



Fiktiv USA - TelevisaUnivision - Univision

Univision

Univision is an American Spanish-language free-to-air television network owned by TelevisaUnivision. It is the United States' largest provider of Spanish-language content. The network's programming is aimed at the Latino public and includes telenovelas and other drama series, sports, sitcoms, reality and variety series, news programming, and imported Spanish-language feature films. Univision is headquartered in Midtown Manhattan, New York City, and has its major studios, production facilities, and business operations based in Doral, Florida (near Miami).

Univision is available on pay television providers throughout most of the United States, with local stations in over 60 markets with large Latin American communities. Most of these stations air full local newscasts and other local programming in addition to network shows; in major markets such as Los Angeles, Miami, and New York City, the local newscasts carried by the network's owned-and-operated stations are equally competitive with their English-language counterparts ratings-wise. Chief operating officer Randy Falco (who was appointed to the position on January 18, 2011, and officially took over as CEO on June 29 of that year) has been in charge of the company since the departure of Univision Communications president and CEO Joe Uva in April 2011. In March 2018, it was announced that Falco would be retiring and stepping down as CEO.

==History==

===Beginnings as Spanish International Network===

Univision's roots can be traced back to 1955, when Raúl Cortez started KCOR-TV, an independent station in San Antonio, Texas, which was the nation's first Spanish-only TV outlet. The station was not profitable during its early years, and in 1961, Cortez sold KCOR-TV – now known as KWEX-TV – to a group headed by Mexican entertainment mogul Emilio Azcárraga Vidaurreta, owner of Mexico-based Telesistema Mexicano (the forerunner of Televisa).

Cortez's son-in-law Emilio Nicolás Sr., who helped produce variety programs for the station, held a 20% stake and remained as KWEX general manager for three decades. The new owners helped to turn around the station's fortunes by heavily investing in programming, most of it sourced from Telesistema Mexicano.

On September 29, 1962, Azcárraga and his partners launched a second Spanish-language station, KMEX-TV, in Los Angeles. KWEX and KMEX formed the nucleus of the Azcárraga-owned Spanish International Network (SIN), created in late 1962. SIN was the first television network in the United States to broadcast its programming in a language other than English.

From 1963 until 1987, SIN was managed from offices in New York by Rene Anselmo, a U.S. native who had worked for Azcárraga in Mexico City for eight years as head of Telesistema's programming export subsidiary. Having supervised the launch of KMEX, Anselmo spearheaded SIN's expansion, first into the New York City area, when it founded WXTV in Paterson, New Jersey (licensed in 1965 and launched in 1968), next in Fresno, California (licensed in 1969 and launched in 1972 as KFTV), and then by acquiring WLTV in Miami in 1971. That year, Azcárraga and his partners incorporated these five stations (separately from SIN) as the Spanish International Communications Corporation (SICC), with Anselmo named as president.

Over the next 15 years, SIN and SICC would create other top-rated Spanish-language television stations throughout the United States; these included KTVW in Phoenix and KDTV in San Francisco (both owned by Anselmo) and a part-time affiliation with WCIU-TV in Chicago. The Mexican ownership interest in SIN and SICC transferred posthumously from Emilio Azcárraga Vidaurreta to his son, Emilio Azcárraga Milmo, in 1972. On July 4, 1976, the network began distributing its national feed via satellite, which originally was delivered as a superstation-type feed of San Antonio's KWEX-TV, before eventually switching to a direct programming feed of SIN, allowing cable television providers to carry the network on their systems at little cost. Between the mid-1970s and late-1980s, SIN began affiliating with startup Spanish-language stations in markets such as Dallas–Fort Worth (KUVN) and Houston (KXLN), as well as with independent stations that previously broadcast in English.

In Chicago, SIN moved its programming from WCIU-TV to new full-time affiliate WSNS-TV in July 1985. After WSNS was sold to Telemundo in 1988, what had become Univision moved its programming back to WCIU-TV, which agreed to air Univision programming on weekday evenings and weekends. In 1994, the network purchased English-language independent WGBO-TV after WCIU-TV turned down Univision's request to become a full-time affiliate in favor of maintaining its longtime multi-ethnic programming format. WGBO-TV became an Univision-owned station on December 31, 1994.

===Relaunch as Univision===

1987 became a pivotal year for the Spanish International Network and its owned-and-operated station group; in 1987, Nicolas sold his stake in the network to a partnership of Hallmark Cards and Televisa for 25 years, which formed Univision Holdings Inc. to operate the network and its stations. The Federal Communications Commission and SIN's competitors had long questioned whether the relationship between SIN and the Azcárraga family was impermissibly tight. Both the FCC and other Spanish-language broadcasters had long suspected that Televisa was merely using Nicolas to skirt FCC rules prohibiting foreign ownership of broadcast media.

The FCC and the U.S. Justice Department eventually encouraged a sale of the network to a properly constituted domestic organization. Spanish International Communications ultimately began discussions with various prospective buyers, culminating in Hallmark Cards (which

owned a 63.5% interest), private equity firm First Chicago Venture Capital (which acquired 21.5%) and several other private investors (which collectively owned the remaining 15% held in a trust) purchasing the SIN stations for \$600 million, while forming a new relationship with Televisa for the distribution of programs; the new group also adopted a new name for the network, Univision.

The first reference to the new Univision name was in "América, esta es tu canción", a song interpreted by Lucerito on her 1982 album *Te prometo*. The lyric that mentions the network is "cantaremos al mundo fantástico mágico de Univisión" ("we'll sing to the fantastic, magical world of Univision").

The initial logo under the Univision name Spanish International Network, that was used from 1987 to 1989; the logo was similar in resemblance to Televisa's station logo. Televisa still uses this logo today.

Joaquin Blaya, the network's new chief executive officer, would sign agreements to carry two programs that would change the face of the network. He signed contracts to develop programs hosted by Cristina Saralegui (who became the host of the long-running talk show *El Show de Cristina* ("The Cristina Show"), which aired on the network for 22 years) and Chilean-born Mario Kreutzberger – better known as Don Francisco (who brought his popular variety series *Sábado Gigante* ("Giant Saturday") to the U.S., which aired on Univision for 29 years until its cancellation in September 2015) – for the network. Univision also began production of its first morning program, *Mundo Latino*, which was anchored by Cuban natives Lucy Pereda and Frank Moro; Moro left the network to move to Mexico to continue his career as a soap opera actor, the network then brought in Jorge Ramos to replace him.

To appeal to Hispanics and Latinos of all nationalities, the network soon instituted a policy of maintaining neutrality with its use of Spanish dialects, slang and humor on its domestically produced programs, enforcing program producers to limit the use of humor and slang relatable only to a specific Hispanic nationality. It also prohibited the use of English in its programming or advertisements (outside of product titles and dialogue featured in film trailers), most obvious in the use of Spanish equivalent placenames such as "Nueva York" rather than New York. In 1988, Blaya also substantially ramped up production of American-based programs on Univision's lineup, reducing the share of programming imported from Latin America (most of which came from Televisa) on its schedule. With this, the network began producing programs for a national audience in mind, resulting in Univision's schedule consisting of 50% foreign programming and 50% U.S.-produced programming.

The first such program, *TV Mujer* ("Woman TV"), was a magazine-style talk show aimed at American Hispanic females – originally hosted by Pereda and Gabriel Traversari – featuring a mix of cooking and entertainment segments. The following year, Pereda was replaced as co-host by Mexican-American Lauri Flores, who previously served as director of programming, promotions, special events and public information at Houston affiliate KXLN-TV – where she also hosted a local community affairs program, *Entre Nos*. During Flores' tenure as host of *TV*

Mujer, the program remained the #1 daytime show on Spanish-language television, outperforming its competition in its time period by 33%. Telemundo's *Día a Día*, which debuted prior to the premiere of *TV Mujer*, saw its ratings diminish as a result. *Sábado Gigante* model Jackie Nespral was added as host of the program for its final year on the network; she was originally hired to serve as a fill-in co-host while Flores went on maternity leave, before becoming a full-time host during the show's final season. *TV Mujer* inspired a series of other programs, including *Hola, America* ("Hello, America") and *Al Mediodía* ("At Noon"), which never garnered the ratings of the original concept and were ultimately canceled.

However, the network's fortunes began to wane following the Hallmark purchase, when Televisa terminated its programming agreement with Univision, taking along with it the company's popular telenovelas. The network opted to replace the Mexican-produced serials with novelas produced in South America; however, viewership for its telenovelas declined with the programming shift. To make matters worse, with limited revenue from advertising, the sale to Hallmark left Univision with a huge debt load to cover. On February 1, 1990, Univision Holdings disclosed that it had failed to make an interest payment of about \$10 million (totaling about \$3 million to be paid to its bank lenders and about \$7 million to holders of its junk-bond debt) that was due a day prior as part of its efforts to restructure its debt, citing insufficient cash flow for the missed payments. At the time, Univision had owed about \$315 million to a group of banks led by Continental Bank of Chicago, about \$135 million in senior subordinated zero-coupon debt and \$105 million in 13 3/8% in outstanding subordinated debentures.

On March 30, Univision filed a motion in U.S. Bankruptcy Court to seek Chapter 11 creditor protection and financial reorganization unless it could convince its bondholders to accept an increased offer by Hallmark Cards Inc., in which they would receive \$131 million for a face value of \$270 million in securities on a blended basis, following an initial bid that was widely turned down by the bondholders. The holders of two different series of Univision Holdings' debt accepted the bid and tendered their securities by April 13, preventing the bankruptcy protection proceedings, with Hallmark's offer to purchase the debt securities being completed by April 25.

