

Mexican-American violinist Matthew Vera is known for his versatility as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral leader.

As an orchestral musician, Matthew can be heard all over the country. He has been a member of the Boston Philharmonic's first violin section since 2010 and is occasionally a guest concertmaster. Matthew will join the El Paso Symphony as concertmaster in the fall of 2024 where he has been serving as guest concertmaster since spring of 2022. Matthew frequents the stages of The Boston Ballet, The Portland Symphony, The Rhode Island Philharmonic, The Boston Modern Orchestra Project, among others. Most recently Matthew served as concertmaster for the revival of *Evita* at the American Repertory Theatre during the summer of 2023, and is excited to return to the A.R.T to sit as concertmaster for the new production of *Gatsby* in the summer of 2024.

An avid chamber musician, Matthew is the first violinist of the emerging Izarra String Quartet. Izarra explores fresh interpretations of the classic repertoire with a keen focus on amplifying compositional voices of the LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC communities. Matthew is a violinist with *Castle of our Skins*, a concert and educational series dedicated to celebrating Black artistry through music. He has also been heard with Aurea Ensemble, Radius Ensemble, Juventas New Music Ensemble, and Monadnock Music.

Matthew made his solo debut on the viola with the Tucson Philharmonia at age 14. He has appeared as soloist with the Buffalo Philharmonic, The Tucson Philharmonia, The Tucson Symphony, The World Youth Symphony Orchestra, and The New England Conservatory Symphony. He has attended numerous festivals including Tanglewood, The Heifetz Institute, Brevard Music Center, Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival, and more.

A native of Tucson, Arizona, Matthew's early musical training was fostered through the Tucson Unified Public Schools and Tucson Junior Strings, a unique conductorless orchestra training program for young people. He is a graduate of The New England Conservatory where he studied with James Buswell, Lucy Chapman, and Donald Weilerstein. His mentors have included: The Borromeo String Quartet, Roger Tapping, Martha Katz, and John Heiss.