

Edwin Parker began playing the saxophone at age 11. The next year, in seventh grade, he knew he wanted to be a musician. After 5 years and wise counsel from teachers, Edwin attended the Eastman School of Music. After graduating with a Bachelor of Music degree in 1991, he continued his education at the Manhattan School of Music, where he earned a Master of Music degree in 1995.

Following his graduation, Edwin found employment as a jazz musician in New York City where he played many venues including Birdland and the Lincoln Center for Performing Arts. He has played with Cab Calloway, Todd Williams (of Wynton Marsalis Septet), Mark Sterbank (of Harry Connick, Jr. Big Band), Mario Cruz (of the Bruce Springsteen Band), and Jon Cowherd (of Brian Blade's Friendship Band).

While in New York, Edwin was employed as staff composer/arranger at a large church in midtown Manhattan where he contributed songs, arrangements, and his saxophone/woodwind talents on recordings released on the Aquilla label. These songs have been played on the radio worldwide.

Edwin currently is the Director of Jazz Ensemble and Saxophone at Trinity University in San Antonio, TX. He also directs the Trinity University Saxophone Quartet and teaches jazz classes there. His radio show, [Early Bird Jazz](#), can be heard on KRTU 91.7 FM, Trinity's jazz radio station, from 5-7 am every weekday morning.

Seeing the disappearance of music programs in the public school system and having a desire to share his experience with the next generation of musicians, Edwin co-founded and directs the [San Antonio Youth Jazz Ensemble](#), a high school honors group. He also is the Educational Consultant and a coordinator for [KRTU's Growing Jazz Initiative](#), which provides free tickets to concerts, clinics to area middle and high school jazz ensembles, and brings professional musicians and students together.

Edwin is available to teach saxophone (soprano, alto, tenor, baritone), clarinet, flute/piccolo, oboe, EWI (Electric Wind Instrument), as well as general music classes including, basic-intermediate-advanced music skills, improvisation, composition, arranging, and music appreciation.