

ampers

Diverse Radio for
Minnesota's Communities

Report to the Minnesota State Legislature Fiscal Year 2023



KBXE-FM,
Bagley / Bemidji



KBFT-FM,
Bois Forte / Nett Lake



WDSE-FM,
Duluth



WGZS-FM,
Fond du Lac / Cloquet



WTIP-FM,
Grand Marais/Gunflint
Trail/Grand Portage



KAXE-FM,
Grand Rapids /
Brainerd



KOJB-FM,
Leech Lake / Cass Lake



KMSU-FM,
Mankato / Austin



KBEM-FM,
Minneapolis / St. Paul



KFAI-FM,
Minneapolis / St. Paul



KMOJ-FM,
Minneapolis / St. Paul



KUOM-AM/FM,
Minneapolis / St. Paul



KUMM-FM,
Morris



KRPR-FM,
Rochester



KVSC-FM,
St. Cloud



KSRQ-FM,
Thief River Falls



KKWE-FM,
White Earth /
Callaway



KQAL-FM,
Winona

REPORT TO THE MINNESOTA STATE LEGISLATURE FOR THE MINNESOTA ARTS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE FUND

FISCAL YEAR 2023 SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES JANUARY 15, 2024

Submitted To: Senator Bobby Joe Champion, Chair, Legislative Coordinating Commission
Representative Melissa Hortman, Vice Chair, Legislative Coordinating Commission
Senator Fong Hawj, Chair, Senate Environment, Climate and Legacy Committee
Senator Justin Eichorn, Ranking Minority Member, Senate Environment, Climate and Legacy Committee
Members of the Environment, Climate and Legacy Committee in the Minnesota Senate
Representative Leon Lillie, Chair, House Legacy Finance Committee
Representative Jeff Backer, Republican Lead, House Legacy Finance Committee
Members of the Legacy Finance Committee in the Minnesota House of Representatives

Cc: Michelle Weber, Director, Legislative Coordinating Commission
Sally Olson, Commission Assistant, Legislative Coordinating Commission

Submitted By: Freddie Bell, Ampers Chair, KMOJ-FM General Manager
Joel Glaser, Ampers President & Chief Executive Officer
Ampers, 916 Highview Circle N., Mendota Heights, MN 55118 – 651-587-5550

Regarding: Minnesota Statute 129D.19, Subdivision 5: “A noncommercial radio station receiving funds appropriated under this section must report annually by January 15 to the commissioner, the Legislative Coordinating Commission, and the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and house of representatives committees and divisions having jurisdiction over arts and cultural heritage policy and finance regarding how the previous year’s grant funds were expended. In addition to all information required of each recipient of money from the arts and cultural heritage fund under section 3.303, subdivision 10, the report must contain specific information for each program produced and broadcast, including the cost of production, the number of stations broadcasting the program, estimated number of listeners, and other related measures. If the programs produced include educational material, the noncommercial radio station must report on these efforts.”

LETTER FROM THE CEO

As I begin my 15th year as the head of the Association of Minnesota Public Educational Radio Stations (Ampers), one would think that these letters would become quite redundant and mundane. But, I am actually more excited than ever to draw your attention to some amazing programming and incredible accomplishments that we would not have been able to achieve without funding from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF/Legacy).

We used Legacy funds to educate Minnesotans about several very important parts of our state's history that are often overlooked or in danger of disappearing. **Veterans' Voices: Decoded** taught listeners about the history of Native American Code Talkers, including the World War II Code Talker Program that was declassified in 1968. **Veterans's Voices: The Secret War** pulled back the curtain on the war that took place in Laos in the early 1960's by sharing the stories and experiences of Minnesota's Hmong families who were impacted by the war. And, several projects were created to preserve the Ojibwe language. In total, we created more than 1,000 radio programs in FY23. Since first receiving Legacy funds in FY09, collectively we have produced and distributed more than 27,000 artistic, cultural, and historical radio segments.

Our work is being noticed! Since we started creating Legacy programming we've received just under 100 state and regional broadcast awards (99 to be exact). In FY23, Ampers and KFAI received five awards from the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists, KQAL and WTIP collectively received five awards from the Midwest Broadcast Journalist Association, and WTIP received a Regional Edward R. Murrow Award.

In FY23, Ampers and its member stations paid 690 Minnesota artists and musicians for their work. In addition, Legacy funds were used to employ more than 100 contractors and fund 16.41 FTEs. The money funding the 16.410 FTEs helped to employ 21 part-time and 53 full-time employees across the state.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, as well as our member stations, I would like to thank all of the legislators, as well as the citizens of Minnesota, for continuing to support our programming with ACHF funding. We sincerely hope the Legislature will continue to support our efforts. If you do, we will continue to ensure our programming serves all Minnesotans with a special emphasis on underserved and underrepresented arts, cultures, and communities throughout the state of Minnesota.

Please accept this as our formal annual report to the Legislature for our FY2023 Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund grants. You will find the required information along with feedback and comments from listeners, artists, and other organizations that benefited from our Legacy programming in FY23. Because the report is so large, everything in the Table of Contents and Index are responsive links. Just click on the line. Words underlined and in green are also hyperlinks.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joel Glaser". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joel A. Glaser
Ampers President & CEO

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ABOUT AMPERS

Ampers is a collection of 18 independent community radio stations in Minnesota. Each station is locally managed and programmed by and for the local communities they serve. The Ampers stations reach rural, minority, and student audiences not served through traditional media. Seven of the stations are licensed to educational institutions and 11 are licensed directly to the communities they serve. Of the 11 community licensed stations, four are licensed to or affiliated with Native American communities.

Ampers’ mission is to strengthen its member stations and help them better serve their diverse communities by generating revenue, developing and sharing programming, and actively work to change the narrative regarding historically underrepresented communities through accurate storytelling and reporting. The Ampers stations carry programming in 11 different languages ranging from Tigrinya, Spanish, and Somali, to Amharic and Oromo. Ampers has no affiliation with Minnesota Public Radio (MPR) and does not receive financial support from MPR.



City	Station	Dial Position
Bagley / Bemidji	KBXE-FM	90.5 FM
Bois Forte / Nett Lake	KBFT-FM	89.9 FM
Duluth	WOSE-FM	103.3 FM
Fond du Lac / Cloquet	WGZS-FM	89.1 FM
Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage	WTIP-FM	90.7 FM / 89.1 FM / 90.1 FM
Grand Rapids / Brainerd	KAXE-FM	91.7 FM / 89.9 FM
Leech Lake / Cass Lake	KOJB-FM	90.1 FM
Mankato / Austin	KMSU-FM / KMSK-FM	89.7 FM / 91.3 FM
Minneapolis / St. Paul	KBEM-FM (Jazz88)	88.5 FM
Minneapolis / St. Paul	KFAI-FM	90.3 FM
Minneapolis / St. Paul	KMOJ-FM	89.9 FM
Minneapolis / St. Paul	KUOM-AM/FM (Radio K)	770 AM / 100.7 FM / 104.5 FM
Morris	KUMM-FM*	89.7 FM
Rochester	KRPR-FM	89.9 FM
St. Cloud	KVSC-FM	88.1 FM
Thief River Falls	KSRQ-FM	90.1 FM
White Earth / Callaway	KKWE-FM	89.9 FM
Winona	KQAL-FM	89.5 FM

*KUMM-FM in Morris does not meet the minimum requirements to qualify for Arts and Cultural Heritage funds.

