

## LINDA ELLERBEE

Linda Ellerbee is an outspoken journalist, award-winning television producer, best-selling author, one of the most sought-after speakers in America, a breast cancer survivor and a mom.

Ellerbee began her career at CBS, then moved to NBC News where, after covering politics, she cultivated a diverse following in the 1980s with the pioneering late-night news program *NBC News Overnight*, which she wrote and anchored. *Overnight* received the duPont Columbia Award and was cited as “the best written and most intelligent news program ever.” In 1986, Ellerbee moved to ABC News to anchor and write *Our World*, a weekly prime-time historical series. Her work on *Our World* won her an Emmy for best writing.

In 1987, Ellerbee and her partner Rolfe Tessem quit network news to start Lucky Duck Productions, first producing documentaries for PBS. In 1991, Lucky Duck began producing *Nick News* for Nickelodeon with Ellerbee writing and hosting. Ten years later, *Nick News* airs on nearly 200 television stations in syndication; it is the most popular children’s news program on television and one of the most-acclaimed children’s programs of any kind. *Nick News* is known for the respectful and direct way it speaks to children about the important issues of our time. Along the way, the show has collected three Peabody Awards (including one personal Peabody given to Ellerbee for her coverage of the Clinton investigation), a duPont Columbia Award and two Emmys.

These days, Ellerbee and her work can be seen all over the television universe, with Lucky Duck currently producing prime-time specials for HBO, MSNBC, A&E, MTV and Court TV. Lucky Duck is also one of the premiere producers of the weekly *Intimate Portrait* series for Lifetime Television, and produced a primetime special for the new WE: Women’s Entertainment network entitled *When I Was a Girl*, which debuted in March 2002 and is moving forward as a series in 2003. And recently, HBO signed Ellerbee, Whoopi Goldberg and Diane Keaton to develop a 10-hour mini-series about the women’s movement of the ‘60s and ‘70s.

Ellerbee’s first foray into books for kids, an eight-part fiction series entitled *Get Real*, was published in 2000, and won her raves among middle school readers. Both of Ellerbee’s previous books were national bestsellers. The first, *And So It Goes*, a humorous look at television news, is still used as a

textbook in more than 100 colleges across the country. Ellerbee's second bestseller, *Move On*, continues to be popular with women readers who appreciate her candid stories about being a working single mother, a child of the '60s and a woman trying to find some balance in her life.

As a breast cancer survivor, Ellerbee travels thousands of miles each year giving inspirational speeches to others. She is as direct with women as she is with kids; *they* understand that *she* understands *their* lives.

Although Ellerbee has won all of television's highest honors she says it is her two children who've brought her the richest rewards. Ellerbee spends her personal time in New York City and Massachusetts with Rolfe, her partner in work and life and their golden retriever, Ollie.