

Yolanda Borrás

Phone: 917-309-5990 | yolanda@yolandaborras.com
yolandaborras.com | imbilingual.com

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Yolanda Borrás is a Dominican educator, award-winning author, teacher trainer, and public speaker with more than 35 years of experience in early childhood music and language education across the United States, Europe, Asia, and the Caribbean. She is the founder of I'm Bilingual!® Languages Through Music and the author of the I'm Bilingual!® Supplemental Spanish Curriculum for Early Childhood, a flexible, cross-curricular program that connects music, movement, culture, and language with the fundamental domains of child development, allowing educators to expand and deepen the work they already do in the classroom.

Her collection of children's music and illustrated songbooks, based on culturally authentic Spanish language texts and rooted in her research at the National Library of Spain, the National Library of the Dominican Republic, and public libraries across the US, has earned more than 20 awards. Yolanda provides professional development workshops and is a frequent presenter at national and international conferences, in English, Spanish, or bilingual format.

EXPERIENCE

Founder / President, I'm Bilingual!® Languages Through Music 1999–present

Developed a supplemental Spanish curriculum based on authentic texts, music, and movement, using evidence-based strategies to support academic and social development. The program began as an early childhood music center in New York City offering classes for young children in seven languages.

Speaker, Author, Teacher Trainer 2005–present

Guest speaker, presenter, and teacher trainer for Spanish and music education workshops throughout the USA and abroad. Award-winning author of children's bilingual music books.

President, Fundación de la Villa de Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic 2011–2026

Organized community engagement educational programs for this nonprofit organization, as well as a music festival presenting concerts in the Colonial City of Santo Domingo.

Podcast Creator, Colí Colí, Fundación E. León Jimenes, Dominican Republic 2020–2024

Designed and developed this music-based children's podcast in Spanish, from concept and pilot programs to production, creating its first 52 episodes and inviting children to listen, sing, dance, and care for the environment.

Content Creator / Presenter, New York Public Library 2019–2022

Created online Spanish Storytime videos and live presentations for the New York Public Library community.

Music Education Consultant, HighScope Foundation, Ypsilanti, MI 2019–2020

Trilingual Music Teacher, USA, Europe, Asia, and the Caribbean 1985–1999

EDUCATION

Columbia Business School, The Eugene Lang Entrepreneurship Center 2012–2014

Columbia Community Business Program for Entrepreneurs

New York University, Steinhardt School of Music Summer 2000

Kodály Certification Level 1 (Early Childhood–Elementary)

Teachers College, Columbia University 1996–1998

M.A. in Educational Administration

Peabody Conservatory, Johns Hopkins University 1981–1985

B.A. in Music Performance (Piano)

HONORS AND RECOGNITION

- Recognized as an “Outstanding Dominican Abroad” by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic (2018)
- Member, Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education
- Featured in The New York Times, Johns Hopkins Magazine, EdLab at Columbia University, and NPR affiliated programs, as well as newspapers and magazines in the Dominican Republic

LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

- Languages: native proficiency in English, French, and Spanish; strong oral and written communication skills
- Leadership: organizational leadership, management, mentoring, and training
- Creativity and innovation: entrepreneur; creator of programs, curriculum, audio, and video projects
- Technology: proficient in database systems, office software, video production, and studio recording
- Fundraising: grant writing, donor development, and securing corporate and government support

PUBLICATIONS

2024

I'm Bilingual! Supplemental Spanish Curriculum for Early Childhood

2022

Pimpón (Pimpón, the Cardboard Doll), award-winning illustrated Spanish songbook for children

2021

Los Pollitos (The Little Chicks), award-winning illustrated Spanish songbook for children

2018

La Finca (The Farm), award-winning illustrated Spanish songbook for children

¡Cantemos todos Juntos! and Teacher's Guide (in English and Spanish), revised version

2017

Los Pajaritos (The Little Birds), award-winning illustrated Spanish songbook for children

MUSIC RECORDINGS

2022

Released Pimpón song track

2017

Released Los Pajaritos song track

2013

Released ¡Cantemos todos Juntos!, award-winning CD, a collection of children's songs in Spanish

2006

Produced and released ¡Caramba! Kids, a Parent's Choice Silver Honor award CD of children's songs in Spanish

WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS FOR EDUCATORS

2026

NMECA Annual Conference, Albuquerque, NM (upcoming, August)

Ventanas que Cantan, teacher training project, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (upcoming, October)

Virtual Teachers Conference, Ivy Kids Early Learning Center (upcoming, September)

NABE International Conference, Chicago, IL

2025

Spanish Fun! Fall Online Workshops for Educators

NMAEYC Pre-Conference and Conference, Albuquerque, NM

NABE International Conference, Atlanta, GA

2024

Multilingual Illinois Statewide Conference, Tinley Park, IL
La Cosecha Dual Language Conference, Santa Fe, NM
GAEYC Annual Conference, GA
New Mexico Association for the Education of Young Children, Albuquerque, NM
National Association of Bilingual Education (NABE) National Conference, New Orleans, LA

2023

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), Nashville, TN
National Head Start Association, Early Head Start Webinar (NHSA)
Congreso Instituto 512, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
PFCCAG Conference, Professional Family Childcare Association of GA, Jonesboro, GA

2022

HighScope International Early Childhood Conference, Detroit, MI
GAEYC Annual Conference, GA (virtual)
NABE International Conference, New York, NY

2021

GAEYC Annual Conference, GA (virtual)
HighScope International Early Childhood Conference, Detroit, MI (virtual)
New York Public Library, virtual presentations for daycare centers and EC programs in the NYC area

2019

Workshop for educators at the DISESA Education Fair, Santiago, Dominican Republic
HighScope International Early Childhood Conference, Detroit, MI

2018

HighScope International Early Childhood Conference, Detroit, MI

2016

HighScope International Early Childhood Conference, Detroit, MI

2014

Early Childhood Music and Movement Association (ECMMA) International Conference, GA

2011

National Association of Bilingual Education (NABE) National Conference, New Orleans, LA

2009

Music Educators' National Conference (MENC) Northeast Conference, Providence, RI

2008

CASIE, Global Language Convention, Atlanta, GA
Music Educators' National Conference (MENC) National Conference, Milwaukee, WI
Music Educators' National Conference (MENC) Texas State Conference, TX

2007

California Music Educators' Association (CMEA) California State Conference
Indiana Music Educators' Association, Indiana State Conference

2006

Teacher training workshops for the Ministry of Education, Dominican Republic

AWARDS AND HONORS FOR ILLUSTRATED SONGBOOKS AND MUSIC

Yolanda's songbooks and recordings have received awards and honors, including winner and honorable mention distinctions, from the following programs:

- Alma Flor Ada Award
- Family Choice Awards
- International Latino Book Awards
- Mom's Choice Gold Award
- Parent's Choice Silver Honor Award
- Story Monsters' Approved Winner
- Purple Dragonfly Book Awards
- Tillywig Toy and Media Awards