

Yolanda Borrás

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Executive Summary

Fluent in Spanish, English and French, award-winning author Yolanda Borrás is acknowledged as an expert in developing music and language programs for children. She has broad professional experience working in the USA, Europe, Asia and the Caribbean and is the Founder/Director of I'm Bilingual! an innovative bilingual arts education program in New York City. Utilizing her extensive experience working with young children for over thirty years, Yolanda Borrás offers consulting services and professional development workshops for teachers and organizations whose programs include English, French or Spanish language education for children. Yolanda has created award-winning products that help support the acquisition of languages during early childhood.

Specialties: Developing curriculum in multiple languages, speaker and professional teacher trainer, music and language education for young children.

Experience

Founder/ Director

I'm Bilingual!

1999-present

I'm Bilingual! is an innovative early childhood bilingual arts program that offers languages through music curriculum for young children in New York City. Founded by Yolanda in 1999 under the name Musical Kids International, the program was featured by CBS as Best Language Classes for Kids in NYC. I'm Bilingual! offers Spanish classes for babies to 6 year-old children in New York City. The I'm Bilingual! curriculum, developed through teaching experiences on three continents, fully integrates language immersion experiences with hands-on activities in the arts.

Educational Consultant, Teacher Trainer and Author of Children's bilingual products

2005-present

International bilingual consultant and teacher trainer. Author of children's bilingual music books and bilingual applications (in process). Designed bilingual music and art curriculum for preschool - early elementary grade levels in three different languages. Consultant for curriculum development and faculty training for international schools and bilingual schools. Guest speaker, presenter and clinician in language and music education workshops throughout the USA and abroad. Nationwide teacher training in traditional music for the Dominican Republic.

Education Director and Executive Director

Fundación de la Villa de Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

2011-present

Fundación de la Villa de Santo Domingo (a non-profit foundation) organizes community engagement programs for at-risk children, music residencies and a music festival that provides concerts in the Colonial City of Santo Domingo. With performances and educational activities located in historic settings from the Spanish Colonial Period, the Conciertos de la Villa de Santo Domingo Festival encourages collaborations between musicians of the highest caliber from the United States and the Dominican Republic. In addition to its public concerts, Yolanda Borrás organizes educational activities and concerts, creates educational DVD's for underserved students from all over the country and promotes cultural and musical exchange between guest artists, young musicians, members of youth orchestras and other music students in the Dominican Republic.

Music Educator

International schools in the USA, Europe, Asia and the Caribbean **1985-1999**
 Taught music classes and private piano lessons in three languages to international students at the Atlanta International School (AIS) in Atlanta, GA. Music Teacher at St. Ignatius School and Diller Quaille School of Music in NYC, Music Teacher in various languages at the French School and Hong Kong International School (American School) in Hong Kong. Early Childhood Music Educator in Paris, France.

Education

Center for Teacher Effectiveness - Time to teach **2017-present**
 Certified Classroom Management Consultant

The Eugene Lang Entrepreneurship Center at Columbia Business School **2012 - 2014**
 Columbia Community Business Program for Entrepreneurs

New York University **Summer 2000**
 Kodály Method Certification program (Early Childhood-Elementary)

Teachers College Columbia University **1996-1998**
 M.A. Educational Administration

Peabody Conservatory of Music , Johns Hopkins University **1981-1985**
 B.A. Music Performance (Piano)

Conservatorio Nacional de Música , Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic **1972-1981**
 Profesora de Música, Piano and Music Education

Languages/Skills

Languages: Tri-lingual, native speaker proficiency (English, French, Spanish). Excellent oral and written communication skills in all three languages

Leadership: Extensive experience in organizational leadership, management, mentoring, training in the US, Europe, Asia and the Caribbean.

Technology: Knowledge of database systems-management, fluent command of office-based computer programs (Excel, Word, Filemaker, Powerpoint, among others), experience with video productions, studio recordings

Public Relations: Developer of databases for digital marketing. Experience designing and implementing marketing plans for public concerts resulting in sold-out events as well as email marketing announcements, e-newsletters, social media marketing on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Instagram, etc.

Fundraising: International experience in writing successfully funded grant proposals, creation and implementation of individual donor development programs, soliciting major gifts in corporate and government support

Creativity and Innovation: Entrepreneur, program creator, curriculum designer, DVD and CD producer

Publications/Presentations/Awards

- 2019 Presenter, Feria Educativa República Dominicana, Santiago, Dominican Republic (June 2019)
- 2019 Presenter, HighScope International Conference, Detroit, MI (May 2019)
- 2018 Published ¡Cantemos todos juntos! Teacher's Guide for the CD ¡Cantemos todos juntos! (English and Spanish Version)
- 2018 Published La Finca, Illustrated Songbook for Children - Winner of a Mom's Choice Award
- 2018 High Scope International Early Childhood Conference, Detroit MI
- 2017 Published Los Pajaritos (The Little Birds) an illustrated Spanish songbook for children
2018 Winner of a Mom's Choice Award, Three Purple Dragonfly Awards, International Latino Book Award
- 2016 Clinician and presenter, High Scope International Early Childhood Conference, Detroit MI
- 2015 Currently creating a full line of I'm Bilingual! Spanish Products, including Spanish Apps for children
- 2014 Created free Spanish Vocabulary videos for children (posted on You Tube)
Presenter, Early Childhood Music and Movement Association (ECMMA) International Conference, GA
- 2012 Created Educational Music DVD for use in schools throughout the Dominican Republic
- 2011 Invited to present at American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) National Convention, CO
Clinician and presenter, National Association of Bilingual Education (NABE)
National Conference, New Orleans, LA
- 2009 Clinician and presenter, Music Educators' National Conference (MENC)
Northeast Conference, Providence, RI
- 2008 Clinician and presenter, Center for the Advancement and Study of International Education (CASIE),
Global Language Convention, Atlanta, GA
Clinician and presenter, Music Educators' National Conference (MENC) National Conference, Milwaukee, MN
Published ¡Caramba! Kids, Guide for Teachers, Parents and Caregivers
Clinician and presenter, Music Educators' National Conference (MENC) Texas State Conference, TX
- 2007 Clinician and presenter, California Music Educators' Association (CMEA) California State Conference
Clinician and presenter, Indiana Music Educators' Association, Indiana State Conference
- 2006 Teacher/training for the Ministry of Education in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
Award: Produced and released ¡Caramba! Kids, a Parent's Choice Silver Honor award CD

Media coverage

NPR, NY Times, NY1 News, Vialogues (Columbia U.), Diario La Prensa NY, Timeout NY, Johns Hopkins Magazine
Dominican Republic: El Caribe, Revista Mercado, Hola! Magazine, Hoy, Diario Libre, Listín Diario

Affiliations/Memberships

ASCD - Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
Columbia University Teachers College Alumni Association
ECMMA - Early Childhood Music and Movement Organization
High Scope - Educational Research Foundation
Johns Hopkins Alumni Association
Kappa Delta Pi - International honor society in the field of education.
OAKE - Organization of American Kodály Educators
Peabody Conservatory Alumni Association