===Revamp and competition with Telemundo in the 1990s and 2000s===

On April 8, 1992, Hallmark sold Univision to a group that included Los Angeles-based investor A. Jerrold Perenchio (a former partner in Norman Lear's Embassy Communications, who was outbid by the Hallmark-led consortium for the network in 1987), Emilio Azcárraga Milmo, and brothers Ricardo and Gustavo Cisneros (co-owners of Venezuelan broadcaster Venevision) for \$550 million, in order to refocus its television operation efforts on cable provider Cencom Cable Associates, which it acquired the previous year for about \$500 million. In order to comply with FCC rules on foreign ownership of television stations, the deal was structured to give Perenchio a controlling 75% interest in Univision's station group and 50% ownership of the network itself; Azcárraga and the Cisneroses held a 25% stake in the network and a 12.5% stake in the station group. The deal placed Univision under common ownership with

competing cable channel Galavisión, which the Azcárraga-run Grupo Televisa owned at the time.

The sale raised concerns by several Latino activist groups such as the National Hispanic Media Coalition – which subsequently filed a petition to the FCC to deny the sale of Univision and its television stations – that it would lead to a drastic reduction in Univision's domestically originated programming output in favor of lower-cost, imported Latin American content, and allow Azcárraga to potentially expand control of American Spanish language television in the manner of Televisa's near-monopoly in Mexican media. Indeed, this concern was effectively confirmed in the release of an FCC filing for the Perenchio-Televisa-Venevision purchase in which Perenchio indicated "the programs offered[...] by Televisa and Venevision will include at least a quantity of programs sufficient to fill a 24-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week broadcast schedule", with local content consisting only of newscasts. This led Joaquin Blaya to resign from his role as Univision's president in May 1992 – after Perenchio had earlier assured him that the amount of domestic national programming on the network and its nine owned-and-operated stations would not be reduced before the filing was disclosed – concerned that it would limit opportunities to increase the amount of local programming content on Univision's stations.

Blaya was then hired by Telemundo to serve as its president and chief executive officer, and was subsequently joined by four other Univision senior executives on that network's production and management team. The FCC expedited its review of the deal, and approved the purchase on September 30, 1992, stating that the consortium was quantified to acquire Univision and that it was "unconvinced" by the petitioners' arguments that it would dilute the amount of American programming on the network. Subsequently, in January 1993, Univision canceled three U.S.-produced programs – the newsmagazines *Portada* ("Cover Story") and *Al Mediodía* and the variety series *Charytin International* – resulting in the layoffs of 70 production staffers based at Univision's Miami headquarters and at *Al Mediodía*'s base in Los Angeles; although two of the three programs were replaced by Televisa series (*Portada* was replaced in its Wednesday night slot with the variety series *El Nuevo Show* ("The New Show"), a Los Angeles-based series hosted by Paul Rodriguez, which had aired on Saturdays for several years prior), Univision executives cited that all three programs were discontinued due to low ratings and not because of any plan to eschew American programming with imported content. Televisa and Venevision's stakes in the network in exchange the two foreign partners get 14.7% of Univision's revenue also gave Univision access to a broad selection of programs from Televisa and Venevision are locked up through 2017.

In 1993, Univision owner, Jerold Perenchio, in a swift and unprecedented move, after the acquisition, appointed a 27-year-old, Los Angeles native, Venezuelan-born, Miguel Banojian, Known for his in-depth, of the U.S. and Latin American Hispanic market, his impeccable professional skills, as well as his proven successful ratings Track records– to turn around the operations of the station group, but mainly Univision's West Coast flagship KMEX-Channel 34

Los Angeles, generating at the time of purchase of the company, approximately 40% of the Overall Univision revenue. Under Mr. Banojian, the network increased monetary investments in the stations, expanding staff and resources, introducing new sets for its newscasts, hiring and appointing KVEA's main anchor Jesus Javier, reporter Pepe Barreto also from KVEA, as well as hiring Andrea Kutyas, joining news anchor Eduardo Quezada, who worked at KMEX from 1975 to 2003, to lead and reshape KMEX's 11 p.m. newscast, which became the #1 late news in the Los Angeles Market. The overall re-organization effort, included, the purchasing of new live production equipment, updated production units, new master control equipment; new station antennas with more transmission power and a new studio located in Westchester, replacing the Hollywood studio which served from 1962 to March 1993. Same year, A Mexico City-based "MEDIA HUB CENTER ALLIANCE" was created by Televisa AND KMEX; both companies shared its operational, technical and resources strengths to increase market presence, Miguel Banojian representing KMEX, Alejandro Burillo Azcarraga, Shareholder & Executive VP of Televisa and Félix Cortés Camarillo VP of News & Production operations of Televisa, signed the alliance which included shared news bureaus in Mexico City, Los Angeles, Tijuana, San Francisco, Dallas, and Houston; Such alliance locked a leasing agreement of "Two" 24 hours transponders from its newly launched Geostationary "Intelsat 601", which served the satellite sharing between the two countries; the newly created satellite hub was later used by both networks to share programming and sales needs. One of the iconic marketing move to revamp the then dying "KMEX" station, Mr. Banojian and the KMEX group of engineers, also designed, created and launched what became, "The first U.S Hispanic Aerial Newsgathering operation", which included a brand new helicopter with call sign "Aguila 1" ("Eagle one" in its English translation). The news sets, production equipment, master control equipment, and antenna were upgraded. With all these operational moves, not only did KMEX-34 poise itself to acquire 70% of the Hispanic market share in Los Angeles market against its competitors including Telemundo, but achieved something unprecedented in U.S. television history: KMEX Channel 34 became the first Spanish-language television station ever to outperform English-language network stations (like NBC station KNBC, CBS station KCBS-TV, ABC station KABC-TV and Fox station KTTV) and overcame what had been Telemundo's national competitive edge against Univision. That year, Univision increased its advertising rates and was able to increase its cash flow, which allowed to go on to a purchase mode, acquiring KXLN, the first Spanish-language television station in the Houston market. Perenchio also invested \$37 million, in conjunction with rival Telemundo, to develop the National Hispanic Television Index, a ratings system created by A.C. Nielsen to track viewership of Spanish language television networks. Perenchio also implemented new programming requirements in which non-sports programs were no longer allowed to run 20 minutes over their allotted timeslot.

Jesus Javier was hired as KVEA's main anchor, joined by reporter Pepe Barreto. Andrea Kuyas and veteran (1975 to 2003) KMEX news anchor Eduardo Quezada led the 11 p.m.

newscast, which became the #1 late news in the Los Angeles market.

Also in 1993, KMEX agreed to share operational and technical resources with Televisa to enhance market presence. Banojian representing KMEX, with Televisa executive VP Alejandro Burillo Azcarraga, and Félix Cortés Camarillo, Televisa News and Production VP signed the "Media Hub Center Alliance", which included shared news bureaus in Mexico City, Los Angeles, Tijuana, San Francisco, Dallas, and Houston. The alliance leased two 24-hour transponders on the new Intelsat 601 to share programming and ads.

KMEX also purchased a new helicopter "Aguila 1" ("Eagle 1"), becoming the first Hispanic station in the U.S. to add aerial capability.

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In 1996, Perenchio took Univision Holdings public for the first time. Univision also appointed Mario Rodriguez as its president of programming; Rodriguez developed a strategy to provide programming that would appeal to both Latino immigrants and native citizens, and increased domestic programming production (much of which consisted primarily of news, talk, and variety shows) to encompass 52% of the network's schedule. Univision also adopted the standard Latin American model of programming its prime-time telenovela lineup to appeal to different target audiences (with novelas aimed children airing at 7:00 p.m., those aimed teenagers at 8:00 p.m. and novelas targeted toward adults scheduled at 9:00 p.m. Eastern and Pacific). The following year, the network appointed former Housing and Urban Development secretary Henry Cisneros as its president and CEO, a post he remained in until his resignation in 2000 to head American CityVista, a contracting company that builds residential communities in inner cities.

At the same time, citing its dominance in the Spanish-language television market, having consistently beaten Telemundo and other smaller Spanish language networks in the ratings, the network decided to refocus its efforts on attracting Hispanic and Latinos viewers who preferred watching programs on English language broadcast and cable networks to grow its viewership further. The strategy helped Univision to nearly double its ratings during prime time by 1998, ranking as the fifth most-watched American broadcast network by the 1998–99 season (beating fledgling English-language networks UPN and The WB), as it steadily began to attract bilingual viewers away from the English-language networks. In September 1998, the network added two new shows to shore up its struggling afternoon lineup leading into the highly rated *Cristina*. While one of the programs – the game show *El Bla-Blazo* – lasted only a few years, it experienced more long-term success with the newsmagazine that followed it, *El Gordo y La Flaca* ("The Scoop and the Skinny", although alternately translated as "The Fat

Man and the Skinny Girl"), a Miami-based entertainment news program hosted by Raul De Molina and Lili Estefan, who had become popular with viewers for their entertainment reports on the network's news programs.

