

The **University of Florida** is a major, public, comprehensive, land-grant, research university. The state's oldest, largest and most comprehensive university, Florida is among the nation's most academically diverse public universities. Florida has a long history of established programs in international education, research and service. Florida's largest university - and the nation's fourth-largest - traces its beginnings to a small seminary in 1853. Enrolling approximately 50,000 students annually, UF is home to 16 colleges and more than 150 research centers and institutes. Since 1985, UF has been a member of the Association of American Universities, the prestigious higher-education organization comprised of the top 62 public and private institutions in North America.



<http://arts.ufl.edu>

It is the mission of the **College of the Arts** to provide the very best programs in teaching, artistic/creative expression, scholarship, and service. The primary responsibility of the College is to its undergraduate majors and graduate students. The aim is to produce artists, performers, scholars, teachers, and practitioners who combine the qualities of academic and professional excellence with the ability to function effectively and to be contributing members of society. In keeping with the mission and concept of a doctoral research university, another goal is to provide comprehensive programs at both the graduate and advanced graduate levels.



<http://arts.ufl.edu/music>

Recognizing the value of music to our culture, society, and individual experience, the **School of Music** at the University of Florida is committed to the teaching and development of musicians, music educators, and scholars. As a vital component of one of the leading AAU research universities in the nation, the School of Music fully encourages scholarly research, creative activity, and interdisciplinary studies across all degree programs. Undergraduate and graduate offerings are intended to meet the needs of a diverse student population and prepare students for professional careers in music. The faculty includes renowned performers and pedagogues who are committed to the development of

musicians and to the musical enrichment of the community. Graduate studies in the School of Music are expanding to include and support a broad range of music degrees and programs. This exemplifies the School's vision, its continued investment in its students and the University of Florida's growing presence as a distinguished institution.

*The 2024 UF Carillon Conference is sponsored in part by the State of Florida through the Division of Arts & Culture and the National Endowment for the Arts*

# 2024 CARILLON CONFERENCE

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA SCHOOL OF MUSIC

FEBRUARY 9-10, 2024





## Conference Schedule

### **Friday, February 9**

6:15PM: Guest artist recital by Wade FitzGerald (CT)  
\*includes outdoor video projection

7:00PM: Reception with cookies and hot chocolate (FOM)

### **Saturday, February 10**

9:00-10:00AM: donuts/fruit (FOM or, if weather is nice, in the breezeway just outside the carillon studio doors)

10:00AM: Guest artist recital by Zachary Zaroogian (CT)

11:00AM: Masterclass with Wade FitzGerald (CT)

12:30 – 1:30 Catered Lunch (FOM)

1:55PM: UF carillon studio & alumni recital

3:00-3:45PM: Presentations (MUB 332)

4:05-4:55PM: Masterclass with Annie Gao (CT)

6:15PM: Guest recital by Florida Carillon Festival artist Annie Gao  
\*includes outdoor video projection

7:10PM: Reception cookies and hot cider (FOM)

Key:

FoM=Friends of Music Room in the University Auditorium

MUB=Music Building

CT (Century Tower)

University Auditorium  
333 Newell Drive

Music Building  
435 Newell Dr

Century Tower  
375 Newell Drive

Wales, FL, as Director of Chapel Music and Carillonneur at the Citadel in Charleston, SC, and as Chapel Musician at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

Mitchell is also active as a composer, and his works have been premiered throughout the United States and Europe; in December 2019, he published a collection of the entire biblical Psalter set to music from the shape note tradition, in a work entitled The Psalmist's Harp.

When not at the podium or keyboard, Mitchell can be found singing shape-note music, collecting American reed organs, 3D printing, or working with his wife Sarah on house projects in their 100-year old home.

**Liz Stoeber** is a third-year criminology major who is in the University of Florida Gator Band where she is a member of the 10-time national champion Gatoettes (the majorette team for the university). She is also a member of the band sorority Tau Beta Sigma and this is her first semester playing carillon. Liz was introduced to carillon by another sister of Tau Beta Sigma and has been enthusiastic to learn all she can about being a carillonneur.



