



For Immediate Release  
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*Boston/New England Chapter*

## **NATAS Honors New England Broadcasting Legends**

### ***Six Selected for 2009 Silver Circle Induction at The 17<sup>th</sup> Silver Circle Awards Gala on November 18, 2009***

The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) Boston/New England Chapter is delighted to announce that **Ken Bell, Jeanne Blake, Leslie (Les) Breault, William Murphy, Mary Richardson, and Emily Rooney** have been chosen to be the 2009 Silver Circle inductees. These New England television pioneers will be honored for their lasting contributions to the industry at a gala celebration on **Wednesday, November 18 at 6PM at Granite Links Golf Club** at 100 Quarry Hills Drive in Quincy, MA. For tickets, email Jill Jones at [natasne@aol.com](mailto:natasne@aol.com) or call 617-787-6576.

Silver Circle members are honored for making an enduring contribution to the vitality of the television industry. Established in 1993, the Silver Circle honors television professionals who have performed distinguished service within the industry for more than twenty-five years.

#### ***THE 17<sup>th</sup> SILVER CIRCLE AWARD HONORS:***

##### ***KEN BELL...Good sport!***

Ken Bell is the Sports Director for ABC6 (WPVI-TV) in Providence, RI. For more than 30 years, Ken has been covering local, college, and professional sports. He has reported some of New England's most significant and historic sporting events including Bucky Dent's homer in 1978, the ball rolling through Bill Buckner's legs in 1986, the Red Sox World Series wins in 2004 and 2007, and the Patriots' three Super Bowl wins! Further, Ken is much more than a sports junkie. He is dedicated to community service and to the missions of his church, and he is a devoted family man.

***JEANNE BLAKE...Well done!***

Jeanne Blake owns and manages *Blake Works, Inc.* which produces high quality media regarding health issues and wellness initiatives. She also owns *Family Health Productions* which produces the “Words Can Work” series of DVDs and guides. Her programs have been featured on Oprah, The Today Show, CNN, and NPR. Over the course of her prolific career, Blake has published numerous health related books, television programs, and films. Blake began her career in television news and was previously a medical reporter and news anchor at Boston’s WBZ-TV. She is very active in the community including serving on the Board of Trustees at McLean Hospital and as Faculty at the Cambridge Health Alliance’s Division of Addiction (Harvard Medical School affiliate). Blake earned a B.A. in English and Environmental Science from Gustavus Adolphus College.

***LES BREAUT...Picture perfect!***

Les Breault is Chief Photographer at WPRI-TV in Providence, RI. He started his career as a photojournalist at WPRI-TV in 1977 when he took a part time job with the then Chief Photographer...his dad. Over the course of Breault’s distinguished 32-year career, he has covered breaking news events that have taken him around the world: Hurricane Gloria along the East Coast, the San Francisco earthquake, and the September 11 attacks in New York...to name just a few. He has covered every presidential visit to Rhode Island starting with Jimmy Carter in the late 1970s. Breault has been nominated for many awards and won an Emmy Award as well as an Associated Press Award for Photographer of the Year.

***WILLIAM MURPHY...Creative genius!***

For more than 23-years, William Murphy has been the On Air Promotion Manager at WTIC-TV FOX 61/ WTXN-TV CW20 in Hartford, CT, and he began his career at the stations in 1884. Murphy has successfully participated in positioning WTIC as one of the top-performing FOX affiliate in the country. Among his many awards and distinctions, Murphy has more than 25 Emmy Award nominations and has won four Emmy Awards. He is active in the community especially educational outreach and professional development initiatives like “Fox 61 Student News”... a program that allows students to get involved in journalism. Murphy earned his M.S. degree in Television/Radio/Film from Syracuse University and his B.A. in Mass Communication from the University of New Haven.

***MARY RICHARDSON...Chronicling our times!***

Mary Richardson is co-anchor of WCVB-TV’s acclaimed *Chronicle*, the nation’s longest running locally produced nightly newsmagazine, with co-anchor Anthony Everett. Richardson’s work on *Chronicle*, which has been syndicated nationally on the Arts and Entertainment Cable Network and on other cable stations, has taken her from “The Main Streets and Back Roads of New England” to her ancestral Ireland, the Great Wall of China and Castro’s Cuba. Richardson joined WCVB in 1980 as a news reporter and anchor. Richardson came to New England in 1978 to become the first female in Boston to co-anchor an 11 o’clock newscast, on the former WNAC-TV. She quickly established herself as one of Boston’s most popular local television personalities. She began her broadcasting career in 1973 at KCRA-TV in Sacramento, CA. By 1975, she was the station’s co-anchor for the 5PM and 11PM newscasts. Richardson was raised and educated in California where she received her undergraduate degree from the University of Santa Clara and graduate degrees at the University of California, Davis and at California State University.

***EMILY ROONEY...Couldn't be greater!***

Emily Rooney is the host, executive editor and creator of "Greater Boston" and "Beat the Press." Since the show's inception in 1997, Emily has brought her journalistic credentials and deep knowledge of media, politics, and culture to the program and has earned numerous awards, including the National Press Club's prestigious Arthur Rowse Award for Press Criticism, a series of New England Emmy Awards, and Associated Press recognition for Best News/Talk Show. Before coming to WGBH, Emily was director of political coverage and special events at Fox Network in New York from 1994 to 1997. Prior to that, she was executive producer of ABC World News Tonight with Peter Jennings. Emily also worked at WCVB-TV in Boston from 1979 to 1993, where she served as news director for three years and as assistant news director before that.

For tickets to NATAS' 17<sup>th</sup> Silver Circle Awards Gala, email Jill Jones at [natasne@aol.com](mailto:natasne@aol.com) or call 617-787-6576.

*NATAS Boston/New England Chapter is dedicated to the advancement of the arts and sciences of television, the fostering of creative leadership in the television industry, and the encouragement of excellence in artistic, educational, cultural and technical progress.*

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