In June 2001, Univision entered into a local marketing agreement (LMA) with Raycom Media to operate two television stations in Puerto Rico, WLII in Caguas and WSUR in Ponce, as part of a planned and protracted purchase of the two stations. At the time, WLII had long maintained an LMA with another Puerto Rican station, WSTE, which Univision maintained. Also around this time, Univision resumed its broadcast expansion by converting several television stations that it had acquired into affiliates of the network, including those in Raleigh, North Carolina (WUVC), Cleveland, Ohio (WQHS), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (WUVP) and Atlanta, Georgia (WUVG) – including one acquired from USA Broadcasting that had previously been affiliated with the Home Shopping Network, which was left out of the group's charter affiliation deals for Univision Communications' secondary network TeleFutura (now UniMás) when it launched in January of that year. Both WLII and WSUR were sold to Univision Communications outright in 2005. Since that point, Univision also signed affiliation agreements with television stations owned by other media companies in cities such as Detroit, Seattle, Portland, Oregon, Minneapolis, Oklahoma City, Nashville and Kansas City – expanding its affiliate body further outside the Univision-owned stations and stations owned by Entravision Communications.

In June 2002, Univision acquired Dallas-based Hispanic Broadcasting Corp., owner of Spanish language radio stations in markets such as New York City (WADO), Los Angeles (KLVE), San Antonio (KGSX, now KMYO) and Dallas (KESS), in a \$3.5 billion all-stock transaction. Following the FCC's long-awaited approval of the acquisition, the group was renamed Univision Radio. The negotiations to merge the two companies followed years of on-again/off-again negotiations in which each company made an offer to acquire the other, as well as occasional takeover attempts of other television and radio station groups (HBC once attempted to broker a deal to merge with the Spanish Broadcasting System, and made a failed attempt to acquire Telemundo before Sony Pictures Entertainment and Liberty Media acquired that network in 1998).

In April 2003, KMEX news anchor Eduardo Quezada left for KVEA and spent three years working as a news anchor before retiring in 2006; his oldest son, Eduardo Quezada Jr., is one of the news writers and editors at KMEX.

In late 2004, a feud began between Perenchio and Televisa head Emilio Azcárraga Jean, regarding Univision's continual editing of Televisa's programming, and the failure to pay for rights to broadcast Televisa-produced sports and specials. The feud intensified to the point where Grupo Televisa filed a breach of contract lawsuit against Univision in a U.S. federal court in June 2005, accusing the network of several actions, including "unauthorized editing" of Televisa programming; Televisa also barred its most famous stars from appearing on any Univision-produced series and specials. Rumors also circulated that Univision would form a

partnership with Televisa's longtime rival TV Azteca, which for a short period of time, bought airtime rights and allowed its video footage to be used on Univision's news programs.

During the 2000s, Univision also lost several key on-air personalities to Telemundo, including longtime weekend news anchor María Antonieta Collins (who left to host the morning program *Cada Día*), *Primer Impacto* anchor María Celeste Arrarás (who became the host of a similarly formatted newsmagazine, *Al Rojo Vivo*) and sports announcers Andrés Cantor (known to many Americans for his exuberant announcement of "Goal!" during football matches) and Norberto Longo. By the middle of the decade, Univision overtook UPN and The WB – which shut down in September 2006 and were replaced by The CW, which Univision also outranks – as the fifth highest-rated network in total viewership; since then, it also sometimes posts higher viewership in the key age demographics of Adults 18–34 and Adults 18–49.

Other key on-air personalities that join Telemundo from Univision or Televisa in the 2000s are Lucero, Pedro Fernandez, Kate del Castillo, Aracely Arámbula, Raúl González, Blanca Soto, Laura Flores, Ana María Canseco, Cristina Saralegui.

On April 7, 2005, Univision aired *Selena ¡VIVE!* ("Selena Lives!"), a three-hour tribute concert in honor of slain singer Selena (who was murdered via gunshot in March 1995 by a fan who worked as part of her managerial staff). The concert earned a 35.9 Nielsen household rating, becoming the highest-rated program that night on all of the network television as well as the most-watched Spanish-language program in American television history.

On February 9, 2006, Univision Communications announced that it was putting itself up for sale. News Corporation chairman Rupert Murdoch stated that his company was considering buying Univision, but backed off that position (the company had already owned duopolies in several markets, and could not acquire the existing Univision stations in any event as FCC rules prohibit common ownership of three television stations in a single market except in cases where a market has 20 full-power stations, and sell some of its stations to get below the FCC's 39% market reach cap for any individual station owner). Other expected bidders included Grupo Televisa (which would have had to acquire the network under a partnership, due to FCC laws that restrict ownership of a television station or network by a foreign company to a percentage of no more than 25%), Time Warner, CBS Corporation, Viacom, The Walt Disney Company, Bill Gates, and several private equity firms. The Tribune Company was rumored to be interested in buying Univision's sister network TeleFutura.

On June 27, 2006, Univision Communications was acquired by Broadcasting Media Partners Inc. – a consortium of investment firms led by the Haim Saban-owned Saban Capital Group (which had previously owned Saban Entertainment until its sale to The Walt Disney Company in June 2001, as part of News Corporation's sale of Fox Family Worldwide), TPG Capital, L.P., Providence Equity Partners, Madison Dearborn Partners and Thomas H. Lee Partners – for \$12.3 billion (increasing to \$13.7 billion or \$36.25 per share by the sale's closure), plus the assumption of \$1.4 billion in debt. The sale received federal approval and was formally consummated on March 27, 2007.

The buyout left the company with a debt level of twelve times its annual cash flow, which was twice the debt incurred in buyouts that occurred over the previous two years. However, Univision's shareholders filed two class action lawsuits against Univision Communications and its board members to stop the buyout – one of which claimed that the board members structured the deal to only benefit the company's insiders and not average stockholders, while the other was filed on behalf of a shareholder identified as L A Murphy, who claimed that the board put its own personal interests and the interests of the winning bidder ahead of shareholders, and also failed to adequately evaluate the company's worth. Additional lawsuits were filed in the meantime, including one against the Univision Records division for heavy-handed tactics, and a suit filed by a winner of a \$30,000 makeover prize in a contest held by the network's morning program ¡Despierta América! who alleged that Univision broke its own contest rules.

On June 25, 2007, with the finale of *La Fea Más Bella* ("The Prettiest Ugly Girl", a telenovela based on the Colombian series *Yo Soy Betty, la Fea*), Univision led all U.S. broadcast networks – English and Spanish – with a 3.0 rating out of 9 share, placing as the second most-watched network television program that week. Later that year, Univision hosted the first Spanish-language presidential debate in the United States at the University of Miami, featuring candidates vying for the Democratic nomination. In May 2008, Univision Music Group was sold to Universal Music Group and combined with the latter's Latin music label to become Universal Music Latin Entertainment.

In 2009, the network sponsored a countdown in Times Square, similar to the New Year's Eve event. On the evening of June 12, at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, a 60-second countdown appeared on the Jumbotron-size screen in the Manhattan district to mark the shutdown of full-power analog television signals in the Eastern Time Zone, culminating in the message "BIENVENIDOS A LA ERA DIGITAL" ("welcome to the digital era"). The countdown was aired live by the network during *Ultima Hora: Una Nueva Era*, a special edition of its late-evening newscast *Noticiero Univision: Ultima Hora*. The ball was lighted in white but was not dropped, remaining positioned at the bottom where the lighted "2009" sign also remained, despite the four-month delay of the digital television transition from February 17. On December 7 of that year, Univision announced it would launch an in-house production division, Univision Studios, a Doral, Florida-based company that would produce original programming content for Univision and TeleFutura; former RTVE president Luis Fernandez was appointed to lead the new division.

===2010s===

During the first week of September 2011, the network reached a milestone, earning its first #1 ranking in the ratings among all American broadcast television networks – English and Spanish – in the 18–49 age demographic, assisted by a prime time football match between Mexico and Ecuador and the season finale of the Colombian reality game show *Desafío: La Gran Batalla* ("Challenge: The Great Battle"), along with the English networks having

traditionally weak programming that time of year, prior to the launch of the fall television season.

In October 2011, Televisa reached an agreement to acquire a 5% ownership stake in Univision (marking the third time that the company held equity in Univision Communications in its history), with the option of expanding its interest in the future. As part of the deal, Televisa also signed a long-term extension to its program licensing agreement with Univision – which runs through at least 2020, through with an option to extend it to 2025 or later – which expanded upon the previous agreement, which was set to expire in 2017, to give Univision rights to stream Televisa content via the internet and on mobile platforms and covers key rights to matches from Mexican football leagues.

On October 17, 2012, Univision Communications unveiled an updated corporate logo, which was adopted on-air by the Univision network during the broadcast of its New Year's Eve countdown program ¡Feliz 2013! ("Happy 2013!") on December 31. The new logo shares the multicolored quadrant design of the previous logo (which had been used since January 1990), but now resembles a three-dimensional heart to represent its new slogan, "El latido del corazón hispano de Estados Unidos" ("The Hispanic Heartbeat of the United States"). The revised logo's new three-dimensional shape was intended to represent Univision's recent growth as a "360-degree", multi-platform media company, while its seamless form represented the unity of Hispanic cultures.

During the 2010s, the network reached viewership parity with the five major English-language U.S. broadcast television networks.

===2020s===

In 2020 Univision was acquired by foreign investors and Wade Davis was appointed CEO. The US federal government approved the foreign acquisition under specific conditions around safeguards of personal identifiable information of US consumers.