STATION REPORTS

AMPERS – STATEWIDE



Organization Description

Ampers (Statewide) represents and supports 18 diverse independent community radio stations that primarily serve underserved communities. Created in 1972, Ampers exists to strengthen its member stations and help them to better serve their diverse communities by generating revenue, developing and sharing programming, and actively working to change the narrative regarding historically underrepresented communities through accurate storytelling and reporting.



Ampers (Statewide) coverage area

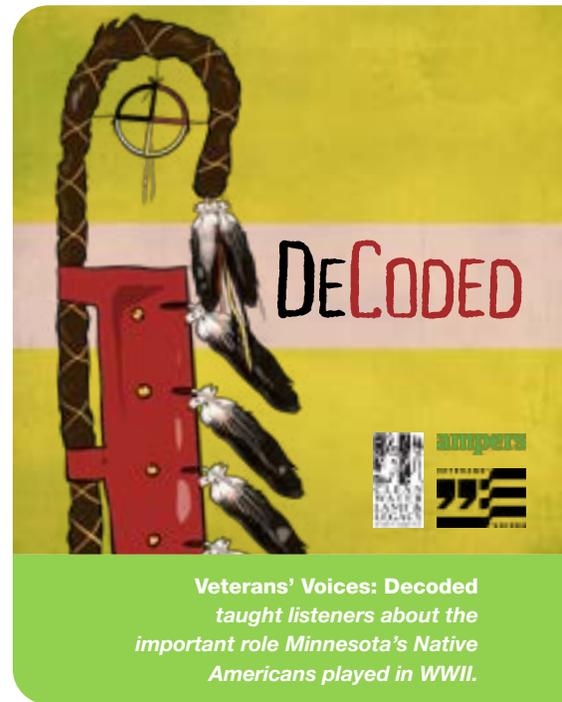
Program Descriptions

VETERANS' VOICES: DECODED

In **Veterans' Voices: DeCoded** host Travis Zimmerman told two stories. The first was about Lex Porter, an Ojibwe-speaking code talker from Grand Portage and a member of the Fond du Lac band of Lake Superior Chippewa (Nagaajiwanaang). The second was the story of Reuben St. Clair, a Dakota-speaking code talker from the Lower Sioux Indian Community (Mdewakanton).

The half-hour documentary educated the public about the history of Code Talkers, including the World War II Code Talker Program that was declassified in 1968. The public learned about Navajo (or Diné) Marines who were deployed in the Pacific Theater. Then, in 2008, Congress passed the Code Talker Recognition Act to acknowledge other tribes whose languages had been used in the war. In 2013 the government honored tribal leaders and families from 33 tribal nations. **Veterans' Voices: DeCoded** educated listeners about the brave men from Minnesota recruited from their tribal communities to help protect their country.

Veterans' Voices: DeCoded was a 10-month project. Twelve Ampers stations aired the 30-minute documentary at least once. Minnesota Public Radio (MPR) aired it as well. It's estimated that the documentary had an on-air audience of at least 130,000. **Veterans' Voices: DeCoded** exposed more Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, and incomes to Minnesota history and resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio than would exist without the project.



Veterans' Voices: DeCoded taught listeners about the important role Minnesota's Native Americans played in WWII.

COUNTER STORIES

Ampers teamed up with the **Counter Stories** crew to produce a weekly radio show and podcast. **Counter Stories** is a show “for people of color, by people of color...and everyone else.” The four co-hosts are from Minnesota’s Latinx, African American, Native American, and Hmong communities. Co-hosts Luz Maria Frias, Anthony Galloway, Don Eubanks (Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe), and Hlee Lee discussed racial identity and social justice culture in a region



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grappling with demographic change. **Counter Stories** produced 41 half-hour radio programs in FY23. Podcasts, made available online and through streaming, were 45 to 60 minutes long.



In FY23, **Counter Stories** posts had 30,376 on-demand listens. Ampers estimates that the program reached about 178,000 people. **Counter Stories** aired on 12 Ampers stations, and several episodes aired on non-Ampers radio stations such as KUIT (Iowa Tech Community College Radio, Sioux City, Iowa), WYAP (Clay County, West Virginia), and KBCS (Bellevue Community College Radio, Seattle, Washington). Additionally, the program has 1,495 followers on Facebook. Posts from **Counter Stories'** Facebook reached 8,959 people during the financial year. There is also a website dedicated to program content, however, due to Google Analytics' change format, Ampers only has partial reach numbers. Between November 26, 2022, and June 30, 2023, the website had 2,594 page views. **Counter Stories** was a year-long project and increased locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. Of the listeners surveyed who said they had heard Counter Stories, 100% said the shows provide a better understanding of the culture and history of Minnesota's Black, Indigenous, and communities of color. **Counter Stories** was a year-long project. Ampers achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.



Counter Stories is a radio program and podcast that is for people of color, by people of color, and, everyone else.

NATIVE LIGHTS PODCAST: WHERE INDIGENOUS VOICES SHINE

For **Native Lights Podcast: Where Indigenous Voices Shine** Ampers produced 38 half-hour on-air segments, and 38 podcasts that ranged in length from 28 to 55 minutes. Each episode focused on Native voices, views, and testimonies, from a basis of strength and humor. Hosted by siblings Leah Lemm and Cole Premo, both of Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, **Native Lights Podcast: Where Indigenous Voices Shine** centered on people in Native groups around Mni Sota Mkoce (a.k.a. Minnesota), and their stories about finding their gifts and sharing them with the community. All of the programs highlighted stories of joy, strength, history, and change from Native people who are shaping the future and honoring those who came before them.

In FY23, **Native Lights Podcast: Where Indigenous Voices Shine** featured conversations with artists and storytellers, academics, policymakers, and other community members and leaders. The most popular shows (based on downloads and streams) were **Jada Brown: Expressions and Affirmations Through Singing**, **Linsey McMurrin's Gift for Healing in Community and Remembering Resilience**, and **Honoring the Life and Legacy of AIM Co-Founder Clyde Bellecourt (1938-2022)**. **Native Lights Podcast: Where Indigenous Voices Shine** was a yearlong project that aired on 13 Ampers radio stations statewide.

