Gia Vang joined the 12 News team in October 2013 as a reporter and multi-media journalist.

Before landing in Phoenix, she was a reporter and fill-in anchor at Fox 4 in Kansas City, Missouri. There, she covered severe weather, and yes, that includes chasing tornadoes and telling the stories people in places like Moore, Oklahoma. During her time in KC, Gia was Emmy-nominated for a story about the changing cultures in Kansas City’s first neighborhood. Unfortunately for Diamondbacks and Cardinals fans, Gia also became a huge Royals and Chiefs fan.

Gia began her career in Eugene, Oregon as a weekend anchor and reporter. She shot and edited her own video the entire time she worked in Oregon. There, she was nominated by the Associated Press for best breaking news story about a massive barn fire. She covered many stories about the Oregon Ducks football team, including their road to the BCS National Championship. But Sun Devil fans will be happy to hear, she’s got a lot of love for Arizona State.

Gia’s parents are immigrants from Laos and fled during the Vietnam War. Her family was sponsored to come to the states while in a refugee camp in Thailand. Gia was born in Modesto, California. Her family moved to Sacramento when she was young and that’s where she grew up. She went to California State University, Sacramento, now known as Sacramento State. She interned at KCRA 3 while in college. Gia graduated with a degree in Journalism and a minor in Family and Consumer Sciences.

Gia used to write stories for extra credit in grade school. She took that childhood love and made it her profession. Gia loves her job because 1) She’s always learning with every story she tells and 2) She gets to meet and talk to people from all walks of life.

Gia loves trying new restaurants, cooking, going to sporting events, taking advantage of recreational opportunities, travelling and keeping in touch with her growing family back home! She has eight siblings and several nieces and nephews. If you’ve got a story idea or just want to say hi, email Gia at gvang@12news.com. You can also find her on Twitter, @Gia_Vang and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/giavangnews.