

A musician with over 30 years of performance experience, 20 years of non-profit volunteer work, and lifelong church music ministry service, **Kathryn Jurado** has quickly gained prominence in the handbell community as a ringer and director. She is starting her first year as the Director of Handbells at Landon School in Bethesda, Maryland, where she will lead students from grades 5 through 12. Kathryn also serves as President-Elect on the national board of Handbell Musicians of America, and is the Handbell and Instrumental Editor of Alfred Handbell, a division of Jubilate Music Group.

Originally born in Puerto Rico, Kathryn holds both a Bachelor and Master of Music degree from the University of South Florida in Tampa. As a freelance oboist and private teacher, she has performed with groups such as Opera Tampa, the Venice Symphony, The Tampa Bay Symphony, The Villages Philharmonic, and performances of La La Land Live, and with Ray Charles, the Irish Tenors, and pop superstars Hanson.

Previously, Kathryn served as one of the music directors and Vice President of Magic of Bronze, a community handbell ensemble based in the Orlando area, which was one of the featured performance choirs at the 2020 HMA National Seminar, as well as a term as Associate Director of the Suncoast Bronze Ringers community handbell ensemble in the Tampa Bay area. Kathryn also led a handbell ensemble at the University of South Florida, taught music in the Hillsborough County Public Schools for over a decade, served as Province Officer with Sigma Alpha Iota, International Music Fraternity, and was the handbell director at Lake Magdalene Church (formerly UMC) in Tampa.

In 2022, Kathryn had the privilege to be the clinician for Reaching for Bronze (now known as Crescendo) in New Bern, North Carolina. Most recently, she was the handbell clinician for the Florida Chapter of the Fellowship of Worship Artists' Worship Arts Week in Fruitland Park, Florida in 2024 and 2025, HMA Area 4's Bells of the Caribbean in 2024, HMA's 2025 College Ring-In, and the 2025 Utah Spring Ring. Kathryn was a faculty member at HMA's 2025 Pinnacle event in Wichita, Kansas, and is looking forward to leading handbell festivals in Delaware, Montana, and Nebraska in 2026.

In her spare time, Kathryn, along with her husband, William J. Murphy, enjoys traveling to Disney, cruising the Caribbean, and watching movies with their clowder of cats.