Each episode of **Native Lights: Where Indigenous Voices Shine** included conversations with Native community members from across the state. The weekly radio shows reached an estimated broadcast audience of about **102,700** people. The podcast episodes had 23,538 streams. On Apple Podcasts, **Native Lights** has 40 reviews with a five-star rating. A listener survey found that of those who were familiar with **Native Lights**, 100% said it gives them a

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better understanding of the culture and history of Minnesota's Native American communities. The project also resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. Ampers achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



MN90: MINNESOTA HISTORY IN 90 SECONDS

Ampers produced 60 episodes of its popular series [MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds](#), which explored Minnesota history through engaging short segments. **MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds** segments covered topics including pop culture, sports, politics, business, entertainment, and more. In FY23, audiences learned how Anna Kim went from being teased as a child for her kimchi lunches to owning her own pizzeria featuring kimchi pizzas, the story of two women who fell in love and escaped the State Reformatory for Women in Shakopee (only to be re-captured later), and the birth of St. Paul's Penumbra Theatre.

MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds was a year-long project and aired once or twice daily Monday through Friday on 15 Ampers stations across the state. Ampers estimates **MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds** segments reached about 198,400 Minnesotans each week. More than 8,650 people follow **MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds** on Facebook. In FY23, the **MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds**' Facebook posts reached almost 71,000 people, received 522 comments during the fiscal year, and posts were shared over 25,000 times. Ampers gave away about 5,000 **Best of MN90** CDs at the 2023 Minnesota State Fair.

MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds resulted in an increase in locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. Of the respondents to a survey Ampers conducted at the State Fair, 100% agreed or strongly agreed that **MN90** provided them with a better understanding of the state's culture and history than they had before hearing the segments. And, in a survey conducted by KAXE, of those who said they were familiar with **MN90**, 94% said the project gave them more knowledge and information about Minnesota's history and/or cultural heritage. Ampers achieved the proposed results of this work.

RACIAL RECKONING: GROUND ZERO DOCUMENTARY

The **Racial Reckoning: Ground Zero Documentary** video documentary was the last remaining element of the project. The video documentary featured conversations with the **Racial Reckoning** crew about how the project came together and explored the young reporters' hopes for the future of journalism. The interviews conducted in FY22 looked at the reporting team's experiences, not only as new reporters, but also as members of a team made up of BIPOC women, and their reflections on the stories they covered. The video documentary was completed and released in late FY23. Ampers will report on the measurable outcomes for the video documentary in its FY24 Legislative Report.



MN90 listeners learned about Minnesota's connection to Everything Everywhere All at Once.

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MINNESOTA NATIVE NEWS

Ampers produced 38 [Minnesota Native News](#) segments in FY23. These weekly award-winning five-minute radio segments explored economic, cultural, health, government, and public policy issues covering Indian Country in Minnesota. The program covered issues and topics in ways that were informative and relevant to Indigenous and non-Indigenous audiences.

In FY23, **Minnesota Native News** featured Makwa Coffee, an Indigenous-owned coffee shop in the Twin Cities, AIM Co-Director Frank Paro's reflections on the COVID-19 pandemic, and a new sculpture unveiling in Grand Rapids in celebration of Indigenous Peoples' Day. The most downloaded segment of the year, with 133 downloads, was a story about Juliet Rudie named director of the Missing & Murdered Indigenous Relatives Office.

Minnesota Native News aired on 14 Ampers stations (some stations offered the program more than once) to an audience of approximately 111,600 listeners. More than 10,000 people "like" **Minnesota Native News** on Facebook and more than 2,000 follow on Instagram.

Minnesota Native News' Instagram reach increased by more than 70% to 2,237 during the fiscal year. The project's dedicated website received 18,319 page views and the featured podcast feed received 4,931 downloads during the financial year. A listener survey found that of the 81% of the respondents who said they remembered hearing **Minnesota Native News**, 98% said the segment gives them more access, knowledge, and information about Minnesota Native history and/or cultural heritage. It was a yearlong project that increased Minnesota-based content from Indian Country produced by public broadcasting. Ampers achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

AMPERS DIGITAL ARCHIVE, WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA

Through the [Ampers digital archive, website, and social media](#) initiative, Ampers has made it easier for all Minnesotans to access the art, history, and cultural content produced by Ampers and its member stations. The initiative oversees all Legacy programs and makes it available on its website. The website also verifies that Ampers and its member stations are in compliance with Minnesota Statute 129d.19. The bill requires that content produced with Legacy funds be made available to noncommercial radio stations eligible for full state subsidies and made available online to all Minnesotans now and in the future. The website contains more than 27,000 segments and shows about Minnesota's art, culture and history. In addition to being able to listen to Legacy programming on-demand at [ampers.org](#), visitors can also access and listen to live streams of most stations. In FY23, in an attempt to make one of its most popular series, **Veterans' Voices**, more accessible, Ampers engaged design firm Spiritfolk to create a dedicated website for the series. This website will be more user-friendly and hold all of the previous and future segments of the franchise. The website will be completed and reported on in FY24. **Ampers digital archive, website, and social media** project was a yearlong project.



Minnesota Native News covered issues relevant to Indigenous and non-Indigenous audiences like the plan for an indoor urban farm near Little Earth in the East Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis.

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The Ampers website received 75,080 page views, with almost 95% being new visitors. In FY23, posts on Facebook reached 265,844 people. Podcast feeds associated with Ampers' Legacy projects generated more than 58,500 downloads in FY23. **Ampers digital archive, website, and social media** gave more Minnesotans access to artistic, cultural, and historical programming, increased focus on Minnesota artists in Minnesota museums and literary performances, and provided Minnesotans with easier access to locally-focused and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. Ampers achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

VETERANS' VOICES: UNTOLD STORIES

For its **Veterans' Voices: Untold Stories** project, Ampers produced a total of 60 two-minute segments featuring Minnesota's Veterans with an emphasis on Veterans from BIPOC communities and stories that until now, have largely gone untold. The project featured Veterans from a variety of conflicts, including the Korean War, Vietnam War, and the Cuban Missile Crisis. A variety of branches were also represented, from the Navy to the Marines to the Army's 82nd Airborne.

Ampers over-delivered on the **Veterans' Voices: Untold Stories** outputs by producing twice as many segments as the work plan stated. A total of 16 Ampers stations aired the segments with an estimated audience of 279,900 listeners. Additionally, Ampers produced a total of five podcasts to be used in Minnesota classrooms and for Minnesotans to listen to on-demand. Ampers partnered with local Indigenous youth organization MIGIZI to produce the five podcasts. The **Veterans' Voices: Untold Stories** podcasts ranged from 13 to 90 minutes in length. The shows were hosted by MIGIZI youth participating in its media training program. The topics included reasons for enlisting, working through the ignorance of Indigenous people and history from their peers, how the Veterans continue to stay connected to the community, their mental health, and a reflection episode where the youth talked about their experience with the project. MIGIZI held a student showcase in March and shared the podcasts with roughly 50 attendees. In addition, to celebrate the grand opening of their new space, MIGIZI played the podcasts during its open house to an audience of more than 500 people.