**Zachary Zaroogian** is a musician and composer who studied viola and carillon at the University of Florida, graduating in 2022 with a Bachelors of Music, Bachelors of Science in Chemistry, and a performance certificate in viola performance. He pursued viola studies with Dr. Lauren Hodges for his four years in the School of Music alongside carillon studies with Dr. Laura Ellis throughout his final three semesters of undergraduate studies. Since graduation, Zaroogian has moved to New York City to work at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center as a research technician and will begin an MD-PhD program this summer; he is also the current carillonneur for Saint Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue.

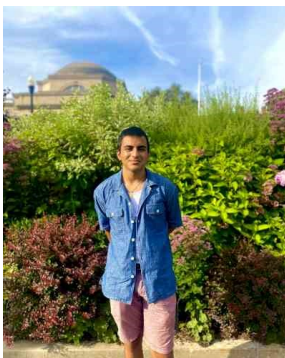
**Mark Zhang** is a fourth-year student majoring in Computer Science with a minor in Digital Arts & Sciences. This is his 4th semester in the UF Carillon Studio. Coming from a background in Piano, Mark hopes to expand his musical knowledge by pursuing the Carillon. He is involved with the Asian American Student Union at UF and its respective sub-organizations and programs. Outside of school and carillon, Mark enjoys sports, photography, and origami.





**Anna Huber** is a fifth-year student majoring in materials science and engineering with a minor in music performance. After playing piano for fifteen years, Anna wanted to continue music in college and found the UF Carillon Studio. This is her fifth semester in the UF Carillon Studio! Outside of class, she can be found working on legislation as a UF senator, trying local coffee shops, eating Krishna lunch, and spending time outdoors!

**Rayyan Merchant** is a fifth-year student majoring in computer science and linguistics. This is his sixth and final semester in the studio, after migrating to carillon from a background in classical voice. During an exchange semester in Germany in 2022, Rayyan played the town hall carillon in the city, and took lessons at the Royal Carillon School "Jef Denyn" in Belgium. Besides schoolwork and carillon, he can be found doing research with the Linguistic Department's SLaM Laboratory (<https://slam.phil.hhu.de>).



**Andrew Lyons** is a third-year student majoring in philosophy with a minor in economics. This is his fourth semester in the UF Carillon Studio. He has a background in piano, as he has played it for nearly his whole life. Andrew also enjoys playing the trombone, guitar, and singing the bass in the UF a cappella group *Tone Def.* Outside of music, Andrew is a member of the Alpha Kappa Psi business fraternity and can sometimes be found juggling in the Plaza of the Americas.

**Thaira Sommer** was a member of the carillon studio from 2021-2022 and has a number carillon arrangements available for purchase from SheetMusicPlus.

**Mitchell Stecker** serves in a full-time capacity as Director of Music & Liturgy at Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church in the South Hills of Pittsburgh. He is an alumnus of the University of Florida, holding the degrees of, BMus, BA (Linguistics), and MMus (historical musicology with a concentration in sacred music). Additionally, Mitchell has pursued studies at the Royal Carillon School "Jef Denyn" (Mechelen, Belgium). Additionally, Mitchell also serves as the artistic director of the Washington Festival Chorale, a 60-voice community choir. Previously, he has held positions as organist and choirmaster of St Mark's Church (Episcopal) in Palatka, FL, as Carillon Fellow at Bok Tower Gardens in Lake



## Recital Programs

**Wade FitzGerald, carillon**  
**Friday, February 9**  
**6:15PM**

### *Introduction*

From Serenade I (1978) Ronald Barnes (1927-1997)  
 Intrada, Sicilienne, & Processional

### *Of Spanish Temperament*

Capricho Arabe (1892) Francisco Tárrega (1852-1909)  
 arr. Carlo van Uft

Gaudí's Chimneys John Courter (1941-2010)  
 Whimsical Dances for carillon (2002) I  
 I. The Undulating Chimneys of Casa Batlló  
 II. The Mushroom Chimneys of Park Güell  
 III. The Geometric Chimneys of Güell Palace

### *Hot Off the Press: A New Work for the Florida Carillon Conference*

Variations (2023) Geert D'hollander (b. 1965)  
 \*World Premiere

### *Let's Dance!*

Air and Dance (1998) Alice Gomez (b. 1960)

Suite for Variety Orchestra No. 1 (ca. 1956) Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1975)  
 arr. Frank Steijns

