

Radio Icon Rick Dees, Architect of Global Hits & Morning Magic, Named 2025 Giant of Broadcasting at New York Ceremony



Foundation (LABF) will induct trailblazer Rick Dees into its elite ranks as one of the **2025 Giants of Broadcasting & Electronic Arts**, celebrating a career that revolutionized entertainment and connected millions through music and laughter. The awards luncheon unfolds from 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on Friday, November 14, at the historic Gotham Hall in New York City, where Dees' enduring legacy will shine among media's brightest stars.

Rick Dees emerged from Southern roots to become a broadcasting powerhouse, captivating audiences with his infectious charisma and innovative flair. His 1976 breakout hit "**Disco Duck**"—a Grammy-nominated, multi-platinum smash that sold well over six million copies worldwide, reached number one on the Billboard Hot 100, and earned a People's Choice Award—catapulted him to fame as a Platinum Recording Artist, blending humor with chart-topping energy.

Dees transformed KIIS-FM in Los Angeles into both the nation's highest-rated and highest-revenue-producing station, delivering extraordinary financial success to the group during his tenure. His iconic **Rick Dees Weekly Top 40** countdown continues to entertain millions as a true global phenomenon, with its seamless mix of hit music, storytelling, and wit. A 10-time consecutive Billboard Radio Personality of the Year winner, Marconi Award recipient, National Radio Hall of Fame inductee, and Hollywood Walk of Fame star holder, Dees remains a trailblazing entrepreneur and voice-over artist today, continuing to innovate through his **Rick Dees Hit Music** app—a brand expansion platform that harnesses the universal power of music to connect and engage on a visceral level—and inspiring even more new ventures that bridge generations and cultures.

"This Giants honor is a testament to the power of broadcast media to unite and uplift—it's been my life's joy to share that magic with the world," said Dees. "From local airwaves to global stages, I'm grateful for every laugh, every song, and every connection."

Dees joins an illustrious 2025 class including award-winning actor and producer Kelsey Grammer; ABC News anchor and managing editor David Muir; retired TEGNA Inc. executive vice president Lynn Beall; communications attorney John R. Feore, Jr.; retired Cox Radio Group executive vice president Dick Ferguson; acclaimed actor Gary Sandy, best known for WKRP in Cincinnati; and Hall of Fame sportscaster Lesley Visser. ABC News Radio national correspondent Steven Portnoy will receive the LABF Excellence in Broadcast Preservation Award.

Bill Whitaker, CBS News correspondent and 2018 Giant honoree, emcees the ceremony. The event, presented by the LABF—a nonprofit dedicated to preserving broadcasting's rich history—celebrates innovators who have shaped media and culture. Beasley Media Group supports this year's gala, with TEGNA Inc. and ABC News as Diamond sponsors.

Since 2003, LABF has honored over 260 broadcasting leaders, with proceeds funding the expansion of its world-class collection at the University of Maryland and supporting the Broadcast Education Association.

For tickets, sponsorships, or more details, contact Debbie Beagan-Garcich, 2025 Giants Event Producer, at debbie@giantsofbroadcasting.org or 732-245-7799. Visit <https://www.tvradiolibrary.org/giants-2025> for full honoree bios.

About Rick Dees

Rick Dees is a Grammy-nominated Platinum Recording Artist, broadcast pioneer, entertainer, producer and entrepreneur whose iconic career has blended music, humor, and innovation to captivate global audiences. Dive into the full Rick Dees universe from A to Z at [Rick.com](https://rick.com).

About the Library of American Broadcasting Foundation (LABF)

The LABF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit committed to preserving the past, reflecting the present, and informing the future of broadcasting. For more, visit <https://www.tvradiolibrary.org/>.



GIANTS OF BROADCASTING & ELECTRONIC ARTS AWARDS

22ND ANNUAL

LIBRARY OF AMERICAN BROADCASTING FOUNDATION

NOVEMBER 14TH - 2025 | GOTHAM HALL - NEW YORK CITY
RECEPTION 11:30AM | LUNCHEON GALA NOON

 KELSEY GRAMMER Award-Winning Television, Stage, Screen Actor and Producer	 DAVID MUIR Anchor and Managing Editor of ABC World News Tonight with David Muir Co-Anchor of 20/20
 LYNN BEALL Visionary Strategist and Investor, Retired Executive VP and COO of Media Operations, TEGNA Inc.	 DICK FERGUSON Distinguished Radio Executive and Retired EVP, Cox Radio Group
 RICK DEES Legendary Radio Icon, Entertainer and Entrepreneur	 GARY SANDY Acclaimed Stage, Screen and Television Icon Beloved for his role as Andy Travis on WKRP in Cincinnati
 JOHN R. FEORE, JR. Esteemed Communications Attorney and Trusted Advisor to America's Leading Broadcasters	 LESLEY VISSER Hall of Fame Sportscaster & 50-Year Trailblazer Boston Globe, CBS, ABC and HBO
 <i>Emceed by</i> BILL WHITAKER Correspondent, 60 Minutes, CBS News -2018 GIANT-	 STEVEN PORTNOY ABC News Radio National Correspondent and Distinguished Voice to American Journalism EXCELLENCE IN BROADCAST PRESERVATION AWARD

For complete details about the honorees, sponsorship opportunities, tables and individual tickets, please contact Debbie Reagan-Casich, 2025 Giants of Broadcasting Event Producer at debbie@giantsofbroadcasting.org or go to www.tvradiolibrary.org/giants.

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