



## 2021 *Woman of Distinction* Journalism

### Lynne Hayes-Freeland

*Talk Show Host,  
KDKA-Radio/KDKA-TV*

A local fixture in Pittsburgh media, Lynne Hayes-Freeland made history in January 2019 when she became the first full-time, African American to host a daily talk show on KDKA-Radio, the nation's first radio station. The move came after more than 40 years at KDKA-TV where Lynne held a wide variety of positions.

Lynne began her broadcast career as the producer of the Roy Fox Show on KDKA-Radio in 1976. A year later, she moved to KDKA-TV where she held a variety of positions including field producer for *Evening Magazine*, and producer of a variety of other public affairs programs including *Weekend Magazine Vibrations* and the station's annual Children's Hospital Telethon.

In 1989, Lynne moved to the KDKA-TV news department as a general assignment reporter. Her assignments included covering the news of the day to the U.S. visit of South African President Nelson Mandela.

In addition to covering the news of the day, Lynne was the face of KDKA-TV's "Waiting Child" segment for more than 15 years. This bi-weekly presentation was designed to find adoptive homes for special needs or hard to place children. During her tenure at the station, nearly 70 per cent of the children featured on television were placed with forever families.

Lynne has also worked closely with Dollar Bank, as the face of their highly successful, home-buying seminar designed to help women in the Pittsburgh area become first-time home buyers.

In addition to Nelson Mandela, some of Lynne's most memorable guest on her TV show have included Rosa Parks, James Baldwin, Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison, Oprah Winfrey, and the controversial Minister Louis Farrakhan. Currently, she's on air Monday through Friday from noon to 3 p.m. on KDKA-Radio 1020 AM.

A native Pittsburgher, Lynne is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated involved on the boards of several non-profit organizations, and her work has been recognized by both local and national organizations.

