

Jessica F. Torres

Flautist | Woodwind Doubler | Educator | Orchestra Director | Curriculum Writer & Mentor

EXPERIENCE

Sewanhaka Central High School District, Floral Park, NY

Elmont Memorial Jr.-Sr. High School — Orchestra Director (Grades 7–12)

Fall 2004 – Present

- Direct Jr. High Orchestra, Sr. High Orchestra, String Ensemble, and Global Jazz Orchestra
- Advisor for Jazz Education Network Chapter and Color Guard
- Prepare students for NYSSMA Solo Festivals, All-County, All-District, and Long Island String Festival
- Coordinate community performances
- District Music Festival Orchestra Chairperson (2023)

District Color Guard Advisor

Fall 2006 – Spring 2020

- Designed and instructed visual programs, flag work, and marching technique
- Performed at NYC Columbus Day Parade, NYC St. Patrick's Day Parade, Walt Disney World Parade, and National Memorial Day Parade (Washington, D.C.)

Curriculum Writer & Educational Mentor, New York, NY

Summer 2012 – Present

- Guide educators in curriculum development, lesson planning, and project design

Long Island University, Brookville, NY

Course Proposal Writer

Fall 2022

- Developed course: Urban and Inclusive Music Teaching Practices

Sewanhaka Central High School District

Curriculum Writer

Summer 2012

- Developed orchestral curriculum integrating jazz and multicultural music

Huntington Public Schools, Huntington, NY

Color Guard Instructor

Summer 2013 – Fall 2016

CONTACT

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New York, NY 10040

REFERENCES

Available Upon Request*

CERTIFICATIONS

New York State Permanent Certification
(Music K–12)

AWARDS

Grammy Music Educator Award
Quarter-Finalist (2024, 2025)

Grammy Legacy Finalist (2025)

LANGUAGES

Spanish (Fluent), Portuguese (Basic)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Nassau Music Educators Association

National Association for Music Education

Long Island String Association

Jazz Education Network

Recording Academy (Voting Member)

- Led marching band visual instruction; 1st place NY State Marching Band Competition (2015)

Mineola Public Schools, Mineola, NY

Woodwind Instructor

Summer 2001

- Taught marching band woodwinds and visual performance

EDUCATION

Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY

BS in Education (Music), 2002

MA in Curriculum Design (Jazz & Multicultural Music), 2007

Long Island University, Brookville, NY

CAS/PD in School & District Leadership, 2010

Berklee College of Music

Performance Certificate in Latin Jazz (Valencia, Spain), 2016

Performance Diploma Studies in Jazz & Music Production (Boston, MA), 2017

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

“Now’s the Time”...creating an inclusive Global Jazz environment for Band, Vocal, and Strings.

- Jazz Education Network Conference (January 2024)
- New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) Conference (March 2026)

ADDITIONAL MUSIC STUDIES

- Conducting: Dr. Peter Boonshaft
- Jazz Studies: Dave Lalama
- Flute/Piccolo: Patricia Spencer, Renee Siebert, Fernando Brandão, Sarpay Özçagatay
- Saxophone: Jeff Lange, Dave Pietro, Alan Chase
- String Bass/Jazz: John Ray
- Self-taught: Clarinet, Violin

PERFORMANCES (Selected)

Carnegie Hall, NYC

Zinc Bar, NYC

Tilles Center, NY

Sydney Opera House, Australia

Sydney Town Hall, Australia

Valencia, Spain (Berklee Stage)

Musical Theatre Performances:

Merrick Theatre, NY

Narrows Community Theater, NY

Actors Conservatory Theatre, NY

Tarrytown Music Hall, NY