

Marcela Rabens Bio

Marcela Rabens is the producer of *Universal Latin News Charleston* which is a digital television platform for Hispanic news in the Lowcountry and the immediate surrounding areas. Rabens is also the creator and designer of the *Charleston Latin Guide* which includes a directory, magazine, and website.

Rabens was born in a town called Black River located in the central jungle of Peru. From an early age, she was always interested in communications and she became actively involved in her community spreading the news about different topics. When she was just 15 years old, Rabens started a program on a local radio station where she provided listeners with current news and music.

In 2002, Rabens moved to Charleston. She wanted to be successful in the United States like most immigrants. In her early years, she cleaned houses for a living because she had very limited English speaking skills. Three years later she published the first issue of *Universal Latin News Charleston*. Since 2005, she has been serving the Hispanic community by informing her community about a variety of topics, including issues on education, politics, economy, and social issues. In 2015, she printed the first and only local Hispanic directory called the *Charleston Latin Guide*, which not only serves the Hispanic community but it also helps to connect the American and Hispanic communities.

Rabens believes that good communication within the framework of respect serves to unify people from different ethnicities, socioeconomic, and cultural backgrounds. She is passionate about her work and helping the Latino community. This communications dynamo continues to assist people in need and supports organizations that assist those who are looking to improve the quality of life for others. She was recognized by the Charleston County School District for her continuous support in highlighting the positive achievements of Hispanic students. She received an Award in 2009 from the Trident Urban League.

Rabens served on the College of Charleston President's Community, Hispanic Initiative Health of the Medical University of South Carolina, and Trident Literacy Association boards. Currently, she is on the Trident United Way and Trident Medical Center Community Advisory boards. Rabens lives with her husband Christian Rabens.