



**NEVADA**  
Broadcasters  
Association &  
Foundation

## **29th Hall of Fame Celebration**

**Recognizing Nevada's Broadcasters  
and Introducing the Next Generation.**

**September 6, 2025**



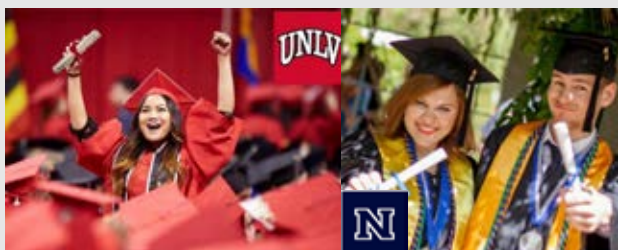
*Tony & Linda Bonnici*  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**\$25<sup>in</sup>2025**

**We're the Bonnicis, and we're excited to invite you to take part in our "25 in 2025" scholarship campaign.**

**Now more than ever, funding continued education is crucial. 55-85% of adults have not enrolled, or stopped attending college due to financial constraints.**

**Now you can help to make a difference. Give \$25 just once, monthly or weekly, or leave a namesake legacy that will inspire future generations.**



*Every dollar helps pave the way for continued education, often for a bright young student who could not have made it happen on their own.*

**YOU CAN HELP!**

**Learn more at:**

**[25in2025.org](http://25in2025.org)**



**29th Hall of Fame Celebration**



# 29th Hall of Fame Celebration

RECOGNIZING NEVADA'S BROADCASTERS AND INTRODUCING THE NEXT GENERATION

**Saturday, September 6 | 5:30PM**

## **LET'S GET THIS PARTY STARTED**

JJ Snyder

## **WELCOMING COMMENTS**

Mitch Fox | President, CEO Nevada Broadcasters Association

## **CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

Larry Strumwasser

VP and General Manager, Sinclair Broadcast Group-Las Vegas

## **PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARS**

Tony and Linda Bonnici

## **NORTHERN NEVADA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Ed Pearce

## **SOUTHERN NEVADA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Mike O'Brian

Live Appeal

## **HALL OF FAME INDUCTION**

Class of 2025

## **CLOSING COMMENTS**

Eric Bonnici

Vice President NVBA & Executive Director NVBF





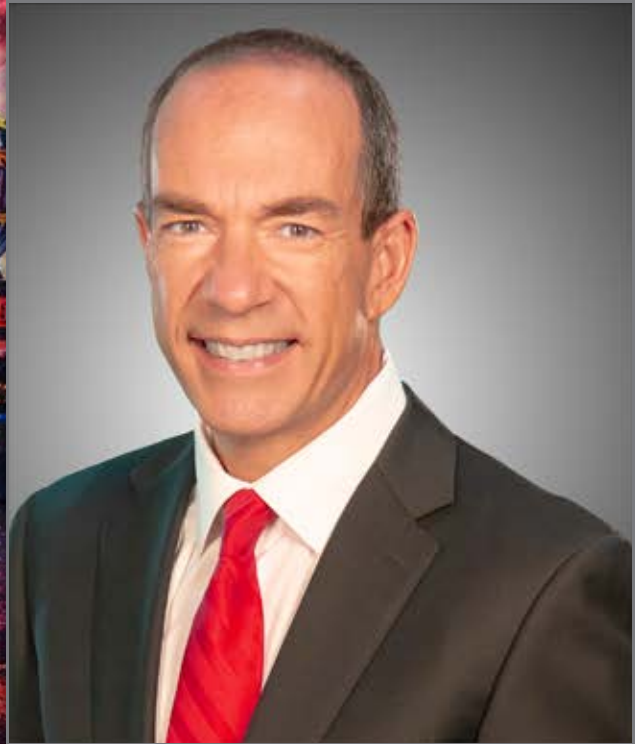
Gold Sponsor

# CONGRATULATIONS

## 2025 Hall Of Fame Inductees



**Jason Westerhaus**  
**24 YEARS**



**Ted Pretty**  
**32 YEARS**



29th Hall of Fame Celebration



# Board of Directors



**LARRY STRUMWASSER**  
CHAIR OF THE BOARD  
KSNV-TV, Las Vegas



**AMIE CHAPMAN**  
IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR  
KRNV-TV, Reno



**TRICIA GALLENBECK**  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
Cumulus Broadcasting, Reno



**MICHAEL KORR**  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
KVVU-TV, Las Vegas



**NATALIE MARSH**  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
Lotus Broadcasting, Las Vegas



**KURT MISCHÉ**  
PBS Reno



**KARA BROWN**  
Reno Media Group, Reno



**JOHN COOK**  
KTNV-TV, Las Vegas



**JOHN FIORELLI**  
KOLO-TV, Reno



**JAY HOWELL**  
KLAS-TV, Las Vegas



**CRAIG KNIGHT**  
KCEP-FM, Las Vegas



**GINA MASSENZI**  
Audacy, Las Vegas



**MARE MAZUR**  
Vegas PBS



**ANDREW PERINI**  
KTVN-TV, Reno



**DR. ASHTON RIDLEY**  
KUNV-FM/UNLV-TV, Las Vegas



**VERN VAN WINKLE**  
KPVM-TV/KACE-FM, Pahrump

## 29th Hall of Fame Celebration

Gold Sponsor

*Congratulations*  
TO THE  
**2025**  
**NEVADA BROADCASTERS**  
**ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAME**  
**INDUCTEES**

SSSCU supports the Nevada Broadcasters Association in their mission to promote and advocate for broadcasters in Nevada and to excel in the public service roles that each station plays.



**SILVER STATE  
SCHOOLS**  
CREDIT UNION

**SILVERSTATECU.COM**

**BEST OF LAS VEGAS**  
**7 YEARS RUNNING**



**29th Hall of Fame Celebration**



# A Message from the President

## Thank you for attending the 29th annual Nevada Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame Celebration!

You may have noticed we've changed things up a bit this year. We decided that we should have a party for broadcasters, recognizing the tremendous public service radio and television stations provide for the state of Nevada. We are the ones who inform, entertain and inspire listeners and viewers 24/7! So why not take a victory lap and celebrate our successes?

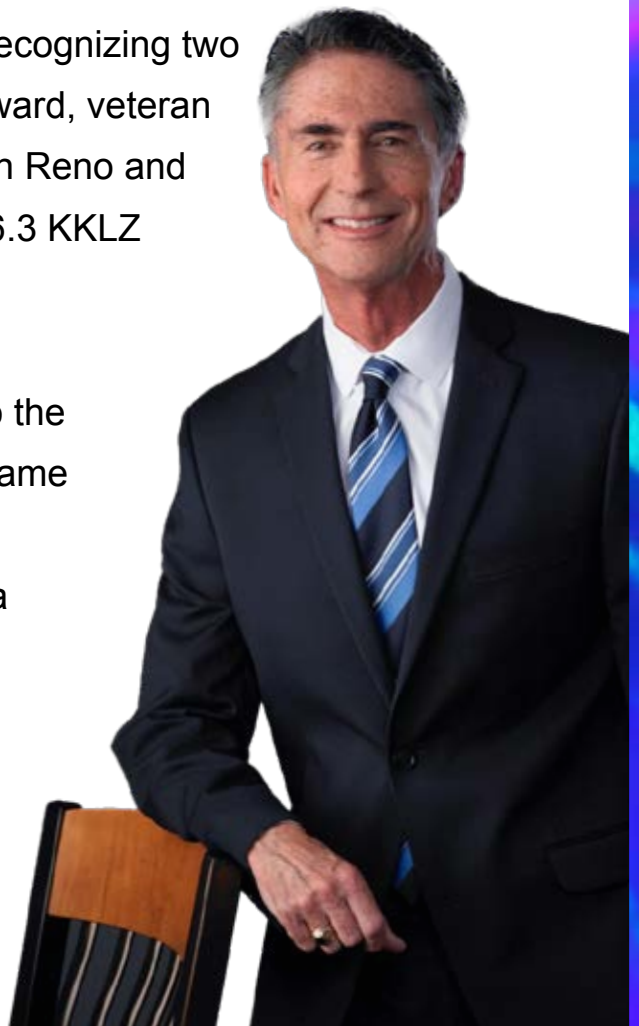
To help you get in the proper mood (as if you needed any help), we have a dance floor, a DJ and food stations representing superb Mediterranean cuisine.

