

Myriam Márquez is new executive editor of el Nuevo Herald

Nancy San Martin

nsanmartin@MiamiHerald.com



PEDRO PORTAL / EL Nuevo Herald

Staff writer Juan Tamayo congratulates Myriam Marquez Wednesday on her new role as executive editor of el Nuevo Herald.

Myriam Márquez, a career journalist who has overseen the Miami Herald's editorial pages, is the new executive editor of el Nuevo Herald.

Márquez's appointment was announced Wednesday by Miami Herald Media Company Publisher David Landsberg and was met with resounding applause by staff members.

"We are delighted to have such a seasoned and perceptive journalist as Myriam to lead the el Nuevo Herald newsroom," Landsberg said. "Under her leadership, the already trailblazing newspaper will continue to reach new heights."

The first woman and Hispanic to lead the Herald's opinion pages, Márquez now leads the largest Spanish-language daily in the nation.

"It's been an amazing day," Márquez said. "The el Nuevo Herald team is outstanding. They're committed, they're passionate, they do all in their power to cover this community."

First published in 1975 as el Miami Herald and re-launched in 1987 as el Nuevo Herald, the newspaper and website elnuevoherald.com have steadily increased their industry profile and readership in recent years.

In 1993, the el Nuevo Herald became the only Spanish-language newspaper to be named a Pulitzer Prize finalist for its photographic work with the Herald on Hurricane Andrew. In 2010, el Nuevo Herald also was a finalist for its coverage of the Haiti earthquake. It also won the international Ortega y Gasset award as the best Spanish daily in 2002.

Márquez's background in Miami as an editor and commentator will serve el Nuevo Herald well, said Aminda "Mindy" Marqués Gonzalez, executive editor of the Miami Herald.

"Myriam has deep knowledge of our region and the communities within it," Marqués said. "She'll be a great partner as our newsrooms approach covering the diversity and complexity of the area."

The Miami Herald and el Nuevo Herald share space and resources at the Miami Herald Media Company headquarters in Doral.

Márquez replaces Manny Garcia, who left el Nuevo Herald earlier this month to become editor of the Naples Daily News.

Márquez, who began her career as a local news reporter, quickly excelled as a writer and found her niche in sharing views as a columnist and editorial writer, exposing wrongs, advocating for the rights of all citizens and sharing tales through the lens of a bilingual, bicultural experience.

Born in Havana, where her mother taught school and her father shuttled tourists around in his taxi, Márquez's life in Cuba came to an abrupt halt when Fidel Castro seized power.

The family fled in 1959, joining other exiles who also settled in South Florida. Márquez was 4 when she began her new life in the United States. She was raised in Miami and is a graduate of Miami Senior High and Miami Dade College. She completed her collegiate degree at the University of Maryland, with a bachelor's in journalism and minor in political science.

As the head of el Nuevo, she will serve a diverse segment of Hispanic readers in South Florida as well as across the United States, the Caribbean, Latin America and Europe.

"I am honored to have been selected to lead el Nuevo Herald's award-winning team of reporters, editors, designers and photographers, and I am humbled by the trust that publisher David Landsberg has in my capabilities," Márquez said. "It's a dream job in the most spectacular and energetic city in the nation, this special place I call home, Miami."

Márquez has worked at the Herald since October 2005. As an assistant city editor, she coordinated coverage of South Florida's Latin American and Caribbean communities. She was promoted to deputy metro editor in December 2007, served as Metro columnist in 2008 and was selected to oversee the opinion pages in print and online in June 2009.

She has overseen a number of award-winning projects, including coverage of torture suspects at Krome, local politics, higher education and the evolving face of Miami's Cuban exile community.

In 2009, she won the Green Eyeshade award from the Society of Professional Journalists for serious commentary. She also received an award in 2009 from Camacol, the Latin Chamber of Commerce in South Florida, and was listed among the top 100 most "influential Hispanics" in the nation by Hispanicbusiness.com

Márquez also spends time in Orlando where she worked before joining the Herald. She is married to Orlando investigative reporter Tony Pipitone. The couple have two grown sons, one a Florida Gator, the other a Seminole.

During her 18 years at the Orlando Sentinel, Marquez received numerous awards as a columnist and editorial board member. She also served as the Sentinel's enterprise editor, overseeing coverage of education, social trends and the environment.

As the Herald's editorial editor, Márquez's mission was to put the department on a more interactive path. She fulfilled that mission by, among other things, engaging with readers on social media, offering behind-the-scene views of editorial board meetings with community leaders on MiamiHerald.com and moderating exchanges in the form of video live streams.

Those kinds of ground-breaking endeavors will expand in her new role as the news business continues to change.

"I'm committed to continuing the standard of excellence set by el Nuevo Herald's founder, Roberto Suarez, and continued by my predecessor, Manny Garcia: to seek the truth wherever it may lead and cover our community as it continues to grow into a dynamic metropolitan area," she said. "And I look forward to working with the Miami Herald's executive editor Mindy Marqués to improve the reach of both news organizations in our community. I can't wait for this new adventure to begin."