



2023
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI RECIPIENT

COLLEEN KELLY

Kingwood High School, Class of 1988



Colleen Kelly is a proud graduate of Kingwood High School's Class of 1988. Since graduating from Kingwood, Colleen's adventures have taken her across the world.

Colleen Kelly is Host, Creator, and Executive Producer of the popular Emmy-nominated National PBS Television Series, "Family Travel with Colleen Kelly," which airs in over 94% of the country to 19.6 million viewers.

"Family Travel with Colleen Kelly" is an educational and entertainment travel series focused on educating children and adults alike about culture, destinations, history, and the importance of travel as an education.

In addition to the PBS series, she is also host of National Geographic's digital series "Round Trip with Colleen Kelly", taking over Nat Geo's social channels and creating and hosting a YouTube series that reaches over 50 million viewers and subscribers. Under this same brand of "Round Trip", Colleen is the host of a Chicago WLS radio show which airs to Chicago and 38 states and is also a podcast on Apple, Amazon and Spotify.

Colleen is a well known and recognized on air Travel Expert and has appeared nationally on Fox & Friends and The Hallmark Channel and has been featured in many national magazines and publications of all kinds.

In addition, in Chicago, where she is now based, she regularly appears and shares her expert travel tips on ABC, NBC and WGN, Chicago's number one television station.

As an Emmy-nominated executive producer, travel expert, engaging television personality, and seasoned talk show host, Kelly has worked with clients all around the world, internationally and domestically, while producing content of the highest level of production for National Geographic, Travel + Leisure, PBS, Travel Channel, and Parents.

In addition, she owns her own production company, Kelly Media Productions, which is a nationally certified women-owned business. Colleen and Kelly Media Productions have always been strong advocates for women and diversity.

When it comes to her charitable work, Colleen's passion is supporting children and those with illnesses through the work of nonprofits such as Misericordia, Gilda's Home, and Mercy Home for Boys and Girls.

Colleen says that her time at Kingwood High School provided some of the best and most important experiences of her life and she often reflects on the lessons she learned in high school even to this day. Colleen added that moving to Kingwood High School as a junior changed the course of her life for the better and if it wasn't for her experience in Kingwood, she is ABSOLUTELY sure she would not be where she is today.