Graduate Studies in Music Performance

Making music is at the heart of every Crane degree program. Our philosophy is that all our students are first and foremost musicians.

The Crane School of Music was founded in 1886 by Julia E. Crane (1855-1923) as the Crane Normal 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 combine the education of musicians with excellence in performance. 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 to make Crane a vital, innovative and exciting place.

The Crane School of Music is housed in the Julia E. Crane Music Center on the north side of the Potsdam campus. The complex consists of two classroom buildings (Bishop and Schuette Halls), three concert areas: Helen M. Hosmer Concert Hall, 1290 seats, the Sara M. Snell Music Theater, 452 seats and the Ralph J. Wakefield Lecture and Recital Hall, 130 seats) as well as extensive supporting areas.

Master of Music in Performance

The Master of Music in Performance program is designed to develop student musicianship and technical expertise through individual study, and through solo, ensemble, and chamber performance opportunities, all under the direction of faculty artists.

Music Performance students at Crane can complete their program in three or more semesters during the academic year. Majors include voice, harp and guitar along with traditional instruments in the brass, woodwind, string and percussion families. With the abundance of performance opportunities, Crane can help further your musical performance skills!

Performance Faculty

Voice and Opera
- Margaret Chalker, Soprano
- Jean Desmarais, Piano/Vocal Coach
- Donald George, Tenor
- Steven Groth, Baritone
- Rachel Harris, Opera
- Nicholas Kilkenny, Bass-Baritone
- Deborah Massell, Soprano
- Kathleen Miller, Soprano
- Jill Pearson, Soprano
- Colleen Skull, Soprano
- Lorraine Yaros Sullivan, Mezzo-Soprano
- Lonel Woods, Tenor

Piano:
- Gary Busch, piano
- Jean Desmarais, piano
- Young-Ah Tak, piano
- Kathryn Sherman, piano pedagogy
Woodwinds:
- Brian Dunbar, flute
- Jill Rubio, flute
- Anna Hendrickson, oboe
- Julianne Kirk-Doyle, clarinet
- Christine Hoerning, clarinet
- Casey Grev, saxophone
- Carol Lowe, bassoon

Brass:
- Lauren Becker, Horn
- Clark Hunt, Trumpet
- Brianne Borden, Trumpet
- Christopher Hernacki, Trombone
- Charles Guy, Tuba and Euphonium

Percussion:
- Jim Petercsak
- Catherine Meunier
- Daryle Redmond

Strings:
- Liesl Schoenberger Doty, violin
- Sarah Hersh, violin
- Shelly Trampusch, viola
- Marie-Elaine Gagnon, cello
- John Geggie, double bass
- Doug Rubio, guitar
- Jessica Suchy-Pilalis, harp

Fall Island Vocal Arts Seminar

The Fall Island Vocal Arts Seminar is a week-long seminar designed to encourage autonomous artistry in emerging artist-level singers and pianists, selected through a competitive, national audition process. The seminar was founded by opera singer Stephanie Blythe and pianist Alan Smith in 2012. For more see https://fallisland.org/

Applying

You will find information about the audition and application process online. All admissions materials must be received no later than May 1st in order to be considered for fall admission, although auditions must be completed by our last audition day (typically around March 1st).

Each year, The Crane School of Music and SUNY Potsdam award numerous graduate scholarships and assistantships, including Piano Accompanying Assistantships. To be considered for graduate music scholarships and graduate assistantships, all admissions materials are due by March 2nd.

For the SUNY Potsdam Office of Graduate Studies webpage, see: http://www.potsdam.edu/masters

For Crane Graduate information, see: http://www.potsdam.edu/academics/Crane/graduate_studies/