In April 2021 part of Televisa and Univision announced their intention to merge into Televisa-Univision.

In November 2021 Univision reacquired local stations in Tampa, FL, Orlando, FL and Washington, DC from affiliate operator Entravision.

==Programming==

Univision operates on a 164-hour network programming schedule, which it adopted in January 2013. The network's base programming feed provides general entertainment programming on an uninterrupted 24-hour schedule each weekday, from 5:00 to 6:00 a.m. Monday through Friday and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. Eastern and Pacific Time on Saturdays and Sundays (the first three hours of the secondary weekend schedule on Saturday mornings, starting at 8:00 a.m. Eastern and Pacific Time, is occupied by the children's programming block "Planeta U"). The remaining weekend time periods are filled with infomercials (prior to 2013, the network had programmed a full 168-hour schedule, with reruns of past Televisa-produced

entertainment programs filling the two hours on Saturday and Sundays now occupied by paid programming).

Although Univision's owned-and-operated stations and affiliates largely rely on the network's master feed to fill their daily broadcast schedule, many of its stations also produce their own local programming, usually in the form of newscasts and public affairs programs (production of local infotainment programming, and leasing of brokered programs such as direct response and religious content, is at the station's discretion). Many Univision stations usually air limited local news programming, which are commonly reserved for early and late evening timeslots on Monday through Friday nights, with the master feed incorporating alternate programming that news programming may pre-empt on its broadcast outlets during these designated time periods (as well as others in which stations carry additional local programs); some of its stations may also air newscasts on weekday mornings (these are mainly limited to the network's O&Os in larger markets) and/or on weekend evenings.

The majority of Univision's programming consists of telenovelas and series produced by Televisa, the majority of which originated on the company's flagship network in Mexico, Canal de las Estrellas. Prior to 2009, Univision had also broadcast telenovelas and other programs produced by Venezuelan broadcaster Venevision. Otherwise, Univision produces a moderate amount of original programming, including the reality competition series *Nuestra Belleza Latina* ("Our Latin Beauty"), *La Banda* ("The Band") and *Mi Pongo Mi Pie* ("I Stand Up"); national news programming; entertainment news shows *El Gordo y La Flaca* and *Sal y pimienta* ("Salt and Pepper"); and sports discussion program *República Deportiva* ("Sports Republic"). Univision also operates its own television production unit, Univision Studios, which its corporate parent launched in 2009 and produces original content for the network.

The network's signature program, the variety show *Sabado Gigante*, hosted by Don Francisco, aired on Univision every Saturday night from April 12, 1986 to September 19, 2015 (its final episode was broadcast live in the U.S., Mexico and in Chile, where the program originated in 1962); in addition, from September 2004 to May 2015, Univision aired *Clásicos de Sábado Gigante* ("Giant Saturday Classics"), an early Sunday morning program consisting of condensed two-hour episodes of the series on an approximately one-year delay from their original broadcast. After *Sabado Gigante* ended its 29-year run on the network, Univision continued the Saturday evening variety tradition with its move of the Televisa-produced music and game show *Sabadazo* – which it had aired on Saturday afternoons since the show moved from sister network *TeleFutura* (now *UniMás*) in September 2012 – into part of *Gigante*'s former time slot on October 17, 2015, before reverting to an afternoon slot and being replaced by the investigative news program *Crónicas De Sábado* after four months due to low ratings. As such, Univision is one of only two American television networks that airs the first-run program during Saturday prime time (CBS is the only other, although ABC, Fox and occasionally NBC broadcast live sporting events during Saturday prime on certain weeks of the year).

Univision also typically airs drama and variety series in the afternoon (telenovelas that appeal to teen or pre-teen audiences previously aired on early Saturday afternoons until 2011). Scripted series and variety shows (such as *Bailando por un Sueño* ("Dancing for a Dream"), *Como Dice el Dicho* ("As the Proverb Goes") and *El Chavo Animado* ("El Chavo: The Animated Series")) largely make up Univision's weekend lineup. Reality programming became a focal point of the network's Sunday primetime schedule beginning in 2007, with the debut of the beauty pageant competition series *Nuestra Belleza Latina* ("Our Latin Beauty"). Sitcoms, once a major part of the network's schedule, have a reduced presence on Univision in recent years; since 2008, the network has only obtained rights to two comedies produced by Televisa since that time (*Durmiendo con mi Jefe* ("Sleeping with My Boss") and *Todo en Includo* ("All Inclusive")), both of which began airing on Univision in 2014), although it continues to air comedies that are no longer in production to which Univision continues to maintain U.S. distribution rights (including the family sitcom *La Familia P. Luche* and the sketch comedies *La Hora Pico*, *Desmadruga2* and its spin-off *Estrella2*), mainly in overnight and select weekend timeslots.

Although its reliance on them has greatly decreased since 2009, the network also airs some feature films, generally older Mexican imported films from the 1960s to the 1980s, which occasionally air in weekend timeslots not occupied by afternoon football events or Sunday evening reality programs (this is in contrast to *UniMás* and *Telemundo*, which both air Spanish-dubbed versions of films produced for the English-language market, although *Telemundo* also airs Mexican-produced films in overnight timeslots). Until September 2009, when the network began ceding the time period to telenovelas, Univision filled the 10:00 p.m. (Eastern and Pacific Time) hour on Monday through Fridays with various programs each night (including *Cristina*, *Don Francisco Presenta* ("Don Francisco Presents"), the newsmagazine *Aquí y Ahora* ("Here and Now") and Televisa-produced sitcoms and sketch comedies), mirroring the scheduling of English language broadcast networks.

==Stations==

As of June 2018, Univision has 27 owned-and-operated stations, and current and pending affiliation agreements with 37 additional television stations, encompassing 25 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. possession of Puerto Rico. The network has an estimated national reach of 58.35% of all households in the United States (or 182,330,440 Americans with at least one television set), making Univision the largest U.S. broadcast television network by total market reach. Univision maintains affiliations with low-power stations (broadcasting either in analog or digital) in several markets, including a few larger markets such as San Diego (KBNT-CD and its repeater KHAX-LD), Minneapolis–St. Paul (WUMN-LD), and Kansas City (KUKC-LD). In certain other markets, these low-power affiliates also maintain digital simulcasts on a subchannel of a co-owned/co-managed full-power television station. Currently outside of Univision's core O&O group, the Entravision Communications Corporation is the network's largest affiliate operator by numerical total and market reach, owning or

providing services to 15 primary affiliates of the network (including stations in two top-ten markets, Boston and Washington, D.C., as well as stations in other large and mid-sized markets such as Orlando, Tampa and Albuquerque). In other areas of the U.S., Univision provides a national cable network feed that is distributed directly to cable, satellite and IPTV providers as an alternative method of distribution in markets without either the availability or the demand for a locally based owned-and-operated or affiliate station.

Noticias Univision

Noticias Univision (Spanish for 'Univision News') is the news division of Univision, an American Spanish-language free-to-air television network owned by the Univision Television Group division of TelevisaUnivision. The news division is based out of the network's facilities, referred to as the "NewsPort", in the Miami suburb of Doral, Florida, which it shares with Univision's flagship owned-and-operated station WLTV-DT.

The division's flagship program is Noticiero Univision, consisted of two nightly evening newscasts (airing in the early and late evening) focusing on international news and stories of relevance to the network's main target demographic of Latino Americans. Other programs produced by the news division include morning news-talk show ¡Despierta América!, newsmagazine series Primer Impacto and Aquí y Ahora, and Sunday morning political affairs program Al Punto con Jorge Ramos.

Noticias Univision maintains bureaus located at many of the network's television stations across the United States (particularly those owned by parent subsidiary Univision Television Group, that serve as owned-and-operated stations of the network) and throughout Latin America. Noticiero Univision also has news share agreements with many of the national terrestrial networks in those same nations and will often carry their footage and reporting with credit. Noticias Univision uses content from Mexico-based broadcaster (and Univision's major content partner) Televisa, Venezuela-based Venevision, Colombia-based Canal 1, Peru-based América Televisión, and regional-wide CNN en Español.

The division's tagline is "Para estar al tanto del acontecer mundial, los hispanos sintonizan Noticias Univision." (English: "To stay on top of what's happening around the world, Hispanics tune into Univision News.")

==Overview==

The national newscasts began on KMEX-DT in June 1986 when the network was known as the Spanish International Network, and before the network's name change in 1987 was known as Noticiero Nacional SIN. In 1987, Televisa owner Emilio Azcárraga Milmo, who also oversaw SIN (then a subsidiary of the Mexico City-based company), appointed former Televisa news anchor Jacobo Zabludovsky as director of SIN's news division; the move met with protest among staff at the news division, concerned over the extent of the autonomy of SIN's news department and potential censorship in its journalistic practices (specifically, the reporting on

the Fidel Castro regime in Cuba, which while recognized in Mexico, did not have aspects that led to the migration of Cubans to the United States), with most news staffers opting to quit. After Azcárraga and Emilio Nicolas, Sr. subsequently sold their interests in SIN parent Spanish International Communications to Hallmark Cards after the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the U.S. Justice Department asked them to sell the network to a U.S.-based company amid inquiries as to whether Nicolas was being used by the Azcárraga family to skirt the FCC's rules prohibiting foreign ownership of broadcast media, in 1987, the newly renamed Univision appointed Roberto FE Soto – a former producer at NBC News – to produce a revamped flagship evening newscast, *Noticiero Univision*, the latter becoming the network's youngest executive; the network also reassigned Jorge Ramos – then the host of the network's first attempt at a morning program, the two-hour-long *Mundo Latino* – and hired veteran journalist Maria Elena Salinas (the latter of whom replaced Teresa Rodriguez as anchor) to co-anchor the evolving network newscast.