During this evening's festivities we will be recognizing two individuals with our lifetime achievement award, veteran reporter Ed Pearce with KOLO Channel 8 in Reno and Mike O'Brian, legendary morning host at 96.3 KKLZ in Las Vegas.

We will also be inducting 20 individuals into the Nevada Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame and we will continue to support the Tony and Linda Scholarship Program with a silent auction and a brief live appeal.

Let's get this party started!

**MITCH FOX**  
President & CEO



## 29th Hall of Fame Celebration



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# CONGRATULATIONS MIKE O'BRIAN

*From your friends at*



**AVIATORSLV.COM**

29th Hall of Fame Celebration



**NORTHERN NEVADA  
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT  
RECIPIENT  
ED PEARCE**

**ED WAS BORN  
IN LOVELOCK  
TO A FAMILY OF  
BROADCASTERS.**

His parents moved around the state, opening radio stations in Northern Nevada. (Ed's father was also inducted into the Nevada Broadcasters Association's Hall of Fame).

After Ed graduated from Churchill County High School in Fallon, he started working at his parents' radio station in Fallon as a teenager. His family still owns that station today.

Ed stayed local for his higher education, graduating from the University of Nevada, Reno. He was a reporter at the former Nevada State Journal after serving in the Air Force with the Nevada Air National Guard.

For the past 38 years at KOLO Ed has held various positions, Producer, Anchor, News Director, and for the past 2 decades Senior Investigative Reporter. Ed's career in broadcasting has spanned more than 50 years.

He was inducted into the Nevada Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 1997. Along with other accolades, Ed has also been inducted into the Television Academy of Arts and Sciences Silver Circle.

Assignments have taken Ed around the US and the world, but his favorite stories to tell are the ones that make a difference in our community.





Silver Sponsor



# *Congratulations*

*to all the Inductees  
into the  
Nevada Broadcasters  
Hall of Fame*



**Elizabeth Kenney**  
Chief Engineer



**Lindsey Matherly**  
Morning Meteorologist



**Ed Pearce**  
Investigative Reporter

**Congratulations Ed Pearce for receiving the Nevada Broadcasters Lifetime Achievement Award! Celebrating over 50 years of outstanding dedication, leadership, and excellence in Nevada broadcasting. Your commitment has left a lasting impact on our industry and community.**

**29th Hall of Fame Celebration**



**SOUTHERN NEVADA**  
**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT RECIPIENT**  
**MIKE O'BRIAN**

**Born and raised in Highland, Indiana, just outside Chicago,  
MIKE O'BRIAN KNEW, EVEN AS A YOUNG  
KID, THAT RADIO WOULD BE HIS FUTURE.**

Mike's radio roots began in Phoenix where he took on part-time jobs at a religious station and an AM Country Station. Mike would soon land the ultimate part-time gig at 104.7 KZZP! KZZP was owned and operated at the time by Western Cities...which just happened to own a little station in Las Vegas.

Mike landed the night gig in 1980 at KLUC, as well as doing the night show. Mike also became Assistant Program Director, doing sports on KMJJ.

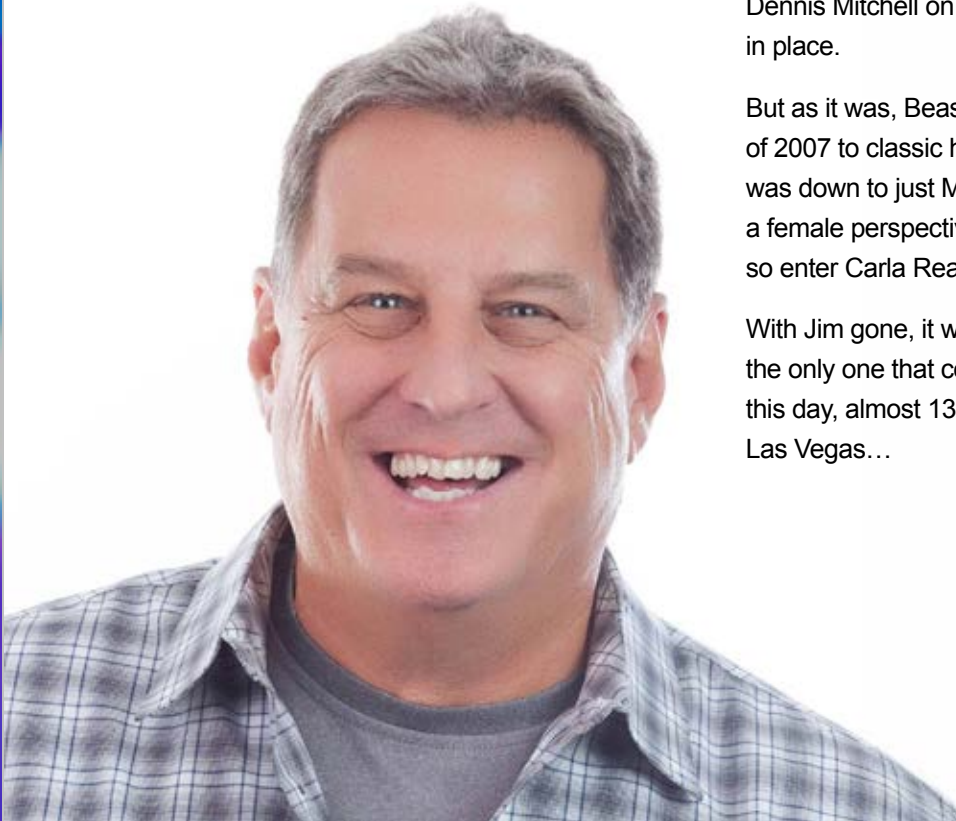
In 1983, Mike moved on to do afternoons at 94Q in Grand Junction, Colorado. Ending up as the morning guy and program director after two and a half years, he ended up moving back to Indiana working at Z107 in the small town of Lowell.

After only 6 months, it was there that Mike got the call to do mornings back at KLUC in Las Vegas. It's there that the breakfast flakes were created on January 1st, 1986. After 7 years on KLUC, Mike would then move on to do mornings at 97.1 The Point. With various partners throughout his time there, including his good friend Lark Williams, he would finally end up working with Carla Rea.

Although that partnership lasted only a couple of years, Mike moved across the street to the Beasley Media Group to do mornings at STAR 102.7. After 6 months, Mike O'Brian became the program director as well. After a great run, it was decided that Mike would be a better fit on 96.3 KKLZ! Mike joined Jim Tofte and Dennis Mitchell on a morning show that was already in place.

But as it was, Beasley would flip KKLZ's format in May of 2007 to classic hits. By that time the morning show was down to just Mike and Jim. Management thought a female perspective was needed with the new format, so enter Carla Rea!

With Jim gone, it was clear at this point that Carla was the only one that could actually work with Mike and to this day, almost 13 years later, they are still waking up Las Vegas...



**29th Hall of Fame Celebration**



# Silver Sponsor



**CONGRATULATIONS FROM  
YOUR BEASLEY MEDIA GROUP  
AND KKLZ FAMILY!**

**We're so very proud of your  
Lifetime Achievement!**



**CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR  
HALL OF FAME INDUCTION**  
from your Beasley Media Group  
and Xtreme Radio 107.5 Family!



