**SOCIETY OF BROADCAST ENGINEERS, INC.**

***The Association for Broadcast and Multimedia Technology Professionals***

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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*For Immediate Release cscherer@sbe.org*

**SBE Hires Mike Downs as Executive Director**

***January 3, 2025,*** Indianapolis, IN - The Society of Broadcast Engineers (SBE) has hired Michael Downs, CAE, CMP, DES, CED, as the new executive director. He begins his employment on January 6, 2025. Downs has 27 years of experience in non-profit management at an International level. Since 2012 he was the director of conventions and meetings of Kiwanis International, a global service organization. Previous to that, he worked for 10 years as chief staff executive of Key Club International. During his time with Key Club, the organization posted year-over year-growth in membership. His professional experience includes an extensive background in strategic plan development and deployment.



Downs holds several association-related professional certifications. He obtained his Certified Association Executive form the American Society of Association Executives in 2006. He is also a Certified Meeting Professional by the Convention Industry Council, a Certified Event Designer from the Event Design Collective, and a Digital Event Strategist from the Digital Experience Institute.

His association experience includes being a past president of the Indiana Society of Association Executives and a past vice-president of the Indiana Chapter of Meetings Professional International.

Outside of work, Downs has been married for 32 years and has three adult children and one granddaughter. He is a licensed soccer referee, a past trustee of the Pike Township School Board, and vice-president of the Pike Township Education Foundation. He is a resident of the Indianapolis metro.

On the announcement, SBE President Ted Hand said, "I welcome Mike to the SBE. His extensive association experience will be an asset to the Society as we look ahead to the coming year and continuing future. I look forward to working with him to continue furthering the goals of the SBE and providing superior services to our members. I also want to thank the members of the search committee, led by SBE Vice President Kevin Trueblood, for their work."

The Society of Broadcast Engineers is the professional organization of television and radio engineers and those in related fields. The SBE has nearly 4,000 members in 117 chapters across the United States and in Hong Kong and Eastern Europe. There are also members in more than 25 other countries. Most chapters meet monthly and offer educational programs and an opportunity to network with other broadcast technical professionals. The SBE offers the preeminent technical broadcast certification program in the U.S. and an expansive list of educational programs for broadcast engineers, operators, technicians, and broadcast IT professionals.

The SBE provides education and training programs to expand technical skills, and its certification program is a standard-bearer for professional competency in broadcast and communications engineering. SBE offers a forum for the exchange of ideas and the sharing of information allowing engineers to keep pace with the rapidly changing broadcast industry. The SBE’s frequency coordination program facilitates the use by broadcast engineers of radio spectrum for program and electronic news production. The SBE also advocates before Federal agencies and the United States Congress on technical regulatory issues that affect broadcast engineers.

For more information about the SBE, contact Chriss Scherer, CPBE, BNT, member communications director, at cscherer@sbe.org, or 317-846-9000, or visit the SBE website, [www.sbe.org](http://www.sbe.org).

-30-

Editors:

A high-resolution photo of Mike Downs will be available after January 6 by request to Chriss Scherer