Univision eventually decided to expand its news programming to afternoons; in 1992, the network debuted *Noticias y Más* ("News and More"), anchored by Jackie Nespral, Ambrosio Hernandez and Raúl Peimbert; Myrka Dellanos joined the program after Nespral's departure later that year. Hernandez and Peimbert left Univision in 1993 to join Telemundo, while Nespral became co-host of the weekend edition of NBC's *Today*. Univision had other plans for the moribund show: the network revamped its format, changed its name and its theme music, and hired Puerto Rican-born María Celeste Arrarás as a weekend reporter to serve as Dellanos' partner; the retooled newsmagazine series became *Primer Impacto* ("First Impact") in February 1994.

Then on April 14, 1997, Univision replaced reruns of Televisa-produced children's programs (such as *Plaza Sesamo* {the Latin American version of *Sesame Street*}) and re-entered into the morning news arena for the first time in eight years with the premiere of *¡Despierta América!* ("Wake Up America!"). Maintaining a format similar to its English language counterparts, it was designed to compete with (and was loosely based on the format of) *Today*, ABC's *Good Morning America* and CBS *This Morning*, with a focus on the network's Hispanic and Latino target demographic. The program quickly grew into a major competitor, increasing Univision's viewership in its morning time period by more than 46% by April 1998, and developed a unique style in its reporting of various types of news stories (including health, lifestyle, fashion, beauty and entertainment news, the latter of which was featured as part of a segment called "*échate pa' acá*" ("Come here") with a focus on popular Latino actors and musicians).

In 1998, Univision premiered a prime time investigative news magazine *Aquí y Ahora* ("Here & Now"), which focuses on in-depth investigative pieces and interviews with newsmakers. From 2000 to 2010, Univision was the only major U.S. broadcast network to increase its news viewership, while its English-language counterparts on ABC, NBC and CBS each lost half of their total viewership. By the early 2000s, as the network expanded its national reach through

the signing of new over-the-air affiliates, Univision's news programs had grown to regularly outrank its Spanish-language competitors, with the early-evening edition of Noticiero Univision often placing ahead of its English language rivals (NBC Nightly News, ABC World News Tonight and the CBS Evening News) among viewers in the 18-49 age demographic. On September 9, 2007, the network premiered the first Sunday morning talk show on Spanish-language American television, *Al Punto* ("On Point"), a program moderated by Jorge Ramos that features discussions on political and socioeconomic issues pertinent to Latino Americans. On December 9, 2010, Univision announced that it had hired Isaac Lee as the president of its news division; His duties were expanded in February 2015, when he became president of Univision's digital media operations through a reorganization of that division.

Noticiero Univision

Noticiero Univision (Spanish for 'Univision News') is the flagship daily evening television news program of Noticias Univision, the news division of the American Spanish language broadcast television network Univision. First aired in 1987 for Spanish International Network, the program provides a general rundown of the day's headlines, with a story focus that skews more towards events occurring in Latin America; story content relating to the United States on the program centers on news stories and issues of utmost importance to Hispanic and Latino Americans (with reports focusing on immigration and diplomatic relations with Latin America highlighted regularly, as well as issues relating to government, healthcare and economic issues).

Since 1988, the flagship early-evening broadcast has been co-anchored by Jorge Ramos and María Elena Salinas; the program's late-evening edition, *Noticiero Univision: Edición Nocturna* (Spanish for 'Univision News: Late Edition'), is currently anchored by Ilija Calderón (who has served as anchor of that edition since 2009) and Enrique Acevedo (who joined the program in 2012). The program's weekend editions, *Noticiero Univision: Fin de Semana* (Spanish for 'Univision News: Weekend'), are currently co-anchored by Félix de Bedout (who joined the program in 2011) and Arantxa Loizaga (who became co-anchor in 2014).

The two evening programs are respectively broadcast live at 6:30 and 11:35 p.m. Eastern Time and Pacific Time seven nights a week (with a rebroadcast at 4:30 a.m. Eastern and Pacific). In addition, the parent Noticias Univision division airs co-branded hourly, one-minute news capsules under the title *Breve Informativo de Noticiero Univision* (Spanish for 'Univision News Brief') that air during commercial breaks – except those featured during the early- and late-evening newscasts – throughout the broadcast day on the network. Often, there will be special reports under the title *Informe Especial de Noticiero Univision* (Spanish for 'Univision News Special Report').

It is currently the most watched Spanish language network newscast in the United States, regularly beating its nearest rival, Telemundo's *Noticiero Telemundo*; it is also has some of the highest viewership among the key demographic of adults ages 18 to 49 among all evening

news programs in the U.S., second only to NBC Nightly News, with a median viewer age of 44, at least ten years younger than the average age of its English language evening news competitors. The program is based out of Noticias Univision's "NewsPort" facilities in Doral, Florida.

==History==

As the Spanish International Network (SIN), KMEX began broadcasting news programs in June 1986, when the network debuted a weeknight newscast, *Noticiero Nacional SIN* ("SIN National News"), which originally aired as a single half-hour broadcast each weeknight at 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time with Guillermo Restrepo as anchor.

In 1987, after Spanish International Network co-founder Emilio Nicolas, Sr. and Emilio Azcárraga Milmo (co-owner of Mexican broadcaster Televisa, who assumed part-ownership of SIN from his father Emilio Azcárraga Vidaurreta in 1972) sold their interests in parent company Spanish International Communications to Hallmark Cards after the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the U.S. Justice Department asked them to divest the network to a U.S.-based company amid inquiries into Nicolas' use by the Azcárraga family to skirt agency rules prohibiting foreign ownership of broadcast media outlets, In 1987, the network – which was renamed Univision following the purchase – appointed former NBC News producer Roberto FE Soto to produce a revamped flagship evening newscast, *Noticiero Univision*. Mexican-born journalist Jorge Ramos – who joined SIN/Univision in 1987 as host of the network's first morning program, *Mundo Latino* – was reassigned and paired alongside newly hired veteran journalist María Elena Salinas – who replaced Teresa Rodriguez as anchor – to co-anchor the evening newscast. In 1989, the program expanded to include a late-evening newscast, *Noticiero Univision: Edición Nocturna* ("Univision News: Evening Edition"), at 11:30 p.m. Eastern Time, which was solo anchored by Ramos throughout its original run; as well as two half-hour weekend editions under the title *Noticiero Univision: Fin de Semana*. For much of its existence, the late-night edition maintained a similar format to the early-evening broadcast, albeit with more of a focus on major news headlines and utilizes separate anchors on the weeknight editions.

In 2000, Univision hired veteran journalist Enrique Gratas – original host of the Telemundo newsmagazine *Ocurrió Así* – to anchor a revamped late-night newscast, *Noticiero Univision: Ultima Hora* ("Univision News: Final Time"); Sergio Urquidi was subsequently appointed as weekend anchor of *Noticiero Univision* (joining María Antonieta Collins who has been anchoring *Fin de Semana* since 1994) and *Ultima Hora*. Debuting on October 23, 2000, of that year, the hour-long *Ultima Hora* (which reverted to a half-hour format in 2004) was modeled after the original format of *Nightline*, providing in-depth stories and analysis on three or four of the day's major news stories that were previously covered on the flagship evening newscast – occasionally covering late-breaking stories which had occurred since that broadcast – and interviews with newsmakers.

In the summer of 2004, Telemundo signed María Antonieta Collins – who had been anchor of the weekend editions of Noticiero Univision – to a long-term contract to host a morning news and lifestyle program for the network, Cada Día with María Antonieta ("Every Day with María Antonieta") (Collins would return to Noticias Univision as a senior special correspondent in 2011). On October 24, 2005, Edna Schmidt – then the national news anchor of the Noticias al Minuto newsbriefs on sister network TeleFutura (now UniMás) – was named as Collins' replacement as co-anchor of the weekend newscasts, joining Urquidi on the early evening edition.

On February 28, 2009, Univision terminated the contracts of Enrique Gratas and Sergio Urquidi as part of corporate cutbacks enacted by parent company Univision Communications spurred by the Great Recession and a sharp downturn in advertising spending, which resulted in the layoffs of 300 employees (or 6% of its workforce), as well as the cancellation of the weekend editions of the newsmagazine Primer Impacto and its companion program Primer Impacto Extra. The late-night edition retained the Última Hora brand, though restoring a more traditional newscast format. On May 29, 2009, Enrique Teuteló – then the 11:00 p.m. anchor at Univision's Miami owned-and-operated station WLTV-DT – was named as Urquidi's replacement on the weekend editions of Última Hora and Noticiero Univision: Fin de Semana. On March 3, 2011, Univision correspondent Martín Berlanga announced while substituting during that evening's edition of Última Hora that he would be taking over as weekend anchor, replacing Enrique Teuteló, who was terminated by the news division the day prior (he would subsequently become morning co-anchor at the network's New York City owned-and-operated station WXTV-DT that June). Then on March 7, the network announced that Iliá Calderón would be named anchor of the late evening edition, which was retitled to its original name Noticiero Univision: Edición Nocturna, while retaining her duties as co-anchor of Primer Impacto. After a brief sabbatical from the weekend editions, Edna Schmidt was subsequently reassigned to weeknight co-anchor of the late newscast, before being let go by Noticias Univision after 19 years with the network on September 11, 2011, while in New York City to cover the ceremonies in remembrance of the 10th anniversary of the September 11 attacks. On January 10, 2012, Univision removed Berlanga from his duties as anchor of the weekend newscasts after only ten months, effective after the January 15 edition of Fin de Semana, in which Berlanga did not indicate he would no longer anchor the weekend broadcasts; he was reassigned to a correspondent role, before Berlanga departed from the network after 17 years in March. ¡Despierta América! news co-anchor Félix de Bedout and longtime Televisa anchor/correspondent Lourdes Ramos (sister of main anchor Jorge Ramos) were concurrently named as his replacements; originally slated to start together on January 21, de Bedout debuted that week as solo anchor of the Saturday and Sunday editions, with Ramos joining him on the following week on January 28.

