



MARY LANEY

After graduating from the University of Wisconsin/Madison, Mary began her career in Chicago at WFLD-TV. From there, she went to cable television and then she joined WBBM Newsradio 78 as a writer, producer and anchor of *Week in Review*. Mary went to WBBM-TV as a writer and then became a news reporter. Her talents were duly noted and she was offered positions in New York, Washington and Paris. Wanting to raise her children, Tom and Chris, in Chicago, Mary instead decided to accept the post of Editorial Director at WMAQ-TV before becoming news anchor and commentator for the station.

While she was at WMAQ, Mayor Richard M. Daley asked Mary to become Chicago's Tourism Director. During Mary's tenure, Chicago went from 40th place to one of the top ten world destinations to visit. Upon reaching her goals in this endeavor, Mary went to CNN as Midwest correspondent and to WMAQ Radio as a talk show host. At this time, Mary also launched Mary Laney, Inc., a production company that specializes in video and audio production, scripts, concepts, and crisis management and training.

Mary is a columnist on the editorial page of the Chicago Sun-Times, has written a novel, has sold the option on two movie scripts, and is currently collaborating on a script in Hollywood. She has received more than 100 national, regional and local awards including Emmys, UPI and AP awards. She also has been honored by American Women in Radio and Television, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, the Salvation Army, Chicago Firefighters and the Newspaper Veterans Association. She has been cited for excellence by the U.S. Senate, U.S. House, Illinois General Assembly, Chicago City Council and Chicago Public Schools. And she's the first woman honored by the Newspaper Veterans with the "Classy Guy Award".

Mary does charity work for Haymarket House, Maryville City of Hope and Prentice Hospital. She is also on the Northwestern Women's Board, the International Visitors Board and the Board of Governors of the Chicago/Midwest Chapter of NATAS. She has many special interests including government, politics and golf. She has been asked to play in Michael Jordan's Celebrity Golf Tournaments annually, along with other charitable tourneys.