Magnus Lanning began to play the cello at 8 years of age. Between the years 1981 to 1983 mMagnus was a student of Gunnar Norrby. He then continued his studies with Thorleif Thedéen between the years 1983-84.

In the fall of 1984 Magnus started his higher education at Royal College of Music under the guidance of professor Ola Karlsson. This education culminated with an artist diploma and a debut concert with the Swedish Radio Orchestra in the spring of 1990.

Magnus professional career began with a two year contract as principal cellist with the Malmö Symphony Orchestra. Then followed a period as a free-lance musician both nationally and internationally as soloist and chamber musician. During this time he also performed as guest principal cellist of such orchestras as Norrköping Symphony Orchestra, Camerata Nordica, Västerås Sinfonietta, Dalasinfoniettan and Music Vitae, among others.

Since 2008 Magnus has been a permanent member of the Swedish Radio Orchestra. Apart from his activities with the orchestra, Magnus is an active chamber musician and soloist, and performs regularly at festivals and for the swedish radio.