

Mentor **Stephania Jimenez**Mentee **Zayla Rivera**

DIGNIFIED NEWS VOICE

by Zayla Rivera

tepping outside my comfort zone, I was privileged to be mentored by news anchor Stephania Jimenez of KSAT 12 Television.

Stephania Jimenez grew up in Brooklyn, New York. She said it was common for families in her neighborhood to gather around the television every night to watch the evening news. That early exposure sparked Stephania's interest in journalism.

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Stephania has learned that everyone has a story and deserves to be heard.

When she began high school, Stephania reported for her school newspaper. Her dedication and writing skills eventually landed her the role of editor-in-chief. That experience and her education at Syracuse University helped her obtain an internship at Fox News Radio in New York City. She excelled in this fast-paced environment. After graduating from Syracuse University, Fox News Radio hired her as a writer/producer.

However, Stephania's big television news career break came in 2010, when KTSM in El Paso hired her to be a reporter. After a few months, she was promoted to weekend anchor and then evening anchor. Her success in El Paso led the way for more opportunities. She has worked in Connecticut; Corpus Christi, Texas; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and now she works at KSAT12 in San Antonio.

Stephania Jimenez has consistently demonstrated her journalistic and ethical skills in her coverage of major stories like Hurricane Harvey and the Uvalde school tragedy. Through it all, she holds firm to her ethics and commitment to the community:

Never exploit the people involved. Be respectful and when needed- give space.

This mentorship provided me with insight into the business of television news, and thus, broadening my media arts perspective. Moreover, Stephania's wisdom helped me build my confidence and answer questions about my future career in graphic design.

I was honored to collaborate and learn from a respected news journalist and a true mentor. Stephania Jimenez's commitment to uplifting others resonated deeply, as evidenced by her own words; "I've had awesome people help me grow and I'd love to do the same for others."

