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## City Music Center's New Technology Program

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# CITY MUSIC CENTER'S NEW MUSIC TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

Duquesne's City Music Center (CMC) has launched a new music technology curriculum for 9th-12th graders this fall that provides first-year students with a new iPad and a revolutionary educational experience.

In its inaugural year, the program enrolled over 20 students, nearly ten percent of the total CMC student body. Taught by prestigious CMC faculty, including professors (and Duquesne alumni) Jesse Naus and Jordan Mroziak, the one-to-three-year program includes three technology courses, a music theory course and a private or group lesson on each student's selected instrument. Students will learn software and processes that are typically only taught at the university level.

"Musicians can utilize the iPad to read, practice, compose and perform—it has the potential to support new ways of learning for these young musicians," explained Christopher Bromley, CMC director. "We expect the iPad to be a standard curricular component in most university programs over the next few years.

Each student who enrolls in the program will be provided with a new iPad as part of the first year's tuition. While the program does not focus exclusively on the iPad, students will use it often, and with different applications that will enhance their classroom learning experience.

"Whether it is tactile explorations of rehearsing rhythms or visual examinations of approaches to teaching music, learning on mobile devices has forever changed common classroom methods," added Mroziak. "The iPad inspires creativity by interacting with the student, helping them to create a unique learning experience that is both educational and rewarding."



According to Jesse Naus, chair of music technology for CMC, the iPads are used to create a sensory experience that boosts learning and comprehension.

"We use an iPad app that allows students to simulate working on an actual sound board. Everything works in the app, all the knobs and buttons. It's like taking a sound board home to practice on. There is a huge difference between sending a student home with a homework assignment to practice on a static version of a board and providing them with the opportunity to practice on something that functions just like the real thing, only smaller."



## Incore

### JESSE NAUS

Jesse Naus (B.M. Music Technology, 2006) is owner and engineer at Red Caiman Media, a full-service recording studio near Duquesne University.

Naus blends his work at Red Caiman with his work as an adjunct professor of music technology at Duquesne and director of City Music Center's music technology program in ways that truly benefit his students. For example, Naus believes the only way to keep up with the technology is to be immersed in it. He is able to provide that to his students through Red Caiman Media. "Having the studio only 2 blocks from Duquesne is amazing. Red Caiman is a professional working recording studio. We can offer students the opportunity to see firsthand how a studio works and to experience how work flows through the various types of projects we produce at Red Caiman."

Naus believes that the hands-on experience his students receive at the studio gives them a competitive edge. "While the equipment at the Mary Pappert School of Music is top-notch," he said, "there is still something to be said for seeing an actual project in the works in a professional studio."