

**Suzzette Ortiz** is an accomplished pianist, composer, arranger, choral conductor and music educator. Her work as a music teacher has been well recognized, with countless awards and commendations for empowering inner city students through choral music. Suzzette retired from full-time teaching after 32 years of service; 27 of those in the City of Camden, New Jersey. Her high school choirs achieved first and second place awards in **Italy, Prague, Puerto Rico, Ghana, Poland, Virginia, Nashville, Tennessee, New York City, New Orleans and Orlando, Florida.**

Suzzette continues to serve as an advocate of music education in her community. She is currently the **Artistic Director at Artistas y Musicos Latino Americanos (AMLA)** music school in Philadelphia and the choir director of the **Jubilee Singers** acapella vocal ensemble from St, John Baptist church in Camden, New Jersey, where she strives to continue to create social change through music.

Suzzette holds a Bachelors degree in piano performance with a minor in composition from the Conservatory of Puerto Rico, and a Master Degree in music education from Temple University in Philadelphia. She is versatile in many music styles, especially Latin jazz. She is a multi-instrumentalist and also plays the harp providing comfort music to patients through the Music for Healing and Transition program.

She has arranged and composed choral music published by Hal Leonard, W.J. Pepper, GIA, Oregon Catholic Press, Philadelphia Jazz Real Book and World Library publications.