



POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE

2025 Annual Awards Gala

GALA EMCEE

DENISE NAKANO

Denise Nakano is the midday anchor for KYW Newsradio, 103.9 FM and 1060 AM in Philadelphia.

Her career has spanned the country, taking her to newsrooms in Sacramento and Chico California, Syracuse and Seattle. She joined KYW Newsradio in the Summer of 2020 from NBC10, where she anchored and reported for 17-years. Nakano has covered some of the region's biggest stories, including the deadly Market Street collapse, the Amtrak train derailment and Superstorm Sandy.



As a broadcast journalist, Nakano tells people she has the best job in the world, “It's the one job where I get to meet new people and learn something new every day,” she said. Nakano has been recognized with the City and State PA 2023 Above and Beyond award, honoring distinguished women in Pennsylvania.

She has also been honored with the 2023 Impact Award from the Pan Asian Association of Greater Philadelphia, named in a list of the top 20 Midday Anchors in the U.S. by Barrett News Media three years in a row, the recipient of the 2023 PA Power 100 Award, and can be seen in the movie 'Knock at the Cabin' as a newscaster.

Nakano has also received a national Edward R. Murrow Award for best documentary and recognized with eight national and regional Emmy Awards for breaking news, investigative reporting and for her coverage of the local heroin epidemic. She has also been honored by the city of Philadelphia with a proclamation recognizing her reporting on the heroin crisis in Philadelphia.

Nakano is an active member of and previous National Board Representative of the Asian American Journalists Association. When she is not on the air, Nakano enjoys many creative outlets including charcoal drawing, watercolor painting, making stained glass and baking. She is always up for an adventure and has dived in tropical waters as a certified scuba diver and made it across the finish line of the Seattle Marathon.