

# Elias Salazar - Conductor

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Elias Salazar is a Venezuelan American conductor residing in Nashville, TN. He currently serves as Artistic Director and Conductor of the Trevecca Symphony Orchestra and of the Nashville Collegiate Orchestra. 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 the Director of Choral and Orchestral Music at Ensworth School where he also teaches music theory, musicology, and directs the music for the musicals. 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, which focuses on performing and recording film music. Salazar served for three years on the Board of Directors of the world-class Gateway Chamber Orchestra and is on the Leadership and Action Council of the Nashville Singers. Salazar is also a vocalist in Nashville’s Portara Ensemble and serves on the Board of the TN-American Choral Directors Association. During the 2013-2014 season, he served as the Interim Music Director for Music City Youth Orchestra, leading the top group in rehearsals and performances throughout the season.

Salazar has had previous engagements conducting the Murfreesboro Symphony Orchestra and Chorus 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 double-majored in Music Education with choral and instrumental emphasis and Classical Performance with a trumpet emphasis. He has also studied with Artistic Director of Intersection, Kelly Corcoran.

Salazar’s passion for classical music, both vocal and instrumental as well as classical and contemporary, drives him to strive for excellence in his technique, preparation, interpretation, and performances. His dream is to lead world-class ensembles and to inspire people around the globe through high-quality, exciting performances.