

The Mission of VanderCook College of Music

The mission of VanderCook College of Music is to enrich the lives of present and future generations through the preparation of teachers in instrumental, choral, and general music disciplines. Our broad-based curriculum is designed to prepare teachers with strong character, skill in the process of teaching, and respect for the essential role of music in our culture.

1909

VanderCook Cornet School (later VanderCook College of Music) was founded by Hale A. VanderCook to train professional musicians, directors and teachers. Students came to him from all over the country for advanced training, coaching and preparations for professional careers.

1926

Special course of study was developed and classes were organized in various music subjects driven by the demand created, shortly after World War I, by interest in school bands, orchestras and the need for trained teachers and directors for such organizations.

1928

The school was incorporated as a non-profit teacher training institution and its curriculum approved. Graduates therefore obtained certificates to teach bands and orchestras in the public schools without examination. By now the school was known as VanderCook School of Music.

1931

The first class to complete the approved four-year course of study for the degree Bachelor of Music Education was graduated