**107.5**  
xtreme radio



**29th Hall of Fame Celebration**



# A Message from the Foundation's Namesakes

We are so excited to be in our 15th year and have awarded a total of 322 scholarships! The students must simply be enrolled as a full-time student, meet the criteria requirements and we will cover the cost of up to 15 credits per semester at UNLV, UNR or CSN. They can apply as a freshman up to senior year and we encourage a broadcast focus.

The students are interested in reporting, anchoring, producing content, marketing, production and promotion with several that have a sports or digital emphasis. Please take a look at your job applicants for any reference to our scholarship and put them at the top of your list. These students are smart, enthusiastic, creative and passionate about broadcasting, media & marketing! **THEY WILL BE A GREAT HIRE!**

We are able to award so many scholarships because of the generous support from the Nevada Broadcasters Association, proceeds from our highly successful Northern and Southern Golf Tournaments, our Broadcast Alumni Community events, as well as from tonight's silent auction.

We have great committees in both communities with leadership from:

**Amie Chapman** of Sinclair Broadcasting Group, Reno.

**Holmes Pooser** of Audacy Las Vegas.

**Amberly Quaintance**

And our wonderful Board of Directors that we are so grateful and appreciative of:

**Dr. Alan Stivitsky**, Reynolds School of Journalism, UNR.

**Dr. Kevin Stoker**, Director of the Hank Greenspun School of Journalism, UNLV.

**Jim McKusick**, CEO–Partner at Geary Company.

**Amie Chapman**, Sinclair Broadcasting Group, Reno.

**Kristine Anderson**, Richard Harris Law Firm.

**Venus Hammel**, Audacy Las Vegas.

**Misty Morgan-Yousfi**, KLAS-TV 8.

**Terri Foley**, KTNV-TV 13.

**Monica Schmidt**, KVVU FOX 5.

**Ray Fletcher**, The Raiders & Caesars Palace.

**Mitch Fox**, NVBA President.

**Eric Bonnici**, NVBA Vice President and  
NVBF Executive Director.

Thanks for supporting the Scholarship.

**TONY AND LINDA BONNICI**

Namesakes of the NVBF Scholarship Fund



## 29th Hall of Fame Celebration

# Silver Sponsor



# UNLV

Hank Greenspun School of  
**JOURNALISM AND  
MEDIA STUDIES**

Congratulations to the Nevada Broadcasters Association honorees and inductees. We especially celebrate UNLV's 2025 - 2026 Nevada Broadcasters Foundation's Tony and Linda Bonnici Scholarship Recipients:

Matt Conigliaro  
Christen Davis  
Dominick Delpech  
Jahniya Gibson  
Jeronimo Guerra  
Donovan Hicks  
Viviana Obeso  
Ansley Pavicic  
Maia Perez

Rory Rowsell  
Alexandra Scarpa  
Reanne Shappee  
Ean Taylor  
Trevor Tumminia  
Kylee Pearce  
Will Lewin  
Wyatt Touchet

## 29th Hall of Fame Celebration



# A message from the Executive Director

Every year, I'm reminded that the heart of our mission beats strongest in the face of challenge. In these uncertain times, when economic pressures weigh heavily and volunteerism in the nonprofit sector is harder to come by, the Nevada Broadcasters Foundation has not only stayed true to its mission, but has dared to dream bigger. This year, we have expanded our scholarships to reach more students than ever before.



The **Tony and Linda Bonnici Scholarship Fund** began with a simple but powerful belief: that talented young people in Nevada deserve a chance to learn, create, and lead, regardless of financial barriers. Today, that belief has grown into opportunity for not just aspiring broadcasters, but for digital content creators, graphic designers, media specialists, and marketing professionals. These fields may look different on the surface, but they share one common thread: the power to connect, inform, and inspire.

This year, 29 students will proudly call themselves Tony and Linda Bonnici Scholars. Together, they will receive more than **\$250,000** in tuition funding for the Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 semesters. None of this would be possible without a community that believes in the power of education and storytelling. Because of you, Nevada's next generation of communicators, creators, and innovators is ready to step forward. And together, we are paving the way for future broadcasters.

We also extend heartfelt thanks to those who make additional scholarships possible: **Colin Cowherd and Lotus Broadcasting** (Colin Cowherd Scholarship, ~Recipient: Will Lewin), **Geary Company** (Mike Geary Scholarship, ~Recipient: Jahniya Gibson), **Deanne Sheehan** (Deanne Sheehan Scholarship, ~Recipient: Matthew Conigliaro), **Chet Buchanan** (Chet Buchanan Scholarship, ~Recipient: Troy Sudburry), the **Broadcast Alumni Community** (BAC Scholarship, ~Recipient: Trevor Tumminia), and an **Anonymous Donor** (Bob Fisher Scholarship, ~Recipient: Rory Rowsell) and introducing the **Polly Gonzalez Scholarship** (~Recipient: Jeronimo Guerra). Your support ensures that even more dreams take flight.

With gratitude and pride,

**ERIC BONNICI**  
Executive Director



## 29th Hall of Fame Celebration

# REYNOLDS SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

## UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO



### ON AIR: KUNR AT LAKE TAHOE

KUNR Public Radio has opened a new satellite studio, located on the University of Nevada, Reno Lake Tahoe Campus, bringing news coverage to the region. Students from the Reynolds School now have the opportunity to report for KUNR on air and online, covering topics like energy and the environment, including coverage in Spanish.

*“Having a local studio means we can show up more often, respond faster and tell stories with more depth, and that’s what public media is all about.”*

*-Maria Palma, KUNR Lake Tahoe Reporter*



### SUPPORTING FUTURE BROADCASTERS

Thank you to the Nevada Broadcasters Foundation for providing scholarships to our students through the **Tony and Linda Bonnici Broadcasting Scholarship Fund**.

Eric Chernaev  
Camryn Caruso  
Kade Collins  
Aiden Alexander Higgins

Alejandra Ibarra  
Kathleen Leslie  
Alexandra Psak  
Malorie Schwartz

Nicolas Scolaro  
Nick Stewart  
Troy Sudberry  
Rayonna Williams

PROUD HOME OF



University of Nevada, Reno

**Reynolds School of Journalism**

[unr.edu/journalism](http://unr.edu/journalism)

**29th Hall of Fame Celebration**



# Past Scholars

## 2011 SCHOLARS

Alexandria Cannito (UNR)  
Rachel Johnson (UNLV)  
Sedinam Kakrada (UNLV)  
Adrienne Lefebvre (UNLV)

## 2012 SCHOLARS

Dena Banning (UNLV)  
Alexandria Cannito (UNR)  
Ariana Cramer (UNR)  
Danielle Leeds (UNR)  
Honey Love (UNLV)  
Rommel Santiago (UNLV)

## 2013 SCHOLARS

Sylvia Alvarado (UNLV)  
Dena Banning (UNLV)  
Alexandria Cannito (UNR)  
Karina Gaytan (UNLV)  
Christina Jones (UNLV)  
Marcus Lavergne (UNR)  
Alaina Leadbeter (UNLV)  
Crystal Muguerza (UNLV)  
Jessica Zimmerman (UNLV)

## 2014 SCHOLARS

Sylvia Alvarado (UNLV)  
Mackenzie Bales (UNR)  
Dena Banning (UNLV)  
Kylie Braver (UNLV)  
Alexandria Cannito (UNR)  
Kheslleen Dimanche (UNLV)  
Sivan Gavish (UNLV)  
Christina Jones (UNLV)  
Marcus Lavergne (UNR)  
Alaina Leadbeter (UNLV)  
Crystal Muguerza (UNLV)  
Jillian Pedri (UNLV)  
Kelsy Ravenscraft (UNR)  
Shenique Schaff (UNLV)

