

# Elias Salazar - Conductor

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Elias Salazar is a Venezuelan American conductor residing in Nashville, TN. He recently served as Artistic Director and Conductor of the Trevecca Symphony Orchestra for 6 years. Salazar also founded the Nashville Collegiate Orchestra, which filled a unique need in Nashville for over 5 years, commissioning and premiering new works every year. In his time since entering the conducting spotlight in Nashville, Salazar has appeared with numerous ensembles and captured audiences' attention with his "precision, clarity, energy, and passion" on the podium.

Elias is in his 9<sup>th</sup> year as Director of Choral and Orchestral Music at Ensworth School where he also teaches music theory, musicology, and directs the music for the musicals. Salazar served as Music Director for the Belmont University Opera Theater during the 2021-2022 season. He was appointed Conducting Fellow with the Nashville Philharmonic Orchestra for two seasons starting in 2014 and has served as principal conductor for the Nashville Cinematic Symphony. Additionally, Salazar has served on the Board of Directors of the world-class Gateway Chamber Orchestra and TN-ACDA as well as on the Leadership and Action Council of the Nashville Singers. Salazar performs as a vocalist in Nashville's Portara Ensemble and as a freelance trumpet player throughout Nashville. During the 2013-2014 season, Elias served as Music Director for Music City Youth Orchestra.

Salazar has had previous engagements conducting the Murfreesboro Symphony Orchestra and Chorus (now the Tennessee Philharmonic Orchestra) as well as Belmont University's Symphony Orchestra, Chamber String Orchestra, Opera Theatre, Concert Band, Women's Choir, and Chamber Singers. During his undergraduate career at Belmont University, he studied conducting under Dr. Jeffery Ames, Dr. Deen Entsminger, Dr. Robert Gregg, Dr. Barry Kraus, and Dr. Jane Warren. He also studied trumpet with Dr. Joel Treybig.

Salazar's passion for classical music, both choral and instrumental, drives him to strive for excellence in his technique, preparation, interpretation, and performances. His dream is to inspire love for classical music around the world.