

**Adolfo Estrada  
Curriculum Vitae**

**Education**

- 2022 Texas Tech University  
Ph.D. in Fine Arts–Musicology  
Dissertation title: “Ritual and Meaning in the Mariachi Festival Movement of the United States”  
Advisors: Dr. Lauryn Camille Salazar & Dr. Virginia Whealton
- 2016 University of Texas Rio Grande Valley  
M.M. in Ethnomusicology  
Thesis title: “*El Son de El Cuervo*: The transformation of the Mexican *son jalisciense* song–form within the mariachi tradition.  
Advisor: Dr. Andres Amado-Pineda
- 2014 University of Texas–Pan American  
B.A. in Mexican–American Studies

**Teaching Experience**

- 2023 Assistant Professor, Mariachi Nueva Generación (MUSE 3103)  
Texas State University School of Music, San Marcos, Texas (Spring)  
Assistant Professor, Independent Study (MU 5213) student enrolled: 2  
Texas State University School of Music, San Marcos, Texas (Spring)  
Assistant Professor, Independent Study (MU 5113) students enrolled: 2  
Texas State University School of Music, San Marcos, Texas (Spring)
- 2022 Assistant Professor, Mariachi Nueva Generación (MUSE 3103)  
Texas State University School of Music, San Marcos, Texas (Fall)  
Assistant Professor, Latin Music Ensemble Rehearsal Techniques (MU 5353)  
Texas State University School of Music, San Marcos, Texas (Fall)  
Lecturer, “Group Guitar Class” (MUSI 2000)  
Texas Tech University, School of Music, Lubbock (Spring)
- 2022 – 2021 Lecturer, “Musics of Latin America” (MUHL2308)  
Texas Tech University, School of Music, Lubbock (Spring)  
Lecturer, “Mariachi Ensemble” (MUEN1300)  
Texas Tech University, School of Music, Lubbock
- Fall 2020 – Fall 2016 Teaching Assistant, “Musics of Latin America” (MUHL2308)  
Texas Tech University, School of Music, Lubbock.  
Teaching Assistant, “Mariachi Ensemble” (MUEN1300)  
Texas Tech University, School of Music, Lubbock
- 2019 Instructor, “Guitar Fundamentals” (MUAP800)  
Texas Tech University, School of Music, Lubbock (Fall)
- 2016 Teaching Assistant, “World Music” & “Music History & Literature II”  
Department of Music, University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley (Spring)
- 2015 Teaching Assistant: “Music History & Literature I” “Music History & Literature III”  
Department of Music, University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley (Fall)  
Teaching Assistant: “World Music”  
Department of Music, University of Texas, Pan American (Spring)
- 2014 Research Assistantship: Dr. Andres Amado  
Department of Music, University of Texas, Pan American (Fall)

### **Awards and Honors**

- 2022 Model for the USPS Mariachi Forever Stamp Series  
Unveiling at the Mariachi Spectacular de Albuquerque
- 2015 Graduate Travel Scholarship,  
University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley
- 2012 Honors Scholarship Recital (Classical Guitar)  
San Antonio College, School of Music
- 2011 Fellowship: Music Theory and Ear Training Tutor  
San Antonio College, School of Music

### **Publications/Commissioned Work**

- 2023 “Mariachi en EEUU: Mariachi Aztlán de UTRGV” in *Antología de Grupos Académicos del Mariachi*. FUNDAp, La Ciudad de Mexico, Mexico.
- 2019 Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA): Region & All-State Mariachi Division  
Composer of two original Etudes for *Armonía*. March 19.

### **Conference Papers**

- 2023 Society for American Music. National Conference. Minneapolis, MN.  
“Ritual and Meaning in the International Mariachi Festival Movement”  
March 9.
- 2022 Society for Ethnomusicology. National Conference: New Orleans, LA.  
“Ritual and meaning in the Mariachi Festival Movements in the  
Southwestern United States.”  
November 12.
- 2020 Society of American Music. National Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Paper Accepted Conference (COVID-19)  
“Challenging Gender & Sexuality Within the Contemporary Mariachi  
Tradition.” March 29.
- 2017 Society for Ethnomusicology. National Conference—Denver, Colorado  
“Mariachi Arcoiris: Negotiations of Gender and Sexuality”  
October 29.
- 2017 Society for Ethnomusicology. Southern Plains: Regional Conference—Denton, Texas  
“Mariachi Arcoiris: World’s First LGBTQIA+ Mariachi”  
March 3.
- 2016 Society for Ethnomusicology. Southern Plains: Regional Conference—Denton, Texas  
“The Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza Vocal Competition”  
April 10.

