

Audio Transcript: Leticia Roa Nixon

Community Activist & News Producer

My name is Leticia Roa Nixon, born in Mexico City. I came in October of 1985, so this month, it will be 36 years ago. Since I was in Mexico City, I studied communications, though my major was in research, but I immediately started working for a newspaper that had a children's section every Sunday, so since then I've been a news reporter. I did that because I liked journalism, but once I moved to Philadelphia, that was a different story, which was great to be writing for, for the community, not for but within the community. And that's when I started to be a community news reporter. And mainly because I felt that there were few newspapers in Spanish at the time, but there were more at a time than now. And I thought it will be important for Latinos to see their stories reflected in the newspaper. Fortunately, I'm a naturalized citizen.

So I'm a volunteer with all these organizations and when you have to be in front of the march and not, don't be afraid to be deported, or having a voice and shouting slogans or whatever, I'm there, because I know, I have that protection. Freedom of expression. And you don't have to be afraid. Lately, yes, of course. There are some newspapers that say, "oh, no, you already covered that three times." But yeah, so I say "yes." I write about our activism, and I bring it to the media. I'm thankful for *Atrévete* that they don't mind if it has been mentioned before, because these fights and struggles, as you will know, they last for decades until you achieve a right and you cannot let it go or not keep fighting. That's the best way to lose a fight: not to fight for it. When there was an opportunity to be producing stories for TV, that's thanks to Laura Deutch, and Gretjen Clausing, the executive director of PhillyCAM that invited the Latinos to be part of PhillyCAM and start producing their stories.