



Diana Ortega began music on the bassoon at the age of 12, and shortly after a year of playing music was accepted into the preparatory program at the Juilliard School. Diana holds a Bachelors of Music in Bassoon Performance from the New England Conservatory, with a focus in Music in Education. She has trained in Dalcroze Eurhythmics from the Dalcroze Institute at the Juilliard School, and has fulfilled graduate work in bassoon performance from the Jacob School of Music.

Diana returned to New York City in 2012, where she led a career as a freelance bassoonist and teaching artist. Her extensive experience as a music educator and a nontraditional arts intervention counselor steered her towards work around social justice, community development, and arts in community health. Diana's professional pursuit in using live music for mobilization led her to pursue a Master's in Public Administration from the Baruch Marxe School of Public and International Affairs. From fall 2016 to spring 2017, Diana held the position of National Urban Fellow at Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County, performing research and policy recommendations in the area of arts intervention for criminal justice reform. During her fellowship, Diana also co-founded Rock E Bassoon, where she continues to envision live music to be accessible to all our communities and that live music be utilized as a tool for civic engagement.

Diana has studied privately with Monica Ellis, Mark Goldberg, Gregg Henegar, William Ludwig, and Susan Nelson. Diana has performed with the Boston Philharmonic, Boston Opera Collaborative, La Filarmónica Joven de Colombia, Youth Orchestra of the Americas, Camerata New York Orchestra, MostArts Festival Orchestra, Gateway Orchestra, Noli Opera Orchestra of New York, and for the United Nations Symphony Orchestra's awareness concerts. Diana has also substituted with the Imani Winds for their holiday programming, the New Jersey Symphony Woodwind Quintet, has held residencies with Music for Autism through Altius Winds, facilitated Professional Development workshops on Music in Education at New York University and has appeared as a guest speaker at the Jordan School of Music at Butler University. Today, Diana continues her work as a policy analyst, leads the music program at Eskenazi Health and manages Rock E Bassoon.