## 2015 SCHOLARS

Dena Banning (UNLV)  
Matteo Holly (UNLV)  
Colin Pulicella (UNLV)  
Kira Cooley (UNLV)  
Michael Lasso (UNLV)  
Ana Munoz (UNLV)  
Kylie Braver (UNLV)  
Jillian Pedri (UNLV)  
Natalia Lancellotti (UNLV)  
Autumn Parkam (UNR)  
Krysta Scriptor (UNR)  
Taylor Harkrader (UNR)  
Rachel Donovan (UNR)  
Dominique Di Pietro (UNR)  
Victoria Barnett (UNR)  
Kaitlyn Olvera (UNR)

Robert Conner Glisson (UNR)  
Liset Puentes (UNR)  
Hannah Rae Tonti (UNR)  
Emily Fisher (UNR)  
Marcus Lavergne (UNR)  
Kelsey Ravenscraft (UNR)

## 2016 SCHOLARS

Shahrukh Ahmad (UNR)  
Dena Banning (UNLV)  
Victoria Barnett (UNR)  
Christine Barnhouse (UNR)  
Danielle Basilio (UNLV)  
Kylie Braver (UNLV)  
William Compton (UNR)  
Kira Cooley (UNLV)  
Dominique Di Pietro (UNR)  
Emily Fisher (UNR)  
Robert Conner Glisson (UNLV)  
Trevor Glisson (UNLV)  
Taylor Harkrader (UNR)  
Joseph Harvanek (UNLV)  
Janessa Holman (UNR)  
Natalia Lancellotti (UNLV)  
Michael Lasso (UNLV)  
Marcus Lavergne (UNR)  
Joaquin Lomeli Jr. (UNLV)  
Kaitlyn Olvera (UNR)  
Jillian Pedri (UNLV)  
Valarie Peritz (UNLV)  
Idania Ramirez (UNLV)  
Kelsey Ravenscraft (UNR)  
Krysta Scriptor (UNR)  
Cassandra Soto (UNLV)  
Kaylene Talens (UNLV)  
Hannah Tonti (UNR)

## 2017 SCHOLARS

Shah Ahmad (UNR)  
Kameron Aitken (UNR)  
Danielle Basilio (UNLV)  
Hailey Beattie (UNLV)  
Kylie Braver (UNLV)  
William Compton (UNR)  
Kira Cooley (UNLV)  
Dominique Di Pietro (UNR)  
Emily Fisher (UNR)  
Jade Foote (UNR)  
Robert Conner Glisson (UNLV)  
Trevor Glisson (UNLV)  
Ronnie Gonzalez (UNLV)  
Janay Hagans (UNR)  
Taylor Harkrader (UNR)  
Janessa Holman (UNR)  
Michaela Jackson (UNLV)  
Rachael Jones (UNR)  
Steven Joseph Jr. (UNLV)  
Michael Lasso (UNLV)  
Joaquin Lomeli Jr. (UNLV)

Kaitlyn Olvera (UNR)  
Jillian Pedri (UNLV)  
Errol Porter (UNLV)  
Colin Pulicella (UNLV)  
Kelsey Ravenscraft (UNR)  
Sebastian Ross (UNLV)  
Kaylene Talens (UNLV)  
Hannah Tonti (UNR)  
Nickolas Wortham (UNLV)

## 2018 SCHOLARS

Shah Ahmad (UNR)  
Kameron Aitken (UNR)  
Danielle Basilio (UNLV)  
Alison Casey (UNR)  
William Compton (UNR)  
Kira Cooley (UNLV)  
Emily Fisher (UNR)  
Jade Foote (UNR)  
Robert Conner Glisson (UNLV)  
Trevor Glisson (UNLV)  
Ronnie Gonzalez (UNLV)  
Jordyn Griffin (UNR)  
Janay Hagans (UNR)  
Taylor Harkrader (UNR)  
Evelyn Hernandez (UNLV)  
Janessa Holman (UNR)  
Michaela Jackson (UNLV)  
Rachael Jones (UNR)  
Steven Joseph Jr. (UNLV)  
Michael Lasso (UNLV)  
Jorge Lopez (UNLV)  
Evan Murphy (UNR)  
Kaitlyn Olvera (UNR)  
Errol Porter (UNLV)  
Robert Quaintance (UNR)  
Sebastian Ross (UNLV)  
Marcos Hung Santander (UNLV)  
Jason Takhtadjian (UNLV)  
Kaylene Talens (UNLV)  
Hannah Tonti (UNR)  
Frida Urena (UNR)

## 2019 SCHOLARS

Kameron Aitken (UNR)  
Shah Ahmad (UNR)  
Danielle Basilio (UNLV)  
Morgan Bobbera (UNR)  
Alison Casey (UNR)  
Aniea Collins (UNLV)  
Trevor Glisson (UNLV)  
Zachary Green (UNLV)  
Jordyn Griffin (UNR)  
D'Ante Haigler (UNLV)  
Evelyn Hernandez (UNLV)  
Rachael Jones (UNR)  
Kevin Krall (UNLV)  
Michael Lasso (UNLV)

Jorge Lopez (UNLV)  
Samantha Mann (UNLV)  
Evan Murphy (UNR)  
Robert Quaintance (UNR)  
Arturo Sanchez (UNLV)  
Katherine Streit (UNLV)  
Jason Takhtadjian (UNLV)  
Cooper Venzon (UNR)  
Vanessa Villanueva (UNLV)

## 2020 SCHOLARS

Kameron Aitken (UNR)  
Morgan Bobbera (UNR)  
Alison Casey (UNR)  
Ray Fletcher (UNLV)  
Trevor Glisson (UNLV)  
Jordyn Griffin (UNR)  
Evelyn Hernandez (UNLV)  
Rachael Jones (UNR)  
Jorge Lopez (UNLV)  
Kevin Ludowitz (UNLV)  
Kelsey Middleton (UNR)  
Evan Murphy (UNR)  
Trevor Paez (UNR)  
Robert Quaintance (UNR)  
Usiel Teran-Holguin (UNLV)  
Vanessa Villanueva (UNLV)  
Devin Virissimo (UNLV)

## 2021 SCHOLARS

Leena Atout (UNLV)  
Morgan Bobbera (UNR)  
Amanda Durand (UNR)  
Ray Fletcher (UNLV)  
Jordyn Griffin (UNR)  
Evelyn Hernandez (UNLV)  
Jorge Lopez (UNLV)  
Kevin Ludowitz (UNLV)  
Ethan McCoy (UNLV)  
Kelsey Middleton (UNR)  
Avery O'Leary (UNR)  
Garrett O'Toole (UNLV)  
Trevor Paez (UNR)  
Robert Quaintance (UNR)  
Mistie Ragle (UNLV)  
Erica Sadorra (UNLV)  
Usiel Teran-Holguin (UNLV)  
Nikolas Todorovich (UNLV)  
Justine Verastigue (UNLV)  
Vanessa Villanueva (UNLV)  
Mia Wood (UNR)

## 2023 SCHOLARS

Alexandra Psak (UNR)  
Amanda Durand (UNR)  
Ansley Pavicic (CSN)  
Ashanti Johnson (UNLV)  
Ashleigh Liebig (UNLV)  
Avery O'Leary (UNR)

Camryn Caruso (UNR)  
Chantaye Louis (UNLV)  
Dominick Delpech (UNLV)  
Ean Taylor (UNLV)  
Eric Chernaev (UNR)  
Eva Lamonte (UNLV)  
Evan Carroll (UNLV)  
Justine Retodo (UNLV)  
Kade Collins (UNR)  
Kaitlyn Bustamante (UNLV)  
Kathleen Leslie (UNR)  
Kathryn Freter (UNLV)  
Kevin Ludowitz (UNLV)  
Kylee Pearce (UNLV)  
Magnus McArthur (UNLV)  
Malorie Schwartz (UNR)  
Matthew Felsenfeld (UNLV)  
Mia Wood (UNR)  
Micah David (UNLV)  
Mistie Ragle (UNV)  
Nick Stewart (UNR)  
Nicolas Scolaro (UNR)  
Reanne Shappee (UNLV)  
Ryan Gilder (UNLV)  
Wyatt Touchet (UNLV)