Ampers put the segments onto CDs and flash drives and gave them away at the 2023 Minnesota State Fair. Ampers estimates it gave out 2,000 **Veterans' Voices: Untold Stories** CDs and 450 flash drives. **Veterans' Voices: The Untold Stories** was an eight-month project. Through a survey conducted at the State Fair, 84% of those questioned said they agree or strongly agree that **Veterans' Voices** provides more Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, and incomes with increased access to the state's history with 16% saying they don't know. In the same survey, 85% said they agree or strongly agree that **Veterans' Voices** provides them with a better understanding of the state's culture and history than they did before hearing the segments with 16% saying they don't know. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. Ampers achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



Veterans' Voices: Untold Stories shared first-hand experiences from some of Minnesota's Veterans that until now have largely gone untold.



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VETERANS' VOICES: THE SECRET WAR

While the United States was fighting a very public and controversial war in Vietnam, there was a "Secret War" in neighboring Laos. In the early '60s, there were approximately 300,000 Hmong people living in Laos, and more than 19,000 of the men were recruited into a military created and sponsored by the CIA. The war waged on into the early '70s and 18,000 Hmong soldiers were killed. Despite the fact that Minnesota has the largest Hmong population in the United States, and the "Secret War" is now fifty years behind us, most Minnesotans know very little about the Secret War. **Veterans' Voices: The Secret War** aimed to change that by sharing the stories and experiences of Minnesota's Hmong families who were impacted by the war.



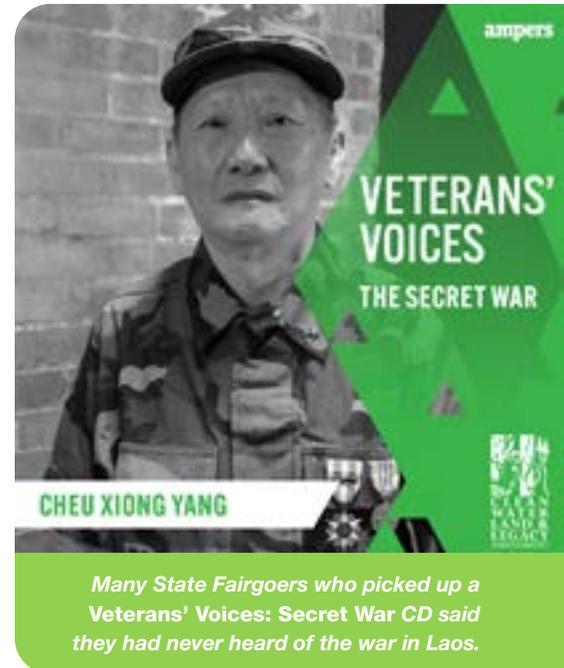
Production began on **Veterans' Voices: The Secret War** in FY22. In partnership with community organizations Hmong Museum and In Progress, the production team was able to connect with 14 Hmong Veterans in Minnesota. **Veterans' Voices: The Secret War** interviews were recorded in Hmong resulting in 32 segments that were 90 seconds long. Each segment was produced in Hmong along with an English translation. The segments aired on 16 Ampers stations to about 280,000 listeners. Additionally, partner Hmong Museum archived the raw interviews that will live on their website for the public to access.

Ampers also produced five podcasts for its **Veterans' Voices: The Secret War** project. They ranged from a half hour to over an hour long. The English podcasts focused on those brought to the U.S. as children, young Hmong-American Veterans, and a conversation between young Hmong history buffs. Two podcasts were presented in Hmong, one was the love story of two young lovers during a war that continues to this day and the other featured the **Veterans' Voices: The Secret War** producer interviewing her parents about their experience for the first time. Ampers put much of the content on CDs and flash drives that were distributed at the 2023 Minnesota State Fair. It's estimated that 3,000 CDs and 475 flash drivers were distributed.

Veterans' Voices: The Secret War was a year-and-a-half project that resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public broadcasting. It gave more Minnesotans access to information about Minnesota history than would have if this project was not funded. And, it resulted in content history teachers can use in Minnesota classrooms. Ampers achieved the proposed measurable outcomes through locally and Minnesota-focused content by public radio.

VETERANS' VOICES IN 90 SECONDS

MN90: Minnesota History at 90-Seconds and **Veterans' Voices** are two of Ampers' most popular projects. Audiences love hearing first-hand stories from Minnesota Veterans. People also tell us that they enjoy getting a little bit of Minnesota history each day so they can pass along little but important information about our state's history that they didn't already know. Ampers did both with its **Veterans' Voices in 90 Seconds**. Based on the MN90 structure, Ampers produced 60 segments that were 90 seconds long. The project resulted in 20 segments about Minnesota and World War I, 20 about our state's involvement in World War II, and 20 about our connection to the Vietnam War. These shorts were aired and reported on in FY22.



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In FY23, because of the strong interest and an abundance of great content, Ampers produced six half-hour shows about the conflicts mentioned above and the Korean War. Ampers estimates **Veterans' Voices in 90 Seconds'** half-hour segments were heard by about 98,700 listeners across the 12 stations that aired them. The project resulted in more Minnesotans of all ages ethnicities and incomes having more access to Minnesota history than would have if the project hadn't been funded, content that history teachers can use in Minnesota classrooms, and more locally and Minnesota content produced by public radio. **Veterans' Voices in 90 Seconds** was a seven-month project that achieved the proposed measurable outcomes.



VETERANS' VOICES ARCHIVE

Over the years Ampers has collected many hours of interviews with Minnesota Veterans. We've interviewed Veterans who served as far back as WWII to those who just recently left the military. The stories are incredibly powerful and many didn't make it into the final segments, there's just too much content. With interviews going back as far as the mid-2010s, locating and collecting all the raw interviews from past and present producers has proved a challenge. In FY23, Ampers staff began the **Veterans' Voices Archive**, to review and archive the interviews so that they can be used to educate future generations about Minnesota's past.

Ampers understands that this content is an important part of Minnesota's history. Of the respondents to Ampers' annual **Veterans' Voices** survey (distributed at the State Fair), 84% agreed or strongly agreed that **Veterans' Voices** provides more Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, and incomes with increased access to the state's history. The **Veterans' Voices Archive** has already collected and organized more than 125 raw interviews from Veterans who served in a variety of conflicts, from WWII to Vietnam to Iraq. The **Veterans' Voices Archive** is not accessible to the public yet so measurable outcomes can't be assessed for this report. We will assess and report on the project in FY24.



The Veterans' Voices Archive will give teachers and future generations access to the produced segments as well as the raw interviews conducted for the project which will play an important role in preserving Minnesota's military history.

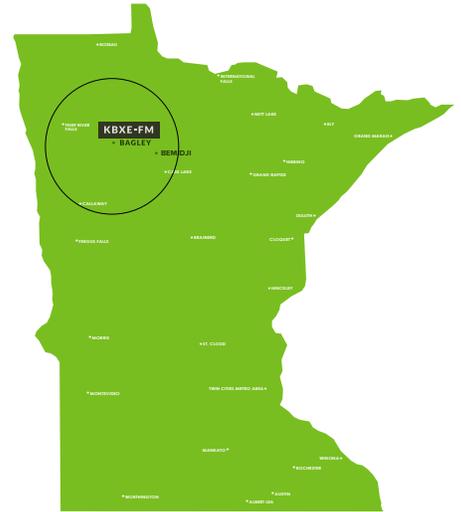
STATION REPORTS

BAGLEY / BEMIDJI – KBXE, 90.5 FM



Station Description

KBXE-FM (Bagley / Bemidji) broadcasts at 90.5 FM. Operated by Northern Community Radio, KBXE builds community in Northern Minnesota through radio programming, cultural events, and interactive media. Partnered with its sister station KAXE, the two stations combine to serve most of North Central and Northeastern Minnesota. The programming engages a diverse community through news and information, music and entertainment, and events that reflect the cultures of Northern Minnesota.



