

Diana L. Esparza, soprano, joined the music faculty at The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) in 2016, where she teaches Applied Voice and Lyric Diction in English, Spanish, Italian, French, and German. In addition to her academic responsibilities, she is frequently invited to present lyric diction workshops nationally and internationally.

Prior to her appointment at UTEP, Ms. Esparza served for seven years on the voice faculty at the Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez (UACJ), México. There, she taught Applied Voice, Opera Workshop, and Choir, and prepared choruses for numerous productions with the Orquesta Sinfónica de la UACJ (OSUACJ). Major works included *Madama Butterfly*, *La traviata*, and *L'elisir d'amore*, as well as choral masterworks such as Borodin's *Polovtsian Dances* and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*. She also collaborated in Opera Gala concerts featuring distinguished guest artists from the Mexican opera scene. During this time, she led the background vocal ensemble for Sarah Brightman's concert in Ciudad Juárez as part of the Festival Internacional Chihuahua.

In addition to her collegiate teaching in México, Ms. Esparza served for seven years as Choir Director at Henderson Middle School in El Paso, Texas, where she also coordinated Fine Arts Concerts.

As a performer, Ms. Esparza has appeared at the Festival Internacional Cervantino, performing jazz with the "Mensajero" ensemble on multiple occasions. Her stage credits in opera, musical theatre, and zarzuela throughout the El Paso region include *The Magic Flute*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, *El Rey León*, *Los Olvidados*, *La visita*, *Le nozze di Figaro*, *La Périchole*, *Agua, Azucarillos y Aguardiente*, and *La Gran Vía*, in addition to numerous solo performances. Internationally, she has presented recitals and performed operatic roles in Freiberg and Radebeul, Germany, as well as Salzburg, Austria.

Ms. Esparza holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Education and a Master of Music in Vocal Performance from The University of Texas at El Paso.