## 2024 SCHOLARS

Aiden Alexander Higgins (UNR), Alejandra Ibarra (UNR), Alexandra Psak (UNR), Alexander Scarpa (UNLV), Ansley Pavicic (UNLV), Avery O'Leary (UNR), Camryn Caruso (UNR), Christen Davis (UNLV), Dominick Delpech (UNLV), Donovan Hicks (UNLV), Ean Taylor (UNLV), Eric Chernaev (UNR), Evan Carroll (UNLV), Kade Collins (UNR), Kathleen Leslie (UNR), Kathryn Freter (UNLV), Kylee Pearce (UNLV), Maia Perez (UNLV), Malorie Schwartz (UNR), Matthew Conigliaro (UNLV), Matthew Felsenfeld (UNLV), Mistie Ragle (UNLV), Nick Stewart (UNR), Nicolas Scolaro (UNR), Rayonna Williams (UNR), Reanne Shappee (UNLV), Ryan Gilder (UNLV), Trevor Tumminia (UNLV), Viviana Obeso (UNLV), Wyatt Touchet (UNLV)



# 2025 Scholars



ERIC CHERNAEV  
(UNR)



CAMRYN CARUSO  
(UNR)



MATTHEW CONIGLIARO  
(UNLV)



KADE COLLINS  
(UNLV)



CHRISTEN DAVIS  
(UNLV)



DOMINICK DELPECH  
(UNLV)



JAHNIYA GIBSON  
(UNLV)



JERONIMO GUERRA  
(UNLV)



AIDEN ALEXANDER HIGGINS  
(UNR)



DONOVAN HICKS  
(UNLV)



ALEJANDRA IBARRA  
(UNR)



KATHLEEN LESLIE  
(UNR)



WILL LEWIN  
(UNLV)



VIVIANA OBESO  
(UNLV)



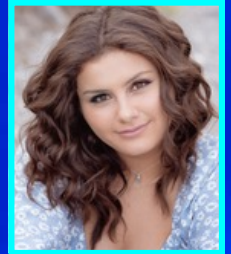
ANSLEY PAVICIC  
(UNLV)



MAIA PEREZ  
(UNLV)



KYLEE PEARCE  
(UNLV)



ALEXANDRA PSAK  
(UNR)



RORY ROWSELL  
(UNLV)



ALEXANDER SCARPA  
(UNLV)



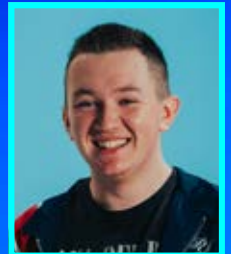
MALORIE SCHWARTZ  
(UNR)



REANNE SHAPPEE  
(UNLV)



NICOLAS SCOLARO  
(UNR)



NICK STEWART  
(UNR)



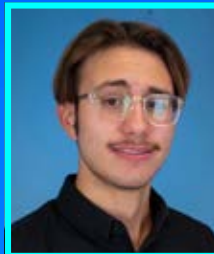
TROY SUDBERRY  
(UNR)



EAN TAYLOR  
(UNLV)



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## 29th Hall of Fame Celebration

# Hall of Fame Inductees



## REBECCA CRONON



Originally from Grass Valley, California, Rebecca Cronon began her broadcasting career at KOLO 8 News Now in Reno, Nevada, in November 2004, as a production assistant, where she operated cameras and audio for evening newscasts. Rebecca eventually migrated to the newsroom, where she learned how to produce newscasts from Tad Dunbar, Terri Russell, Kara Tsuboi, Bob Dlugos, Jack Bowe, and many other professionals who graciously showed her the ropes. Rebecca produced the 6:30 pm and 11 pm newscasts for about a year before moving to KTVN 2 News Nevada, where she produced evening, morning, and weekend newscasts throughout her six years with the CBS affiliate.

Rebecca remembers 2011 as a deeply hectic year for local news, marked by the IHOP shooting in Carson City, the deadly Air Races Crash at the Reno Stead Airport, the Caughlin Ranch Fire in south Reno, and the loss of KTVN Sports Director JK Metzker. In 2012, Rebecca earned her bachelor's degree from the Reynolds School of Journalism at the University of Nevada, Reno. Rebecca left KTVN in early 2014 to focus on becoming a 911 operator, a move that provided valuable insight into a victim's experience and later led Rebecca to realize that broadcasting is where she wanted to be. In late 2014, Brent Boynton at PBS Reno (then KNPB Channel 5) contacted Rebecca and invited her to be a freelance producer during the 2014 Midterm Elections. After that, PBS Reno offered Rebecca a full-time position, and she started her career in public television on December 1, 2014.

Since then, she has gained valuable experience as a producer, videographer, editor, and public information officer. Her productions for ARTEFFECTS have earned the station six Telly Awards and eight international Communicator Awards. Rebecca loves meeting people and finding creative ways to share their stories and document their contributions to their community.

## LEANDRO "HOLLYWOOD" VLASTARIS



Leandro "Lee" Vlastaris, also known professionally as DJ Hollywood & Wooddrowe, rose to international prominence as one of the marquee faces of the Las Vegas entertainment and nightlife scene from the '90s to the present. His multidimensional career includes being an award-winning, top ten Billboard record producer and songwriter, as well as a well-known radio personality. Additionally, he owns and operates several successful restaurant concepts and one of the most successful entertainment management companies in the United States.

Born in Las Vegas and raised in Atlantic City, Lee was quickly introduced to the hustle of big city gaming and entertainment. He helped pioneer the modern casino nightclub scene in the late '90s, holding top positions while rubbing shoulders with Tinseltown's elite.

In 2010, famed Las Vegas mayor Oscar Goodman proclaimed December 23 DJ Hollywood Day for his humanitarian work and promoting the Las Vegas nightlife brand internationally throughout his career.



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# Hall of Fame Inductees



## MIKE JENSEN

Mike Jensen is a 25-year veteran of the radio broadcasting industry, known for his energy, leadership, and passion for helping local businesses grow. Born and raised in Nebraska, Mike carries a strong Midwestern work ethic and small-town values—but it was Las Vegas that truly shaped his career path.

In April 2000, Mike moved to Las Vegas and joined the team at MIX 94.1, one of the city's top-rated stations. What started as a sales role quickly became a defining chapter in his life. Immersed in a fast-paced, competitive market, Mike learned the importance of strategic selling, creative marketing, and client-focused service. Surrounded by a powerhouse team and strong leadership, he built long-lasting relationships, developed a deep understanding of the business, and established himself as a leader. The lessons, friendships, and success from his years in Las Vegas laid the foundation for everything that followed.

Before moving to Las Vegas, Mike got his start in Nebraska, working in promotions and on-air roles, but it was sales that truly clicked for him. His ability to connect with clients and deliver results led to leadership positions across the country—from Sales Manager to General Manager. Mike has led teams through changing markets and economic challenges, always focused on growth, accountability, and community connection.

Today, Mike lives near Sedona, Arizona, and serves as the Regional Director of Sales and Marketing for Yavapai Broadcasting. He oversees a six-station cluster and a digital department, guiding strategy, revenue, and partnerships across Central and Northern Arizona.

Outside of work, Mike enjoys hiking, live music, and supporting local events. With decades of experience behind him and a clear vision for the future, Mike remains inspired by the power of radio to grow businesses, build community, and tell meaningful stories.



