

Francisco Garay

Cellist & Educator



5050 N Broadway Ave, Chicago, IL | (713) – 998 – 5232 | fgaraycello@gmail.com

Education

M.M. Cello Performance

DePaul University

Professors: Stephen Balderston, Houston, TX

Dr. Melissa Kraut

Aug. 2024 – Present

Private Study

Courtenay Vandiver-Pereira

Houston, TX

2022 – 2024

Suzuki Certifications

Cello Book 1, Tanya & Trina Carey

Cello Book 1 – 3, Avi Friedlander

2020 – 2023

B.M. Cello Performance

University of Houston

Moore School of Music

Professor – Anthony Kitai

2015 – 2019

Hammond Preparatory Program

Rice University

Shepherd School of Music

Professor – Cornelia Watkins

2013 – 2015

Experience

Aug. 2023 – May 2024
Sugar Land, TX

Founder & Artistic Director | Fort Bend Cello Choir

- Leads, plans, and schedules ensemble auditions, rehearsals, and concerts
- Manages and reviews organization's financial budget and tuition
- Contacts guest artists to perform at concerts
- Advertises, promotes, and creates programs for the organization

Summer of 2023 - 2025
Katy, TX

Co-Founder & Faculty | Latin Cello Choir Summer Camp

- Conductor of cello orchestra & chamber music coach
- Spokesman and logistics manager for concert and meetings

July 10 – 21, 2023
Sep. – Dec. of 2022
Houston, TX

Chamber Music Coach & Music History I/II Teacher | American Festival for the Arts

- Studied and presented two different music history levels everyday
- Coached four chamber ensembles of varying level, age, and size of ensemble
- Worked with the youth orchestras on ensemble skills during sectionals

Sep. 2021 – May 2023
Katy, TX

Cello Choir Co-Founder & Director | Katy Youth Symphony

- Conducts and rehearses KYS cello choir
- Determines and arranges repertoire for concerts
- Recruits potential students
- Began an advanced cello choir at the Katy Youth Summer Camp

Oct. 2021 – May 2024
Houston, TX

Teaching Artist | Houston Youth Symphony's Coda & Melody Program

- Program is El-Sistema based and offers free lessons in low-income areas
- Duties include curriculum development, program evaluation, and lesson planning
- Supports community engagement efforts and coordination of public performances
- Group cello instructor for children aged 7-11 years

Sep. 2018 – May 2024
Sugar Land, Missouri City, and
Katy, TX

Fine Arts Clinician | Fort Bend, Katy ISD

- TMEA region judge for middle and high school
- Prepares cellists for region, area, and all-state competitions
- Coaches cello sectionals for UIL state orchestral competitions

Jan. 2016 – Aug. 2024
Greater Houston Area

Private Cello Instructor

- Teaches individual cello lessons across 6 campuses
- Organizes mock auditions, group classes, and studio performances in preparation for competitions
- Maintains a studio of 20 – 25 students

Summer Music Programs

2023	Sam Houston State University Suzuki Institute
2023	Melissa Kraut's the Complete Cellist
2020	Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival (Virtual)
2020	Cincinnati Young Artist Virtual Audition Seminar & Cello Academy
2018	Texas Music Festival
2017 – 2019, 2021	Aria International Music Academy
2016	Sewanee Summer Music Festival
2014 - 2015	Interlochen Summer Music Festival

Accomplishments

2023	Two students performed Vivaldi double cello concerto with orch.
2021	Student became a music major and currently studies at CCM
2021	Cellists in TMEA High School Honor String Orchestra were my students
2015	UH Hirsch Endowment Scholarship