

MARCOS GAONA GARCIA began his musical career at the early age of 12. Mastering fluency on a variety of instruments throughout this career, he currently flourishes on the Mariachi genre. Garcia's strong respect and appreciation for Mariachi music is exemplified through his works. Combined with his musical knowledge and performing experience, he developed a passion for Mariachi music he hopes others will soon share.

Marcos received a Bachelor's degree from Our Lady of the Lake University, in his hometown of San Antonio, Texas. He is currently certified as a Generalist Educator, as well as an All-Level Music

Specialist. Garcia has an extensive teaching resume that ranges from pre-school through college. He has been teaching Mariachi Music since 1996.

Garcia quickly gained acknowledgements as a reputable Mariachi instructor throughout San Antonio and surrounding cities. He taught in San Antonio, Southwest, Northside, and South San Antonio Independent School Districts. Marcos's versatility challenged him to new heights, as he then directed groups at the college level. He worked 3 years as the Mariachi Director for Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, as well as 3 years directing Texas State University's award-winning Mariachi in San Marcos. Garcia gained professional directing experience after accepting the role of Musical Director for the all-female Mariachi Las Alteñas of San Antonio. After finding his way to the Rio Grande Valley, Garcia is currently the head director of one of the most prominent Mariachi programs in Texas: Edcouch-Elsa Independent School District.

With over 20 years of performing experience, Marcos Garcia has an extensive list of prestigious venues on his resume. Memorable career highlights include performances at: the White House for President Bush, the Kennedy Center, the Hollywood Bowl, and the Walt Disney Center Concert Hall. Garcia has toured numerous locations across the United States including: Texas, California, Florida, Nevada, and Washington D.C.

Playing professionally by the age of 14, Marcos quickly gained status amongst Texas' top groups. He performed as a lead trumpet player with the award-winning Mariachi Festival de Oscar Garza for 7 years. Garcia then joined the nationally recognized Campanas De America, where he found a role as a violinist for 7 more years. During his final 2 years with Campanas, he served as an Assistant Musical Director for the group. Currently, Marcos is in his 12th year as a violinist for the world-renowned Mariachi Los Arrieros del Valle.