carlos andrés botero

Orchestra Conductor – Consultant

PROFILE

As a versatile musician with extensive background in performing and teaching, I have experience in both academic and professional level environments.

I want to make a difference in the communities where I work by becoming an energetic and charismatic leader. Being proficient in new music as well as the core orchestral repertoire allows me to project music as a powerful instrument for social transformation.

By building teams through many Institutions, including the Houston Symphony, Filarmónica Joven de Colombia, BATUTA, and Aruba Symphony Orchestra & Academy, we are helping to shape the lives of more than eighty thousand young musicians in the United States, the Caribbean, and Colombia.

EDUCATION

Doctoral

DMA (ABD)
Orchestral
Conducting

Michigan State University



MM
Viola
Perf.

Eastern Michigan University

Masters

Maste
Viola

Escuela Reina Sofia

Diploma



Specialist Lecture Concert

Ayuntamiento de Madrid

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318 Noble St Spring, TX 77373

ONGOING PROJECTS

Musical Ambassador – Cover Conductor Houston Symphony

- Co-host of the Musically Speaking Series
- Cover for all the Subscription Concerts
- Coordinator of all Pre-Concert Talks
- Creator and Host of the Orchestra's Podcast
- Music Director of the Lunada Partnership with the Mexican Institute for the Greater Houston.

Resident Conductor – Research Coordinator Filarmónica Joven de Colombia

- Rehearse and serve as cover conductor for all performances
- Negotiate repertoire listings and lead the ensemble in at least 70% of the performances.

Principal Conductor Aruba Symphony Festival & Academy

- Prepare and conduct the World Premiere of two works commissioned by the Festival
- In charge of 92 musicians and three separate concerts every year.

VALUES

Artist Educator Respectful and confident

Expressive Engaging and inspiring

Enthusiastic Chamber Music advocate

Musician serving the community

The members of an orchestra are tasked with multiple roles but one sense of purpose and direction. In an ensemble, there is no success for one without success for all.

An orchestra's success is measured exclusively against its inherent potential; our victories are not built of someone's defeat.

CONDUCTING EXPERIENCE

PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR – ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

2017	Filarmónica Joven de Colombia (Colombia, Brazil, USA, Germany, Austria)	
2017	Aruba Symphony Orchestra (Oranjestaad, Aruba)	
2017	Orquesta Sinfónica UNAB (Bucaramanga, Colombia)	
2014	New Voices Opera (Bloomington, Indiana)	
2013	Reimagining Opera for Kids. Ana y su Sombra (Bloomington, IN)	
2012	Encuentro de Orquestas Juveniles Universidad Javeriana (Bogotá, Colombia)	
2011	East Lansing Camerata (East Lansing, Michigan)	

GUEST CONDUCTOR

2017	Filarmónica Joven de Colombia (Colombia, Brazil, USA, Germany, Austria)
2015	Aruba Symphony Orchestra (Oranjestaad, Aruba)
2017	UNITAS Ensemble (Boston, Massachusetts)
2017	Cali Philharmonic (Cali, Colombia)
2016	Bogotá Philharmonic (Bogotá, Colombia)
2016	Orquesta Sinfónica Eafit (Medellín, Colombia)
2016	Texas Music Association – All State District 8 – Day for Music (Waco, Texas)
2015	Houston Symphony: Lunada (Houston, Texas)
2015	Thomson Street Opera (Louisville, KY)
2015	Sinfónica Guillermo Uribe Holguín (Bogotá, Colombia)
2014	Indiana University — Latin American Music Center (Bloomington, Indiana)
2014	University Gilbert & Sullivan Society (Bloomington, Indiana)
2012	Medellín Philharmonic (Medellín, Colombia)
2011	National Symphony of Colombia (Bogotá, Colombia)
2011	Michigan State University Symphony and Opera Studio (East Lansing, Michigan)
2007	Orquesta Juvenil de la Comunidad de Madrid (Madrid, Spain)

COVER CONDUCTOR

2017	Alabama Symphony
2014	Houston Symphony

PPROMINENT UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Recife State University Orchestra, Brazil (November 2018) England National Youth Orchestra, UK (July 2019) Graz Conservatory Orchestra, Austria (February 2019)



ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

04/2011 — Present

Resident - Guest Conductor Filarmónica Joven de Colombia (FJC)

Bogotá, Colombia

- Cover Conductor for the main ensemble.
- Co-signer of the orchestra's ten-year Artistic Development Plan (2011).
- Guest Conductor during the Orchestra's Brazil Tour 2012, USA 2015, and Europe (Germany, Austria) 2017.
- Advise the Artistic Committee and Guest Conductors on repertoire.
- Prepare the ensemble during our week-intensive residencies prior to the arrival of Guest Conductors.
- Coordinate the orchestra's Research Department discovering, creating, and publishing orchestral repertoire by Colombian composers. Starting three years ago, we have uncovered a catalogue of 149 pieces previously unknown by scholars, commissioned twelve fifteen-minute works, and published score and parts for seven works.

Colombia's premier youth ensemble is composed of musicians between the age of 14 and 25, and presents tours (National or International) three times each season. During our 2015 tour, the *Dallas News* said of our orchestra, "Comprising musicians from 19 universities, this South American group could challenge the best of Juilliard, Eastman and SMU."

We conceive the musical education of our players in a holistic manner, providing the best faculty for each instrument, and offering seminars in analysis and interpretation, intensive chamber music coaching, and individual attention to each young performer. To achieve this goal, I created the orchestra's Academic Blog as the flagship of the *FJC Academy*, our signature approach to orchestral music making. During the two-month preparation leading up to every residency and tour, I lead a live discussion on every piece of the repertoire, soloists, and guest conductors. All 100 orchestra members are required to participate. During the Residency week, we invite artists of all disciplines (actors, painters, writers, stage presence coaches, etc...) to encourage the multi-faceted goal of making the best music possible.

This unique approach leads to the orchestra's unique stage presence. I coordinate a 7-member team in charge of three goals: creating exclusive digital backdrops to be projected behind the orchestra during all concerts, designing the concert attire the ensemble wears in performance, and improving the player's plasticity, kinetic expression, and stage presence. The pinnacle of this effort was the performance of Stravinsky's *Le Sacre du Printemps*: The orchestra members performed choreography while also bringing the music to life, a feat accomplished for the first time last summer in Berlin during the orchestra's tour.

08/2014 — Present

Assistant – Guest Conductor – Musical Ambassador Houston Symphony

Houston, Texas

- Cover Conductor for the main ensemble for all Subscription Series Concerts.
- Serve as an artistic resource for Education/Community Programming, Artistic, Development, Operations, Marketing/Communications, working directly with each department on various projects as they arise.
- Present the Orchestra Video Blog for Subscribers and Patrons.
- Support the efforts of the Community Embedded Musicians.
- Host pre-concert lectures (in English and/or Spanish, as needed).
- Assist the Music Director and coordinate the development of additional concert elements and formats as requested.
- Listen and give notes to recording engineers during commercial recording projects, as well as editing notes for Houston Symphony broadcasts on Houston Public Media as required.
- Connect with audiences off and online, including speaking engagements at community events, creation of content for the Symphony's social media platforms and the monthly program magazine.
- Create and Produce the Orchestra's Podcast, "On the Music."
- Assist the organization connecting with Hispanic groups/ organizations in the city.
- As Musical Ambassador, my role is to create and strengthen the bridge between the artistic endeavors of the orchestra and the audience.

With this purpose, I present *Prelude*, the orchestra's Pre-Concert Talk, forty-five minutes before each performance of the Classical Music Series. During the last two orchestral seasons, we have increased audience attendance by a rate of 785%, growing from 70 in average to 550 attendees per session. These numbers suggested there was an interested audience, so I joined the Glasscock for Continuing Studies at Rice University to offer seminars in varied classical music topics. The average attendance to each six-week long seminar is over 200, most of which become orchestra patrons in the upcoming season.

I created and raised the necessary funds for the Houston Symphony Podcast *On the Music*, producing over 12 episodes in its first two seasons and an average audience of 10 thousand downloads per program in average. Each episode is released to the public at least two weeks prior to the orchestra's performance, allowing the Marketing and Communication Departments to fill their copy and efforts with artistically informed content.

