



FRANÇOIS SCARBOROUGH CLEMMONS

Storyteller, Artist, Educator, and "Officer Clemmons" from Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood

When he earned the role as Officer Clemmons on the award-winning television series Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, Clemmons made history as the first African American actor to have a recurring role on a children's program. A new, wide world opened for Clemmons—but one that also required him to make painful personal choices and sacrifices.

From New York to Russia, Berlin to California, Clemmons has performed for audiences around the world and remains a beloved figure. Clemmons has lived a historical and enlightening life and career of a man who has brought joy to millions of adults and children, across generations and borders.

His book, *Officer Clemmons: A Memoir* details the incredible life story of François Clemmons, beginning with his early years in Alabama and Ohio, marked by family trauma and loss, through his studies as a music major at Oberlin College, where Clemmons began to investigate and embrace his homosexuality, to a chance encounter with Fred Rogers that changed the whole course of both men's lives, leading to a deep, spiritual friendship and mentorship spanning nearly forty years.



THE JOY DOUGLASS VISITING MASTER TEACHER PROGRAM

This fund was established by Joy Anthony Douglass (BM '56) to honor the transformative opportunities she had working with visiting master teachers during her time at Crane.

The fund allows visiting master teachers to share their insights and expertise with Crane School of Music students, faculty, and music educators from the surrounding region.

FALL 2021 ON CAMPUS VISITING MASTER TEACHER RESIDENCY:

THURSDAY OCTOBER 14, 2021

TIME	LOCATION	EVENT DESCRIPTION
1:15pm-2:30pm	Snell Theater, Crane School of Music	Phoenix Club Open Rehearsal
8:00pm	Snell Theater, Crane School of Music	Keynote: "Wont YOU Be My Neighbor?" Moderators: Dr. Andrea Mass and Dr. William L. Lake, Jr.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 15, 2021

TIME	LOCATION	EVENT DESCRIPTION
9:10am-11:30am	Schuette Hall, A323, Crane School of Music	Q&A with Dr. François Clemmons and Interactive Workshop: Intersections of Race and Culture in Music Education
11:30am-12:20pm	Performing Arts Center Lobby	Q&A with Dr. François Clemmons and Interactive Workshop: Intersections of Race and Culture in Music Education
3:00pm-3:50pm	Hosmer Hall, Crane School of Music	An Open Rehearsal and Masterclass on the Negro Spiritual: <i>An hour of singing and discussion with Dr. François Clemmons. Open Rehearsal with the Hosmer Choir and Eclectic Ensemble</i>
4:00pm-5:00pm	Crane Commons, Crane School of Music	Crane School of Music Black, Indigenous, People of Color Affinity Circle Social Gathering

