PROFILE | Sue Kopen Katcef Reporter

News & Public Affairs

Sue Kopen Katcef returned to Maryland Public Television as a freelance reporter in 2019 after a decades-long career as an award-winning journalist and distinguished journalism instructor.



Ms. Kopen Katcef returned to MPT as a freelance reporter on State Circle in 2019 upon her retirement from the University of Maryland's Philip Merrill College of Journalism, where she served as an instructor for two decades. In addition to her work in the classroom, Ms. Kopen Katcef was the broadcast bureau director of Merrill's Capital News Service, overseeing CNS-TV's award-winning live regional news show Maryland Newsline.

Ms. Kopen Katcef's broadcast career began in 1971 with roles including director, editor, producer, anchor, and reporter at television and radio stations throughout Maryland and Washington, D.C. Most notably, she was a reporter and anchor for WBAL Radio in Baltimore from 1990-2011. Ms. Kopen Katcef served as press aide to former Maryland House Speaker Ben Cardin from 1985-1986 and then as Cardin's press secretary during his first year in the U.S. House of Representatives. Her first stint at MPT was as a reporter and producer covering the Maryland Legislature from 1987 to 1992.

Dedicated to service in the field, Ms. Kopen Katcef has decades-long involvement with professional journalism organizations as both a member and a leader. She is a long-time member of the Radio Television Digital News Association (RTDNA), where she was recently named to the national Safety Committee. She is also involved with the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ), where she served for many years on the national board and in leadership positions at the local level.

Ms. Kopen Katcef belongs to the National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS-NCCB), where she has served on the board and is a current member (and former chair) of the chapter's Education Committee. She is also a long-time member of the Board of the Chesapeake Associated Press Broadcasters' Association (CABPA) where she has twice served as president and currently chairs the Scholarship Committee.

Ms Kopen Katcef's reporting has earned honors from RTDNA, the New York Festivals, CABPA, the American Bar Association, and the Maryland State Bar Association. She has also been honored by NATAS-NCCB with the chapter's prestigious Board of Governors Award and induction into its Silver Circle for outstanding contributions to the broadcast industry. In 2010, SPJ's Washington, D.C. Professional Chapter honored her with its Distinguished Service Award. She was initiated into the Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society in 2007.

Ms. Kopen Katcef received her bachelor of science in journalism from the University of Maryland, College Park.

A native of Maryland's Eastern Shore, Ms. Kopen Katcef lives in Annapolis with her husband, a veteran prosecutor in the Anne Arundel County State's Attorney's Office.