## JOAN REED

Originally from Oakland, California, Joan Young-Reed relocated to Las Vegas in 2003. A proud wife and mother of two sons, Joan balances family, career, and creativity with authenticity and grace. She earned her Associate of Arts degree in Elementary Education from the College of Southern Nevada but soon discovered her true calling in broadcasting.

Joan started her career at Infinity Broadcasting (now Audacy) in 2004 as a receptionist. Her strong work ethic and motivation helped her rise through the ranks—first to Accounts Payable, then to Sales Assistant, and currently as a trusted National Sales Assistant. Joan is recognized for her deep operational expertise and the positive energy she brings to her team.

Outside of work, Joan enjoys building LEGO sets and letting her imagination run wild with custom creations. She and her husband also share a love for Nike Jordan 1s, often coordinating her sneakers with her outfits. Joan embraces the fast pace of life, taking each day as it comes. She's passionate about the broadcast industry and cherishes the experiences it brought her from live events to meeting music legends. With a deep love for music and community, Joan is proud to be part of the world of radio.

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# Hall of Fame Inductees



## TRICIA KEAN

For more than 20 years, Tricia Kean has been a trusted face in Southern Nevada, anchoring the evening news on Channel 13 every weeknight at 5 pm, 6 pm, and 11pm. She's not only a seasoned journalist but also a fierce advocate for consumers — helping viewers who've been scammed or ripped off get the answers and justice they deserve.

Tricia graduated from Arizona State University and began her career in journalism in places such as Atlanta, Macon, and Great Falls before returning to her hometown of Los Angeles as a reporter for KCAL-TV. She also anchored national overnight news for CBS's "Up to the Minute." However, it's in Las Vegas where she has truly made her mark, earning multiple Emmy Awards and becoming a fixture in the community.

Over the past two decades, Tricia has dedicated her heart to local causes. She leads United Way's Day of Caring, supports the ADL's Walk Against Hate, and hosts Junior Achievement's "Swimming with the Big Fish" competition for local students. She was even honored as a "Woman of Valor" by Temple Ner Tamid.

Tricia has also landed some of the biggest interviews in town, speaking with influential figures such as Dr. Miriam Adelson, Steve and Elaine Wynn, Frank and Lorenzo Fertitta, Tom Breiting, and even late-night host Jimmy Kimmel.

She's married to local businessman Rick Hergott, and the couple tied the knot at Anthem Country Club in 2008 (their wedding even made the cover of Las Vegas Bride). Today, they live in Henderson, where Tricia juggles news deadlines with being a proud football mom to her son, Matthew. Her stepdaughter, Marissa, a Bishop Gorman graduate, has just made Tricia a happy step-grandma to baby Asher.



## LINDSEY MATHERLY

Lindsey Matherly is the trusted morning meteorologist at KOLO 8 News Now in Reno, Nevada. Originally from The Dalles, Oregon, Lindsey has built her career on curiosity, dedication, and a passion for storytelling and science.

She earned her bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Oregon and began her television career in 2005 at KTVL in Medford, Oregon. Starting behind the scenes as a floor director and tape operator, Lindsey quickly moved into an on-air role as a weekend reporter. Her increasing interest in weather led her to take on weekend weather duties, eventually becoming the station's morning meteorologist.

To enhance her forecasting skills, she earned a Certificate in Broadcast Meteorology from Mississippi State University. In April 2013, Lindsey joined KOLO in Reno, where she continues to serve as the station's morning meteorologist. Over the years, she has worked with three general managers, six news directors, and three chief meteorologists, gaining valuable experience and deep community connections along the way.

Reno has also become personal in a more meaningful way. It's where she met her husband, Brian. The two have been married for eight years and are proud parents to two beautiful daughters: Ellie, 4, and Emmy, 1.

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to this year's  
Hall of Fame inductee!**

**Tricia  
Kean**



**29th Hall of Fame Celebration**



# Hall of Fame Inductees



## PAULY KOVER

Originally from the Midwest, Pauly Kover began his broadcasting career over 22 years ago at 92.3 Xtreme Radio in Cleveland, Ohio. In 2004, he made the move to Sin City, where he quickly became a staple on the airwaves of Las Vegas' X107.5 Xtreme Radio. Over the next 15 years, Pauly hosted a variety of dayparts, building a loyal following with his sharp commentary, quick wit, and deep passion for alternative rock music.

After a four-year stint in South Bend, Indiana, where he brought his signature energy to active rocker 103.9 The Bear, Pauly returned to Las Vegas and rejoined X107.5 in 2024. Back on familiar ground, he continues to do what he loves—connecting with listeners, spotlighting new and local bands, reviewing the latest TV shows, and covering concerts, premieres, and red-carpet events. His engaging and often humorous perspective reflects his deep roots in both media and entertainment.

Beyond the radio studio, Pauly's greatest passion lies in professional wrestling. Far more than just a fan, he has spent years working behind the scenes as a television host, backstage interviewer, creative writer, and on-air character. His contributions have helped launch and elevate the careers of numerous wrestling talents in Las Vegas and across the country. In recognition of his impact, Pauly was inducted into the FSW Las Vegas Pro Wrestling Hall of Fame, Class of 2024.

Known for his larger-than-life personality and dedication to the local scene, Pauly Kover is more than just a radio host—he's a prominent Las Vegas media figure who mixes music, entertainment, and a love for the unexpected. With his return to X107.5, he's picking up right where he left off—creating content, promoting new talent, and always keeping it real... all while never taking himself too seriously!



## THEODORE JOHN PRETTY II

Theodore John Pretty II grew up in Metamora, Illinois, a town of 2,000 people in the middle of the state. Theodore attended the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Broadcast Journalism. Later, he obtained his Certificate of Broadcast Meteorology through Mississippi State University.

After graduating from the University of Illinois, Theodore started his broadcasting career as a photographer and reporter at Kearney, Nebraska's NTV in 1995. After six months in Kearney, he worked at KPVI as a reporter for the station's morning show. In the spring of 1997, Theodore seized the opportunity to move closer to his parents and the city where he went to college, becoming a morning show reporter for WCIA in Champaign, Illinois. He then began his tenure at KVVU in Henderson, Nevada, in the summer of 1999 as a reporter and weather anchor.



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# Hall of Fame Inductees



## BETH LANO

Beth Lano was born and raised in Indiana and studied at Ball State University and Indiana University. She moved to Las Vegas in 1982 to pursue her music career, performing with Wayne Newton's orchestra, Bally's Jubilee!, and backing stars like Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Sammy Davis Jr., Ann-Margret, and Johnny Mathis. Beth has also been featured as a solo horn in Monty Python's *Spamalot* and as the principal horn in *Phantom: The Las Vegas Spectacular*. She is the associate principal horn with the Las Vegas Philharmonic and continues to perform with major artists, including Journey, The Who, Andrea Bocelli, and Seth MacFarlane.

In 1989, Beth transitioned to public relations and advertising, serving as Director of Public Relations for the Musicians Union of Las Vegas and later, for the UNLV School of Music. She also became an award-winning voice actress, voicing campaigns for notable clients such as Station Casinos, Caesars Palace, SC Johnson, the Lincoln Project, and Lexus. She can still be heard locally on campaigns for Three Square, Team Lincoln, and the Las Vegas Valley Water District.

Beth began her radio career in 1997, co-anchoring afternoon and evening newscasts on KNUU-AM, and later hosting morning shows on KQOL-FM, KSTJ-FM, and KJUL-FM. She also hosted programs for Nevada Public Radio on both KNPR-FM and KCNV-FM. She narrated the BBC mini-series "Casino" in 2003 and appeared on AMC's "The Pitch" in 2012.

In 1999, Beth was nominated for a Pacific Southwest Region Emmy Award for her promotional work at KLAS-TV, and in 2005, she was part of the team at KJUL that won the Marconi Award for Adult Standards Station of the Year.

Beth lives in South Las Vegas with her husband Joe, along with their four dogs and three cats.