On January 23, 2012, the program introduced a new graphics package; it also relocated production of Noticiero Univision and Edición Nocturna to a new set branded as "[el] Centro de

Noticias" ("[the] News Center"). The set was later updated to incorporate the new version of Univision's universal corporate logo, which debuted on January 1, 2013.

On April 23, 2012, former Telemundo anchor and special correspondent Enrique Acevedo joined Univision as a co-anchor of Noticiero Univision: Edición Nocturna (at which time, the late editions of the weekend broadcasts adopted that same title), alongside Iliá Calderón. In September 2012, Univision began to timeshift the Saturday early-evening editions of Noticiero Univision: Fin de Semana one hour earlier in the Eastern, Central and Mountain Time Zones (at 5:30 p.m. Eastern and 4:30 p.m. in the other two) since 2012, following the addition of soccer matches that precede Univision's prime time variety programming, on weeks in which those matches are scheduled to air within the newscast's regular 6:30/5:30 timeslot.

On October 1, 2012, the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences honored main anchors Jorge Ramos and Maria Elena Salinas with Lifetime Achievement Awards at the 33rd News & Documentary Emmy Awards for their journalistic work with Noticiero Univision and its parent news division. In September 2013, Univision moved production of its evening newscasts to the Univision NewsPort, based in a converted former office and warehouse complex near Univision's network headquarters in the Miami exurb of Doral, Florida. The NewsPort houses five studios and five control rooms, one of which – located directly next to the newsroom offices – began housing the "Centro de Noticias" set in February 2015, following completion of the set's reassembly in the NewsPort building; all Noticias Univision broadcasts were conducted from the newsroom in the interim.

On July 14, 2014, Lourdes Ramos stepped down as weekend co-anchor to relocate to Madrid with her husband, although she would remain with Noticias Univision as a special correspondent. On September 3, 2014, Noticias Univision announced that Arantxa Loizaga (who joined the network in 2007 from San Antonio owned-and-operated station KWEX-DT, where she served as anchor of its 10:00 p.m. newscast and co-host of the community affairs magazine program, Portada San Antonio) would become co-anchor of Noticiero Univision: Fin de Semana, effective Saturday, September 6. In February 2021, Loizaga resigned from her position after being hired by Univision's competitor Telemundo, where she would host their new morning show, Hoy Día.

On December 8, 2017, Maria Elena Salinas stepped down as weekday anchor and departed Univision after 36 years with the network to focus on being an independent news producer with Iliá Calderón being named as co-anchor to the weekday newscasts with Jorge Ramos. Subsequently, Patricia Janiot joined Univision in January 2018 to anchor Edición Nocturna after departing her previous position at CNN en Español.

¡Despierta América!

¡Despierta América! (Wake Up America!) is an American Spanish language morning television show airing on Univision. Debuting on April 14, 1997, the program's primarily targets the Hispanic population in the United States. It is broadcast from the network's studios in Miami,

Florida, and is hosted by Raúl González, Jessica Rodríguez, Jomari Goyso, Karla Martínez, Carlos Calderon, Alan Tacher, Francisca Lachapel, Ana María Canseco, and Satcha Pretto. Other reporters or celebrities also provide entertainment and gossip segments, and will occasionally appear as guest hosts if one of the regular hosts is unavailable (for instance, actress Galilea Montijo has appeared frequently during the show's run). The show also features contributors that cover a variety of topics such as immigration, technology, diet, exercise and personal motivation. Among the permanent and occasional contributors of the show are Dr. Mario Lovo (immigration), Ariel Coro (technology expert), Claudia Molina (exercise), Adriana Martin (fitness and lifestyle), Alejandro Chabán (weight loss), Ismael Cala, María Marín, Alberto Sardiñas (motivation), Laura Posada (lifestyle) among many others. The program airs weekdays from 7:00 to 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time and Pacific Time/10:00 am Central Time, with :25 mark every hour for local news and weather headlines update; as Univision holds complete responsibility for its affiliates' programming, the network does not tape delay ¡Despierta América! individually by U.S. time zone (only running a delayed broadcast for the network's Pacific Time feed). Although similar in format to English language competitors Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, and Today, ¡Despierta América! maintains more of a focus on interviews, and entertainment and feature stories; news headlines are generally limited to a segment that airs each half-hour, and national weather segments only appear once an hour during the first three hours of the broadcast (compared to the half-hourly weather updates that appear on other national morning news programs).

==History==

On April 14, 1997, Univision launched Despierta América as a Spanish language competitor to NBC's Today, ABC's Good Morning America and CBS This Morning. Despierta América is known for coining the catch phrase, "échate pa' acá" ("Come here"), which is a segment regarding news and gossip about Latin entertainers. This was later carried over to another show Un Nuevo Día on Telemundo in 2013. Despierta América has since developed its own brand and style of reporting news of various genres, such as immigration, sports, consumer, health, lifestyle, fashion, beauty and entertainment content. With a staff of approximately 30 (made up of writers, editors, producers, and support staff based out of Miami) and additional bureaus across the country and in Mexico, Despierta América wakes up America each weekday morning with four full hours of news and entertainment.

While Jackie Guerrido initially provided national weather updates during each broadcast, after she left the show full-time often one or another of the hosts would do the segments (most notably Raúl, who would do various reggaeton-styled musical updates for some time). Ximena Cordoba has become an asset to the show in taking over the role of weather reporter and health & beauty contributor.

On February 17, 2017, the show celebrated its 20th anniversary with a special five hour edition, with former hosts coming back for a reunion.

On September 13, 2021, Noticias Univision and Univision announced the co-hosts for a new Sunday edition of the morning show, starting at 8:00 AM Eastern and Pacific Time/7:00 AM Central, with :25 mark for local news and weather headlines. They would be Raúl González, Maria Antonieta Collins, Jackie Guerrido, and Carolina Rosario.

Primer Impacto

Primer Impacto (First Impact) is a Spanish-language television news program broadcast by Univision weekdays at 5pm ET//4pm CT. It is also simulcast in Mexico on Televisa cable channel Unicable, as well as the Univision-branded channel produced by Televisa for Central and South America. It is also broadcast in a delayed basis on Televisa's main Las Estrellas network for Mexico, mostly on overnight graveyard slots. A later program at 11pm ET/PT (Primer Impacto Extra) airs on Univision affiliates without a local news department (and the national cable feed), leading into the network's 11:30pm newscast, Noticiero Univision Edicion Nocturna.

The show's main anchors are Michelle Galván and Pamela Silva Conde. Verónica Del Castillo is the show's main Mexico City-based anchor, contributing to reports on Mexican-centered stories, and occasionally filling in. Jackie Guerrido is the show's main weather forecaster on weekdays, and also acts as the main fill-in presenter. Univision meteorologist Paola Elorza does the weather on weekends. Both WLTV chief meteorologist Eduardo Rodríguez and Elorza substitute for Guerrido in the case she's sitting in the anchor desk or absent. Félix Fernández and Fernando Fiore present the sports segment, produced by the TUDN sports division.

The show is well known in Latin America for its tabloid format, and a focus on crime and sensationalistic reporting (including broadcasting graphic imagery with little to no censorship), as well as entertainment news and human-interest stories. Another particular element of the show has been the show's set, which, even with rebuilds throughout its history, has always had an anchor desk which deliberately exposes the legs of its anchors, who use revealing clothing purportedly. Being one of the first and foremost tabloid television shows in Latin America, it receives some of the highest ratings for an American Hispanic TV program worldwide, and it has also being criticized by many viewers and media insiders for its content. Such controversy has led to the derogatory monikers "Noticiero de las Piernas" and "Las Noticias Cochinas".

==History==

The program was preceded by Noticias y Más ("News and More") in 1991 with Raul Peimbert and Jackie Nespral anchoring. Nespral left the show later that year and was replaced by Myrka Dellanos. On February 14, 1994,[2] the show was replaced by a new program called Primer Impacto. By this time, Peimbert left Univision, and was replaced by María Celeste Arrarás joining Dellanos as co-host. Arrarás had already substituted for Dellanos on Noticias y

Más during a brief period, and she was eventually rehired to co-host the show after being called by the producers.