KBXE (Bagley / Bemidji) coverage area

Program Descriptions

AREA VOICES

Area Voices was a bi-weekly radio segment that focused on the artistic and cultural stories of Northern Minnesota. The project was a series of live and pre-produced segments that showcased the area's fascinating historical stories, its unique cultural heritage, and the life experiences of residents. KBXE produced 68 episodes of these in-depth segments, which varied in length, from five to 29 minutes, and aired during the Morning Show.

Listeners were informed of cultural happenings within the local arts scene through interviews and engaging conversations, facilitated by hosts of Northern Community Radio's Morning Show. Some of the people interviewed in the **Area Voices** segments included Bemidji artist Diamond Knispel, comedian Mary Mack, Blackduck cattle rancher Rachel Gray, and Minnesota's Class AA State Speech Coach of the year Tom Lucas.

The station estimates that about 4,700 people heard each episode of **Area Voices**. In the FY23 listener survey of KBXE listeners, 73% of those surveyed remembered hearing the programs and of those who indicated that they listen to **Area Voices**, 100% said they gained more access to Minnesota's cultural heritage, history, and information through **Area Voices** and the programming helped increase locally focused content on public radio. **Area Voices** was a yearlong project. Segments of the program also aired on Ampers stations WGZS, KVSC, KKWE, and KAXE. KBXE over-achieved their proposed outputs for **Area Voices** producing five more shows than proposed in FY23. KBXE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



KBXE produced 68 episodes of Area Voices which captured and shared cultural stories of Northern Minnesota.

CENTERSTAGE MINNESOTA

Centerstage Minnesota highlighted great Minnesota music through its weekly Friday afternoon radio show. The station produced and aired 47 episodes. Each

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show was about two hours long and featured a mix of new and experienced Minnesota bands and musicians. In FY23 the program showcased music, interviews with musicians, reviews, and a calendar of music concerts.



Centerstage Minnesota showcased the lives and talents of Minnesota musicians and supported the local music scene by strengthening listeners' sense of place and community. A sampling of those featured included Chastity Brown; Dessa; Charlie Parr; Rich Mattson and the North Stars; and Bob Dylan.

KBXE's annual survey showed they achieved the goal of showcasing and informing listeners about Minnesota-made music with **Centerstage Minnesota**. In KBXE's listener survey for FY23, 84% said they remember hearing the program, and of those, 96% agreed they felt more informed about local music because of the program. One listener surveyed wrote, "I love Centerstage! It has introduced me to a lot of talented Minnesota artists I would never have heard..." **Centerstage Minnesota** segments also aired on Ampers stations WGZS and KAXE. KBXE achieved the proposed outcomes for Centerstage Minnesota. The station estimates that about 4,700 people heard the segments. KBXE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



More than 200 people attended KBXE's Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show which showcased artists like Delina White.

ANISHINAABE-BIPOC FASHION SHOW

KBXE partnered with Native Apparel Designer Delina White from I Am Anishinaabe fashion company to produce the **Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show**. The show was presented at the Native Star Light Fashion Show during the state's Spring Fashion Week.

The **Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show** was held at the Machine Shop in Minneapolis and also featured designs from Lavender Hunt of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe and Golga Oscar, Kasigluk Elders Traditional Council–Yup'ik Nation. There was also music, food, and a marketplace. White sought to bring in Native people for all the production and artistic elements. An estimated 238 people attended the event including high school students from Deer River High School.

In addition to the event, three 11- to 17-minute segments were aired featuring interviews with White (Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe) and others involved with the event. The station estimates that about 4,700 people heard the on-air segments, which also aired on KAXE. **The Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show** was uploaded to YouTube and received over 300 views. **The Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show** was a yearlong project that achieved all its proposed measurable outcomes.

LIVE FROM THE HISTORIC CHIEF THEATER

In partnership with the Historic Chief Theater and Paul Bunyan Playhouse, KBXE orchestrated a series of five complimentary music concerts for the station's **Live From the Historic Chief Theater** project. The inaugural concert showcased performances by Thomas X and Baby Shel,

STATION REPORTS

drawing one of the Historic Chief Theater's youngest crowds, attracting about 75 people. The second and third concerts featured Davina and the Vagabonds in February and Wild Horses in March, with the highest attendance recorded at 235 and 315, respectively. The concluding concerts highlighted Keep for Cheap and Kiss the Tiger, both attracting audiences exceeding 170. **Live From the Historic Chief Theater** was an eleven-month project.



KBXE recorded select performances from the live shows to create five different radio specials. An estimated 4,700 people heard each of the broadcasts, which also aired on KAXE. In KBXE's annual survey, of those who said they had listened to or attended the **Live From the Historic Chief Theater** events, 100% said the project increased their knowledge, information, and access to Minnesota's history and cultural heritage. **Live From the Historic Chief Theater** was an 11-month project and KBXE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

BEMIDJI BLOCK PARTY

KBXE partnered with Bemidji Brewing for the **Bemidji Block Party**, a free community event that included family-friendly entertainment, games, area food vendors, locally brewed beer, and music from Wild Horses, Ber, International Reggae All Stars, and Thomas X.

More than 1,500 people attended the **Bemidji Block Party** throughout the day. KBXE broadcast select performances from the show for one two-hour-long radio special. Event goer Kristen Z. said the **Bemidji Block Party** was "So much fun! Dancing in the rain with Wild Horses was definitely my favorite part."



In addition to the 1,500 people who attended the event, an estimated 4,700 people listened to the broadcast on KBXE and KAXE. Of those surveyed in KBXE's annual survey who said they listened to or attended the **Bemidji Block Party**, 100% said the project increased their knowledge, information, and access to Minnesota's history and cultural heritage. The **Bemidji Block Party** was a six-month project. KBXE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

WHAT WE'RE READING

What We're Reading spotlighted books and the Minnesota authors who wrote them. Hosted and produced by independent producer Tammy Bobrowsky, **What We're Reading** introduced listeners to our state's authors, poets, and essayists.

