



CREWE ACADEMY FOR STRINGS

Free Violin, Viola and Cello Lessons for Northern Neck Students

www.rappahannockconcerts.org/studentoutreach



Crewe Academy Students and Instructors – May 2026

- **Strings Crewe for Beginners: FREE weekly lessons for 9-15 year-old students. Violin, viola and cello.**
- **In lieu of tuition, donations are welcome but not required.**
- **Lesson Venue: St. John's Episcopal Church in Warsaw.**
- **We're generous but also rigorous: Parents pledge steady attendance and supervise at least four practices during the week. Students love excellence!**
- **Students and parents agree to stick with lessons for at least four months.**
- **FREE Instruments, sized to fit your child. Students choose their favorite sound!**
- ***Once students can read music, they are automatically enrolled in SONNY. No auditions.**
- **SONNY musicians must continue with private weekly lessons in addition to attending rehearsals.**

Print Parent/Caregiver Name

Signature

Date

Address

City

_____, VA

ZIP

Print Child's Name

Date of Birth

School attending in 2025-2026

Grade

Phone

Email address



Email to Sue Nunn, Director Crewe Academy for Strings
suenunn41@gmail.com Or text her at 703-577-3553. Call anytime with questions.



CREWE ACADEMY BENEFACTOR

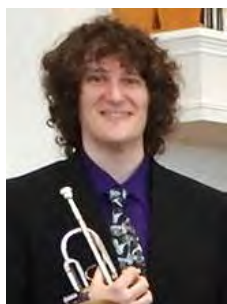
CAROLYN CREWE GRAY was a board member of the **Rappahannock Concert Association**. Her estate bequeathed funding for music education to the Rappahannock Concert Association. We organized focus groups to determine the best use of our resources and found there was no string instruction in Northern Neck schools. We named our project the Crewe Academy for Strings after her maiden name. Once students are capable of reading music -- about one year -- they may join The String Orchestra for Northern Neck Youth. **Additional supporting organizations:** Unitarian Servetus Endowment Fund; River Counties Community Foundation; Cole Charitable Trust; Northern Neck Orchestra; Rappahannock Music Study Club; the Wiley Foundation; Grace Episcopal Community Outreach; and the Rappahannock Foundation for the Arts.

INSTRUCTORS



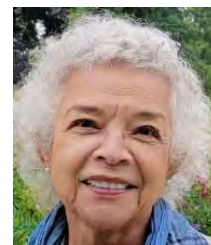
Christine Hartigan, Cello. She is cellist and founder of Forte Music Studios and The Virginia Cello Ensembles and has served as the principal cellist for the University of Mary Washington Philharmonic Orchestra, the Rappahannock Pops Orchestra, the Old Bridge Chamber Orchestra, and Spotswood Community Orchestra. Her professional affiliations include American Strings Teachers Association (ASTA), Virginia String Teacher Association (VASTA) where she is currently president, and the Rappahannock Music Society (RMS).

Greg Bowen, Violin/Viola. He received his Bachelor of Music in 2017 from the University of Iowa, and received his Master of Music in Performance and Pedagogy in 2019. He also teaches at the Greenspring International School of Music in Richmond and holds a Suzuki Level 3 Certification. He is a violist for the Northern Neck Orchestra.



Bruce Passaretti, SONNY Conductor. He is the band and guitar teacher at Montross Middle School. He received his Bachelor of Music in Music Education from Grove City College, PA in 2016. Mr. Passaretti received a Masters of Music in Music Education degree from Boston University in 2021. He played a side-by-side performance with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra where he played co-principal trumpet. He is a Music Director at Nomini Baptist Church in Montross.

Arline Hinkson, Crewe Advisor and Piano Accompanist. She did her piano studies with Katherine Bacon at the Julliard School of Music and with Pierre Sancan at the Conservatoire de Paris. She received a Master's Degree in Music Education from Long Island University. She performs for the Northern Neck Orchestra and churches on the Northern Neck.



David Smith, SONNY String Quartet Instructor. He obtained a BFA in cello performance and music theory at the Loyola School of Music in New Orleans, LA. He has toured most of the southeastern United States while being part of the Prytania String Quartet and the Loyola University String Orchestra. Mr. Smith is also a composer, and in 2019 finished his first major work, "Relict's Passage", a sonata for cello and piano. He resides as assistant principal cellist of the Northern Neck Orchestra.

BENEFITS OF EARLY MUSIC EDUCATION

It enhances language skills and brain development and teaches discipline and focus while learning an enjoyable life skill. Music students have higher grades, better school attendance and fewer discipline issues. Students learn to achieve excellence with a community. Joyful performances!

The Rappahannock Concert Association is a 501c3 organization (EIN#54-1978412)

Our Mission:

- 1) Provide quality live performances to a subscriber base and the broad Northern Neck community.
- 2) Support music education to the region's youth with student concerts, teachers' grants.
- 3) To support and fund musical instruction and training that is not available from schools in our area with the Crewe Academy for Strings.