### **Invited Lectures**

- 2023 “Ritual and Meaning in the Mariachi Festival Movement of the United States”  
Pueblo High Mariachi Camp. Tucson, Arizona.. July 28.  
“*La interpretación de las armonías contemporáneas dentro de la tradición del mariachi*”  
La Fiesta del Mariachi. Sociedad Para La Salvaguardia Del Mariachi S.A.  
Univerisdad Autonoma de Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua. March 14.  
“Interpretation of *Armonía* Within the Contemporary Mariachi Ensemble”  
FESTIBA. The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. March 3.  
“Música y las misiones in South Texas” Many Musics of America series.  
American Musicological Society. Mission San José. San Antonio, TX.  
January 14.
- 2022 “*Una platica con Aida Cuevas y Adolfo Estrada*”  
FESTIBA. University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. March 3.

**Invited Lectures (cont.)**

- 2022 “Pedagogy of the Mariachi *Armonía*”  
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.  
Class: Mariachi Pedagogy MUSI 3328.01. January 23 & 25.
- 2021 “Identity & Music in Latin America: Examples from song & dance”  
Pueblo High Mariachi Camp. Tucson, Arizona.. February 28.
- 2020 “Practices of *Armonía* within the contemporary mariachi tradition”  
FESTIBA. University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley. February 28.  
“Mariachi Origins & Proto-Mariachi Practices”  
University of Texas, Austin: Butler School of Music  
Class: History of Mariachi. February 2.
- 2019 “*El Son de El Cuervo*: A Master’s Thesis Walkthrough”  
Del Sol Academy Mariachi Camp: Las Vegas, Nevada. July 30-31.  
“*Sones de Veracruz*”  
MSA: Albuquerque, New Mexico. July 9.  
“*Jesús Rodríguez de Híjar y su Mariachi de América*”  
TIMC: Casino del Sol. Tucson, Arizona. April 24.
- 2018 “*Sones de Mariachi*”  
MSA: Albuquerque, New Mexico. July 12.  
“Mariachi: Our Cultural Inheritance”  
MSA: Albuquerque, New Mexico. July 11.  
“Crescencio ‘Chencho’ Hernández: *Un Homenaje*”  
TIMC: Casino del Sol. Tucson, Arizona, April 25.
- 2017 “The Baroque Legacy in the Americas: Culture and Music”  
Pueblo High Mariachi Camp. Tucson, Arizona, July 26.  
“Mariachi Music: Our Cultural Inheritance”  
MSA: Albuquerque, NM . July 9.
- 2016 “Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano: America’s Mariachi”  
FESTIBA: University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley, March 4.
- 2015 “Ethnomusicology: A Brief Introduction”  
Pueblo High Mariachi Camp: Tucson, Arizona, July 24.  
“The Life and Contributions of Crescencio Hernández”  
FESTIBA: University of Texas-Pan American, March 6.
- 2013 “The Life and Musical Contributions of Rigoberto Alfaro”  
FESTIBA: University of Texas-Pan American, March 22.

**Other Professional Employment**

- 2016 Edinburg High School:  
Music Consultant (Mariachi: Vocal and Guitar)
- 2015 – 2012 University of North Texas Mariachi Summer Camp:  
Instructor of *Armonía* & Voices
- 2015 – 2014 Sharyland High School:  
Mariachi Consultant
- 2015 – 2013 Chicago Mariachi Project:  
Guest Clinician – Lyric Unlimited Community Engagement Series
- 2012 TMEA All-Valley Region Mariachi Clinic  
Middle School Level Clinician
- 2004 Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center (San Antonio, TX.)  
Guitar Instructor (Ages: 7-55)
- 2003 Mariachi Los Tígres– Austin Academy (San Antonio, TX.)  
Mariachi Instructor (Pre-K–5th)

