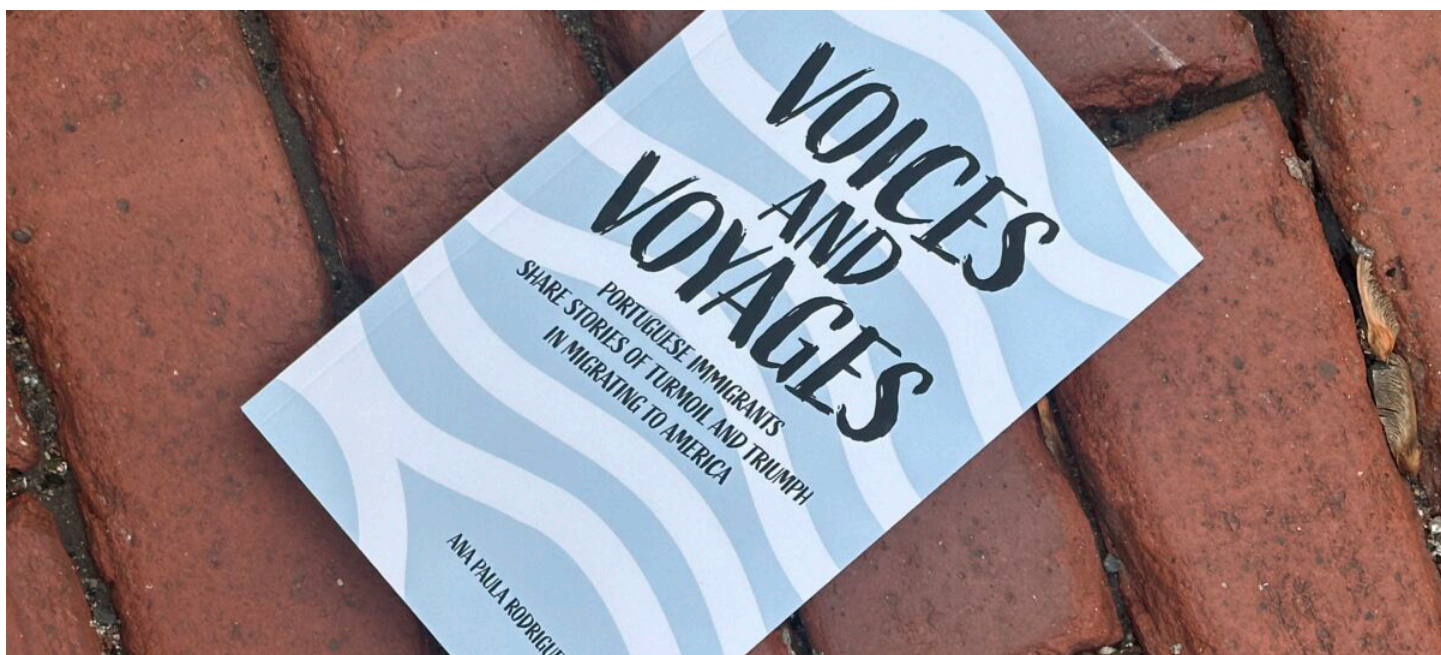


Book by Luso-American Author Preserves Part of the Rich History of Portuguese Presence in the Ironbound

Por HENRIQUE MANO Newark, NJ 04/06/2025

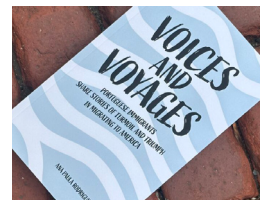


Ana Paula Rodrigues, a Luso-American from Newark, NJ, has just published her debut book, *Voices and Voyages: Portuguese Immigrants Share Stories of Turmoil and Triumph in Migrating to America*. This 257-page work, self-published under the Helium imprint, compiles the personal stories of eighteen Portuguese immigrants who settled in Newark's Ironbound neighborhood starting in the 1950s. The book explores the many challenges they faced adapting to a new life, from learning English to confronting racial discrimination.

