

LA ROCHE UNIVERSITY  
2021 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI CIRCLE AWARD RECIPIENT



**Danay Rivero '10, M.S.**

*National News Correspondent*  
Univision Network

Danay Rivero was born and raised in Havana, Cuba. At the age of 16, she had to make one of the most difficult decisions of her life: leaving her country and her mother to pursue better opportunities in the United States.

She immigrated to Buffalo, New York on a scholarship to the Buffalo Academy for Visual and Performing Arts where she graduated from high school. At La Roche University she earned two bachelor's degrees: one in communication, media and technology, and another in performing arts.

While pursuing her master's degree in journalism and mass communications at Florida International University, Ms. Rivero began her career at Univision Network in Miami. There she worked under the tutelage of Jorge Ramos for *Al Punto*, while also contributing to *Despierta America* and *Noticiero Univision*.

In 2013 she worked at the local Univision station in Orlando, Florida, where she had the opportunity to cover the Trayvon Martin vs. George Zimmerman case. Months later she traveled to Miami to work as a national correspondent for *Noticiero Univision*. In this role she covered the presidential elections from 2017 to the present, the Baton Rouge police shooting and the Orlando Massacre.

A four-time Emmy Award nominee, she conducted an exclusive interview in Guatemala with Lourdes de Leon, the first migrant mother separated from her 6-year-old son due to the zero-tolerance policy. The interview played an important role in the mother and son reuniting.

Another assignment in 2018 allowed her to ride along with the border patrol air unit as part of Guatemalan minors rescue in the Arizona desert. After interviewing a minor who was crossing the Mexican border to come to the United States, she was able to locate his mother in Guatemala who hadn't seen her son for weeks.

Ms. Rivero obtained several interviews in more than one immigration detention center in order to get the testimonials of migrants under U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) custody.

Through one of her most recent assignments, she obtained evidence that helped to solve the murder of a 9-year-old child with autism.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, she has worked in high-risk immigrant zones to report the community struggles and needs.