

## Music professor to perform at Greatbach School of Music, Houghton College

9/19/13



Dr. Luanne Crosby, Alfred University (AU) professor of voice and chorus, will join pianist J.J. Penna for a recital entitled “The French Connection - Music of Les Six and Americans in Paris” in Houghton College’s Greatbach Recital Hall on Monday, Sept. 30, at 8 p.m. The program is open to the public free of charge.

The performance will feature the songs of Francis Poulenc and Germaine Tailleferre, two members of the group Les Six, who were thought to be the most innovative French composers of the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The recital will go on to explore the music of David Diamon, Ned Rorem, and Marc Blitzstein, American composers who were influenced by Les Six and studied composition with Nadia Boulanger in Paris.

Crosby earned a doctor of musical arts degree in vocal performance from the Cleveland Institute of Music/Case Western Reserve University and bachelor’s and master’s degrees in music education from the State University of New York at Fredonia. In addition to teaching voice and chorus, Crosby also has sung professionally in a number of groups and has worked with the Cleveland Opera, Aspen Opera Theater, the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes, and the Fredonia Chamber Players.

She will be joined during the program by soprano, Alexandra Porter, who also happens to be her niece. Porter is a recent graduate of Westminster Choir College at Rider University, Princeton, NJ, where she earned a master of music degree in vocal performance. She performs mainly in the New York City and Princeton, NJ area but also played AU’s Susan Howell Hall with a recital entitled “A Woman’s Voice” last September.

J.J. Penna has performed extensively with a variety of eminent singers, including Kathleen Battle, Harolyn Blackwell, Measha Brueggergosman, Amy Burton, William Burden, David Daniels, Denyce Graves, Ying Huang, Kevin McMillan, Susan Narucki, Roberta Peters, Florence Quivar and Andreas Scholl. He recently assisted soprano Renee Fleming in her preparation for several recitals and orchestral appearances.

Crosby and Penna will also engage in a master class with Houghton College voice majors on Saturday, Sept. 28.