

Native to Houston, Omar Escobedo began his musical journey at the age of ten when he started playing violin in the 6th grade. He then went on to begin playing the cello in his freshman year of high school. Omar received a scholarship to pursue his musical studies at the University of Houston's Moores School of Music to study with Vagram Saradjian, a notable student of Mstislav Rostropovich, where he received his Bachelors of Music. During his time there, Omar had the chance to perform in various solo and chamber music masterclasses for artists from all around the world. He was also selected to be an orchestral fellow at the *Immanuel and Helen Olshan Texas Music Festival* in 2019.

Omar currently holds the position of Assistant Principal Cello with the Symphony of Southeast Texas, which he earned in the 2022-2023 season. He also performs regularly with the Houston Latin American Philharmonic, an orchestra dedicated to showcasing Latin American music. Omar has had the opportunity to perform on stages with artists like Andrea Bocelli, Cece Winans, Peabo Bryson, Loren Allred, and Daniel Emmet.

Omar is a Suzuki trained teacher, having taken teacher training courses for multiple books. He currently teaches for American Festival for the Arts as a coach for their Chamber Music Academy and Summer Music Festival. He also works as a Teaching Artist for the Houston Youth Symphony's Coda Music Program, an El-Sistema based program that targets low-income families in Houston's Near Northside neighborhood, which he's been a part of since 2016.