**Professional Mariachi Teaching Experience: Annual Event Workshop Instructor**

2023 – 2022	Coastal Bend Mariachi Festival <i>Armonía</i> Instructor
2023 – 2015	FESTIBA: University of Texas Rio Grande Valley–Edinburg, Texas Guitar & <i>Armonía</i> Instructor
2023 – 2011	Albuquerque Mariachi Spectacular–Albuquerque, New Mexico Guitar & Voice Instructor
2023 – 2010	Tucson International Mariachi Conference–Tucson, Arizona Guitar & Vocal Instructor
2022 – 2021	Border Folk Festival–El Paso, Texas <i>Armonía</i> Clinician
2022	S.A.I.S.D. All-District Summer Mariachi Camp–Mark Twain Dual Academy Invited Instructor for Middle School & High School. July 13-24.
2020 – 2018	UT Austin Longhorn Mariachi Camp–Austin, Texas Primary <i>Armonía</i> Instructor
2019 – 2017	Mariachi Conservatory of New York–New York City, New York Guitar Instructor
2019 – 2018	Border Folk Festival–El Paso, Texas <i>Armonía</i> Clinician
2016 – 2013	University of San Diego Mariachi Workshops – San Diego, California Master Class <i>Armonía</i> & Voice Instructor
2015 – 2002	Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza Workshop – San Antonio, Texas <i>Armonía</i> Instructor
2013 – 2010	FESTIBA: University of Texas-Pan American – Edinburg, Texas Guitar Instructor

**Notable Performance Experience**

2022	TTU Tango Orchestra TMEA, San Antonio Convention Center February 10.
2021	Mariachi Spectacular de Albuquerque: Mariachi All-Stars Atrisco Heritage Academy High School (Albuquerque, New Mexico) July 17.
2019	Mariachi Los Matadores de Texas Tech at Myerson Symphony Center TCVPA Concert with Susan Graham Banquet (Dallas, Texas) April 5.
2018	Appearance on the Stephen Colbert Show Musical Performer (New York City, New York) June 20.
2015	Mariachi Tepalcatepec de Michoacán: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Mariachi Concert in the Grove (Sacramento, CA) September 5. Mariachi Aztlán: Chicago Mariachi and Folklórico Festival Millennium Park (Chicago, IL) June 28. Mariachi Aztlán: Chicago Lyric Opera “ <i>El Pasado Nunca Se Termina</i> ” Premier of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mariachi Opera (Chicago, IL) March 13-15 & March 22.

### **Notable Performance Experience (cont.)**

- 2014 Mariachi Aztlán:  
Valley Symphony Orchestra Holiday Concert Series  
Mariachi Performer (McAllen, TX)  
November 20.
- Mariachi UCLAtlán:  
Mission San Juan “Battle of the Mariachis” Guest Performer  
Mission San Juan Capistrano (San Juan Capistrano, CA)  
May 10.
- Mariachi Aztlán:  
“*Canciones y Arias: a cantar con toda el alma*”  
Lyric Unlimited (Chicago, IL)  
April 11 & 12.
- 2013 Mariachi Aztlán:  
36<sup>th</sup> Annual Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Annual  
CHCI Awards Gala: Mariachi Guest Artist (Washington D.C.)  
October 2.
- Mariachi Aztlán:  
Chicago Lyric Opera “*Cruzar La Cara De La Luna*”  
1<sup>st</sup> Mariachi Opera (Chicago & Waukegan, IL)  
April 19, 20 & April 21.
- Mariachi Los Galleros:  
Mariachi Concert “Jazz” at the Lincoln Center  
Guitarist/Vocalist (New York, NY)  
February 3.
- Mariachi Aztlán:  
Texas Democratic Presidential Inaugural “Black Tie and Boots” Gala  
Guest Performer Gaylord National Resort (National Harbor, MD)  
January 19.
- 2010 Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán:  
FESTIBA Community Day Concert  
Guest Performer – Guitarist (Edinburg, TX)  
March 27.

### **Professional Recordings**

- 2015 Mariachi Aztlán de UTPA: “*Mi Nombre es México*” (Guitar)
- 2012 Mariachi *Internacional* Guadalajara: “*20 Aniversario*” (Guitar)
- 2011 Mariachi Rock-O Vol.01: “*Sonidos de Jalisco*” (Guitar)

### **Professional Mariachi Accompaniment**

- 2016 Vikki Carr: Mariachi Aztlán, University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley  
Concert at The Tobin Hill Performing Arts Center (San Antonio, TX)  
February 19.
- 2015 Angelica Vargas: Mariachi Aztlán, University of Texas, Pan American  
Mother’s Day Concert: Majestic Theatre (San Antonio, TX)  
May 10.
- 2015, 2014 Vanessa Alonzo: Mariachi Aztlán, University of Texas, Pan American  
Lyric Opera of Chicago: Lyric Unlimited Concert Series (Chicago, IL)  
April 11-12, 2014 & March 22, 2015.
- 2014 Nydia Rojas: Mariachi Aztlán, University of Texas, Pan American  
Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza (San Antonio, TX)  
November 22.

