Maria Torres

Meteorologist

Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch, National Hurricane Center

Maria Torres is a meteorologist with the Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch of NOAA's National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami, Florida.

She received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Meteorology from the Florida State University in 2009.

Maria began her career with the National Weather Service as a student trainee at NWS Miami, Fla., from 2007-2009 while attending FSU. After graduation, she began to work as a meteorologist intern at NWS Albuquerque, N.M. In 2011, she was promoted to General Forecaster at NWS Brownsville, Tex. While there, Maria did extensive work expanding its Outreach and Decision Support Services, and the tropical services program to the Hispanic community.

She returned to NWS Miami in 2016 as a General Forecaster to expand and grow the Spanish program that is greatly needed in South Florida. The position involves the issuance of watches and warnings, and forecasts for the public, aviation, marine and fire weather communities across South Florida. She accepted the position of meteorologist with TAFB in October 2018.

Maria was recognized as January 2015 as NOAA's Employee of the Month for reaching the bilingual community of South Texas and along the Mexico border. In 2016, she was recognized as part of a team at NWS Brownsville with the award of the prestigious U.S. Department of Commerce Bronze Medal Award for this work. Maria was also awarded the 2016 National Weather Association Public Education Award for delivering Spanish-language weather safety information to highly vulnerable communities in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. She received the 2018 Regional Cline Award on Meteorology and EEO/Diversity Management.

She has presented many hurricane preparedness talks and participated in STEM Program activities across the area in support of the continuation of STEM Field programs in the local schools. Maria is also an author and co-author of a number of articles for the American Meteorological Society.

January 2020