

CCRI Department of Music: History and Faculty

The Department of Music at CCRI is one of the original departments, in existence since the college was founded as Rhode Island Junior College in 1964. At first, courses were taught as fine arts electives for Liberal Arts and General Studies students. Later, when the Associate in Fine Arts degree programs were put in place, the Music Department formulated two A.F.A. tracks – Music or Jazz Studies, along with the A.F.A. tracks in Art and Theater. The A.F.A. Music or Jazz Studies programs provide the first two years of the four-year degrees in those areas, with the goal of successful transfer and completion of the baccalaureate degree in Music or Jazz.

The Music Faculty are committed to excellence in teaching. The full-time faculty are:

Joseph Amante y Zapata, DMA	Director of Choral Activities, teaching responsibilities in music theory, sight singing/ear training, music history; Music Department webmaster
Audrey K. Kaiser, DMA	Piano specialist. Teaching responsibilities in applied classical piano, piano classes, music theory, music history.
Stephen H. Lajoie, PhD	Director of Jazz Studies, Jazz Ensembles, teaching responsibilities in jazz harmony, jazz history, jazz improvisation, jazz arranging, applied jazz piano, applied composition, MIDI sequencing and notation
Cheri Markward, MM	Dept. Chair; Director of Instrumental Music, Chamber Ensemble. Teaching responsibilities in music theory, sight singing/ear training, music history, strings.

Part-time faculty, equally committed and qualified, include:

John Boutcher, III, music appreciation, staff accompanist
Nancy Carroll, Professor Emerita, music appreciation, composition
Susan Carroll, music theory, music appreciation, staff accompanist
John Dennewitz, beginning guitar, applied guitar
Philip Desrosiers, rudimentary music theory
Thomas E. Greene, jazz history, music appreciation
Marie Kane, Music in Human Services and Education
Matthew D. Leder, jazz history, applied trumpet
Dennis Pratt, jazz history, music history, rudimentary music theory
Amanda M. Santo, vocal music, Opera Workshop, online music fundamentals
Bert Silverberg, American Musical
Martha Sobaje, music appreciation, rudimentary music theory, music history
Jacob T. Stott, rudimentary music theory, music appreciation, early music
Susie Swenson, music appreciation
Jeffrey Cashen, jazz history
Elizabeth Boehmke, music theory

