Meet Visalia Rawhide’s director of marketing

By Renata Arizpe and Kacy Nunez

Migrant after school students from Palm Elementary School interviewed Marina Rojas to learn about her and her job. The interview took place in March, through Zoom, from their Migrant after school classroom.

Marina Rojas shared that “she loves baseball and she loves people as well.” She decided she wanted to work in business when she was in high school. She realized she wanted to help businesses become “more visible.” This was the start of her journey.

She attended College of the Sequoias after high school. She graduated with her associates degree in business marketing. She also shared that she worked for free several times to get real world experiences, which helped her achieve her current job.

Currently she is the director of marketing and promotions for Visalia Rawhide. This is her first year with Rawhide. Her job includes many duties. One significant role is to make sure everyone knows about Rawhide and the events going on for them. Rojas wants everybody to know that the Rawhide is in Visalia. She makes sure people know about Rawhide by being on TV, social media, TikTok, and sharing stories. She enjoys sharing with others and her community about her job, and talks about Rawhide events everywhere she goes. Marina Rojas has one big dream is that within the next 10 years she will be working for the Dodgers!

Jill Gearin’s primary job as the director of broadcasting and media relations manager is entertainment and the community. She broadcasts baseball games on the radio for people who can’t, or choose not to, attend games. Jill has only three and a half hours to make sure people can receive free snacks. Jill stated that the most challenging part of her job is getting everything done in a short amount of time. In order to be ready for a broadcast, Jill has only three and a half hours to make sure players, coaches, and media members have everything that they need. She also works with Marina Rojas, the director of marketing and promotions, as well as to assist her with getting players ready for photo or video shoots if needed.

Marina Rojas is the director of marketing and promotions for the Visalia Rawhide team. Her job is to make sure that everyone knows about the team, come up with fun events for the games, and find interesting ways to make people want to come to the games. She comes up with new ideas for getting fans interested in coming to games by looking at trends and marketing ideas, sharing news, or other social media platforms. Marina’s job also includes getting ready for the next round of home baseball games when the team is traveling.

Marina’s college experience for this job includes an associate degree in marketing and business management from the College of Sequoias in Visalia, California. She has also worked for free for the team as a broadcaster, and is excited for her first season. Marina joined the Visalia Rawhide team in October of 2021, and is excited for her first season. Marina said that she has grown up with baseball and that it has always been her family’s fun way of entertaining themselves. Marina’s favorite part of her job is getting to hang out with new people, and having some fun by sharing what she does with both fans and the community. She states that the most challenging part of her job is being able to get everything needed to promote a game in a short amount of time, along with long work days during game season. She said that she only has Mondays off during the entire summer season.

Before our Migrant Student Journalism team interviewed the Visalia Rawhide baseball team employees who work behind the scenes, we did not realize all of the hard work it takes in order to make sure that the community is informed regarding game time events or the work it takes to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to enjoy the game of baseball both in person or on the radio. Although their work day during game days is a long 13-hour day that begins at 10:00 a.m. and ends at 11:00 p.m., and they go an entire summer with only Mondays off, they both believe that the result is worth all the hard work. If you are looking for an event to enjoy with your family or friends, you should attend a Visalia Rawhide game. If going out is not a possibility, remember that you can always catch a game being broadcast by Jill on the radio!
First, let’s meet Marina! Marina loves helping people do fun things. She is the director of marketing and promotions. She loves baseball and wants everyone to know about Rawhide! Her goal is to work for the Dodgers organization one day.

Jill Gearin shared that she loves baseball. When she was 13 years old, she knew she wanted to be a radio broadcaster. She gave a speech in middle school and told everyone that she was going to be a radio broadcaster for the Boston Red Sox one day. She was inspired by how much she loved the sport and wanted to share her passion with others.

During her career journey, she interviewed for teams in college and worked hard. Currently she is a radio broadcaster for the Visalia Rawhide. She has been with Rawhide for four years. She told students she loves her job. Her job duties are to broadcast all the games on the radio. She goes out in the community to let people know about events, lets people know about the players, and makes sure players are out in the community. She loves telling stories, getting to know players, and learning what they have gone through in life, and telling fans about it.

Students asked what advice she can give to anyone who would like to become a radio broadcaster and she advised students to go to college for journalism, intern at many places, and work hard.