## ADAM MCCARTHY

Adam McCarthy discovered his passion for broadcasting at just 8 years old in Burlington, Wisconsin, when he created mock morning radio shows on a cassette recorder in his neighbor's bedroom. By 1993, as a high school freshman, he was already working as a DJ and Production Director at WBSD-FM.

He continued to pursue broadcasting at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, earning a bachelor's degree in Radio, TV, and Film in 2004. During college, he worked at WSUM and took side jobs at the UW Historical Society Audio Archives and the UW Extension, where he preserved audiotapes and duplicated Wisconsin Public Radio programs.

Adam started his career in 2005 at WISC-TV, the CBS affiliate in Madison. Over the course of five years, he advanced from being a camera operator and editor to become the newscast director for the morning show, mastering graphics and live directing before moving to Las Vegas in 2010.

Since then, he has worked at Vegas PBS (KLVX) as a videographer, editor, and now producer director. His work covers a wide range of formats—from documentaries and educational series to public affairs and promotional content. Adam has won three Pacific Southwest Emmy Awards for his contributions in writing, shooting, editing, graphics, directing, and producing.

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**HALL OF FAME**  
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# Hall of Fame Inductees



## IRENE ELIZA QUITO PENGSON

Irene Eliza Quito Pengson was born and raised in Manila, Philippines. She attended St. Benedict College, where she earned her degree in communications and media studies. Irene discovered her interest in broadcasting when she interned at Manila's Nation Broadcasting Corporation. She was a student radio talent and served as a production assistant for one of their AM stations. Irene also worked as a student announcer at DWLS-FM, one of Manila's leading FM stations.

In 2004, Irene moved to the United States and began her broadcasting career the following year. She started as a traffic coordinator at KFBT-TV, a local Sinclair Broadcast Group station, where she worked closely with the sales team and advertising agencies to schedule TV commercials. She later joined KLAS-TV, the Las Vegas CBS affiliate, where she spent 11 years gaining experience in various roles. During her time at KLAS-TV, Irene played a key part in the traffic and sales departments. She collaborated with multiple departments while managing programming, approving political spots, and acting as the station's liaison to the CBS Network in New York.

Irene began her television sales career at KTNV-TV, the Las Vegas ABC affiliate. Starting with local sales assistance, she advanced to become an associate account executive and was eventually promoted to integrated account executive. Her outstanding customer service and interpersonal skills in building long-term relationships became her signature. In 2023, she joined the corporate support team at Vegas PBS TV. Currently, she serves as a corporate partnership account executive, where she continues to work with organizations and corporations, developing strong, meaningful media partnerships and making a positive impact on the community.

When Irene isn't working, she stays busy being a great mother to her two lovely daughters, Sofia and Adrienne. Irene loves cooking, watching documentaries, traveling, and spending quality time with her girls.

## ELIZABETH KENNEY

Elizabeth was born in Las Vegas and traveled with her family while her father served in the Navy. She attended high school and university in Reno, where she currently resides. Her career in broadcasting began in Master Control for a local independent television station. After completing college, Elizabeth transitioned into a career in engineering, where she has worked for the remainder of her career. She is currently the Chief Engineer for KOLO-TV in Reno.



# Congrats



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# Hall of Fame Inductees



## JAMES HARRIS JOHNSON III

James Harris Johnson III is a six-time Emmy Award-winning broadcast journalist with a dynamic career spanning multiple major networks, including NBC News, CBS News, ABC News, and Fox 5 KVVU-TV in Las Vegas. With a sharp eye for compelling storytelling and a relentless pursuit of truth, James has become a trusted voice in newsrooms across the country.

Throughout his career, James has worn many hats — from photojournalist and reporter to anchor and editor. His versatility behind and in front of the camera, combined with his technical skills in video editing and live broadcasting, has enabled him to bring stories to life in a way that resonates deeply with viewers. His

reporting has covered a wide range of topics, from high-stakes breaking news and severe weather to human interest pieces and in-depth investigative work.

Known for his calm demeanor under pressure, James has led coverage of some of the most high-profile stories in the region. His commitment to journalistic integrity and public service is reflected in the multiple Emmy Awards he's received for excellence in reporting and storytelling.

Currently based in Las Vegas, James remains passionate about keeping the community informed, empowered, and connected. Outside the newsroom, James is an avid traveler and basketball enthusiast who believes in the power of storytelling to unite people and spark meaningful change.



## CASEY MCCABE III

Originally from Reno, Nevada, Casey McCabe started his radio career at age 19 in 2001 at Reno's New Rock Alternative, 100.9 KRZQ. Known as Casey Kane, Casey learned the basic, foundational skills for operating the board for the syndicated show LOVELINE. Interested in becoming an on-air personality, Casey began practicing air checks. Within a month, he was given his first on-air opportunity doing weekend overnights and was entrusted with organizing promotional events for the full-time radio personalities.

Casey attended the University of Nevada, Reno (2000-2002) and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (2002-2005), studying Journalism and Film, respectively, earning a Bachelor's degree in Film in 2005. He continued his broadcasting career in Las Vegas at X107.5 Xtreme Radio, on the 7 to midnight show under the on-air name Hambone. As Hambone, he developed skills in program production, on-air voice and personality, and interviewing. He held this position until 2008. That year, Casey got his big career break working at The World Famous KROQ in Los Angeles as the overnight fill-in personality under the name McCabe. One year after working at 106.7 KROQ, McCabe switched to 97.1 AMP Radio, hosting nights from 2009 to 2020. During this time, McCabe participated in numerous station events, including New Year's Eve celebrations in Long Beach & Universal CityWalk, as well as artist interviews at both the American Music Awards and Grammys. In 2022, McCabe moved to Chicago, where he currently hosts The Afternoon Mix from 2 to 7 on 101.9 The Mix.

These years and opportunities in the business have given Casey McCabe the experience to become the on-air radio professional he is today.

## 29th Hall of Fame Celebration



# MORNING RADIO MISCHIEF TO BROADCASTING LEGEND

Mike, from those wild Sahara Hotel days with Julio the Gardener (and the occasional on-air birthday whippings) to your 37+ years of mornings that made Vegas laugh before the coffee kicked in, you've always been more than a voice on the air — you've been part of all our lives.



Now the Nevada Broadcasters Hall of Fame is making it official: you're a legend!

We couldn't agree more. Congrats, our friend — Julio's smiling somewhere, and so are we.

Love, Laura and Solveig  
(your biggest fans)



**29th Hall of Fame Celebration**

# Hall of Fame Inductees



## IAN L. PERRY

Growing up partly in Sacramento, California, and then moving to the Carson Valley area of northern Nevada, Ian Perry knew he loved broadcasting and specifically broadcast radio from a young age. His first introduction to a broadcast facility was in elementary school. His younger sister won a story-writing contest and was invited to KFIA in Sacramento to read her story; Ian went along. The studio environment at KFIA sparked his growing interest in radio.

In the early to mid-1990s, Ian had several opportunities to be exposed to both radio and television broadcasting, eventually taking an internship at radio stations KPTL and KZZF in Carson City. Less than a year later, this opportunity turned into a job, which coincided with his senior year of high school. In the early years of his career, Ian held programming positions at Northern Nevada stations, including KZZF, KGVM, KHXR, and KKOI. During this time, he developed a passion for broadcast engineering and later served as the Chief Engineer for Citadel Broadcasting in Reno, then for KNIS in Carson City, before moving on to engineer stations in Boise, Idaho. Ian continued to provide engineering consulting to stations in the Reno market while living in Idaho. In 2019, Ian returned to the Reno airwaves as the morning host on KNIS (FM), which airs a Christian talk and music format that has been in Reno since 1970.

Today, Ian is married to Angela Nelson-Perry, and they have three children, with the oldest in her freshman year of college. Ian now serves as a Senior Broadcast Engineer at the corporate or national level for Townsquare Media, while maintaining some small ties to radio programming.



