

Akie Funahashi

舟橋 明慧

Interviewer · Moderator · Communication Professional

Former news anchor. Over 20 years in broadcast journalism, interviewing and moderation.

Senzoku Gakuen University, Faculty of Music — Voice

Akie Funahashi began her broadcasting career in 2002. After working as an announcer at Shikoku Broadcasting, she spent roughly twelve years as a news anchor at Nippon TV and Nippon TV NEWS24, from 2005 to 2017. Her front-line work has included election-night specials, ministerial interviews for Government Internet TV, and on-site coverage of the G7 Summits in Biarritz and Hiroshima. From 2019 she spent about two years in London as bureau chief for the online news programme News Op-Ed, reporting for audiences in Japan. Today she works primarily in interviewing, MC and moderation, and corporate training — listening closely, and drawing out what a person already wants to say, in their own words.

Broadcast & Journalism

2019 — 2020	London Bureau Chief News Op-Ed — London, United Kingdom
2018 — 2019	News Anchor, Amazon Alexa News Briefing Jiji Press — distributed via Yahoo! JAPAN
2005 — 2017	News Anchor, Nippon TV NEWS24 Nippon Television — 12 years
2013 — 2015	Anchor, Web-TAX-TV National Tax Agency of Japan
2007 — 2012	Narrator (off-camera), “Toron — Talk Battle” Debate programme — BS Nittele
2005 — 2007	News Anchor, “News D” Nippon Television — nationwide terrestrial
2002 — 2005	Announcer Shikoku Broadcasting — “Focus Tokushima” and other evening news, reporting and field coverage
2000 — 2002	Subaru Stars Fuji Heavy Industries (now SUBARU) — corporate reception, and MC at events and ceremonies

Field Reporting

2023	G7 Hiroshima Summit — coverage and reporting Hiroshima, Japan
2019	G7 Biarritz Summit — coverage and reporting Biarritz, France

Interviews

2021 — 2024	Interviewer, PLANET SOCIAL Music Securities, Inc. Interviewed people working across a wide range of fields for the company podcast, under the theme “Small Actions Change the World.” Worked in corporate communications over the same period.
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Event Production

2024 — Present

Community & Event Production Support

Supports B2C seminars and community programmes end to end: planning, day-of operations, and MC.

MC / Moderation

PRESS CONFERENCES

Nestlé Japan (foodservice strategy briefing / Nescafé Gold Blend / Nescafé Kōmi Baisen) · **Nestlé Health Science** new brand launch · **Seirogan** new product launch · **PAN Inc.** founding press conference · **Sanriku Railway** baseball club founding announcement · Japan Match Play Championship press conference

CEREMONIES & ANNIVERSARIES

TAKEEI Corporation 50th anniversary reception · **Fuji Heavy Industries (now SUBARU)** ceremonies and corporate events · Ebisu Subaru Building completion ceremony · Tokyo Marathon — World Marathon Majors inauguration celebration · Omotesando Illumination lighting ceremony · KitKat “Sakura Saku” Pre-Campus opening ceremony

ACADEMIC SEMINARS

Japan Surgical Society public lecture · Hepatology web seminar · Takarajimasha “Linnel” lifestyle festival seminar · Neuart web lecture

ARTS & MUSIC

Tokyo City Philharmonic Orchestra special concert · **New Japan Philharmonic** / Tokyu Livable classical concert · Saitama Jazz Festival · Classic Car Festival in Jingu Gaien (Toyota Automobile Museum)

SELECTED GUESTS

Gene Simmons

Chisako Takashima

Miyoko Yoshikawa

Tetsuya Bessho

Ukyo Katayama

Dai Tamesue

Rie Tomosaka

Miki Mizuno

May J.

hitomi

Izumi Mori

Hisashi Iwakuma

Arata Fujiwara

Tetsuhiko Kin

Ai Aoki

Naoto Otomo

Taijiro Iimori

A selection of engagements since 2011, across press conferences, corporate anniversaries, academic lectures, concerts and brand events.

Narration & Voice

2024

TV commercial narration — special concert of Makoto Shinkai’s “The Place Promised in Our Early Days”

2015 — 2019

Suntory Wellness — web video narration

2014 — Present

Santen Pharmaceutical “Sante Lutax” — narration

Corporate & Institutional Video

FINANCE

Japan Post Insurance (2013 — Present) · **Japan Post Bank** compliance programmes · **Japan Post**

HEALTHCARE

Eli Lilly Japan (content for physicians) · **Johnson & Johnson** (ophthalmology / in-clinic programmes)

PUBLIC SECTOR

National Tax Agency Web-TAX-TV · **Cabinet Office** Government Internet TV

BASED IN Tokyo, Japan

LANGUAGES Japanese (native)

VOICE-OVER Japanese only

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