**Professional Mariachi Accompaniment (cont.)**

- 2013 Little Joe: Mariachi Aztlán, University of Texas, Pan American  
FESTIBA Concert Day (Edinburg, TX)  
October 12.
- 2013 Sebastian de la Cruz: Mariachi Aztlán, University of Texas, Pan American  
FESTIBA Concert Day (Edinburg, TX)  
October 12.
- 2012 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza Summer Vocal Camp (San Antonio, TX.)  
Guitar accompaniment for all participants.  
Pablo Montero: Mariachi Azteca de America  
MASECA Television Promotional Filming (San Antonio TX)  
May 23.
- 2011 Plácido Domingo: Mariachi Los Galleros de San Antonio  
San Antonio Opera Concert Series (San Antonio TX)  
June 1.
- 2008 Mariachi Sangre Mexicana: Flor Silvestre, Antonio Aguilar (Hijo), Marcela Rubiales  
“In Memoriam” Concert Series (McAllen TX / Houston TX)  
May 13-15.
- 2007 Plácido Domingo: Mariachi Los Galleros de San Antonio  
San Antonio Opera Concert Series (San Antonio TX)  
June 19.  
Virginia Tola (soprano): Mariachi Los Galleros de San Antonio  
San Antonio Opera Concert Series (San Antonio TX)  
June 19.
- 2000 Azucena “*La de Jalisco*”: Mariachi Los Caporales  
Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza Concert (McAllen TX) November 4

**Professional Mariachi Section Leader Experience**

- 2012 – 2016 Mariachi Aztlán (Director of *Armonias*\*)  
University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley, Student Ensemble
- 2011 – 2012 Mariachi Azteca de América (Director of *Armonias*\* and Voices)  
San Antonio, Texas
- 2009 – 2011 Mariachi Los Galleros de San Antonio (Director of *Armonias*\*)  
San Antonio, Texas
- 2006 – 2008 Mariachi Nuevo Chapultepec (Director of *Armonias*\*)  
San Antonio, Texas

**Mariachi Clinician & Consultancy**

- 2023 Hispanic Cultural Center of Midland, 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Mariachi Workshops  
Educator’s Workshop & *Armonía* Clinician, Midland, TX. June 7-9.  
Pueblo High School Mariachi Aztlán Camp—Tucson, Arizona  
Instructor: *Armonía*, July 24-28.  
University Interscholastic League: All-State Mariachi Festival  
Ensemble Clinician, Seguin, TX. February 24 & 25.
- 2022 Sharyland Pioneer High School—Sharyland, Texas  
Consultant *Armonía*. April 8-9.  
Pueblo High School Mariachi Aztlán Spring Break—Tucson, Arizona  
Instructor: *Armonía*, March 15-18.
- 2021 Pueblo High School Mariachi Aztlán Camp—Tucson, Arizona  
Instructor: *Armonía*, August 26-30.
- 2019 – 2020 Pueblo High School Mariachi Aztlán Summer Camp [Virtual]  
*Armonía* Instructor,

**Mariachi Clinician & Consultancy (cont.)**

- 2019 – 2014 Texas Tech University “Los *Camperitos*” Mariachi Summer Camp–Lubbock, Texas  
Instructor of *Armonía* & Voices.
- 2019 Border Folk Festival–El Paso, TX.  
Conductor for Workshop Concert Ensemble, October 5.  
Del Sol Academy Mariachi Summer Camp–Las Vegas, Nevada  
Lead Instructor, July 30 – August 2.
- 2018 – 2015 Pueblo High School Mariachi Aztlán Camp–Tucson, Arizona  
Instructor: *Armonía*, July 24-30.
- 2018 University of New Mexico Mariachi Juvenil–Albuquerque, New Mexico  
Ensemble Consultation, November 12 & 14  
Von Tobel Middle School Mariachi Summer Camp–Las Vegas, Nevada  
*Armonía* Instructor, July 30 – August 7.  
Pueblo High School Mariachi Aztlán Camp–Tucson, Arizona  
*Armonía* Instructor, July 23-27.  
Chicago Mariachi Project–Chicago, Illinois  
*Armonía* Instructor, January 12-14.

