

# Erika Blanco, MM

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Experienced Project Coordinator with extensive background in direct student interaction, curriculum design and implementation focusing on socio-emotional issues, community engagement, and project management. Adept at relationship management, optimizing processes, and fostering accessibility for students

## RESULTS

- Review and revise company policies for the EDI initiative with the Quad City Symphony to promote social equality
- Created, produced, and executed *Lattes with Lux*, bringing free, high-quality music in outlying settings outside the concert hall to enhance education, meaningful community, and overall accessibility
- Initiated partnerships with Classical MPR and Schmitt Music for Lux String Quartet, creating and executing socio-emotional curricula specifically targeting underserved, underrepresented schools

## SKILLS AND CORE COMPETENCIES

- Proven investment in addressing disparities rooted in historical and contemporary injustices
- Excellence in writing, reporting, and English composition
- Robust data gathering and monitoring
- Successful track record in working in fast-paced environments with multiple projects
- Demonstrated ability to interact constructively across personalities from various backgrounds
- Dedicated to students and their growth through understanding and addressing their needs
- High-level interpersonal and cross-cultural skills
- Proficiency in Microsoft software applications (Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Karuna Health, LLC

Mar 2024 – present

#### Project Manager and Operations

- Track, facilitate, and adapt work plans and logistics for the project sponsor
- Create timelines for deliverables and incrementally achieve them
- Draft agendas for and lead weekly strategic planning meetings

### Quad City Symphony Orchestra

Sep 2014 – present

#### Community Engagement, Educator, Host

- Research classroom populations to develop and execute K – 5 educational presentations
- Lead peer-group meetings with grades 6 – 12 orchestra students, collaboratively solving issues
- Serve on the EDI committee to revamp homogeneous, limiting policies and promote fairness, access, and transparency

### Lux String Quartet

Sep 2013 – Jul 2020

#### Student Liaison, Community Coordinator, Project Manager

- Designed, orchestrated, and executed the annual fundraising concert for the quartet, including venue and vendor acquisition, marketing, print materials, and event emceeing
- Procured and operated partnerships with Schmitt Music and Classical MPR; curated educational curricula for K – 12 and represented Schmitt Music, Classical MPR, and the quartet's quality brand name to each school
- Interacted with individuals at all levels of seniority and involvement and maintained strong relationships
- Tracked and managed patron engagement, ticket sales, and donations in all stages
- Produced the series *Lattes with Lux*, fostering community and education through interactive performances

### Charleston Christian School

Aug 2007 – Jul 2010

#### Teacher

- Developed curricula for and taught grades 6 – 8 English, including grammar, composition, poetry, vocabulary, literature, reading comprehension, speech writing, and public speaking
- Planned scope and sequence, identifying objectives and desired outcomes

### Freelancing violinist

Aug 2005 – present

#### Teacher, Guest Lecturer, Mentor, Developmental Specialist

- Lead a private studio of 20+ students each year, meeting each student at their own individual level and needs
- Tailor weekly one-on-one sessions to address overall musical goals with at-moment socio-emotional needs
- Conduct once-weekly group lessons across age demographics to support collaboration and community

## EDUCATION

Professional Certificate: Project Management  
Professional Certificate: Google Project Management  
Master of Music, violin performance and pedagogy  
Bachelor of Music, violin performance

Chegg Skills  
Coursera  
University of Minnesota  
Vanderbilt University

Apr 2024 – present  
Mar – May 2023  
Aug 2010 – May 2012  
Aug 2003 – Dec 2005