



Springfield Park District

www.springfieldparks.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 2, 2017

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**THE 56TH INTERNATIONAL CARILLON FESTIVAL
FEATURING 11 CONCERTS OVER FIVE DAYS
WEDNESDAY – SUNDAY, JUNE 4-9 2017**

[Springfield, IL] – The 56th Annual International Carillon Festival will take place starting this Sunday, June 4th at 6pm thru Friday, June 9th at historic Washington Park here in Springfield. There will be a by night on Wednesday, June 7th with no concerts. This year's Festival features 18 concerts over five days with performers from around the world, United States and even a new twist with local talent!

This year's festival will host some exciting **NEW** features with our food vendor, HyVee Food Truck, our first ever Craft Beer & Wine Tent and the addition of local musical performances by: The Cast from Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" at the Springfield Muni, Lanphier High School Jazz Band; Directed by Kittie Hose, Trinity Summer Band; Directed by Jan Zepp and The Springfield Municipal Band will wrap up the additional talent on Friday, June 9th our Fireworks night.

For a PDF of the Festival program with a full line-up and bios of our guest carillonners, please visit: <http://carillon-rees.org/Events/Carillon-Festival>.

The Festival is presented by the Springfield Park District – with additional financial and volunteer support from the Rees Carillon Society, The Carillon Belles, and the Washington Park Botanical Gardens. The Carillon Festival features the world's leading carillonners and is considered among the most important carillon event of its kind. Concerts are free-of-charge and take place rain or shine. Individuals and families are encouraged to bring blankets, lawn chairs and picnics. There will be a large viewing screen at the base of the tower to observe the performers.

Enjoy the beauty of Washington Park and the adjacent Botanical Garden with the unique accompaniment of carillon music!

The **Thomas Rees Memorial Carillon** is the gift of Senator Thomas Rees, publisher of Illinois State Register from 1881 until his death in 1933.

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The 67 cast-bronze bells range in weight from 22 pounds to 7 ½ tons. The carillon was cast by the 300-year-old bell foundry of Petit & Fritsen, Ltd., in Aarle-Rixtel, The Netherlands. All of the bells are played manually from a keyboard located in the carillonneur's cabin on level 8 of the 12-story tower.

56th International Carillon Festival Schedule:

Sunday, June 4

6:00 PM The Cast from Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" at the Springfield Muni

6:30 PM Frans Haagen, The Netherlands

7:15 PM The Cast from Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" at the Springfield Muni

7:30 PM Carlo van Ulft, IL

Monday, June 5

6:00 PM Lanphier HS Jazz Band – Directed by Kittie Hose

6:30 PM Koen Cosaert, Belgium

7:15 PM Lanphier HS Jazz Band

7:30 PM Julianne VandenWyngaard, MI and George Gregory, TX

(Duet with premieres of new carillon compositions)

Tuesday, June 6

6:30 PM Roy Lee, Canada

7:30 PM Koen Cosaert, Belgium

Thursday, June 8

6:00 PM Trinity Wind Ensemble – Directed by Jan Zepp

6:30 PM Julianne VandenWyngaard, MI

7:15 PM Trinity Wind Ensemble

7:30 PM Frans Haagen, The Netherlands (Including music for "Electronics and Carillon")

Friday, June 9

6:00 PM The Springfield Municipal Band – Directed by Tom Philbrick

6:30 PM Roy Lee, Canada

7:15 PM The Springfield Municipal Band

7:30 PM Carlo van Ulft, IL

Dusk: International Carillon Festival fireworks

(with additional noise on the carillon by Carlo van Ulft, IL)

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For information about other programs of the Springfield Park District, please visit our website at www.springfieldparks.org