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Saint Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists Wins Award

On May 15, 2019, the Saint Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists in St. Paul, MN, won the Arts Schools Network (ASN) 2019 Arts Innovation Award. ASN, the nation's largest professional membership organization of specialized arts schools, presents this award to a school committed to taking innovative and that has "broken the mold" in using the arts as a vehicle for teaching academics and/or making a positive difference in the lives of students and/or the community. The award will be presented at the annual ASN Conference, October 22-25, 2019, in Jacksonville, FL.

The mission of SPCPA is to provide the highest caliber of academic and artistic education for aspiring performing artists in the areas of instrumental and vocal music, theatre and dance, and to fully prepare students for college and conservatory. The most innovative aspect of SPCPA's arts programming is J-Term. For the first three weeks of January, arts and academic classes go on hiatus, and each student is immersed in a daily rehearsal process that replicates the professional experience.

Under the tutelage of SPCPA faculty and guest artists, students apply all they are learning in their arts classes to the rehearsal and performance of a play, musical, dance or music concert. Each project is presented in a professional or collegiate venue that aligns with the artist leading the project and the nature of the project itself. JTerm weaves each student into the fabric of the Twin Cities arts community. It cultivates relationships between students, professional artist and venues that will extend far into the future, as students continue to engage as patrons and collaborators. Through J-Term students recognize that they are a part of something larger than their school; they are vital and active participants in the Twin Cities arts community

"Arts Schools Network is proud of all of our award recipients this year, and we look forward to recognizing their incredible achievement at our annual conference this fall" says Melissa Brookes, Managing Director of ASN.

Dedicated to excellence and leadership in arts education, Arts Schools Network (ASN), a non-profit professional organization founded in 1981, is a dynamic resource for arts schools' leaders, innovative partners and members of arts education institutions. Its **mission** is to provide leaders in arts schools with quality resources, support, and networking opportunities. ASN has provided communications, programs, services, conferences and events to support these goals for more than 35 years. Visit the website at www.artsschoolsnetwork.org to learn more.

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