromatic arrangement, spanning just over four octaves. These 26 additional bells were cast by Petit & Fritsen in Aarle-Rixtel, Netherlands and installed by The Verdin Company of Cincinnati. The largest bell in the combined group weighs nearly 4,800 pounds and the lightest is 19 pounds. The bell composition is approximately 80 percent copper and 20 percent tin, an alloy that has been known as "bell bronze" for hundreds of years.

Renovations in 2008 included the addition of a new playing keyboard, a new sealed ball bearing playing action and new cast iron ball clappers throughout. There is now also a practice keyboard, permitting the carillonneurs to practice privately.

No electrical assistance or amplification of any kind is used during regular concerts. The bells compose a true carillon that is completely touch responsive to give the carillonneur full capability for every musical expression from a gentle whisper to a thundering fortissimo. The carillonneur plays at a keyboard located in a small room below the bells. Each key is a strong wooden lever connected to its bell clapper above by a wire linkage and 'bell crank' transmission action. The bells are rigidly mounted on the steel framework and the clappers are pulled against the inner bell surface to create the musical tones. Return springs are used behind the clappers of the smaller bells to return the keys to the up position after striking, while for the larger bells, counter springs (helpers) are used to lighten the touch.

There are just over 180 such true carillons on the entire North American continent. The



AVID

AUTOCARE

Eastside location: 5591 Wooster Pike, Cincinnati, OH. 45227

PH: 513.427.5000 | AVIDAUTOCARE.COM

With free loaner cars & Uber rides,

Making car care simple

Emery instrument is one of the very few that is housed in a free-standing tower surrounded by a park area. Ideal listening conditions are found in the park at a distance of three to five hundred feet from the tower base.

Fourteen of the 49 bells are provided with external electric strikers operated from a computer which automatically plays a vesper hymn at 9 p.m. each evening. Four bells are automatically struck with externally mounted gravity hammers to play the Westminster Chime melody at 8 a.m., noon, and 6 p.m. every day throughout the year.

The administration and maintenance of the bell tower is administered by the Thomas J. Emery Memorial. Thank you to Lee Carter, President of the Thomas J. Emery Memorial, for all his efforts in managing the maintenance and operation of the Mariemont Carillon and arranging for carillonners. Thank you to Michael Singer for his dedication to managing the day-to-day maintenance and operational needs of the Mariemont Carillon.

Seeking MHS Distinguished Alumni

BY LIZ ALTER, MSF TRUSTEE

Do you know of an outstanding alumnus of Mariemont High School? The Mariemont School Foundation is now seeking nominations for its Distinguished Alumni Award. A nomination form and guidelines are available on the School Foundation website (mariemontschoolfoundation.org, under "Alumni") or by calling the Mariemont School Foundation at 513-272-7509. Nominations are due July 15, 2025.

The Distinguished Alumni Award will recognize Mariemont High School alumni graduated at least 10 years who have notably distinguished themselves by their significant contributions and/or remarkable accomplishments in their chosen career; skill,

trade, or business; in civic duties; in military service; in philanthropy; in volunteerism; in the arts; in the sciences; in education; in religion, OR any other field, endeavor, or pursuit, excluding athletics. Nominees may be living or deceased. Nominations will be considered by a committee comprised of Mariemont School

Foundation trustees and district officials. The number of recipients each year is at the discretion of the committee. Nominations will remain on file for five (5) years. Distinguished Alumni Award recipients will be recognized during Mariemont's Homecoming, 2025. A permanent, dedicated space at Mariemont High School also honors recipients. Please contact Mariemont School Foundation trustee Liz Alter at lizalter@icloud.com with questions.



Cincinnati Center for Improved Communication, Inc.

COMMUNICATION HELP
for All the Life You Live

Services for Speech, Language and Language-based Learning Disorders

Services for Orofacial Myology Disorders

We are a certified provider for:

- Ohio's Autism Scholarship Program
- Ohio's Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program

On-site at many Greater Cincinnati private schools

Help Starts Here

513.771.7655

www.ccicinc.com

Offices near you in Blue Ash and Mariemont

Sharon K. Collins, MS, CCC-SLP, COM
Owner/Director



[ccicinc4you](https://www.facebook.com/ccicinc4you)