### *An American Folk Song*

Take Me Home, Country Roads (1971) Bill Danoff (b. 1946)  
 John Denver (1943-1997)  
 & Taffy Nivert (b. 1944)  
 arr. Carlo van Uft

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**Zachary Zaroogian, carillon**  
**Saturday, February 10**  
**10:00AM**

*Music for Chime*

Miniature Prelude and Fugue for York Minster

John Knox  
 (1932-2021)

Processional and Toccata for 18 Bells

Johann Franco  
 (1908-1988)

*Music for Two-Octave Carillon*

Belmont Suite

1. Prelude
2. Slow Jig
3. Final Flourish

John Knox

Warum? (Trauer und Erinnerung)

Gunther Strothmann  
 (b. 1934)  
 adapted for two-octaves

Four Short Pieces

- Prelude
- Children's Song
- Hoedown
- Toccata

Jean Miller  
 (1916-1964)

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**Masterclass with Wade FitzGerald**  
**11:00AM**

Performers: Beth Blair, Ryan Merchant, Michael Dixon



**Laura Ellis** is Associate Director and Professor in the School of Music at the University of Florida. She teaches courses in Sacred Music and applied lessons in organ, harpsichord, and carillon. She studied carillon with Albert Gerken during graduate studies at the University of Kansas and received additional coaching from Karel Keldermans. Ellis is a carillonneur member of The Guild of Carillonneurs in North America (GCNA) and recently served two terms as president of the organization. She remains on the board of the GCNA and is director of the Music and Publications Committee.

**Wade FitzGerald** is pursuing his Master of Music in Organ Performance with Dr. Christopher Young at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, where he also serves as the University Carillonist and Associate Instructor of Carillon. A native of Tampa, Florida, FitzGerald started piano lessons at age five. He enrolled at the University of Florida in 2015 and began studying the carillon with Dr. Laura Ellis the following year. During college, he worked as a substitute pianist at several churches and as an accompanist for the Gainesville Youth Chorus. FitzGerald was inducted into the Guild of Carillonneurs in North America in 2019 and graduated from UF shortly thereafter with bachelor's degrees in music and biology. In 2020, FitzGerald served for five months as Blanchard Carillon Fellow at Bok Tower in Lake Wales, Florida, where he studied with award-winning carillonneur and composer Geert D'hollander. In 2021, FitzGerald moved to Pennsylvania, where he began playing the carillon and studying organ with Jeffrey Brillhart at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. Outside of his studies, FitzGerald enjoys hiking, nature photography, reading (particularly cosmic horror), catching snakes, and learning languages.



**Annie Gao** is a carillonist and software engineer from the sunny suburbs of Southern California. She began her carillon studies in the Yale University Guild of Carillonneurs, where she took lessons from Ellen Dickinson and was Co-Chair in her final year. She completed her GCNA Carillonist exam in 2020, and graduated from Yale in May 2021 with a combined B.S./M.S. in Computer Science. She then had the tremendous privilege of continuing her carillon studies in Europe and the US, studying under Geert D'hollander, Boudewijn Zwart, and Eddy Marien. In her free time, Annie enjoys competitive ping pong, puzzles and brainteasers, good reads, and opportunities to explore and improve her fascinatingly bad sense of direction.



## Biographies of Festival Guests, Performers, & Organizers

**Beth Blair** is a senior nursing student and music performance minor from deep in the Florida panhandle. This is her 5th semester in studio, and she loves having carillon as her musical outlet. Beth comes from a piano and percussion background, and she is thrilled to get to continue her music education here at UF. Beth is the recipient of the 2023-24 Web Carillon Scholarship for her dedication and scholastic achievement in carillon studies. This past summer she attended the 80th Annual Guild of Carillonneurs of North America Congress in Coahasset, MA where she became a member of the guild. Beth is involved with her sorority, Sigma Phi Lambda, and her church, Greenhouse College, both of which she helps lead worship on the keyboard. You can find her on campus at the GatorWell Health Promotions Services office where she works as a Health and Wellness Educator!