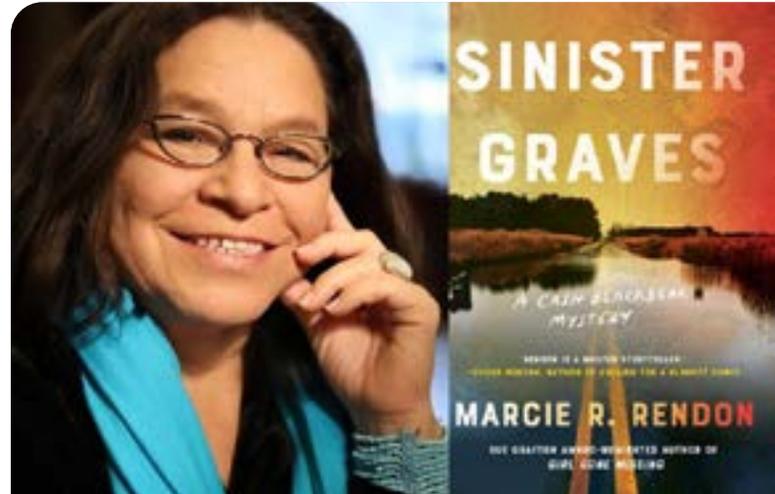
KBXE produced 36 segments of **What We're Reading** and aired them during the Morning Show. Each segment was between six and 15 minutes long. Listeners learned about the authors through in-depth discussions about their latest work. Some of the authors and books featured on **What We're Reading** in FY23 were Grand Rapids children's librarian Tracy Kampa who talked about her recommendations for children's books; author Staci Drouillard, who talked about her novel **Seven Aunts**; and retired professor of English at Bemidji State University Mark Christensen shared his book of poetry.



Jae Bee, from International Reggae All Stars, was among the performers at the Bemidji Block Party who helped to attract more than 1,500 people to the event.

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KBXE produced four more segments of ***What We're Reading*** than promised in its workplan, increasing Minnesotan's knowledge of writers and their works by showcasing more writers through public broadcasting and giving listeners greater access to the work of Minnesota's authors. The station's annual survey helps to show that KBXE achieved the proposed outcomes for the project. Of the respondents who said they had head *What We're Reading*, 98% said the project helped to increase their access to and appreciation for the writer's art in Minnesota. ***What We're Reading*** also aired on KAXE as well as WKSU, a community radio station in Ohio. ***What We're Reading*** was a yearlong project. The station achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.



KBXE's What We're Reading showcased Minnesota writers and authors like Native American poet, playwright, and author Marcie Rendon.

STATION REPORTS

BOIS FORTE / NETT LAKE – KBFT, 89.9 FM



Station Description

KBFT-FM (Bois Forte / Nett Lake) broadcasts at 89.9 FM. Owned and operated by the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, KBFT originates its programming on the campus of the Nett Lake School. Located just south of the International Falls and the Canadian border, KBFT provides listeners in North Central Minnesota with great music, Ojibwe language preservation programs, as well as an opportunity for local artists to showcase their work on-air and online.



KBFT-FM (Bois Forte / Nett Lake) coverage area

Program Descriptions

NATIVE MUSIC FEST SERIES

KBFT takes pride in connecting the Bois Forte and the surrounding community with emerging musical talent and reconnecting them with longtime local musicians. ***Native Music Fest Series*** consisted of six one-hour live concerts as well as six five-minute radio segments to promote and support the artists and the concerts. Some of the artists featured included Sihasin, and War Bonnet, two unique indigenous rock bands; Keith Secola; Itz Lil Lee; December Wind; Mac Sickz; and more. KBFT estimates that about 150 people attended the concerts and an additional 300 heard the on-air elements of the project.

Native Music Fest Series was a yearlong project that showcased nine different Native American musicians. The project resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio, exposed more Minnesotans to Native American art and culture, and allowed more Minnesota artist and musicians to have their work showcased through public media. KBFT achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

GAWINDAMOSHIN

The goal of ***Gawindamoshin*** was to give the public a unique perspective of the life of a Native American trying to integrate into mainstream society. KBFT produced and distributed a podcast series that focused on Native Americans living off reservation lands. The three five-minute podcasts focused on their respective careers and how they are drawing off their Native roots to achieve success off the reservation. ***Gawindamoshin*** was a one-month project that resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and also helped to preserve and give listeners information about Anishinaabe culture. KBFT achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

ANISHINAABEMOEN

Anishinaabemoen is one of KBFT's ongoing projects designed to preserve the Anishinaabe language. In FY23, the station produced and aired a total of 214 ***Anishinaabemoen*** segments. In each 30-second Bois Forte Anishinaabe elder Karen Drift taught listeners



With its Native Music Fest Series KBFT showcased nine different Native American musicians.

STATION REPORTS

the Anishinaabe words for things like animals, and colors, as well as action words, and common phrases. To extend the reach and impact of the project, the station also distributed the **Anishinaabemoen** on Facebook, TikTok, and Public Radio Exchange (PRX). The station estimates that about 300 people heard the segments on-air and that an additional 700 people heard them through social media.



KBFT over-delivered producing four more segments than promised in its workplan for this project. **Anishinaabemoen** resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio, gave listeners a better understanding of Native American culture and history, and helped to preserve the Anishinaabe language. KBFT achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project.

ANISHINAABEMOEN ADVANCED/ ANISHINAABEMOEN IN-DEPTH

Because of the tremendous success of **Anishinaabemoen** as well as the strong need, passion, interest, and desire to preserve the Anishinaabe language, KBFT expanded the idea to include **Anishinaabemoen Advanced** which also became known on-air as **Anishinaabemoen In-Depth**. Hosts Karen and Perry Drift along with KBFT Station Manager George Strong taught listeners how to form sentences using the Anishinaabe base words they learned from **Anishinaabemoen**. The hosts discussed the origins and uses of the words and also shared stories and discussed hot topics in Indian Country.

The station produced 53 hour-long shows for this yearlong project, over-delivering by producing four more shows than the 48 promised in the workplan. KBFT estimates that about 300 people heard the on-air segments. **Anishinaabemoen Advanced / Anishinaabemoen In-Depth** resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio, gave listeners a better understanding of Native American culture and history, and helped to preserve the Anishinaabe language. KBFT achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project.

POW WOW BOOK

KBFT improved on its **Pow Wow Book** that it created in FY22. The station added some information and made it easier to read. Rather than making it for a specific Pow Wow, the station also made the FY23 version generic so that it could be distributed more widely. The **Pow Wow Book Project** was designed to invite those who aren't familiar with Pow Wows to learn more about



With the expertise of Elder Karen Drift, Anishinaabemoen Advanced / Anishinaabemoen In-Depth helped to preserve the Ojibwe language.



KBFT exposed significantly more Minnesotans to Native American culture with its Pow Wow Book.

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the tradition and feel more comfortable attending one. Readers learned about the Grand Entry, the Dewe' igan (the Drum), what dancers wear when you can and cannot take pictures, and when non-Natives can participate in a Pow Wow. A copy of the informational brochure can be found in the [Educational Materials](#) section of this report.