Rodrigues emphasizes the importance of preserving this history: "It's vital for people to know the story of the Portuguese community in the Ironbound." The book features narratives from both

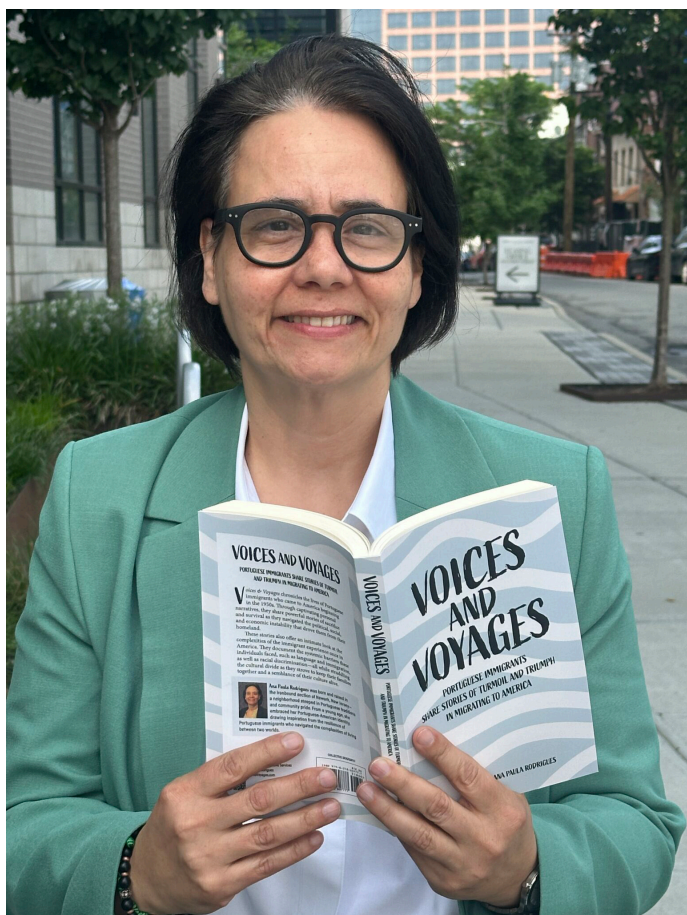
"It's vital for people to know the story of the Portuguese community in the Ironbound."

well-known and lesser-known individuals, supported by photographs. Among the featured immigrants are Justin DeOliveira, Adília Gomes Pinto, Rosa Ruela Arrojado DaSilva, Domingos José DaSilva, Augusta Rego-Rangel, Ilda de Pinho Vieira Remoura, Denley Alves, LaSalette Araújo, Maria Leonor Marecos, Cláudia Caetano-Rodrigues, Catarina Susana Dias-Macrina, Maria Rosa Barata, Fernando Augusto Barata, Maria de Fátima Soares Batalha, Ilda Ferreira Alves, Lúgia de Freitas, Dina Gomes e Palmira



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The author is proud to have been born in Newark and to still live in the city. (Photo: Jornal Luso-Americano)

Acevedo de Oliveira.

As the daughter of immigrants from Murtosa, Aveiro, and a naturalized Portuguese citizen, Rodrigues highlights the sacrifices behind the

thriving Ironbound community today. “The well-kept homes and vibrant neighborhood didn’t appear by chance. They are the result of the hard work and sacrifices of our parents and grandparents, many of whom left Portugal to escape the poverty under the Salazar regime, seeking better opportunities.”

Voices and Voyages aims to honor and preserve the legacy of Portuguese immigrants in the Ironbound.

Rodrigues, proud to be born and raised in Newark, attended Wilson Avenue School and St. Vincent’s Academy before earning degrees in graphic

***Voices and Voyages* aims to honor and preserve the legacy of Portuguese immigrants in the Ironbound.**

design and political science from Rutgers University. She has built a career bridging both fields and currently runs her graphic design business, Helium Creative Services, while teaching graphic design at Newark Vocational High School.

Growing up in a Portuguese-speaking household, Rodrigues learned Portuguese before English, a common experience among Portuguese-American families. She hopes to see a Portuguese-language edition of *Voices and Voyages* in the future.

For more information, visit: www.voicesandvoyages.com.