Biography: Naomi Gonzalez

Naomi Gonzalez, Director of Education & Community Engagement at the Mann Center for the Performing Arts, a champion for arts education in the Philadelphia region, Gonzalez is using her experience and strong network to continue building the Mann’s education and community engagement programs. By implementing a new 5-year strategic plan with community beneficiaries as the driving focus, new and exciting special performances, summer programs, festivals and in-school programs will grow and expand over the years. Gonzalez brings to the Mann extensive knowledge in the development and oversight of community programs.

Gonzalez was previously the Manager of Collaboration and Access with the Philadelphia Orchestra, where, since joining the Orchestra in 2016, she has designed and implemented local and national initiatives, produced large scale events with national partners such as Carnegie Hall, the School District of Philadelphia, the Salvation Army and created a week long Orchestra residency with 30 community events throughout the city of Philadelphia.

During her time with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Gonzalez focused on creating opportunities and access to quality music programs for children of all ages from the Philadelphia area, which included five local schools, launching a fellowship program that served talented high school aged musicians from under represented communities; a program that received national recognition and funding from major organizations.

Other career accomplishments include Play on Philly!, where she was the Lead Teaching Artist and Gymboree Play and Music in Chicago IL as their Music and Early Childhood Specialist.