*Born in Caracas, Venezuela and raised in West Palm Beach, Florida, Mario Lopez is currently the Executive Director of the Billings Symphony.*

*He attended the A.W. Dreyfoos High School of the Arts, igniting his passion for music performance on the horn. Mario earned his bachelor’s in music performance at Lynn University and completed two years of graduate studies at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. One recital away from obtaining his master’s degree, Mario suffered a lip injury that ended his performance career.*

*Mario was fortunate to find a second love in Arts Administration. After years of soul searching in the corporate world, he knew that the arts had more to offer him.*

*Prior to his appointment at the Billings Symphony, Mario held positions in the Education and Community Partnerships realm with the Knoxville Symphony and the Sarasota Orchestra.*