ALEJANDRO CORTÉS

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EDUCATION

Roosevelt University, Chicago College of Performing Arts — Chicago, IL

M.A., Performing Arts Administration 2026
B.M., Jazz Piano Performance 2014

ACADEMIC & ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Roosevelt University, Chicago College of Performing Arts

Program Director, Jazz & Contemporary Music Studies 2023–Present
Assistant Teaching Professor of Musicianship 2023–Present
Associate Program Director, Jazz & Contemporary Music Studies 2022–2023
Adjunct Faculty, Jazz Theory, Jazz Piano & Piano Musicianship 2021–2023
Artist Faculty, Applied Jazz Piano & Ensemble Coaching 2018–2023

COURSES & ENSEMBLES TAUGHT

Roosevelt University, Chicago College of Performing Arts

Piano Musicianship I
Piano Musicianship II
Piano Musicianship III
Jazz Theory & Piano
Jazz Forum
Applied Jazz Piano
Latin Jazz Ensemble
Small Jazz Combo (Brazilian, Composers, Neo-Soul)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Roosevelt University

Chair, CCPA College Council 2026–Present
CCPA Representative, Roosevelt University Senate 2023–Present
Secretary, CCPA College Council 2023–2026

Additional service includes curriculum development and revision for the Jazz & Contemporary Music Studies program; faculty search committees; student recruitment and outreach; ensemble placement and program auditions; and coordination of guest artists, master classes, and student performance opportunities.

SELECTED PERFORMANCE & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Keyboardist, Bluewater Kings Band 2019–Present

Music Director, Pianist & Arranger, N'Samble Latino and Son Peru Chicago 2012–2024

Pianist, Chicago and Milwaukee Latin Music Ensembles 2014–2020

Performed with Rica Obsesión, Naborí, and D'Calle Son, with appearances including the Chicago Cuban Festival, Puerto Rican Festival, Peruvian Festival, and Chicago SummerDance.

Music Director, Pianist & Vocalist, Sun Sounds 2014–2019

Performances included the Chicago Jazz Festival.

Selected Artist Collaborations

Performed with international artists including Luis "Perico" Ortiz, Pedro Conga, Nino Segarra, Willie González, Willito Otero, Kayvan Vega, Rafy Santana, Yoko "La Japonesa Salsera," and Claudia "La Gitana."

Additional professional performance activity includes jazz, Latin American, and contemporary music throughout Chicago and the Midwest, including festival, private, corporate, and special-event engagements.

LANGUAGES

English and Spanish