Jose Armando Leal García

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SUMMARY

Business and data analyst building consulting skills in a selective AI fellowship on problems from real company partnerships: requirements gathering, root-cause analysis, and documented solutions. Former church Music Director who led a 10+ person volunteer ensemble and trained 15+ students. B.S. in Finance; SQL, Python, Excel, Tableau, Airtable, with hands-on work in AI-assisted development.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Fair Chance Futures AI Lab, Columbia Center for Justice — Remote
Fellow / Student Consultant — *Jul 2026 – Oct 2026*

- Selected for the inaugural cohort of a competitive applied-AI fellowship; trained in root-cause analysis, requirements gathering, AI-assisted prototyping, and verifying AI output before relying on it.
- Worked as a student consultant on case studies from real company partnerships: gathered requirements in Q&A sessions with clients and delivered documented findings, working prototypes, and written limitations and next steps.
- Food distributor client: used root-cause analysis to trace a 127,506-unit forecast overshoot, then led the tool build and backtest (full marks on all four evaluation criteria).
- Workshop-program client: scoped an Airtable registration system from client Q&A. Government-segment client: built a five-section landing-page prototype from a wireframe and rejected AI claims I could not verify.
- Final project: with a team of three, built Pawprint Companion, a web app that suggests a dog's breed from a photo and opens a care guide written by people, not generated; presented the technical walkthrough at the showcase.

COOP Careers — Data Analytics Fellowship — Los Angeles, CA
Data Analyst Fellow — *Feb 2026 – Jun 2026*

- Coordinated with a cross-functional analyst team to calculate four marketing KPIs (CPA, CPC, CTR, CVR) across publishers, exchanges, and devices, delivering validated campaign metrics for a live client.
- Analyzed a 500+ title Netflix catalog in Excel using pivot tables, identifying 4 untapped international market segments.

Catchafire (Pro Bono) — Youth Orchestras of San Antonio — Remote
Grant Research Volunteer — *Oct 2026*

- Researched and verified 24 new grant opportunities for a ~$1.8M youth music nonprofit, screening about 85 funders against IRS 990 filings and funder websites and documenting why 61 were ruled out; found 3 past funders missing from its grant list, including one that gave $300K.
- Delivered a grant-tracking workbook and application guide that the project lead rated "10/10" and that expanded the organization's grant calendar, including funding for its new mariachi program.

LA County Registrar-Recorder's Office — Redondo Beach, CA
Community Election Worker — *June 2026*

- Verified 483 voters against jurisdictional rolls with zero eligibility errors and full ballot chain-of-custody under strict procedure.

LEADERSHIP & MUSIC

La Vid Community Church — Hawthorne, CA
Music Director & Youth Mentor — *Feb 2016 – Dec 2025*

- Led a 10+ person volunteer ensemble, directing operations, budgets, and scheduling for the volunteers.
- Designed a curriculum that trained 15+ students with no prior instrumental experience, mentoring several into long-term leadership roles.

EDUCATION

California State University, Dominguez Hills — Carson, CA
Bachelor of Science, Business Administration – Finance (Cumulative GPA: 3.2) — *Aug 2020 – Aug 2025*
Honors/Awards: Dean's List (2x), Leonard M. Memorial Scholarship
Coursework: Business Statistics, Forecasting, Data Visualization, Real Estate Analysis, Investment Management

DATA ANALYTICS PROJECTS

Biohub — Cell Tracking During Development (Kaggle Competition) — Completed (Rank 2,822/5,000)

- Built a multi-scale detection and Hungarian-assignment tracking pipeline for 3D+time microscopy data (final public score 0.86683), optimized to run in 142 seconds on CPU.
- **Credit Risk Analytics Matrix (GitHub):** multi-stage SQL (CTEs, conditional aggregation) over 32,000+ records tracking loan default escalation and capital loss exposure; Tableau Public dashboard.
- **Sales & Profitability Audit (Kaggle):** SQL (DuckDB) audit finding three sub-categories (Tables, Bookcases, Supplies) running at a net loss; interactive Tableau dashboard.

ADDITIONAL

Languages: Spanish (Native), English (Fluent)
Tools: SQL (DuckDB, PostgreSQL), Python (Pandas), Advanced Excel, Tableau, Airtable, Docker, Git/GitHub
AI & Data: Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG), vector search (pgvector), local LLMs (Ollama), AI-assisted development, prompt design
Core Competencies: Requirements Gathering, Root-Cause Analysis, Process Documentation, Workflow Validation, Stakeholder Communication
Certifications: Google Analytics Professional Certificate | Python for Finance (DataCamp) | Google AI Essentials | Bloomberg Market Concepts (BMC)