

# Jessica Papi

— MAESTRA —

## Conductor | Music Educator

Brazilian-born Jessica Papi is a passionate conductor and music educator, celebrated for her dedication to fostering musical excellence and inspiring the next generation of musicians. She holds a Master's Degree in Orchestral Conducting from Florida International University (2023) and a Master's Degree in Music Theory and Analysis from UNESP – “Julio de Mesquita Filho” State University of São Paulo, Brazil (2019). She also holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music with a specialization in Conducting.

Jessica's musical journey began in her small hometown in Minas Gerais, Brazil, where she developed a love for music inspired by her father, a saxophonist and wind band conductor, and her mother, a dedicated choir singer. At just eight years old, she began informal music studies, learning theory and score reading alongside adults in her community. This early experience laid the foundation for her lifelong commitment to music education and performance. Her formal training began at age 17 when she received a full scholarship to study Sacred Music with a focus on Classical Piano in São Paulo, Brazil.

In 2021, Jessica made her international debut as an orchestral conductor, performing in Miami Beach. This milestone marked the beginning of her global career, showcasing her ability to lead diverse ensembles with dynamic interpretations of classical repertoire. Currently, the Miami area is her main stage.

Jessica further honed her skills as Assistant Conductor for the Florida International University Symphony Orchestra, where she worked extensively with young musicians, guiding them through the symphonic repertoire and helping them achieve exceptional artistic growth. Her work in this role underscores her dedication to empowering the next generation of musicians and fostering a passion for excellence in orchestral performance.

Previously, Jessica served as Assistant Conductor for the String Academic Ensemble and the Academic Symphonic Orchestra at FIAAM FAAM University. She also conducted the Academic Madrigal, performing at the Eleazar de Carvalho Festival in 2016, promoted by his widow. Her contributions as an Assistant Professor of Music Theory at university level and her research in Music Analysis at UNESP reflect her commitment to integrating music theory and performance to engage and inspire young artists.

Jessica's professional development includes attending masterclasses and learning from renowned conductors such as Kenneth Kiesler, Dianne Wittry, Anna Edwards, Chaowen Ting, and Mark Gibson. These experiences have shaped her collaborative and creative approach to conducting, which emphasizes excellence, respect, and innovation.

Teaching remains a cornerstone of Jessica's career. Since 2009, she has worked with children, teenagers, and young adults, helping them develop their musicality, sensitivity, and creativity. Her passion for music education is matched by her commitment to social and educational projects that create opportunities for underserved communities.

Jessica currently serves as Music Director at West Broward Academy, where she continues to inspire young musicians. In 2024, she earned recognition as the winner of a prestigious conducting competition in Atlanta-US, further solidifying her reputation as a talented and innovative conductor.

Jessica lives in Boca Raton, Florida, with her husband, Emanuel Carvalho, and their son, Joshua.