Jill’s dream is to be working for a Major League Baseball team in the next 10 years. Jill’s dream is to be working for a Major League Baseball team in the next 10 years. Jill is in charge of public relations. She wants to inspire others. Jill played softball in college and she truly loves the game of baseball. Jill was only 13 years old when she decided to become a broadcaster. A broadcaster is someone who presents or announces a game over the radio or television. Jill announces the games over the radio for everyone to hear. From the time she was 13, it took eight years until she was able to intern for the Boston Red Sox baseball team. Currently, Jill attends community events and broadcasts games over the radio. Her typical ‘on season’ day begins at 10 a.m. and ends at 11 p.m., while off-season days are nine to nine. Jill hopes to become a major league broadcaster in the next few years.

Hopefully after reading this, you will want to head down to Visalia and catch a local Rawhide Baseball game! They are located at 300 N. Giddings Street, Visalia, California.
By Isabela Hernandez Diaz

Are you ever wondered how they do it, to speak in both Spanish and English on television? On Tuesday, March 15, 2022, our Migrant Student Journalism team conducted a virtual interview with Cristian Gomez from Univision, the Spanish news station Univision, local channel 21, to learn about his multimedia journalist/news anchor career.

During our virtual interview with Cristian Gomez from Univision, our journalism team discovered what the job duties of a multimedia journalist/news anchor are, the type of education needed to get a job, as well as the job’s challenges and benefits.

Mr. Gomez stated that his title is multimedia journalist/news anchor. He has a very busy day, and his job duties began with deciding which stories to tell by gathering information from a morning meeting with all the reporters who will be working that day. Prior to the meeting, the reporters must be informed regarding what is happening in the area by reading about the community’s concerns from other news outlets as well as talking to people in the Central Valley and surrounding areas. The final decision on which stories will be chosen are based on those that make the largest impact, are relevant, and new. Gomez’s job duties also include completing a story from beginning to end by himself and recording as well as reporting at his own interviews.

In addition, Mr. Gomez says that although his primary position is a reporter, he also will occasionally fill in as a newscast anchor in the studio on the weekends or when a reporter is not available. Gomez has been working in the multimedia field for about four years and has worked for the local Univision all-Spanish station on channel 21 in Fresno, California for more than a year.

Mr. Gomez also shared that he was born in Jalisco, Mexico and when he first came to the United States at the age of 15, he did not know any English and had to learn the language. After moving to the United States, Gomez attended Long Beach High School and completed most of his education in the city of Long Beach, California — which is located about 30 minutes south of Los Angeles. After graduating from high school, Mr. Gomez went to Long Beach Community College where he took several journalism classes. This is where he fell in love with the major. When he completed his studies there, he transferred to California State University, Long Beach, where he graduated and received a bachelor’s degree in journalism with a minor in Spanish.

Gomez stated that some of the benefits of being a multimedia/news anchor are that he is able to meet different people and hear their stories. He says that another benefit of his job is being able to “help families resolve problems in the Latino community by presenting stories that highlight their concerns as well as informing them of current events in their own language.”

His ability to speak both Spanish and English allows him to reach more people in the community. Gomez’s ability to speak Spanish also helped him to get the job at Univision which is an all-Spanish station that requires someone who is able to broadcast news stories that reach out to the Spanish community in their own language. Additionally, being able to speak two languages can provide a lot more opportunities to grow in your career, and in some cases, you may be paid a higher salary for your ability.

Although his daily routine is the same every day, Gomez states that it is fun because there is always a new story to explore. What Gomez loves most about his job is that sometimes through his stories, he can make someone’s day as well as help his community.

Some challenges with being a multimedia journalist/news anchor are that you have a story deadline that must be met every day. Another concern is making sure that all the resources for a particular story are available to you within a certain time frame which can be challenging due to everyone’s scheduling along with getting the story ready to be broadcast on time. In addition, there is a deadline for researching and making sure that story facts and data/statistics are accurate. Also, when preparing to report a story, there is only a short amount of time to memorize the information that is being reported. One of the main downsides to the job is at times there may be negative comments from viewers. Although the job of a multimedia journalist/news anchor has both benefits and challenges, Gomez states that the rewards from making a positive impact on his community outweigh any challenges.

It was exciting to interview and find out information about the job of a multimedia journalist/news anchor. Now you have the information needed if you ever decide to pursue a multimedia journalist/news anchor career. If you ever have dreams of becoming a multimedia journalist/news anchor, you can see it takes a lot of hard work and a desire to help make a difference for people in your community!