The station worked on the **Pow Wow Book** for about two months and estimates that it distributed about 1,000 of the educational books. While distributing the books staff members heard recipients say they had always wanted to learn more about Pow Wows. The **Pow Wow Book Project** helped to give more Minnesotans a better understanding of Native American culture and history. KBFT achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

STRONGVILLE

Strongville is a historical site in Nett Lake. Families once lived there and farmed crops there. The families that lived there predominately spoke Anishanabemoen. There is also speculation that former Chiefs of Nett Lake would gather there to hold community meetings. In FY23, KBFT began researching Strongville in the hopes of producing five 5-minute radio segments that will explore family history, genetic lineage, historical artifacts, and more. KBFT only conducted research in FY23 so there are no measurable outcomes to assess or report.

NATIVE WRITING FEST

Native Writing Fest showcased indigenous authors and screenwriters. Each artist presented their screenplay or book, their writing processes, and the unique cultural aspects they have woven into their work. KBFT held three **Native Writing Fest** events with each event lasting up to two hours. The station also aired three short radio segments as part of the project that were each five minutes long. Writers featured in FY23 Mary Moose, Abraham Sutherland, and Holt Hamilton

Native Writing Fest was a three-month project.

The station estimates that about 20 people attended each of the events and that about 300 people heard the on-air elements of the project.

Native Writing Fest resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio, exposed more Minnesotans to Native American art and culture, and allowed more Minnesota writers and authors to have their work showcased through public media. KBFT achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

BOIS FORTE POW WOW BROADCASTS

Not everyone can make it to a Bois Forte Pow Wows. So KBFT made Pow Wows accessible to all Minnesotans through live broadcasts. The project resulted in two six-hour live broadcasts from two area Pow Wows. The station broadcast from the Lake Vermilion Traditional Pow Wow and Sah Gii Bah Gah



Those unable to attend a Pow Wow were still able to listen to and learn about them thanks to KBFT's Bois Forte Pow Wow Broadcasts.

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Pow Wow in Nett Lake. KBFT interviewed dancers, vendors, and community members to give listeners a first-hand perspective of what was happening at the Pow Wow.



Bois Forte Pow Wow Broadcasts was a one-month project. The station estimates that about 300 people heard the broadcasts. The project resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and exposed more Minnesotans to Native American art and culture. KBFT achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



KBFT's
Bois Forte
Community
*Pow Wow
Broadcasts*
resulted in 12
hours of live
programming

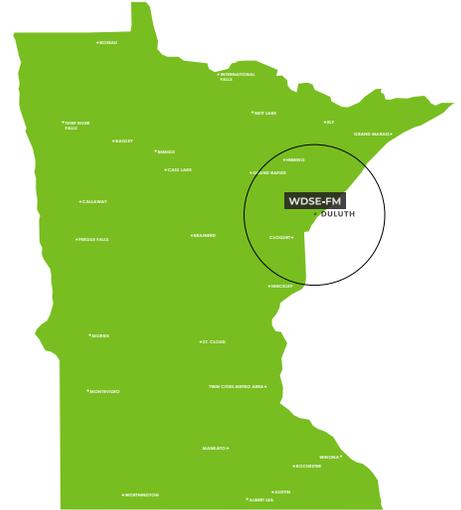
STATION REPORTS

DULUTH – WDSE, 103.3 FM



Station Description

WDSE-FM (Duluth) broadcasts at 103.3 FM. WDSE, Duluth Public Radio, has been the Northland’s source of alternative radio for more than six decades, playing an eclectic mix of jazz, blues, folk, R&B, hip-hop, indie, and more. WDSE provides educational, informative, and entertaining music, as well as public affairs programs that enhance and benefit the entire community and meet the needs of the under-served audiences in Northeastern Minnesota.



WDSE-FM (Duluth) coverage area

Program Descriptions

HOMEGROWN MUSIC FESTIVAL

WDSE provided extensive coverage of the 25th Annual Duluth **Homegrown Music Festival**. The station delivered eight days of daily updates during the festival. The project included live in-studio performances, both on-air and online, interviews with the artists, as well as an online photo essay providing daily coverage of the event through the lens of a professional photojournalist. WDSE was the only local media outlet in the Duluth area that showcased interviews and live performances from local and regional musicians to this degree.

The **Homegrown Music Festival** had seven live performances in the studio from artists who were participating in the festival. The multi-day, multi-venue event featured 170 bands such as Eldri Snow, Tres Osos, and Lioness. Each of the seven live performances averaged 25 minutes and the station estimates they had an on-air audience reach of about 5,000 listeners. WDSE also posted segments on the station’s YouTube channel. The project helped to showcase the work of Minnesota musicians, gave Minnesotans easier access to art and culture, and resulted in more Minnesota-focused content on public radio. WDSE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for the **Homegrown Music Festival**.

BEHIND THE BRIDGE SESSIONS

WDSE partnered with the Duluth Superior Symphony Orchestra (DSSO) to produce three episodes of **Behind the Bridge Sessions**. The project gave audience members a behind-the-scenes look into performance rehearsals and the work it takes to arrange and produce the collaborative performance. The station worked alongside the Symphony and local independent artists and songwriters such as Superior Siren, Bill and Kate Isles, and Breanne Marie and the Front Porch Sinners. Breanne Marie stated, “This collaboration concert was a dream come true. So excited to share it...” For **Behind the Bridge Sessions** WDSE utilized Legacy funds in tandem with the DSSO’s own funding for the partnerships and show production. The radio station also worked with WDSE-TV to capture the episodes and they were then posted to the station’s YouTube channel and advertised on their website and social media platforms.



WDSE’s coverage of the Homegrown Music Festival included on-air as well as online daily updates through the lens of a professional photojournalist.

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The ***Behind the Bridge Sessions*** was a month-long project. The station produced three 22- to 26-minute shows for the project in FY23 that will be airing in FY24. WDSE will be producing and airing the other two shows in FY24. Because production took place so late and the segments did not air in FY23 there are no measurable outcomes to report on at this time. WDSE will assess and report on the measurable outcomes for this project in the FY24 Legislative Report.

ARTS AND CULTURAL EVENTS PARTNERED WITH WDSE-TV

For its ***Arts and Cultural Events partnered with WDSE-TV*** program, WDSE collaborated with the TV station to showcase and promote local artistic and cultural events and topics in Duluth and Northern Minnesota. Through interviews, photography, social media, and more, the ***Arts and Cultural Events partnered with WDSE-TV*** was able to promote and highlight these events reaching an estimated 5,000 listeners on-air. Among the significant Duluth events covered included the John Beargrease Sled Dog Marathon, Trampled by Turtles concert, Lake Superior Harvest Festival, the Park Point Art Fair, the World Music and Reggae Festival, and area youth at a Duluth Huskies Baseball game which included music by Big Wave Dave and the Ripples. In total the five ***Arts and Cultural Events partnered with WDSE-TV*** events had an estimated 25,400 people in attendance. Additional support for the Beargrease Sled Dog Marathon included \$300 from Camp Chow, \$500 from Pier B Resort and Hotel, and \$160 from the Minnesota Power Employees Credit Union.

Arts and Cultural Events partnered with WDSE-TV was a yearlong project. WDSE is quite well regarded in the community for its support and promotion of local events. The project allowed more artists and musicians to have their work showcased through public broadcasting and resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public broadcasting. WDSE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



WDSE helped to promote dozens of cultural events that helped to attract more than 25,000 people.

