

Temple TESOL Speakers Series Event

Through their eyes: Immigrant experiences & advocacy in Philadelphia

Blanca Pacheco

Co-Founder & Co-Director, New Sanctuary Movement

Tuesday, March 17, 2020

3:30-5:00 pm

This talk will now be held via Zoom

Link to Zoom: <https://temple.zoom.us/j/3827238431>

Information on using zoom is below.

In the midst of the current political debate around undocumented immigration, the immigrant community often gets lost, and we lose sight of the ways attempting to immigrate into the United States affects individuals. The New Sanctuary Movement believes that all policies should be shaped from the perspectives and input of the affected community. Blanca Pacheco will be speaking about myths and realities around immigration and legalization, the challenges for new immigrants arriving to Philadelphia, and actions New Sanctuary Movement of Philadelphia is taking to build proactive campaigns such as, providing sanctuary, supporting undocumented immigrants' ability to obtain driver's licenses, and separating ICE from the court system. New Sanctuary Movement seeks to bring meaningful change on a local and state level. Carmela Apolonio will be joining us to discuss her experience with the violence factors that pushed her to look for asylum on the border and that eventually led to her living in Sanctuary in Philadelphia. Carmela will share her expertise as lived by herself at the border, her experiences with border patrol, the separation from her children, her experiences living in a detention camp, losing her asylum case, and living in Sanctuary. There will be space for conversation and questions.

Bios

Blanca Pacheco is the New Sanctuary Movement (NSM) of Philadelphia's Co-Founder and Co-Director. She is originally from Ecuador, and has lived in Philadelphia for more than 20 years. She is a passionate community organizer and has been working with the immigrant community since 2006, first as the Program Coordinator at Open Borders Project where she taught computer classes and coordinated the education program. Then, she worked at a criminal-immigration law firm for two years before coming to NSM where she learned even more about immigration and criminal law. Blanca was a founding member of NSM. As a member, she helped create *Know Your Rights* trainings, the *Storytelling Project*, and attended the New Leadership School. As an organizer, she helped lead the successful campaign against collaboration between Philadelphia Police and ICE. She collaborates with immigrant leaders living in Sanctuary in Philadelphia and co-leads the Driver's License campaign in PA. She has also helped grow the organization over the last 10 years. In 2010, she was honored with the Bread and Roses *Emerging Leader Award*.

Carmela Apolonio is an immigrant leader from Mexico. She entered Sanctuary in December 2017 after receiving a final order of deportation. Carmela is prominent in the immigrant rights movement, leading several rallies and public sit ins, and organizing hundreds of supporters around her. In 2019 she was awarded the *Art of Change* grant by Leeway Foundation.

Instructions for Using Zoom

Click on this link to see the computer/system requirements for using Zoom:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-System-Requirements-for-PC-Mac-and-Linux>

You will be prompted to download and install Zoom when you click on the link to join our event: <https://temple.zoom.us/j/3827238431>

HOWEVER, if you're new to Zoom, it's probably a good idea to download the Zoom app and test its features well before the event.

To do this, go to Zoom: <https://temple.zoom.us/> Then, click the "Sign In" button, and you will be prompted to log in with your Temple credentials. Then download the Zoom desktop application onto your computer. Finally, cut and paste the Zoom link I have provided into your web browser: <https://temple.zoom.us/j/3827238431>

Please be sure to use one of these web browsers:

- Internet Explorer 10 or higher.
- Microsoft Edge 38.14393.0.0 or higher.
- Google Chrome 53.0.2785 or higher.
- Safari 10.0.602.1.50 or higher.
- Firefox 49.0 or higher.

If you need additional technical assistance, please visit this site: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>