Primer Impacto rapidly became a success, with both Dellanos and Arrarás becoming a subject for discussion, and the show's content becoming more commented than the content of the more serious Noticiero Univision. Gossip magazines also began commenting on the show's popularity, even including Dellanos and Arrarás in their front pages and even featuring paparazzi reports about the personal lives of both anchors. Even many TV channels in Latin America noticed the success of the show, even creating similar tabloid-focused shows to mixed results.

In 2002, Arrarás left the show in order to give birth to her first child, she also accepted an offer from rival Telemundo to host a competing show, *Al Rojo Vivo*. She would be replaced as main co-host by Barbara Bermudo. The show also added then-husband-and-wife Fernando del Rincón and Carmen Dominicci as co-anchors of a new late edition, *Primer Impacto Extra*. In 2004, after 10 years on the show, Myrka Dellanos left the program. In 2005, Carmen Dominicci left the show to anchor the unsuccessful evening newscast of sister network *Telefutura*, *En Vivo y Directo*; she would eventually return less than a year later as a fill-in anchor. In 2006, Satcha Pretto joined the program, and would sometimes fill in for Bermudo or Del Rincon whenever they had the day off. In 2007, Colombian-born Iliá Calderón joined the program as a fill-in anchor. Calderón would be elevated as main co-anchor after Fernando del Rincón and Carmen Dominicci were fired from the program and the network in 2008 as a result of allegations made by Dominicci of domestic abuse from Del Rincón. On June 3, 2011 it was announced that Pamela Silva Conde would be joining *Primer Impacto*, after Iliá Calderón was elevated to be co-anchor of *Noticiero Univision Edición Nocturna*, which follows *Primer Impacto Extra*.

"*Primer Impacto Extra*" Weekend Anchor Satcha Pretto left the program to become the new News Anchor for *Despierta America*. Natalia Cruz replaced Satcha Pretto.

In 2017, Michelle Galvan replaced Barbara Bermudo, after she left Univision after 14 years as anchor.

Walter Mercado provided the flamboyant astrology predictions for the show. He announced on January 8, 2010 that he and Univision have parted ways after fifteen years. Maria Elena Salinas and Edna Schmidt have both had guests co-hosting duties on the show.

UniMás

UniMás (stylized as UNIMÁS, and originally known as *TeleFutura* from its launch on January 14, 2002, to January 6, 2013) is an American Spanish free-to-air television network owned by TelevisaUnivision USA. The network's programming, which is aimed at Hispanic Americans in the 18-34 age range, includes telenovelas and other serialized drama series, sports, sitcoms, reruns of imported series previously aired on parent network Univision, reality and variety

series, and theatrically released feature films (primarily consisting of Spanish-dubbed versions of American movie releases).

The network is operated out of Univision's South Florida headquarters in the Miami suburb of Doral, Florida. Since its launch, the network has made major inroads in overall and demographic viewership, eventually ranking as the second highest-rated Spanish-language television network in key dayparts, behind only sister network Univision, by 2012.

UniMás is available on cable and satellite television throughout most of the United States, with local stations in over 40 markets with large Hispanic and Latino populations. Most of these stations are pass-throughs for the network's main programming feed, offering limited to no exclusive local programming. Univision Communications chief operating officer Randy Falco has overseen the network's operations since his appointment in the position by the company on June 29, 2011.

==History==

===Origins===

The network traces its origins to Barry Diller's November 1995 acquisition of the Home Shopping Network and its broadcasting arm Silver King Communications, which owned television stations affiliated with HSN in several larger media markets. In June 1998, the renamed USA Broadcasting (which had been merged into the Diller-owned USA Networks in 1997) launched a customized independent station format, "CityVision", which infused syndicated programming – including a few produced by sister production unit Studios USA that also aired nationally on USA Network – with a limited amount of local entertainment and magazine programs (reminiscent of the format used by CITY-TV in Toronto and more prominently, its co-owned stations that became charter outlets of Citytv, when CHUM Limited expanded the format to other Canadian markets as a television system in 2002). USA's Miami outlet, WYHS-TV, served as the test station for the format, disaffiliating from HSN and converting into a general entertainment outlet under the new call letters WAMI-TV.

By September 2000, USA Broadcasting had expanded the "CityVision" entertainment format to three of its thirteen other HSN outlets – with some of the stations adopting call letters referencing common nicknames for their home cities – WHOT-TV (now WUVG-DT) in Atlanta, KSTR-TV in Dallas–Fort Worth and WHUB-TV (now WUTF-DT) in Boston. Before the group could carry out the proposed conversions of its other stations into independent stations, USA Networks announced that it would sell off its television station group in the summer of 2000, to focus on its cable network and television production properties. Among the prospective buyers for the thirteen-station group were The Walt Disney Company (which would have created duopolies with ABC owned-and-operated stations in New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago and Houston) and Univision Communications (which would create duopolies with Univision owned-and-operated stations in those same four cities); the latter purchased the USA Broadcasting stations for \$1.1 billion on December 7, 2000, with the sale being finalized on May 21, 2001.

===TeleFutura===

On May 15, 2001, during Univision's upfront presentation, Univision Communications announced its intentions to form a then-unnamed secondary television network that would compete with Univision, Telemundo and the then-recently launched Azteca América. Organizational plans for the network called for the recently acquired former USA Broadcasting stations to serve as the network's nuclei, with its programming catering to bilingual Latinos with a preference toward watching English-language television programs, as well as young adult males between the ages 18 and 34 that seldom watch Spanish language television other than sporting events; Univision executives expected the network to reach 80% of all Hispanic and Latino households throughout the U.S. that own at least one television set by the time of its launch. Although Univision maintained a dominant market share among the American Spanish language television networks (holding an 83% share of Latino viewers during prime time at the time), Univision Communications executives did not believe that a second network would result in a cannibalization of the flagship network's market share.

On July 31, 2001, Univision announced that TeleFutura would be the name for the new network, with Univision Communications chairman and chief executive officer A. Jerrold Perenchio noting the name was suggested in part by two of corporate employees to "represent[...] the future of Spanish-language television". Univision continued to run the nine HSN affiliates and four independent stations (one of which regained its affiliation with HSN earlier that year) as English language outlets for several months following the USA Broadcasting purchase.

TeleFutura formally launched at 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time on January 14, 2002, debuting initially on 18 Univision-owned stations (consisting of twelve former USA Broadcasting stations – an additional station, WQHS-TV in Cleveland, was converted into an owned-and-operated station of parent network Univision instead; it would later carry UniMás on a subchannel) – and six others that Univision Communications acquired afterward) and 24 affiliates owned by other companies. Initial programming on the network – which was counterprogrammed to offer distinct programs that do not directly compete with shows aired on Univision – included Escándalo TV ("Scandal TV"; the program was originally titled Escándalo en el Medio Día, before being changed due to the existence of a similarly titled Mexican program produced by Televisa), a three-hour gossip/entertainment program designed to compete with similar newsmagazines such as Telemundo's Cotorreando (and ran on the network until October 2011); and the daytime talk show Monica.

The remainder of TeleFutura's programming consisted of imported telenovelas from Latin American production companies with which Univision maintained programming agreements including Televisa, Venevisión, Coral Productions, RCTV, RCN and Rede Globo, which aired only on weekday afternoons at its launch. Evenings and weekends primarily consisted of feature films, consisting exclusively of dubbed Spanish prints of American releases from the 1980s onward, as part of the umbrella showcases "CinePlex" (for daytime movies, usually

those airing on weekends), "CinEscape" (for late night movies), "Cine Especial" (for special movie presentations) or "Cine de las Estrellas" (for prime time movies). The network also featured news and sports updates during prime time, as well as several sports programs and events including Contacto Deportivo ("Contact Sports"), an hour-long weeknight sports news program; weekly boxing matches on Friday nights; and soccer matches from Liga MX on weekend afternoons.

On June 27, 2006, Univision Communications was acquired by Broadcasting Media Partners Inc. – a consortium of investment firms led by the Haim Saban-owned Saban Capital Group (which had previously owned Saban Entertainment until its sale to The Walt Disney Company in June 2001, as part of News Corporation's sale of Fox Family Worldwide), TPG Capital, L.P., Providence Equity Partners, Madison Dearborn Partners and Thomas H. Lee Partners – for \$12.3 billion (increasing to \$13.7 billion or \$36.25 per share by the sale's closure), plus the assumption of \$1.4 billion in debt. The sale received federal approval and was formally consummated on March 27, 2007.

During the February 2007 sweeps period, according to Nielsen Media Research, TeleFutura made significant gains in viewership at the expense of Telemundo, which it overtook for second place among the major Spanish-language networks in the key demographics of Adults 18–34, Men 18–34 and Men 18–49. On February 26, 2010, TeleFutura once again ranked as the second highest-rated Spanish-language network in the United States and earned its highest ratings for an entertainment special in the network's history, with the finale of the reality competition series Buscando La Doble de Selena ("Search for Selena's Double"), which attracted 1.9 million total viewers. TeleFutura finished 2012 as the youngest broadcast network with a median age of 36 and finished the year averaging 642,000 total viewers aged 2 and up. It also ranked as the second highest-rated Spanish-language network in 2012 in key dayparts among Adults 18–49 and Adults 18–34.

===UniMás===

On December 3, 2012, Univision Communications announced that it would relaunch TeleFutura as UniMás – which loosely translates to "Univision Plus", to underline its ties to its parent network Univision – with a programming refocusing to appeal more towards Latino males between the ages of 12 and 35 years old. The revamped network would feature Mexican and Colombian-imported programming from Televisa, Caracol Televisión and RTI Colombia (the latter two of which compete with RCN in the domestic Colombian market), which had maintained longstanding programming and production agreements with rival Telemundo, through contracts struck months before the relaunch, it would also increase its reliance on sports content for its weekend schedule.