By Isabela Hernandez Diaz

Cristian Gomez is the multimedia journalist/news anchor for Univision television. He was born and raised in Mexico and was an immigrant who came to the United States speaking no English. He attended high school in Long Beach. After high school, he started attending college wanting to be a computer engineer, but later changed his mind.

Cristian mentioned that he was inspired by his parents to always do better. His dream is to become a full-time news anchor person in the Los Angeles area. The advice he gave us during the interview is to “never give up on your dreams. Work hard in school. Continue your education and talk to your professors.” When asked about what he does in his free time, Cristian shared that he enjoys spending time with his family and friends. He also mentioned that the funniest thing that happened to him during a live broadcast is when people made funny faces at him while he is reporting the news. Sometimes people call out “UNIVISION!” when they see him. You can see Cristian Gomez on your local Univision channel nightly.
Cristian Gomez is a reporter at Univision Fresno and being bilingual has given him an edge in his job. It is his superpower! Speaking two languages helps him communicate with others who may only speak Spanish.

Mr. Gomez was born and raised in Mexico, and moved to the United States when he was in high school. In high school, he worked super hard to learn English and then he went to a community college. Afterwards, he transferred to California State University, Long Beach. At this university, he studied and learned about how to become a great journalist.

Mr. Gomez is currently a reporter for Univision Fresno, which is a local Spanish news station. One of the things he likes about being a reporter is that he tells different stories and gets to meet new people on the job. He also likes to help his community by informing them about what is happening around them and where they can get any help. One of the challenges about his job is that he must report on stories that may be heartbreaking. Maybe you can tune in to Univision Fresno to see Cristian on television one day.

Migrant students get to know local Univision news anchor

By Melany Ramirez and Osvaldo Herrera

Migrant after school students from Palm Elementary School, interviewed local Univision news anchor Cristian Gomez, to learn about him and his job. They interviewed Cristian Gomez on March 15, 2022, through Zoom from their homes.

Students learned he was born and raised in Jalisco, Mexico. He arrived in America as an immigrant. He did not know any English. His father was an engineer and Cristian dreamed of also being an engineer as well. His family is important to him. He always wants to make his family proud.

Cristian started school by attending high school in Long Beach, California. After graduating high school, he went to Long Beach Community College. He started taking math classes for computer engineering but realized math was not his passion. He took journalism classes in community college and fell in love with the major. This was the beginning of his journalism journey. He continued taking classes in that field. He transferred to California State University, Long Beach, where he graduated with his B.A. in journalism and a minor in Spanish.

Today, Cristian Gomez is a multimedia journalist/news anchor for Univision Fresno, a local Spanish news channel. Every day he writes a new story. Some stories are sad, some are happy. He loves to help his community. He helps families solve problems. Every weekday, he has a meeting with his co-workers. They give ideas of what is happening in the community and decide on the best story by talking to people in the community. People tell their problems and Cristian listens to their concerns. He writes stories that will make the greatest impact to everyone.

Cristian shared some of his dreams and goals during the interview. He said his first dream was to be an engineer like his dad. His second dream was to work in the television industry and work in the field of communication. He currently has achieved his second dream by working as a multimedia journalist/anchor. He hopes that in 10 years, he will be living back in L.A. as an anchor full time. Maybe even married with kids.
Hello migratory families, my name is Jason Treviño and I am happy to serve as the new area administrator for the Tulare County Office of Education, Migrant Education Program Region VIII. I wanted to take the time to introduce myself and to encourage every one of you to connect with me to discuss all the ways our Migrant Education Program can support you and/or your children. A quick story about my background. I am one of four children who was raised by farm working parents, who had a history of migrating throughout California for work, before settling in Orosi. With their sacrifice and support, I learned the value of education. I committed myself to attending college and ensuring that all the sacrifices my parents made for my siblings and I would not go to waste. I started my career in education over 14 years ago. My experiences in education vary but each adventure has brought upon personal and professional growth. I taught high school for six years, I also served in the capacity as a high school assistant principal for three years and recently served as an elementary school principal for five years before joining the amazing team at Tulare County Office of Education in February.