I also created the *Ambassador's Vlog*. This video blog is intended for release among subscribers and patrons of the orchestra. Shared prior to the weekend's performance, in each of the 32 ten-minute episodes I cover the context in which the composers created their music.

In my capacity as Ambassador of the orchestra I join forces with our *Community Embedded Musicians*, supporting the orchestra's artistic residencies in three High-Schools and seven Middle-Schools in the Houston Metropolitan Area. This program provides music instruction and proper curriculum, especially in neighborhoods at risk, reinforcing the value of music as a transformational force in our communities. We are able to report an improvement of over 50% in school drop-out rates and a dramatic increase of academic performance in the students involved in our weekly music sessions. We have planted 2 school orchestras and serve as clinicians in 21 school ensembles around the city.

02/2015 — Present

Principal Guest Conductor

Orquesta Sinfonica Universidad Autonoma de Bucaramanga (UNAB)

Bucaramanga, Colombia

- Principal Conductor of this professional ensemble, and its student groups.
- Serve as advisor to the orchestra's Artistic Committee and the Board.
- Design and, after approval of the Board, execute the nine-concert season.
- Advise the Social Media presence of the orchestra in conjunction with the University's Communication and Marketing Departments.

The previous Social Media presence and Communications efforts averaged 40% attendance per concert. I shifted the marketing strategy from an artist-centered campaign to an audience-centered approach. In the last two years, we saw an increase of 100% in attendance. This even made it necessary to repeat two performances, as there were more than 800 people unable to enter the Hall after it overran capacity.

In January 2018, the Houston Symphony and UNAB will sign an artistic exchange agreement to provide academic support for the faculty and plant a sustainable artistic vision for the University's professional ensemble.

07/2016 — Present

Principal Conductor Aruba Symphony Orchestra & Academy

Oranjestaad, Aruba

- Principal Conductor for the Symphony Orchestra, 92 musicians.
- Serve as the Conducting Faculty during the Academy.
- Prepare and conduct the World Premiere of two works commissioned by the Festival every year.
- Advise the Music Director on ensemble repertoire.

02/2012 — 06/2014

Principal Conductor New Voices Opera

Bloomington, Indiana

- Artistic Board voting member.
- President of the jury in charge of selecting the works being performed (2 seasons)
- Prepare and lead all rehearsal concerning each season.
- Recruit the complete roster (43) of the orchestra each season.
- For the 2013 season, prepare and edit all the orchestral parts and Full Score.
- Conduct each of the three performances of each opera. 3 in total.

In three seasons, we grew the Company from a student-led activity into an organization with national visibility and an impressive advisory board. The total budget increased by 300% and the performances are now held in one of the two AA-grade theaters in Bloomington.

Due to the strong performances and a positive review in the press, a professional company in Kentucky, *Thompson Street Opera*, invited me to conduct another premiere during the summer of 2014.

09/2013 — 06/2014 **Artistic Director – Main Conductor ROK**

Bloomington, Indiana

- Advise the Board on artistic matters in their 3-year growth plan.
- Prepare each singer. 16 total.
- Plan and lead staging, sectional, and musical rehearsals.
- Conduct each of the 28 performances of the season.
- Interact with the young audiences during the Q&A session after each performance.
- Edit and prepare the score and parts for publication, pursuant to the requirements of the composer of the work.

12/2012 — Present

Principal Guest Conductor (Appointed December 2012) Sinfónica Guillermo Uribe Holguín

Fundación Nacional BATUTA – San Rafael, Bogotá, Colombia

- Select the repertoire for each season (Three separate programs)
- Audition and select the entire roster (124 musicians, 16 faculty)
- Select and/or approve soloists.

07/2008 — Present

Consultant - Guest Conductor Encuentro Nacional de Orquestas Juveniles

Javeriana University – Bogotá, Colombia

- Artistic Board advising member.
- Repertoire coordinator.
- Presenter of Pre-Concert Talks and interviews with the press.
- Increase the Social Media Presence.

