

## **Nayeema Raza**

Nayeema Raza is an independent journalist and former *New York Times*/Vox alum behind “Smart Girl Dumb Questions,” a podcast unpacking complex ideas in culture and policy with simple, irreverent questions. The show was a Spotify Top 10 Best New Show of 2025 and won the iHeart Award for Best Emerging Podcast of 2026.

Nayeema was previously the co-host of Semafor’s “Mixed Signals,” on-air executive producer of Vox’s “On with Kara Swisher,” and *NYT*’s “Sway.” As a Senior Editor at the *New York Times* Opinion section, she produced video, audio and print journalism.

Nayeema came to journalism with a background in documentary filmmaking, with works selected for Telluride and Tribeca Film Festival. She spent her early career at the Monitor Group where she advised foreign governments in Libya, Jordan, Vietnam and South Africa on large-scale policy reform.

Nayeema holds an MBA from Stanford University, an MPA from Harvard University, and a BSFS from Georgetown University. She is on the Young Patrons Leadership Committee of the PEN America and Board of Advisors of Open to Debate. She is a member of the Writers Guild of America, a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and a 2024 Henry Crown Fellow within the Aspen Institute.