## ELIZABETH QUIRARTE

Elizabeth Quirarte was born in Napa Valley, California, and moved to Las Vegas with her family in 1990. While attending college, she began searching for employment, when suddenly, she was granted an opportunity that would change her life and determine the rest of her career: a position at Telemundo Las Vegas. Since December 26, 2000, Telemundo Las Vegas has been her professional home.

Over the years, Elizabeth has grown with the organization, witnessing its transformation from an affiliated station to becoming the only network-owned and operated Spanish-language television station in the Las Vegas media landscape. Her journey at Telemundo reflects her dedication, adaptability, and passion for people and processes. She began as a receptionist and gradually advanced through various roles, including traffic assistant, traffic manager, customer service representative, and office manager. Most recently, she has served as the station's Employee Experience Specialist, where she focuses on fostering a supportive and engaging workplace culture.

Elizabeth's contributions have been recognized. She has been nominated for a prestigious NATAS Emmy Award and has received four GEM (Going the Extra Mile) awards from NBCUniversal corporate for her exceptional performance and dedication to excellence.

A firm believer in continuous learning and collaboration, Elizabeth credits much of her professional growth to the many outstanding colleagues she's worked alongside throughout the years. Outside of work, she enjoys traveling and exploring new places with her husband and their four daughters, creating lasting memories and experiences as a family.

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# Hall of Fame Inductees



## DICK RENKES

Dick Renkes started in radio as a 2nd Class Radioman in the U.S. Navy while stationed on Guam, where he worked for a year at Armed Forces Radio—the same studio and equipment once used by Johnny Carson. After earning an honorable discharge, he finished a correspondence course through the Columbia School of Broadcasting in Hollywood. Eager to break into the radio industry, he submitted his final exam after just a few months, passed, and launched his career.

Returning to his hometown, he landed a job at local station KCLN, then moved on to KOTH in Dubuque, Iowa, before joining KCRG, where he hosted the afternoon show. After about three years, he was hired over the phone as Program Director at KORK Radio, where he also served as Sales Service Manager for KORK-TV.

He later relocated to Southern California to host mornings at KIK-FM for three years, earning the honor of “DJ of the Year” from the Southern California Country Music Association. Upon returning to Las Vegas, he worked afternoons and served as Production Director for KFM-102.

Aside from radio, he starred as the lead in two stage productions: Alone Together and Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music.



## JASON WESTERHAUS

Originally from the Cleveland, Ohio suburbs, Jason Westerhaus started his broadcasting career while attending Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. He worked at the university-affiliated PBS station, WBGU-TV. He held various roles both inside and outside the studio, including on a show that aired regionally on what was formerly FOX Sports Ohio.

Before his senior year in fall 2003, Jason was hired at the nearby Toledo, Ohio CBS affiliate WTOL-TV as a News Photographer/Editor. This is where Jason entered the world of news. After graduating from Bowling Green State University in 2004, Jason spent another year at WTOL-TV in Ohio before seeking a new opportunity out west. In July 2005, Jason was hired at KVVU-TV, the FOX affiliate in Las Vegas.

With an initial goal of experiencing a city completely different from the Midwest, Las Vegas became home. Jason spent 13 years as a News Photographer at KVVU-TV before being promoted to Chief Photographer and News Operations Manager in March 2018. He continued to shoot and edit videos but also managed a team of news photographers and video editors. Other responsibilities included hiring News Photographers and Editors, training, maintaining news gear and vehicles, troubleshooting technical issues, among other duties.

In July 2025, Jason marked his 20th anniversary working at KVVU-TV in Las Vegas. Over more than twenty years, Jason has covered a wide range of events, including the closure of the Stardust, the NBA All-Star Game, the O.J. Simpson trial, the Monte Carlo fire, various U.S. Presidential visits and Air Force One landings, the October 1 shooting, the Vegas Golden Knights' Stanley Cup victory and championship parade, F1 races, and the Las Vegas Super Bowl, among many others.

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# Hall of Fame Inductees



## GIGI L. SLUSHER

Originally from Grass Valley, California, Gigi Slusher joined PBS Reno in December 2004 as a receptionist after a 23-year career with Nevada Bell (AT&T). Three years later, Gigi was promoted to Assistant in Membership, the department she had longed desired to join. She enjoyed helping viewers with programming questions, assisting donors with setting up PBS Passport, answering many questions about local celebrities at the station, and managing the PBS Reno KIDS Club.

Under Gigi's watch, the PBS Reno KIDS Club has expanded from fewer than 80 families to an average of 200 families today. In 2018, Gigi was promoted to Membership Representative. She is passionate about PBS Reno and the variety of programming viewers can enjoy. She also enjoys welcoming younger generations who join PBS Reno as interns or professionals fresh out of college and watching them grow.

One of Gigi's favorite memories is when a married couple stopped by PBS Reno to participate in an uplink. The husband headed toward the studio, and the wife and Gigi stayed together to discuss gardening and travel. Gigi remembers thinking, "I know this person! But how?" It wasn't until after the uplink was over and the couple had left that Gigi realized it was "Captain" Daryl Dragon and Toni Tennille, the duo behind the hits "Love Will Keep Us Together" and "Muskrat Love." The president and CEO of PBS Reno at the time received a message from Toni Tennille, thanking Gigi for the "normal" conversation.

Gigi has an expanding Bucket List to tackle upon retirement; first, she plans to travel the Mississippi River from Nashville to New Orleans on a paddleboat.

### PBS Reno Congratulates All 2025 Nevada Broadcasters Hall of Fame Inductees

We are especially proud to honor PBS Reno's Rebecca and Gigi for their dedication, talent, and decades of service to Nevada broadcasting.



**REBECCA CRONON**

Content Creator III



**GIGI SLUSHER**

Membership Representative



## 29th Hall of Fame Celebration



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**29th Hall of Fame Celebration**

# Hall of Fame Inductees



## SHIREE R. WOODY



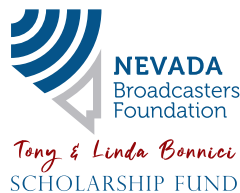
Shiree Woody is a dynamic and passionate newsroom leader with over 25 years of experience creating compelling stories and guiding high-performing journalism teams. Currently serving as the Assistant News Director at KSNV News 3 in Las Vegas, Shiree plays a key role in managing daily editorial content across broadcast and digital platforms. She promotes a collaborative newsroom culture centered on impactful storytelling, community engagement, and excellence in breaking news.

Before her current role, Shiree was Content Director and Executive Producer at KSNV. Under her leadership, the station received multiple honors, including several Emmy Awards—one for Outstanding Newscast in a large market. She's recognized for her calm demeanor during high-pressure moments and her ability to inspire others through thoughtful coaching and mentorship.

Her career includes leadership roles at WZVN ABC 7/WBBH NBC 2 in Fort Myers, WEYI NBC 25 in Michigan, FOX 2-Detroit, New York One, Indianapolis, Grand Rapids, and Spokane, WA. Across every newsroom she's worked in, Shiree has built a reputation for inspiring teams, nurturing talent, creating content that resonates with viewers, and having an infectious laugh.

Shiree is a News Management Fellow at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Media Management and a graduate of the NABJ Leadership Academy. In addition to her Emmy wins, she has earned the Edward R. Murrow Award, the George Polk Award, and recognition from the National Association of Black Journalists.

Beyond the newsroom, Shiree is deeply committed to service, leadership development, and faith-based mentorship. She has served on the Executive Board of Dress for Success and is a sought-after speaker, executive coach, and conference leader. She also leads Shiree's Keys, a personal growth and leadership platform, and teaches Bible study—encouraging others through faith, wisdom, and lived experience. In every role—whether in the newsroom or the community—Shiree leads with purpose, integrity, and heart.



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