09/2008 — 04/2011 Graduate Assistant

Michigan State University Orchestras.

East Lansing, Michigan.

- Cover Conductor for the main ensemble (Five concerts every season)
- Guest Conductor in Philharmonic Orchestra (Two concerts every season)
- Co-music Director of Concert Orchestra (One concert per season)
- Assistant conductor in two Opera Productions. (Guest Conductor in each show)
- Head Orchestra Librarian. (Coordinator of five student employees)
- Write all Program notes.
- Lead Wind and String Sectional rehearsals.
- Act as stage manager for every concert for all three main ensembles.

09/2006 — 04/2008

Graduate Assistant

Eastern Michigan University Symphony.

Ypsilanti, Michigan.

- Cover Conductor for the main ensemble (Four concerts every season)
- Guest Conductor (Spring 2008)
- Orchestra Librarian.
- Edit/write Program notes for all performances
- Lead Sectional rehearsals.

09/2007 — 04/2008

Mentor

Detroit Symphony Orchestra - Detroit Civic Program.

Detroit, Michigan.

- Viola Section Coach. (Violist and Sectionals leader)
- Advisor to the Artistic Board on the Chamber Music Program.
- Chamber Music Coach.

01/2002 — 06/2002

Assistant Music Director

Venezuelan National Youth Orchestra System - FESNOJIV (El Sistema) Valera and Mérida, Venezuela.

- Run all Orchestra Auditions (3 ensembles, 215 musicians)
- Actively recruit by visiting local Middle Schools and High Schools.
- String Orchestra Preparation
- Teach applied Viola

01/2002 — 06/2002

Assistant Professor

Conservatorio Nacional Simón Bolívar Caracas, Venezuela.

• Teach applied Viola

01/2000 — 05/2006

Music Teacher

Instituto Musical Diego Echavarría Medellín, Colombia.

<u>Classes</u>: Orchestra (String Coach and Music Director) Formal analysis - History of music Applied Viola - Chamber music

I penned and co-signed the two orchestra's first ever Quinquennial Development Plan. We achieved the goals traced for both ensembles in half the time planned.



OTHER ARTISTIC/ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

East Lansing, Michigan

Founder, music director and principal conductor.
7 Performances, 3 World Premieres, 4 USA Premieres.

01/2005 — 12/2006 a Contratiempo Chamber Ensemble

Medellín, Colombia

Founding member and Music Director.
First ever chamber ensemble in the State.

Eafit University.

Medellín, Colombia.

Classes: Form and Analysis

History of Music: Seminar on Nineteenth Century Music

Survey in Colombian Classical Music

String Quartet Literature

Music appreciation for non-Music Majors

01/2002 — 12/.2006 **Siakoro String Quartet**

Medellín, Colombia

Violist, Liaison with Community, Marketing and Media Presence.

07/2002 — 01/2004 Research Assistant "Ecos, Conciertos y Desconciertos"

Eafit University. Medellín, Colombia

Supervisor: Fernando Gil. This project explored the work of Colombian composers between 1940 and 1959; it prepared 385 music scores for publication and released a multimedia series with interviews and

recordings of the pieces.

01/2000 — 12/2011 Violist

Universidad Eafit Symphony Orchestra.

Medellín, Colombia

Founding Member and Assistant Principal



INVITED LECTURES

10/2015 — Present

Houston Symphony: Musically Speaking

Jones Hall for the Performing Arts – Houston, Texas

For the Musically Speaking Series I design and present a single work to be performed. Such works are presented by weaving the actual music with commentary and demonstrations that illuminate each aspect of the composer's creative process for the audience. My role includes overseeing preliminary research, preparing and editing the necessary extra orchestral parts, leading the production and execution of desired multimedia resources, and writing the final script. As Co-Host of the Series I embody the idea of a Teaching Artist, delivering the content from the stage. Having rehearsed the program with the orchestra, I lead the music from the podium.

Two of these programs (Beethoven's 5th and Dvorak's 7th) have been repeated and delivered in the Spanish language for our Latino audience.

Each of the programs is also recorded and showcased in *HS On the Music* Podcast.

