

Baker Park in Frederick, MD
Michelle Lam
August 9, 2026

1. **Today's Church Carillonneur**

Melita ("The Navy Hymn") (1861)

John B. Dykes (1823-1876), arr. Beverly Buchanan

Cortege and Fugue (1987)

John Courter (1941-2010)

A Sacred Suite (2018)

Geert D'hollander (b. 1965)

I. Da Pacem Domine ("Give Peace, O Lord")

II. Regina Coeli ("Queen of Heaven, Rejoice, Alleluia")

III. Sancti Spiritus ("May the grace of the Holy Ghost be with us now")

2. **Gonna Be Golden**

Golden from *KPop Demon Hunters* (2025)

K. Eun-jae, M. Sonnenblick,

J.G. Kwak, Y.H. Lee, H.D. Nam,

J.H. Seo, T. Park, arr. Joey Brink

Colors of the Wind from *Pocahontas* (1995)

Alan Menken (b. 1949), arr. Joey Brink

Program notes

To commemorate America's 250th Anniversary, every selection was either composed by an American, arranged by an American, or inspired by a traditional American piece.

Any modern American church carillonneur is familiar with Beverly Buchanan (1931-2018) and John Courter (1941-2010), both of whom were prolific arrangers for the carillon including such pieces as *Melita* and *Abide with Me*. Buchanan and Courter both studied carillon and organ at the University of Michigan (as did this program's recitalist!). Courter was also a gifted composer, writing over 20 pieces for the carillon, including *Cortege and Fugue*, written in the style of baroque music.

With over 30 first prizes in international composition competitions, Geert D'hollander is a preeminent living composer for carillon. *A Sacred Suite* was commissioned for the inauguration of the Peace Carillon in Leuven, Belgium. Each movement in the suite is based on a Gregorian melody that would sound on 16th century automatic carillons. D'hollander was born in Belgium and was naturalized as an American citizen in 2018. He has been the carillonneur at Bok Tower Gardens in Florida since 2012. Bok Tower Gardens' co-founder, Edward Bok, was also a naturalized American citizen; Bok immigrated from the Netherlands, and won the Pulitzer Prize for his contributions to American journalism.

The concert closes with two "golden" songs from American animated films, each a winner of Golden Globe, Grammy, and Academy Awards. Though these *KPop Demon Hunters* and *Pocahontas* are two decades apart, they are both a product of America's proud heritage as a melting pot, with many cultures coming together to produce distinctly American masterpieces.

Biography

Michelle S. Lam is an Associate Carillonneur at the [Netherlands Carillon in Arlington, VA](#) and at the [Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC](#). Previously, she was the Carillonneur at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church in Grosse Pointe Farms, MI. She started her carillon studies at Wellesley College and

continued at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Dr. Lam attained Carillonneur status from the Guild of Carillonneurs of North America (GCNA) in 2022, and serves as a director on the GCNA's board and as chair of the GCNA's Finance Committee.

Dr. Lam's recitals and work in the carillon community focus on highlighting people of color, women, and lesser played works. With co-author Dr. Elisa Tersigni, she published "The North American Carillon Community Survey" in 2025, the first comprehensive study of the continent's carillon culture, with a focus on diversity and accessibility. Outside of carillon, she graduated with her economics PhD in 2023 from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and works as an antitrust economist in Washington, DC.

Programs and more information can be found at michelleslam.com/carillon/ and on Instagram, [@michelle_plays_bells](https://www.instagram.com/michelle_plays_bells).