Listen.
Create.
Inspire.
Make your own path at The Crane School of Music.

Here, you’ll become part of a tradition that stretches back more than 130 years, at one of the oldest and most respected public music schools in the country. Just step foot in our performance halls, and meet some of our incredible faculty, students and alumni... you’ll experience the energy pulsing through the Crane community. Whether you’re interested in performing, composing, teaching, recording, researching, innovating, leading the music industry (or all of the above), there is a program here for you.
Listen. The Crane School of Music offers rigorous undergraduate and graduate programs with a strong emphasis on performance and practice, in a tight-knit atmosphere. With a 7:1 student-to-faculty ratio, you’ll benefit from working closely with our distinguished faculty artists, teachers and scholars.

“Crane encourages and celebrates the creation of new works that speak to a more diverse experience. That’s so important, I believe we have an obligation to make our concerts as diverse as the world.”

- Dr. Lonel Woods, associate professor of voice

Johnna Bernard ’18 (right) majored in music business at Crane. Now she is the administrative assistant in the supernumeraries department at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City, helping to oversee all extras for the Met.
Life at Crane includes an incredible array of more than 350 recitals, lectures and concerts presented by faculty, students and guest artists each year. Crane students premiere new works, study with guest conductors and visiting artists, and perform in nationally televised concerts—every year. With more than 40 ensembles on campus, there are plenty of opportunities to put your passion into practice. Performance opportunities aren’t limited to Potsdam, N.Y., either. Our symphony and chorus have performed at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, and we have lots of opportunities to study abroad.

Melisa Raquel Baena ’15 & ’16 is a trombonist, vocalist and music educator (seen here hugging a friend before a concert at Carnegie Hall). Today, she is living, teaching, singing and performing in Colombia. She was recently featured in the Colombianas Salsa All Star all-female Latin ensemble.
Inspire.

Our founder, Julia Ettie Crane, had a vision to build the first university program for training public school music teachers in the country. In particular, she thought all music educators should be excellent performers, and all performers should understand how to engage with audiences. That tradition of excellence has continued at The Crane School of Music for more than 130 years.

The broad Crane alumni network includes sought-after performing artists, award-winning educators, prolific composers, and executives in music business, non-profits and creative fields.

“Crane formed me, and not only the kind of artist that I am, but the ambassador that I am of music.”

- Dimitri Pittas ’89, tenor, rising opera star
Explore Our Programs

Majors
- Bachelor of Arts • Music
- Bachelor of Music • Music Business • Music Education • Music Performance • Musical Studies: Composition, Theory or History

Graduate Degrees
- Master of Music • Music Education • Music Performance

Minors & Concentrations
- Minors • Composition • Jazz Studies • Musical Theatre • Music Business
- Concentrations • Music in Special Education • Music Technology • Piano Pedagogy

Finish in 5
You can complete both your bachelor’s and master’s degrees in music education in just five years. Crane also offers a summer graduate program for working teachers.

Double Up
About 15% of Crane undergraduates double-major in two music disciplines (with the most popular option combining music education and performance). Many students also add another major or minor in the arts, sciences, humanities or business.
Immerse Yourself

The Crane School of Music is just one reason that SUNY Potsdam is consistently rated as having one of the top arts environments in the State University of New York. As an arts campus, SUNY Potsdam offers the full palette of creative disciplines—with innovative programs in theatre, dance, the fine arts and creative writing. If you want to develop your craft in another field, or just gain experience working with artists in different disciplines, you’ve found the right place.

J. Alden Berry ’21 gains experience in the recording studio in our $55 million Performing Arts Center, which also includes a proscenium theater, black box theater and dance theater. The PAC houses the Department of Theatre and Dance, and connects to the Crane Complex, so you’ll have opportunities to take classes and perform here too.

Broaden Your Horizons

Crane performance and teaching opportunities span the globe. The traveling choir has performed in churches across Germany, Spain and Peru. We offer a fiddling ensemble travel course in Ireland. The Crane Latin Ensemble regularly plays in New York City and recently toured Cuba. For future music educators, there is a service focused teaching abroad program in Jamaica, and a student teaching abroad program in Australia. SUNY Potsdam offers music-focused study abroad programs, too, and students have access to schools across the world, such as the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire in Great Britain and Liszt School of Music in Germany.

From right, Dominique Santiago ’20, Alexei Prieto Alicea ’19, Mary Catherine Grayver ’19, and Claudia Henry ’20, all music education majors, perform traditional Andean music at a cultural center in Calca, Peru, during a unique choral travel course led by Dr. Jeffrey Francon.
All prospective students are considered for merit-based music scholarships during the audition process. Accepted Crane students also qualify for SUNY Potsdam’s many academic and need-based scholarships and financial aid programs.

**Cost of Attendance**

- **In-state tuition:** $7,070
- **Out-of-state tuition:** $16,980
- **Room and board:** $13,900
- **Fees:** $2,282

**Total in-state costs:** $23,252

**Total out-of-state costs:** $33,162

$3.2 million

College scholarships awarded annually

80%

Percentage of students receiving financial aid

- All fees are subject to change. Students should also plan to budget for program fees, books, supplies, transportation and personal expenses.

Erica Ylitalo ’19 leads a high school band rehearsal during her student teaching placement in Phoenix, N.Y. She was first inspired to become an educator (and attend Crane) by studying under a proud alumnus, Michael Cirino ’83.

Auditions & Admissions

The Crane School of Music requires all prospective students to complete auditions, in addition to applying to SUNY Potsdam through the College’s regular admissions process. Detailed audition information is online at potsdam.edu/crane/admissions

The expert Ghanaian drummer Martin Kwaku Kwadwo Obeng regularly visits Crane to teach and perform with the West African Drum and Dance Ensemble. Crane brings in more than 50 guest artists and clinicians every year.