Brass Studies Overview

The Crane School of Music offers these degrees:

- BM and MM in Music Education
- BM and MM in Performance
- BM in Musical Studies - Composition
- BM in Musical Studies - Music Theory/Music History
- BM, emphasis in Music Business
- BA in Music

Students in all programs receive weekly hour-long lessons from highly qualified, full-time faculty.

Performance Opportunities

- Crane Symphony Orchestra
- Crane Opera Orchestra
- Crane Wind Ensemble
- Crane Symphonic Band
- Crane Concert Band
- Crane Jazz Ensemble & Crane Jazz Band
- Jazz Combos
- Crane Latin Ensemble
- Contemporary Music Ensemble
- Crane Brass Ensemble
- Crane Horn Choir
- Crane Trombone Ensemble
- Crane Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble
- Various chamber ensembles

Crane Brass Ensemble

Directed by Dr. James Madeja, the Crane Brass Ensemble is comprised of the most talented brass students at Crane. This twenty-four member ensemble performs original and transcribed masterworks for brass and percussion.

Crane Horn Choir

Directed by Professor Kelly Drifmeyer, the Crane Horn Choir has enjoyed national recognition since its start in 1968. Performances at events including the 2006 and 2007 Northeast Horn Workshops enhance the purpose of the Crane Horn Choir – to explore the repertoire from horn quartets through the largest works for horn.

Crane Trombone Ensemble

Under the direction of Dr. Mark Hartman, the Crane Trombone Ensemble has performed at the International Trombone Festival, the New York State Band Director's Association Symposium and the NYSSMA Conference. In addition to performing some of the latest original literature, the ensemble performs standard trombone ensemble repertoire.

Crane Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble

Directed by Dr. Charles Guy, the Crane Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble works towards significant on campus and off campus performances including the 2003, 2005 and 2011 Northeast Regional Tuba-Euphonium Conferences. The group performs some of the most challenging original works as well as effective transcriptions for large tuba and euphonium ensemble.
Chamber Ensembles
Crane has a long tradition of valuing the importance of chamber music in the development of strong musicians. Special opportunities exist for brass quintets, horn quartets, trombone quartets and tuba-euphonium quartets through faculty coaching and diverse performance events.

The Frackenpohl Honors Brass Quintet
Thanks to an endowment fund in honor of Arthur and Mary Ellen Frackenpohl, the Frackenpohl Honors Brass Quintet has been established. Each fall the brass faculty selects five exceptional students to form a standard brass quintet for the year. In addition to a financial award, the group is coached by the brass faculty and supported in diverse musical and performance experiences.

Brass Faculty
- Kelly Drifmeyer, Horn
drifmekb@potsdam.edu
- Dr. John Ellis, Trumpet
ellisjr@potsdam.edu
- Dr. James Madeja, Trumpet
madejajt@potsdam.edu
- Dan Tremblay, Trumpet
trembld@potsdam.edu
- Dr. Mark Hartman, Trombone
hartmams@potsdam.edu
- Dr. Charles Guy, Tuba and Euphonium
guycv@potsdam.edu

Guest Artists and Events
Every year the brass area hosts several guests for master classes and recitals including:
- Canadian Brass Quintet
- American Brass Quintet
- Winton Marsalis and The Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra
- Phil Meyers, horn
- Charlie Vernon, bass trombone
- Joe Alessi, trombone
- George Curran, bass trombone
- Jason Ham, euphonium
- Warren Deck, euphonium
- Ed Diefes, tuba

Crane has also hosted the International Horn Workshop (1980, 1988) and the International Trombone Festival (1999)

Visit Our Website
www.potsdam.edu/crane
You will find complete information about Crane and SUNY Potsdam on our website, including detailed information about the audition process.