



# MUSIC PERFORMANCE

- \*WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR IN MUSIC PERFORMANCE?
- \*WHAT CAN I DO TO MAKE MYSELF MORE MARKETABLE?
- \*WHERE CAN I FIND CAREER INFORMATION?

**CAREER PLANNING • SUNY POTSDAM • 206 SISSON**  
**Web Site: [www.potsdam.edu/offices/career](http://www.potsdam.edu/offices/career) TEL: 315-267-2344**

## ***WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN MUSIC PERFORMANCE?***

1. Teach musical knowledge privately or in a college or university setting.
2. Perform in bands and orchestra, band, chamber and other ensembles.
3. Compose new music and bring about public presentations of contemporary music.
4. Work in retail or repair in music stores.
5. Work for greater appreciation of arts in a community.

## ***EXAMPLES OF FIELDS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR MUSIC PERFORMANCE MAJORS:***

1. Colleges or Universities
2. Symphony Orchestras
3. Community Centers
4. Youth Organizations
5. Publishing Companies
6. Recording Studios
7. Retail

## ***SAMPLE JOB TITLES OF SUNY POTSDAM MUSIC PERFORMANCE ALUMNI:***

- \* Performer
- \* Recording Engineer
- \* Songwriter
- \* Music Lecturer
- \* Artistic Developer
- \* Piano Tuner
- \* Music Professor
- \* Music Librarian
- \* Music Store Manager
- \* Conductor
- \* Composer
- \* Assistant Wedding Coordinator
- \* Musical Assistant and Researcher
- \* Musical Instrument Technician



## ***SAMPLE JOB DESCRIPTIONS:***

1. Composer: writes original music; often writes commissioned works.
2. Community Arts Worker: promotes arts in community. Works with young people. Develops programs, concerts, and lectures to interest the community in arts.
3. Performer (Musician): entertains an audience by playing one or more musical instruments in a public performance or for recordings. Rehearses with groups to achieve quality performance. May specialize in popular or classical music.
4. Music Therapist: uses knowledge of music combined with Psychology and Special Education techniques to treat, educate, or rehabilitate people with emotional, physical, or mental problems.
5. Music Publishing: edits and publishes manuscripts and books for performance or for music teaching and technique; often involves production of CD's and cassettes.

### ***ENHANCING EMPLOYABILITY:***

1. Get involved in the career development process early, freshman year.
2. Select minors or elective courses that will demonstrate interest/applicability to your career objectives.
3. Get career related experience: INTERNSHIPS, summer and/or part-time employment, volunteer. Join a career-related association or organization.
4. Develop the following job search and self-marketing skills: resume writing, cover letter writing, create a portfolio and self-marketing brochure, researching employers, interviewing, networking, and employment searching.
5. Skills to develop: teamwork in ensembles, leadership, independence, flexibility, self-discipline, communication, effective practice, repertoire, voice or particular instrument technical skills.

### ***SAMPLE INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCES:***

- \* Composer's Forum
  - Committed to creation, development, and public presentation of a wide range of contemporary music; strong commitment to composers.
  - Work involves maintaining membership database, organizing information for newsletters, and concert production, and other duties.
- \* New York Philharmonic
  - Internationally acclaimed symphony orchestra centered in New York City.
  - Areas of work include press and public relations for outdoor concert series, development, volunteer council, education activities, and audience services.
- \* International Art of Jazz
  - Includes jazz and educational programs, various activities in relation to jazz study, series of concerts and programs.
  - Interns may work as a program assistant and in tasks related to organizational support.

