About The Crane School of Music

The Crane School of Music is a community of educators, musicians and scholars in an environment dedicated to helping every student achieve his or her career and life goals. We hope you will consider joining the Crane community and become part of a tradition that stretches back over 130 years and includes thousands of educators, performers, composers, researchers, leaders in music industry, and musicians of renown, a network of graduates who can be found throughout North America and around the world.

The Crane School was founded in 1886 by Julia Crane (1855-1923) as the Crane Institute of Music and was one of the first institutions in the country to have programs dedicated to preparing specialists in teaching music in the public schools. Throughout Crane's history the school's primary mission has been to educate music teachers with an emphasis on excellence in performance. At Crane, learning to be a teacher does not exclude or limit music performance, but uses excellence in performance as the foundation on which teaching is based. Over the years, our mission has expanded to include degrees in performance, music business, composition, and music theory and history, as well as other programs in jazz, music in special education, and piano pedagogy. Crane is proud to have many of the finest music educators, scholars, and performers in the United States as members of the faculty, all working hard to make Crane a vital, innovative and exciting place.

The Crane School consists of approximately 530 undergraduate and graduate students, and a faculty of over 80 teachers and professional staff. Crane is housed in the Julia E. Crane Music Center on the north side of the SUNY Potsdam campus and includes three concert areas (Helen M. Hosmer Concert Hall, 1290 seats; the Sara M. Snell Music Theater, 452 seats; and the Ralph Wakefield Lecture and Recital Hall, 130 seats) as well as extensive supporting areas. The new 97,000-square-foot Performance Arts Center opened in the Spring 2014 semester next door to the Crane Center, and includes three additional large performance spaces (a Proscenium Theater, a Black Box Theater, and a Dance Theater) as well as a recording studio with new, state-of-the-art equipment.
What sets The Crane School of Music apart?

Crane Faculty are here for you. Because 85% of our professors at Crane are full-time faculty and our student-to-teacher ratio is nearly 7 to 1, you will always have the support and attention you need. And you will never take a music class run by a graduate assistant as all courses are taught by our outstanding faculty artists, teachers and scholars.

Crane is part of an arts-focused campus. There are over 500 music majors and nearly 1,000 students majoring in one of the arts at SUNY Potsdam, creating an extraordinarily vibrant artistic environment, and all of this on a campus of only 4,000 students! In addition to music, SUNY Potsdam offers majors and minors in theater, dance, creative writing, and the visual arts.

Crane offers you choices, with undergraduate degrees in Music Education, Performance, Music Business, Composition, Music Theory, Music History, a Bachelor of Arts in Music, and graduate degrees in Music Education and Performance. Students can also explore minors in Jazz Studies, Music in Special Education, Music Business, Composition, Music Technology, and Piano Pedagogy, or double major in a wide variety of fields outside of music in the arts, sciences, humanities, or business.

Admissions for Music Majors
The admission to any music degree program is a two-part process:
(1) Complete and submit a SUNY Application to apply for academic admission to the College (www.potsdam.edu/admissions).
(2) Use our online audition request form to reserve space on one of our audition days. This form is your application to Crane.

It does not matter what order you do these two requirements.

For details about the audition process, repertoire requirements for each instrument/voice, and to access our audition registration form, go to http://www.potsdam.edu/Crane, and click on “Auditions,” on the right-hand side. We have both on- and off-campus auditions, with the first audition typically occurring in December and the last audition day usually in early March.

A Tradition of Innovation!

The Crane School has been committed to artistic and educational excellence throughout its history and continuing today. Join us and become part of our family!

Visit the Prospective Student section of the Crane website
http://www.potsdam.edu/academics/Crane/prospective

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