**Carlos Cólón-Ortiz** is a graduate student at the J. Crayton Pruitt Family Department of Biomedical Engineering at the University of Florida. He graduated with a music performance minor in carillon in May 2022 with over 4 years of performance experience. During the same month, he was also awarded the Sally Slade Warner Arrangement & Transcription Competition Performance Award. His work was a transcription of *El Coqui*, a traditional Puerto Rican Danza by José Ignacio Quintón (1881-1925). Due to this distinction, his piece was performed at the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial Carillon at the University of Chicago (IL) during the annual congress of The Guild of Carillonneurs of North America (GCNA) in June 2022.



**Michael Dixon** is a third-year student at the University of Florida, majoring in music composition. He has been a member of the UF Carillon Studio since August 2022. He is also a member of the UF Horn Studio under Dr. Paul Basler and performs in the UF Wind Symphony. With a musical background in both French horn and piano, he studies carillon to broaden the scope of his experience as a composer and performer. His hobbies include hiking, baking, Dungeons and Dragons, and rhythm games such as Dance Dance Revolution; he co-founded the University Rhythm Game Enthusiasts, a student organization at UF that focuses on rhythm video games.



## UF Carillon Studio and Alumni 1:55PM

*Featuring music written and performed  
by UF carillon studio members and alumni*

### *Original Compositions for Carillon*

\*Tide-swept Michael Dixon (b. 2003)

MICHAEL DIXON

\*World Premiere, Commissioned by the UF Carillon Conference

"Spring" from Seasons of the Wind Chime Cherise Leiter

ANDREW LYONS

Triskaphobia Mitchell Stecker (b. 1992)

BETH BLAIR

Three Short Pieces Zachary Zaroogian (b. 1999)

ZACHARY ZAROOGIAN

#Albireo Michael Dixon (b. 2003)

RAYYAN MERCHANT

#World Premiere Dixon & Merchant were awarded the 2023-2024  
Composer-Performer Pair Grant from The Guild of Carillonneurs in North America  
to support the creation and performance of this work

### *Inspired by hymns and spirituals*

O Waly Waly Cherise Leiter

LIZ STOEBER

Spiraculum Vitae Mitchell Stecker (b. 1992)

Deep River Lee Cobb (b. 1963)

MITCHELL STECKER

*Program continued on next page*

*Arrangements*

Colors of the Wind from *Pocahontas* Alan Menken (b. 1949)  
arr. C3lon-Ortiz

MARK ZHANG

Chim Chim Cheree Robert B. Sherman (1925-2012)  
& Richard M. Sherman (b. 1928)  
arr. Sommer

THAIRA SOMMER

Skylark Johnny Mercer (1909-1976)  
& Hoagy Carmichael (1899-1981)  
arr. Sommer

El Coqui (Danza Puertorriqueña) Jos3 Ingacio Quint3n (1881-1925)  
arr. C3lon-Ortiz

ANNA HUBER

University of Florida Alma Mater Milton L. Yeats (composed 1925)  
arr. Bodine/Ellis/Blair/Huber

BETH BLAIR & ANNA HUBER

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**Presentations  
3:00PM**

Carlos C3lon-Ortiz: Carillon Arrangements for Puerto Rican Dances  
Rayyan Merchant: Cataloguing the UF Carillon Library  
Thaira Sommer: Publishing your arrangements  
Zachary Zaroogian: Carillon Music for Reduced Ranges

**Masterclass with Annie Gao  
4:05PM**

Performers: Carlos C3lon-Ortiz, Andrew Lyons, Mark Zhang

**Annie Gao, carillon  
6:15PM**

**Shapes of Love**

*Dances in Court and Courtship*

Sonata in d minor Jean-Baptiste Loeillet de Gand  
Largo – Allegro – Largo Affettuoso – Giga Allegro (1688-ca.1720)  
arr. D'hollander

Fly me to the Moon Bart Howard  
(1915-2004)

Mexican Hat Dance Traditional

*Journeys Through Memory*

Passacaglia (\*In memory of the composer's father) Jos Lerinckx  
(1920-2000)

Sonatine Stefano Colletti  
(b. 1973)

*Dreaming in Color*

Over the Rainbow Harold Arlen  
(1905-1986)

Que Sera Sera Jay Livingston  
(1915-2001)

La Vie en Rose Luis Guglielmi  
(1916-1991)

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