Michelle Mekky

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Biographical Info Michelle Mekky is a veteran, award-winning broadcast journalist and public relations executive. She is founder and president of Mekky Media Relations, Inc., a boutique PR agency with clients in Chicago and coast to coast that range from startups to industry leaders. Michelle started her career as a senior producer for Fox-TV in Chicago, then transitioned to PR and marketing, working at top agencies before starting her own company in 2016. Mekky Media strategically partners with organizations that represent a broad range of verticals — including nonprofits, technology, healthcare, restaurants, retail, fitness, financial and B2B. Michelle and her team of nearly 20 PR professionals help clients tell their stories to new audiences and fuel their growth, through services such as PR strategy, media relations, media training, social media strategy, integrated digital and PR programs, and personal branding. Michelle and Mekky Media have been widely recognized for their success, with national honors like Gold and Silver Stevie Awards in 2018, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023. The agency also was named to Expertise PR's

list of Best Chicago PR Firms and received a PR News Top 100 Agency Elite Award and several Publicity Club of Chicago Gold/Silver Trumpet Awards, to name just a few of the many honors in the agency's first seven years. Michelle was named PRSA Chicago Skyline Awards 2023 Professional of the Year, Niles West High School's 2022 Distinguished Alum, 2021 Ragan and PR Daily Communicator of the Year, a 2020 PR News Top Women in PR Honoree and a 2019 Crain's Chicago Business Notable Entrepreneur. She also won the 2023 Daily Herald Entrepreneurial Excellence Award and a 2018 Bronze Stevie Award for Women in Business, in the Entrepreneur of the Year category. Michelle is part of the prestigious International Public Relations Network (IPRN), Forbes Agency Council and Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC). She is a Forbes blogger and motivational speaker, sharing about leadership, her journey as an entrepreneur and more. Michelle is a member of the Strategic Advancement Committee for Start Early, a nonprofit that helps close the opportunity gap by advancing early learning and care for children. She graduated from Northwestern University, with Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from the renowned Medill School of Journalism.

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