### ***PREPARING FOR THE JOB SEARCH MARKET***

- \* Write an employer targeted resume and cover letter
- \* Learn job search strategies
- \* Borrow resources from SUNY Potsdam's Career Planning Library
- \* Develop networking cards
- \* Network w/employers at Career/Job Fairs
- \* Prepare for an interview
- \* Design a portfolio and self-marketing brochure
- \* Visit SUNY Potsdam's Career Planning Web Site at: [www.potsdam.edu/offices/career](http://www.potsdam.edu/offices/career)
- \* Seek advice from faculty

### ***SOME EMPLOYERS OF SUNY POTSDAM MUSIC PERFORMANCE ALUMNI:***

- \* US Navy Band
- \* Wendell Harrison
- \* Metropolitan Opera Corporation
- \* Dilmore Music, USA
- \* Corelli Jacobs Recording
- \* Walt Disney World Company
- \* JSA Productions
- \* Boston Symphony Orchestra



### ***WHERE TO GET INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE:***

#### **1. DEAN'S OFFICE, CRANE SCHOOL OF MUSIC, SUNY Potsdam, Bishop Hall C218**

- \* Talk with Faculty
- \* Talk with Students
- \* Talk with Alumni

#### **2. CAREER PLANNING OFFICE, SUNY Potsdam, 206 Sisson Hall**

- \* Individual Career Assistance
- \* Workshops/Seminars
- \* Employer Literature
- \* Career Assessment Programs
- \* Career and Job Fairs
- \* Networking Assistance
- \* Alumni Mentor
- \* Job Vacancies
- \* Summer Jobs
- \* Reference file
- \* Career Planning Web Site
- \* Career Library
- \* A Major Affair
- \* Free Handouts Available

***WHAT IF I WANT TO GO TO GRADUATE SCHOOL?***

**RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT THE CAREER PLANNING OFFICE:**

- \* On-Campus Graduate School Fair
- \* Graduate School handout
- \* GRE, GMAT, MCAT, LSAT and MAT forms and bulletins (GRE computerized tests and graduate study books)
- \* Graduate books - listings of schools and programs
- \* Financial aid information about graduate school
- \* Peterson's Graduate Programs (G7F, G7G, G7H, G7I, G7J, G7K)
- \* Web Site: [www.potsdam.edu/offices/career/graduate](http://www.potsdam.edu/offices/career/graduate)

***RESOURCES FOR FINDING EMPLOYERS & CAREER INFORMATION:***

**RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT THE CAREER PLANNING OFFICE:**

- \* Sound and Music for the Theatre: The Art and Technique of Design (C34B)
- \* Performing Arts Directory (RSB)
- \* The Career Guide Employment Opportunities Directory (R8GG)
- \* Exploring Careers in Music (C34A)
- \* Job Hunter's Sourcebook (R26D)
- \* Musical America-Int'l Directory of Performing Arts (Crane Ref. ML12.M88)
- \* Dun's Regional Directories (R8I, R8J, R8K)
- \* Opportunities in Performing Arts Careers (C5D)
- \* Summer Jobs Worldwide (S2A)
- \* Great Jobs for Music Majors (C34AA)
- \* Career Planning Job Search Internet Links: [www.potsdam.edu/jobsearch/index.cfm](http://www.potsdam.edu/jobsearch/index.cfm)
- \* Additional material found by using Career Planning Library Bibliography and Crane Library

***OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION:***

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| * American String Teachers Association<br>4020 McEwen, No. 105<br>Dallas, TX 75244<br>(703) 476-1316<br><a href="http://www.asta.org">www.asta.org</a>                | * American Choral Directors Assn.<br>PO Box 6510<br>Lawton, OK 73506<br>(405) 355-8161<br><a href="http://www.acda.org">www.acda.org</a>   |
| * International Association of Jazz Educators<br>Box 724<br>Manhattan, KS 66502<br>(913) 776-8744<br><a href="http://www.apassion4jazz.net">www.apassion4jazz.net</a> | * Natl. Association of Composers, USA<br>Box 49652 Barrington Station<br>Los Angeles, CA 90049<br>(310) 541-8213<br><a href="http://www.music-usa.org/nacusa">www.music-usa.org/nacusa</a> |



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