
VALERIA QUINONES-MORALES

Bethlehem, PA

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Born in Puerto Rico and later raised in Bethlehem, PA, Valeria Quinones-Morales is a bilingual multimedia journalist with a passion for nonfiction storytelling, deep reportage, and listening to community members from the forgotten corners of rural Pennsylvania. In the last year, Valeria covered the midterm elections for *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and SpotlightPA, the effects of inflation on Blair County for WPSU (NPR), and the impact of SNAP and food insecurity on college students for “Centre County Report” (aired locally on PBS and streamed on CBS in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia).

EDUCATION

The Pennsylvania State University

May 2023

Bachelor of Arts in Broadcast Journalism, Minor in Psychological Science, GPA 3.57

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

The News Lab, State College, PA

Sept. 22 – June 2023

Multimedia Journalist

- Selected to work in the News Lab @ Penn State, a newsroom focused on in-depth and investigative journalism focused on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and critical coverage gaps at the local and state level. *This is a paid position offered to five students a year (via a rigorous application process).*
- Served as lead reporter for an extensive multimedia project, localizing the impact of inflation on Tyrone, a community of 5000, and representative of many underreported rural Pennsylvania communities.
- Coordinated audio, photo, and text from four reporters for the Tyrone multimedia project
- Tested and refined my journalistic skills through professional opportunities and 9-months of mentorship.

WPSU in partnership with the News Lab @ Penn State | Blair County, PA

Feb–Apr. 2023

Freelance Reporter

- Prepared with our team for a 4-day reporting trip to Blair County, including technical and editorial workshops with WPSU editorial director Emily Reddy & CityCast producer Mallery Falk.
- Produced a multimedia project & audio series on the impacts of inflation on Blair County residents.
- Conducted on-site interviews across the county and wrote/edited scripts as well as mini profiles.
- Worked with News Lab mentor Mallery Falk, former public radio reporter, to read through and revise radio scripts before and after editing.

CENTRE COUNTY REPORT in partnership with the News Lab @ Penn State

Mar. 2022

Freelance Reporter

- Produced a 90s package on the impact of food insecurity and SNAP on college students for CCR, an award-winning weekly program that airs in 500,000 homes and 29 counties in PA and streams on CBS in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.
- Turned a package in one day — from assignment and fieldwork to script writing, voiceover, and edits.

Freelance Reporter

- Joined a team of reporters from SpotlightPA, Votebeat, and the *Inquirer* to produce election day dispatches, published on SpotlightPA and republished by 20+ media outlets.
- Participated in team training and conducted preliminary research of my assigned precincts.
- Wrote, edited, and sent articles to News Lab editorial team before submitting dispatches via Slack to our Spotlight PA editor for final edits, voter roll verification, and digital publication each hour.
- Worked closely with the News Lab editorial team, including former *Detroit Free Press* reporter Walter Middlebrook, former *Public Source* Executive Editor Mila Sanina, and founding Report for America National Director Maggie Messitt.
- Published 5 of 27 dispatches across 6 counties with the News Lab team, and was cited as ‘contributing reporter’ for election day articles published in the *Inquirer*, Penn Live, SpotlightPA, and others.

Nittany News Podcast, Penn State Lehigh, Center Valley, PA

Fall 19 – Fall 2020

Co-Host

- Sought, researched, and reported stories related to the student body, interests and school events.
- Collaborate with a team to execute stories
- Broadcast on social media platforms

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

TJ Maxx, State College, PA | Retail Associate

Mar – Oct 2022

Sam’s Club, Allentown, PA | Member Frontline Cashier

Jun – Aug 2021

Crayola Manufacturing, Northampton County, PA | Assembly Packer

Oct 2020 – Feb 2021

Open Systems Healthcare, Bethlehem, PA | Caregiver

Sep 2019 – Oct 2020

Plato’s Closet, Allentown, PA | Sales Associate

Mar 2018 – May 2019

The Meadows Banquet, Hellertown, PA | Caterer

Jul – Nov 2017

OTHER CREATIVE EXPERIENCE

SHORT FILM: *A Night To Remember*

Spring 2022

- Lead: Ash

LANGUAGES

Fluent in English and Spanish

Highlights

- *National Society of Leadership & Success*
- *President’s Freshman Award 2019-2020*
- *Dean’s List Fall 2022*
- *Dean’s List Spring 2022*
- *Dean’s List Spring 2020*
- *Dean’s List Fall 2019*

Technical Skills

- Adobe Premiere Pro
- Adobe Lightroom Classic/Lightroom
- Adobe Audition
- Adobe InDesign
- Audio training/recording/editing