I am so honored to serve the communities of Cutler-Orosi, Kings River Union School District, Traver Joint School District, Woodlake, Exeter, Tulare City School District, Liberty Elementary School District and Visalia Unified School District. As I begin to build relationships with families from across the county, I invite you to say hello so I can get to know your story and determine how I can support your child to dream big, set goals, and succeed on the journey to higher education. I look forward to working alongside staff throughout the county and supporting them. It takes a team of amazing people to help break barriers. I want you to know that you are not alone throughout your children’s academic journey and that together we can truly make a difference and inspire lives. I can’t wait to meet all of you. I invite you to attend our parents meetings, our annual Health and Education Conference, and other upcoming events for the 2022-23 school year.

This is your friendly neighborhood Migrant Education area administrator, Mr. Treviño. Have an amazing day.

Sincerely,

Jason Treviño

TCOE Migrant Education Area Administrator

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Sincerely,

Jason Treviño

TCOE Migrant Education Area Administrator

district escolar de la ciudad de Tulare, el distrito escolar primario Liberty y el distrito escolar unificado de Visalia. A medida que empecé a establecer relaciones con familias de todo el condado, los invito a conocerlos para poder aprender su historia y determinar cómo puedo ayudar a su hijo/a a soñar en grande, establecer metas y tener éxito en el camino hacia la educación superior. Espero con ansias trabajar junto al equipo del programa migrante para brindarles a usted y su familia la capacitación y apoyo que se merecen. Se necesita un equipo de personas increíbles para ayudar a romper barreras. Quiero que sepan que no están solos a lo largo de la jornada académica de sus hijo/as y que juntos podemos realmente hacer una diferencia. Espero con ansias que me den la oportunidad de conocerlos a todos. Los invito a asistir a nuestras reuniones de padres, nuestra Conferencia anual de Salud y Educación y otros próximos eventos para el año escolar 2022-23.

Este es el Administrador del Área de Educación Migrante de su amigable comunidad, el Sr. Treviño. ¡Que tengas un maravilloso día!

Sinceramente,

Jason Treviño

TCOE Migrant Education Area Administrator

Migrant Education is a nationally federally-funded program that provides services to children and youth ages 3 to 21, whose education has been interrupted in the past three years because of the need for migrant parents to relocate to other areas in order to find agricultural or seasonal work.

Migrant Education Region VIII serves migrant students and their families in 54 school districts throughout Tulare and Kings counties. Our goal is to work in cooperation with individual school districts to supplement the district’s educational program and to promote each migrant student’s academic achievement through advocacy, coordination and collaboration. Parents are an integral part of the education of the migrant education program. District, Regional and State parent advisory councils play an active role in advocating, planning, and implementing services for migrant students.
¿Ha llegado usted recientemente a esta ciudad?
Did you recently move to this town?

¿Vino a trabajar en agricultura, lecherías, empaques, o en la pesca?
Did you move here to work in agriculture, dairies, packing houses, or in fishing?

¿Sale usted a otras ciudades o estados para trabajar en las corridas?
Do you travel to other cities or states to follow the crop?

¿Tiene niños entre las edades de 0-21 años o es usted menor de 22 años?
Do you have children between the ages of 0-21 or are you under the age of 22?

¡Si usted contesto SI en alguna de estas preguntas, por favor llámenos ahora!
If you answered YES to one of these questions, please call us now!
(559) 651-3035

Meet Our Journalists

Tulare City – Mulcahy Middle School
Teacher: Gabriela Jimenez

Irma Cisneros Jimenez

Tulare City – Alpine Vista School
Teacher: Janice Pearson

Renata Arizpe
Kacy Nunez

Cutler Orosi Joint Unified – Palm Elementary School
Teacher: Sylvia McLaughlin

Osvaldo Herrera
Melany Ramirez

Cutler Orosi Joint Unified – Cutler Elementary School
Teacher: Darlene Isaak

Crystal Santamaria Palomares
Isabela Hernandez Diaz

Acknowledgement

The Migrant Education Journalism Project provides rich academic experiences and serves as a pathway to college and career readiness. This project could not have been completed without the support of Tulare County Office of Education Superintendent Tim Hire, Director of Migrant Education Anabel Gonzalez, Superintendents of each participating school district, the supportive interviewee parents and other support staff. A very special recognition to our teachers: Mrs. Darlene Isaak, Ms. Sylvia McLaughlin, Mrs. Janice Pearson and Ms. Gabriela Jimenez. Their dedication to go above and beyond is appreciated. Last but not least, our Migrant students who chose to show up to journalism class at the end of the school day to work hard and learn even more. You did a great job and we are extremely proud of your hard work.