**Adjudication**

- 2023 City of Northern Las Vegas Mariachi Competition  
Ensemble Adjudicator, March 4.  
FESTIBA: UTRGV. Edinburg, Texas  
Vocal & Ensemble Competition Adjudicator, March 3.  
Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo: Texas Invitational Mariachi Competition  
Fort Worth, Texas. January 21.  
University Interscholastic League: All-State Mariachi Festival  
Ensemble Adjudicator, Seguin, TX. February 24 & 25.  
FESTIBA 2022: UTRGV. Edinburg, Texas  
Vocal & Ensemble Competition Adjudicator, March 4.
- 2022 Grand Prairie Independent School District: Mariachi Festival  
Ensemble Adjudicator, April 1-2.  
FESTIBA 2022: UTRGV. Edinburg, Texas  
Vocal & Ensemble Competition Adjudicator, March 4.  
Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo: Texas Invitational Mariachi Competition  
Fort Worth, Texas. January 22.
- 2021 University Interscholastic League: Region 5 Mariachi Judging  
Region Qualifier (virtual), April 29.
- 2020 FESTIBA 2020: UTRGV. Edinburg, Texas  
Vocal & Ensemble Competition Adjudicator, February 28.
- 2020 Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo: Texas Invitational Mariachi Competition  
Fort Worth, Texas. January 25.
- 2019 Mariachi Spectacular de Albuquerque  
Mariachi Competition, July 13.
- 2019 University Interscholastic League: Mariachi All-Region. Dallas, Texas  
Region Qualifiers, January 26.  
Texas Association of Mariachi Educators, Grand Prairie, Texas  
Region Qualifier, January 19.
- 2018 University Interscholastic League: Mariachi Region–Grand Prairie, Texas  
Region Qualifier, January 27.

## Languages

English: native speaker  
Spanish: native speaker  
German: fair reading comprehension

## Professional Service

2020 Annual Society for Ethnomusicology South Plains Chapter Meeting  
Local Arrangements Chair, Texas Tech University,–Lubbock, Texas  
April 14.  
2017 – 2015 Secretary for the Society for Ethnomusicology – Southern Plains Chapter

## Research

present – 2016 Utilizing ethnomusicological methods and approaches, I investigate the musical traditions of Latin America, with an emphasis in the musics of México. Through field-based and historical research I have presented at major academic conferences as well as multiple international heritage festivals.

## Musical Instruments

present – 1998 Latin Americanist, Specializing in Folk Musical Traditions of Mexico: Mariachi  
*Armonía\** Specialist  
present – 2006 Classical Guitar  
present – 2000 Mariachi and Classical Voice

## Guitar Private Studio

2022 – 2010 Studio capacity averages 3-5 students per week, students' ages range from 7-45 years of age.

- Instruction in stringed folk instruments of Latin America.
- Instruction in classical guitar.
- Levels taught: beginner to professional

## Professional Memberships

Society for Ethnomusicology  
American Musicological Society  
Society for American Music  
Society for Ethnomusicology – Southern Plains Chapter  
Texas Music Educators Association  
Texas Music Adjudicators Association

### \**Armonía*:

The harmonic/rhythmic section within the mariachi ensemble. It comprises five distinct instruments that display construction characteristics of the Baroque era in the New World.

(e.g., reentrant tunings, tie blocks, wrapped frets, tuning pegs, basso continuo, forme fixe, continuo section)

- *arpa jaliscence* (Jalisco Mariachi Harp) 32-strings diatonic tuning, or  
*arpa veracruzana* (Veracruz Folk Harp) 32 strings, chromatic levers
- *guitarrón* (a large six-string bass guitar)  
reentrant tuning plucked octaves
- *guitarra de golpe* (the struck mariachi guitar)  
medium-sized guitar variant, reentrant tuning, strummed chords
- *guitarra* (Classical/Spanish Guitar)  
standard tuning, strummed chords
- *vibuela* also termed *jarana* (small tenor–pitched guitar)  
variant, strummed chords