List of works:

Beethoven – Symphony No. 5
Beethoven – Fidelio (staged)
Shostakovich – Symphony No. 10
Shostakovich – Symphony No. 12
Dvorak's Symphony No. 6
Dvorak's Symphony No. 7
Bartok's Concerto for Orchestra
Schumann – Violin Concerto
Schumann – The Pilgrimage of the Rose

10/2014 — Present

Houston Symphony: Preconcert talks

Jones Hall for the Performing Arts – Houston, Texas

For each of the 45 Subscription Programs of the orchestra during the last three seasons, I have introduced the audience to Prelude, Houston Symphony's preconcert talks. We have increased the audience an average of 550 attendees per session. I offer commentary on the works being performed each night based on thorough research, multimedia integration, expert preparation of recorded examples, and insights from an orchestra member and/or guest artist. The compliment we received the most is "you brought the music to life for me." These efforts translate into a growth rate of 785% in audience interest.

10/2015 — Present

Seminars: Rice University & Houston Symphony Partnership

Glasscock School of Continuing Studies – Houston, Texas

Each six-class seminar is offered to the general public through the Rice University's Glasscock School. Houston Symphony musicians and chamber groups perform live in each two-hour session. The interest shown by the community demonstrates a thirst to connect in meaningful ways with fellow enthusiasts. Each seminar has over 200 attendees. Most of the new patrons that have been invited to the Houston Symphony through this Rice Partnership have become second tier donors (by donation per person).

<u>Topics</u>: Beethoven, the pillar of modern orchestra: His Nine Symphonies.

Beethoven, Master of Drama: Fidelio. Haydn: Father of the Symphony.

Mozart, that marvelous 'Wunderkind.'

Vienna: Two centuries of Music & Musicians.

Russian Masters: Composers before and after the 1917 Revolution. How classical music became modern? – From Brahms to Bernstein.

03/2014

"The role of a conductor as a leader of society"

Bucaramanga, Colombia

Sponsored by UNAB Symphony Orchestra Universidad Autónoma de Bucaramanga

05/2008 — 12/2012

"Conducting young orchestras"

Medellín and Bogotá, Colombia.

Sponsored by BATUTA Colombia and *Encuentro de Orquestas*. Javeriana University.

02/2000 — 04/2004

Preconcert talks

Medellín, Colombia

Sixty minutes in length. Featured titles (from a total of 26):

The Villancicos of Guatemala City Cathedral.

Cuatro Estaciones Porteñas. Astor Piazzolla and Vivaldi.

EAFIT Symphony Orchestra.

Filarmonica de Medellin.



PUBLICATIONS

2016 — 2017 Houston Symphony

Houston, TX

Seven articles on Music Appreciation for the Houston Symphony Magazine.

2015 — Present Houston Symphony

Houston, TX

Orchestra Blog and the *On the Music* Podcast.

2010 — Present Filarmónica Joven de Colombia

Colombia

Program Notes for every performance.

Internal Blog of the FJC Academy. It covers a formal analysis and study

guide for each piece and every program performed.

01/2000 — 12/2003 Buen Oído

Medellin, Colombia

Column in *El Colombiano* (local newspaper), comprises twenty-seven

music-appreciation articles.

MASTERCLASSES

07/2013 Sinfónica Nacional de Colombia: Masterclass/Workshop in Conducting.

Bogotá, Colombia.

Instructor: Andrés Orozco-Estrada.

04/2010 **Cleveland Institute of Music**: Masterclass in Conducting.

Cleveland School of Music. Cleveland, Ohio.

Instructor: Carl Topilow.

09/2009 Encuentro de orquestas juveniles Universidad Javeriana

Universidad Javeriana. Bogotá, Colombia.

Instructor: *Matthew Hazelwood*.



