

Naren Palomino Pardo

A native of Cochabamba, Bolivia, he studied music at the Academia Nacional de Música, "Man Céspedes," starting his piano studies with Prof. Betzabé Gutiérrez and Prof. Juan Carlos Toro. Upon graduating from the academy, he continued his studies in piano performance, choral and orchestral conducting, composition, and arranging under Prof. Koichi Fujii. After his graduation, he joined the faculty of the music academy, where he taught piano and ear training. He was also the accompanist for the Children's Choir and Youth Choir and the conductor of the "Man Céspedes" Percussion ensemble, Folk Orchestra, and Symphony Orchestra.

In 2018 he was accepted into the University of Central Arkansas (UCA), where he studied under Dr. Neil Rutman. At UCA, Naren was the pianist for the UCA Wind Ensemble, UCA Percussion Ensemble, UCA Studio Jazz ensemble, the Conway Symphony Orchestra, and others. Naren placed honorable mention in the UCA Concerto/Aria Competition and won first place in the UCA Wind Ensemble Student Spotlight Competition, allowing him to perform Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" alongside the university's Wind Ensemble under the direction of Dr. Michael Hancock. Naren Palomino was the winner of the 2022 Matthay Association Competition, a festival held in Duluth, Minnesota, in which he had master classes with Prof. John Perry and Prof. Aiko Onishi. In May 2022, he graduated with honors from UCA with a BM in Piano Performance. In August 2022, he started his studies for a Master of Music (M.M.) in Piano Performance at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory under the teaching of Prof. Sean. Chen. At UMKC Conservatory, Naren Palomino is currently the rehearsal pianist for the Opera at the conservatory and the pianist for the UMKC Conservatory Symphony Orchestra.