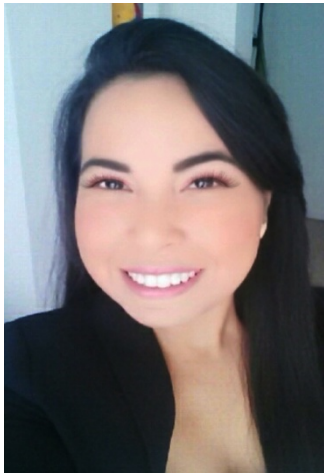


Karen Velazquez, Venezuela

Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Central University of Venezuela,
Director of Children's Orchestras and Violinist



Young Music Director and Pedagogue. Her valuable contribution to the Venezuelan musical movement has been carried out and developed within the National System of Children's and Youth Orchestras, where (due to her indefatigable painstaking skill and mystic) she has shown an important capacity for teaching music to children, which she assumes with love and work commitment. She was educated by the National System of Children's and Youth Orchestras of Venezuela, which was founded by Master Jose Antonio Abreu at the center of her native city, Puerto Cabello. There she received her first violin classes with Masters Luis Ibarra, Eugenio Valdes and Avelina Forgione. Then she is transferred to the Carabobo Conservatory, where she received violin classes with teachers Lourdes Vadell and Ruben Camacho, lyrical singing classes with Master Victor Lopez and Amelia Salazar, and with Master Joel Nieves at the Simon Bolivar Conservatory of Music. As violinist, she stood out in different orchestras: Children's and Youth Orchestra of Puerto Cabello, Children's Orchestra of Valencia (leader of the orchestra), Youth Orchestra of Carabobo, Symphony Orchestra of Carabobo, Youth Orchestra of Chacao, Typical Orchestra of the Pedagogic Institute of Caracas and Youth Orchestra of Caracas, as well as different assemble groups of chamber music. Recognized as specialist in the formation of new children's and youth orchestras, which has taken her to give advice and seminars at the centers of the system of orchestras from the states of Tachira, Carabobo, Sucre, Zulia and the whole Capital District. She is teacher and music coordinator for the program of Specialized Training in the String Areas (CEAC) created by Prof. Susan Siman. She was Director of the Orchestra of the Youth Academic Center of Montalban, which is in formation, and creator of the Little Mozarts String Orchestra Program. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Arts with a Major in Promotion and Cultural Animation at the Central University of Venezuela, and at the moment she is studying Education in the same University. She received classes of Orchestral Conducting and Violin, which she has been dedicated to, at the Simon Bolívar Conservatory of Music, having the opportunity to direct the most important Youth and Children's Orchestras of the country. She has received Master Classes from recognized international masters as: Mario Benzecri, Eduardo Marturet, Rodolfo Sanglimbeli, and Miguel Monrroy, who is her tutor at the moment. She has been invited to contribute in orchestra projects in Catania, Biancavilla, Adrano, Pesaro, Milan and Rome, Italy. She directed the Children's Symphony Orchestra of Bellini at the Taormina Art Festival, Italy, in 2011, and directed the End of the Year Concert for the School Orchestras of Rome, Italy, in 2012, 2013 and 2014, doing an important and outstanding work for the new Italian System of Orchestras. In 2013, she started the project for the Little Mozarts String Orchestra Program at Los Chorros Center in Caracas, with an excellent performance in a concert at the Center of Social Action for Music (Center of the Children's and Youth Orchestras of Venezuela). She has participated in different music projects in the cities of Paris, Barcelona, Vienna, Prague, Leipzig, Berlin and Lisbon. In May, 2015, she contributed in Pesaro, the native city of Rossini, being the first Guest Director for the flourishing Libera Musica de la Italia. She was children's music director of the Onlus Foundation in Rome and the Italian Social Orchestra, with which she had directed several concerts in Rome. Currently, she continues contributing with the National System of

Children's and Youth Orchestras of Venezuela. In the middle of 2015, She was part of the Social Italian Orchestra of the Cusani Foundation as the music director, during their final school project in Rome, Italy. In 2016, She directed Le Poème Harmonique-Vicent Dumestre in Rouen, France. Currently, she is working as Music Director of the Bene Comune Music Association in Rome and LiberaMusica in Pesaro. She is the founder and the music director of the Roma Music Project. She has the role of Music Director of the Italian Orchestra System in Lazio region.