EDUCATION

09/2008 — present DMA in Orchestral Conducting (ABD)

Expected April 2018 Michigan State University

East Lansing, Michigan

Honors Scholarship 2009 – 2011 Colfuturo Foundation Scholarship 2009

08/2006 — 05/2008 Masters in Music Performance (Viola)

Eastern Michigan University

Ypsilanti, Michigan

University Graduate Fellowship Award 2008

Icetex scholarship 2006

10/2003 — **07/2004 Masters in Music Studies**

Escuela Reina Sofía - Centro Soto Mesa

Madrid - Pozuelo, Spain

Fundación Carolina Scholarship – 2003

01/2004 — 07/2004 Lecture Concerts Specialist

Ayuntamiento de Madrid

Madrid, Spain

Supervisor: Señor Fernando Palacios

01/1998 — 12/2002 Bachelors in Music (Viola)

EAFIT University

Medellín, Colombia

Honors Scholarship 1998 – 2001

02/1988 — 12/1997 Bachillerato Musical con énfasis en Viola

Instituto Musical Diego Echavarría (Fine Arts High School Diploma)

Medellín, Colombia

Honors Scholarship 1994 – 1997



HONORS AND AWARDS

Graduate Performance Competition – First Place
Eastern Michigan University
Ypsilanti, Michigan

Graduate Fellowship Award.

Eastern Michigan University

Ypsilanti, Michigan

Collegium Musicum Music Assistant. (Appointed by competition)

Eastern Michigan University

Ypsilanti, Michigan

Beca Fundación Colfuturo para estudios de Posgrado
Private Foundation for graduate studies scholarship
Bogotá, Colombia.

Beca Carolina Oramas / ICETEX

National Institute for graduate studies scholarship.

Medellín, Colombia.

Ampliación de Estudios - Fundación Carolina

Kingdom of Spain Scholarship for Latin American students to study in Madrid.

Madrid, Spain.

Beca Concejo de Medellín after National Recognition in ICFES Exam City council scholarship for academic merits upon National Test. Medellín, Colombia.

Orquesta Juvenil Iberoamericana Latin American Fellowship. (Appointed by competition) Caracas, Venezuela.

GRADUATE DOCUMENTS

Doctoral dissertation – Michigan State University

Orchestral music by Colombian composers; A comprehensive and annotated catalogue.
(Proposal Stage)

Main Advisor: Leon Gregorian. The project includes the implementation of a publication mechanism on-line to share the findings of my research. After the works of Colombian composers are discovered, they are performed by local musicians interested in enriching their programming and knowledge of the repertoire.

Masters document and lecture recital – Easter Michigan University

April 2008

Los Villancicos de la Catedral de Guatemala entre 1500 y 1850.

Main Advisor: Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra. The lecture recital featured Eastern Michigan University *Collegium Musicum* chamber orchestra and choir performing fifteen *Villancicos* from the Guatemala City Cathedral Archive.

AREAS OF INTEREST (MUSIC)

Artist educators in general.

Relevancy of art in twenty-first century society.

Twentieth-Century symphonic works, with emphasis on Latin America.

Sixteenth and Seventeenth-century Latin American music.

String Quartet Literature.

Composition and orchestral arrangements.

LANGUAGES

English Reading, excellent; Speaking; fluent; Writing, excellent.

Spanish Native.

Italian Reading, good; Speaking, fair; Writing, good. German Reading, good; Speaking, fair; Writing, fair.

French Reading, fair



MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Conductors Guild
College Music Society
League of American Orchestras
Texas Music Educators Association

EXPERIENCE AS VIOLA PLAYER

SOLOIST

Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra

EMU Symphony

EMU Collegium Musicum

ENSEMBLE

Ensamble de Cámara a Contratiempo

Duo a Diez Cuerdas

Orquesta Sinfónica University EAFIT

Siakoro String Quartet

Trujillo Youth Orchestra in Venezuela

Orquesta Sinfónica de Colombia

Orquesta Filarmónica de Medellín

Latin American Youth Symphony Orchestra

(Venezuela)

Orquesta Batuta Antioquia

Antioquia Youth Orchestra

Instituto Musical Diego Echavarría

Youth Orchestra

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Maestro Andrés Orozco-Estrada

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Maestro Simon Gollo

Artistic Director

Aruba Symphony Orchestra & Academy

Director of Philharmonic Orchestra

New Mexico State University

Department of Music MSC 3F, NMSU

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Natanel Draiblate

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Bruno Peterschmitt

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