

# SYRA CASTILLO

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## EDUCATION

**Southern Methodist University**

Dallas, TX

**Dedman College and Meadows School of the Arts**

May 2026

*Bachelor of Arts, English with Creative Writing Specialization | Minors in Italian and Journalism*

GPA: 3.9 / 4.0

- Awards: SMU Opportunity Award, Founders Scholar, and Albert N. Jackson Scholarship.

## SKILLS

**Language:** Spanish (Fluent), Italian (Working) - Global Seal of Biliteracy.

**Computer:** Microsoft Word Specialist, Microsoft PowerPoint Specialist, Adobe Premiere, and Adobe Audition.

## EXPERIENCE

**Southern Methodist University**

Dallas, TX

*Student Worker, Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs*

August 2023 - Present

- Performing office duties such as answering phone calls, scanning, filing, and running university-related errands.
- Developing organization and customer service skills.
- Understanding the high expectations of professionalism and confidentiality while representing the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Dallas, TX

*Daily Campus Contributor*

August 2024 - Present

- Engage with students, faculty, and community members to gather diverse perspectives.
- Investigate and gather information on various issues relevant to the campus and community.
- Produce clear, concise, and engaging articles that inform the SMU campus community.
- Report on-campus events such as SMU ARTafterDARK and The Great Crumpkin events, student senate lectures, and provide timely updates and coverage.

Dallas, TX

*SMU TV's Al Punto, Anchor and Associate Producer*

August 2024 - Present

- Anchor Al Punto production and produce shows.
- Translate SMU TV production scripts into Spanish and write original scripts.
- Support the production team in filming and editing, ensuring high-quality broadcasts.
- Utilize strong Spanish and English language skills for content creation, interviews, and viewer communication.

**The Dallas Morning News**

Dallas, TX

*Food & Entertainment Intern*

January – May 2025

- Researched, wrote, and published 11 original stories, including one in Spanish, that covered restaurant openings, food trends, and entertainment events across Dallas-Fort Worth.
- Conducted interviews with chefs, restaurant owners, event organizers, and industry experts.
- Ensured all articles adhered to AP style guidelines and maintained high standards of grammar, clarity and professionalism.
- Performed thorough fact-checking and follow-up questioning to verify accuracy in reporting, including names, dates, and event details.

## LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Awarded the DFW Hispanic Communicators scholarship for rising student journalists.
- Awarded the Pi Beta Phi Foundation scholarship for undergraduate students.
- Awarded the Educational Opportunities scholarship for undergraduate students for four years.
- Member of Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority, Inc.
- External Communications Chair for Hispanic or Latino Association (HOLA) at SMU.