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ABOUT ZOOT VELASCO

About Zoot

What's A Zoot?



Zoot Velasco is currently:

- Executive Director of the **Friends of Fullerton College Foundation**
(<https://www.fullcoll.edu/foundation>)
/)

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- Director of the **Gianneschi Center**
(<https://business.fullerton.edu/engagement/GianneschiNonprofitResearch/>) for Nonprofit Research at California State University Fullerton's College of Business & Economics
- Professor of Business & Marketing at California State University Fullerton
- Professor of Nonprofit Management & Leadership at California Polytechnic Institute Pomona
- Host of the nationally-ranked **501(c)3(b)(s) podcast**
(<http://zoot.podbean.com/>)
- Author of three books:
 - **small to LARGE: Growing Social Impact Organizations**
(<https://he.kendallhunt.com/product/small-large-growing-social-impact-organizations-recession>) (Kendall Hunt Publishing 2021)
 - **The First Hundred Days: Leading Small non-Profits Out of The Wilderness**
(https://www.amazon.com/First-100-Days-Non-Profits-Wilderness/dp/1481004697/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&keywords=zoot%20velasco&qid=1359157163&s=books&sr=1-1) (Amazon Press 2013)
 - And **The History of the Muckenthaler Cultural Center**
(<https://www.arcadiapublishing.com/9780738575513/Muckenthaler-Cultural-Center>) (Arcadia Press 2011)



- As well as a registered historical scholar with the California Humanities Council, researcher, published poet and playwright, story slam champion, TEDx conference producer, Screen Actor's Guild member, amateur chef, keynote speaker, event producer, emcee, auctioneer, swing dancer, breakdancer, rapper, kayaker, lawn bowler, and Rotary Club President.

Zoot holds a BA in dance from St. Mary's College of California, an MBA in nonprofit management from Hope International University, and professional designations in arts education, fundraising, leadership, management, and conflict resolution.

Zoot was severely burned as an infant, losing the muscles in his right foot, yet went on to a 12-year career as a professional dancer, actor, and international touring artist working with Prince, Michael Jackson, Arsenio Hall, and James Cameron among others. His community work included 30 years of award-winning work in prisons, on the 1992 LA Riot Recovery Program, and in Red Cross shelters after the 1994 Northridge earthquake.

For 23 years, Zoot led cultural programs in prisons and cultural centers. He built four art centers for the City of LA, a Boys & Girls Club, and a Theatre for the City of Long Beach. He has raised more than \$32 million for various organizations. During the recession, he led the Muckenthaler Cultural Center in Fullerton to unprecedented growth, more than tripling programs, budget, patrons, and the endowment while winning

awards as Orange County's first STEAM programs, institutional arts programs, and strategic partnerships.

Zoot is President of the Rotary Club of Fullerton, and Paul Harris Fellow touring as a lecturer on Rotary history to clubs worldwide.

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