The new logo and brand identity, which debuted on-air at 5:00 a.m. CST on January 7, 2013 (exactly one week before the network's 11th anniversary), were created in collaboration with branding firm Troika Design Group. As part of the campaign to announce the launch, Univision Communications launched an extensive advertising campaign for UniMás that included

promotional spots, digital ads, print ads and outdoor advertising in New York City, Los Angeles and Miami. The network's prime time was revamped to feature several new serial dramas formatted of a grittier nature than the romance-themed telenovelas produced by Televisa that air on Univision to appeal to male viewers including the Colombian adaptation of *Breaking Bad*, *Metástasis*; the crime dramas *Made in Cartagena* and *¿Quién Eres Tú?* ("Infringement"); and the boxing-themed drama *Cloroformo* ("Chloroform"), which were included among the relaunched network's initial prime time offerings.

==Programming==

UniMás operates on a 126-hour network programming schedule, which it has maintained since its launch as TeleFutura in January 2002. It provides general entertainment programming to owned-and-operated and affiliated stations daily from 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. Eastern and Pacific Time. Two separate children's programming blocks known as "Toonturama" and "Toonturama Junior" – which features some programs compliant with FCC educational programming requirements – airs for five hours each Saturday at 7:00 a.m. Eastern and Pacific Time. All other time periods are filled with infomercials.

As TeleFutura, the network featured a broad mix of programming, consisting of telenovelas, sports, feature films, entertainment newsmagazines, comedy series (such as *¡Qué Locura!* ("What Madness!") and *Chespirito*), game shows (such as the *Family Feud* adaptations *¿Qué dice la gente?* ("What do the People Say?") and *100 Mexicanos Dijeron* ("A Hundred Mexicans Said")) and variety series (such as *Pepsi Música* ("Pepsi Music") and *Sabadazo*). In January 2009, TeleFutura launched the daily gossip show *La Tijera*, hosted by Charitin Goyco, Liliana Rodríguez, Paul Bouche, Carolina Sandoval and Augusto Valverde. The hosting staff was gradually altered over its two-year run to include Tanya Charry, Raul Garcia, Anabelle Blum and Rodolfo Jimenez joining Sandoval; the show was cancelled in October 2011. On October 10, 2011, *La Tujera* was replaced by a daily gossip show *Tómbola*, while the network also debuted a late night talk show *Noche de Perros*; due to low ratings, *Tombola* was cancelled on January 17, 2012, followed by *Noche de Perros* three months later on April 20.

Currently, the majority of UniMás' programming consists of telenovelas and series produced by Televisa (the majority of which originated on the company's flagship network in Mexico, Canal de las Estrellas), Caracol Televisión and RTI Colombia; several of the network's Televisa-sourced programs (including *Casos de Familia* ("Family Cases") and *El Chavo del 8*) have also previously aired on parent network Univision, many having aired on that network years prior to being broadcast on UniMás. It also carries a moderate amount of first-run original programming produced by sister production unit Univision Studios, including the reality courtroom show *Veredicto Final* and sports magazine program *Zona NBA*.

===News programming===

In November 2015, the network's owned-and-operated stations began producing a half-hour newscast at 10 p.m. on weeknights, in order to maximize both Univision and UniMás ratings.

===Sports programming===

Through its association with Univision's sports division, Univision Deportes (which is also responsible for the production of sports content on Galavisión and its dedicated cable-satellite sports channel Univision Deportes Network), UniMás broadcasts association football matches from Liga MX (which have aired since the network's inception in January 2002) and Major League Soccer. The network has also broadcast weekly boxing matches on most Fridays for much of its history; as TeleFutura, the network debuted a new weekly boxing showcase, *Sólo boxeo*, on April 30, 2010.

The network also served as a supplementary Spanish-language broadcaster of the FIFA Men's and Women's World Cups through Univision Communications' exclusive contract with FIFA for the U.S. Spanish-language television rights to the tournament that concluded in 2014 (Telemundo and NBC Universo assumed the contract beginning with the 2015 Women's World Cup). As TeleFutura, it carried eight live games during the 2006 FIFA Women's World Cup, all occurring during the last days of group play when multiple games are played simultaneously (in the same capacity that ESPN2 served for English-language rightsholder ESPN); the network also aired replays of tournament matches and World Cup recap shows. In 2007, TeleFutura acquired the exclusive rights to broadcast weekly Major League Soccer games on Sunday afternoons; its relationship with the league expanded in 2012, when the network aired the MLS Cup, which was watched by 485,000 viewers (a 58% increase from the 2011 final and a 109% increase over the 2010 final, both of which aired on Galavisión).

Upon the rebrand to UniMás, the network increased its sports offerings with events such as soccer matches from the Mexico National Team and Liga MX, and the acquisition of rights to the 2013 CONCACAF Gold Cup, the 2013 FIFA Confederations Cup and Copa América Centenario, along with the 2014 FIFA World Cup. TeleFutura shows carried over to the relaunched UniMás included sports programs such as *Solo Boxeo* and the nightly sports news program *Contacto Deportivo* (which would eventually move to Univision after a twelve-year run on TeleFutura/UniMás on March 8, 2015). On November 1, 2014, UniMás began airing rebroadcasts of the El Rey Network professional wrestling showcase *Lucha Underground* on Saturday afternoons. On May 3, 2015, the network debuted a weekly sports magazine program *Zona NBA* ("NBA Zone"), featuring news and interviews from around the National Basketball Association (NBA).

The network began airing UEFA Champions League and UEFA Europa League matches in 2018 as a result of Univision acquiring the Spanish-language rights to UEFA club competitions from Fox Sports beginning with the 2018–19 season.

===Children's programming===

For much of its history, the bulk of TeleFutura/UniMás' children's programming was derived of mainly live-action and animated programming from American and international producers, much of which consisted of dubbed versions of series natively produced in English (including *Bob the Builder*, *Ned's Newt* and *The Dumb Bunnies*).

When the network launched in 2002, TeleFutura launched three children's program blocks aimed at different audiences: "Mi Tele" ("My TV"), a two-hour animation block on weekday mornings featuring a mix of imported Spanish-language cartoons (such as Fantaghiro and El Nuevo Mundo de los Gnomos ("The New World of the Gnomes")); and two weekend morning blocks, "Toonturama", a three-hour lineup that mainly featured dubbed versions of American and European animated series as well as anime series (such as Flight Squad and Problem Child, Lost Universe, Tenchi Universe and Red Baron; Toad Patrol was an exception to the dubbing as it needed to use an English dub to fix translation issues) and a two-hour companion block that preceded it on Saturday and Sunday mornings, "Toonturama Junior", featuring programs aimed at preschoolers that fulfilled educational programming requirements defined by the Federal Communications Commission's Children's Television Act (among the programs featured on "Toonturama Junior" was Plaza Sésamo ("City Square Sesame"), Televisa and Sesame Workshop's Spanish-language adaptation of Sesame Street featuring a mix of original segments featuring characters based on its U.S.-based parent series and dubbed interstitials from the aforementioned originating program, which had aired on Univision since 1995 and passed on the U.S. television rights to TeleFutura at its launch). On September 9, 2018, in an agreement with Animaccord, the network launched the popular Russian cartoon Masha and the Bear, airing it every Sunday morning.

==Stations==

As of October 2015, UniMás has 26 owned-and-operated stations, and current and pending affiliation agreements with 19 additional television stations encompassing 19 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. territory of Puerto Rico. Counting only conventional over-the-air affiliates, the network has a combined national reach of 46.54% of all households in the United States (or 145,419,291 Americans with at least one television set).

Despite Univision's over-the-air expansion since its sister network launched as TeleFutura, UniMás has been slower in expanding its national coverage through broadcast television outlets and does not have over-the-air stations in several major markets with relatively sizeable populations of Hispanic and Latino residents where Univision and/or at least one of its competing Spanish language networks have broadcast affiliates, most notably Seattle, Washington; Kansas City, Missouri; Amarillo, Texas; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and Midland, Texas. Partly in order to fill these gaps, UniMás provides a national cable network feed that is distributed directly to cable, satellite and IPTV providers as an alternative method of distribution in markets without either the availability or the demand for a locally based owned-and-operated or affiliate station.

The network maintains affiliations with low-power stations in a few markets, such as Philadelphia (WFPA-CD), Bakersfield, California (KBTF-CD), Las Vegas (KELV-LD) and Palm Springs, California (KEVC-CD). In some markets, including both of those mentioned, these stations also maintain digital simulcasts on a subchannel of a co-owned/co-managed full-power television station. UniMás also maintains a handful of subchannel-only affiliations in a

few markets, the largest by market size being WUVG-DT2 in Atlanta, Georgia, whose parent station operates as a Univision owned-and-operated station.

Currently, the Entravision Communications Corporation is the largest operator of UniMás stations in terms of both numerical total and overall market reach, owning or providing services to 20 UniMás-affiliated stations, including that are relayed on subchannel of full-power sister stations and two that the company operates under local marketing agreements with network parent Univision Communications (including stations in markets such as Boston (WUTF-DT) and Orlando (WOTF-DT)).