WDSE VIDEO SERIES

WDSE has planned to partner with WDSE-TV to produce an ongoing series of videos exploring Minnesota's music, arts, and culture. In addition to monthly videos, the station planned to produce two full-length videos about Pachyderm Studios and TwinTone Records. Due to staff turnover, the station was not able to complete any work on this project. Unfortunately, the station also failed to remove the project from its workplan before the end of the fiscal year, also as a result of the staffing turnover. No Legacy funds were spent on this project and therefore there are no measurable outcomes to assess.

MINNESOTA MUSIC ARCHIVE

WDSE has long been a champion of Minnesota-made music, and it continued its strong commitment to the arts with the creation of ***The Minnesota Music Archive***, a website that features biographies, discographies, and interviews, with the goal of becoming the most thorough repository of Minnesota music information in the state. Perhaps most importantly, ***The Minnesota Music Archive*** not only spotlights Minnesota artists with international acclaim but also features local and regional artists who may never have performed outside

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of our state. Through a statewide digital promotional campaign along with local audio and video ads, WDSE encouraged people across the entire state to contribute information to the archive. **The Minnesota Music Archive** website encouraged users to access the archive website directly at mnmusicarchive.org. WDSE continues to make improvements to the architecture of the website and plans to add additional analytic features to track performance.

The Minnesota Music Archive's Wikipedia-esque platform is a repository of every genre of music and offers an opportunity for more interaction and engagement between WDSE and the community. **The Minnesota Music Archive** documents the history of Minnesota-made music, with a special emphasis on Northern Minnesota, and it will serve as a music library for future generations. The website launched too late in FY23 to gather any analytics so it is unable to determine of measurable outcomes were achieved. The station will track and report on the analytics for the website along with the measurable outcomes in the FY24 Legislative Report.

MINNESOTA READS

For its **Minnesota Reads** project, WDSE produced 43 episodes, three more than proposed in the workplan, featuring Minnesota authors discussing their new publications and books. **Minnesota Reads** offered statewide connections with a broad geographical range of authors, topics, and inspirations. Gary Eldon Peter, Heather Wilde, Katharine Johnson, and Paul Metsa were among the Minnesota authors showcased. The weekly segments averaged 10 minutes long. **Minnesota Reads** was a yearlong project.

WDSE estimates the **Minnesota Reads** segments reached approximately 5,000 listeners each week helping the station to achieve its goal of supporting and increasing awareness of Minnesota authors. With more than three dozen episodes, WDSE was able to showcase a large and diverse number of authors to the listening community on a platform where they typically are not heard. WDSE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for **Minnesota Reads**.

THE LOCAL

The Local showcased Minnesota music with an emphasis on music coming out of Northern Minnesota. The weekly program featured an events calendar informing listeners about where local bands were playing and presented occasional interviews with Minnesota musicians. Popular segments featured artists like Venus de Mars; Fuzz Lung and the Dust Breathers; and Dessa. **The Local** was an 11-month project.

WDSE produced and aired 52 two-hour-long episodes of **The Local**, which was four hours more than promised in the WDSE workplan. The station also posted six artist performances to its website, which was 14 fewer than promised in its workplan. The station estimates that about 5,000 people heard the program each week. The project provided listeners with more awareness of the local and regional music scene. **The Local** also resulted in significantly more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. Despite slightly under-delivering on the web segments due to staff turnover, with 104 hours of programming showcasing more than 300 different Minnesota musicians, WDSE still achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project. WDSE also plans to produce and post the web segments in FY24.

LIVE FROM STUDIO A

WDSE's project **Live from Studio A** featured in-studio performances and interviews with Minnesota musicians about their careers. Artists were invited to share their stories and to perform. **Live from Studio A** specifically scheduled independent and emerging artists from

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genres underrepresented on commercial radio. **Live from Studio A** aired 27 new episodes during the FY23 fiscal year, 17 more than promised in its workplan. The segments featured Minnesota artists such as The Shackletons, Jeremy Messersmith, Becky Buller with Ned Luberecki, Keith Secola, and The Lowest Pair. WDSE held one live, in-person, event at the Duluth Depot Great Hall with a performance by The Shackletons. The station estimates that about 175 people attended the event which was coordinated and hosted by their student on-air talent and student volunteers. Thirty-one video clips of songs and interviews from these **Live from Studio A** sessions were posted to the station's YouTube page and had 12,113 views.

WDSE reports **Live from Studio A's** on-air shows were around thirty minutes in length and reached an estimated 5,000 listeners. Due to staff turnover, WDSE was not able to produce the 10 episodes to air on TV but did host a collaboration with WDSE-TV: The Homegrown Music Festival Tune-up. The audio was aired as several episodes of **Live from Studio A** Homegrown specials and then the full special aired on WDSE-TV. This year-long project increased local and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. Despite the fact the station wasn't able to produce the TV segments in FY23, by significantly over-delivering on the radio segments the station showcased more than 27 musicians. By showcasing more than 27 musicians and producing more than 13 hours of local music programming, significantly increasing the amount of Minnesota-focused content, WDSE achieved the proposed outcomes for **Live from Studio A**.



WDSE's Live from Studio A showcased more than 25 musical acts.

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FOND DU LAC / CLOQUET – WGZS, 89.1 FM



Station Description

WGZS-FM (Fond du Lac / Cloquet) broadcasts at 89.1 FM. The 50,000-watt is owned and operated by The Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. Known in the community as Dibiki Giizis, which translates in English to the Moon, WGZS plays a variety of music genres throughout the day from rock and pop favorites to Indigenous music. Located just south of Duluth, WGZS also broadcasts educational programs as well as play-by-play of local high school sports.



WGZS-FM (Fond du Lac / Cloquet) coverage area

Program Descriptions

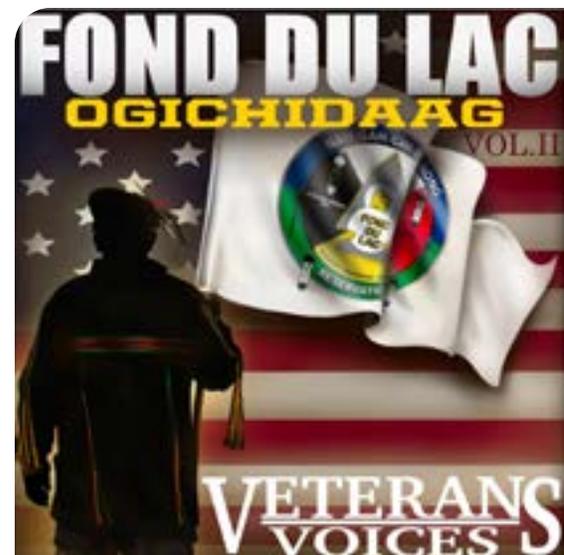
MN90: FOND DU LAC HISTORY IN 90 SECONDS

Expanding on the popularity of the MN90 franchise, WGZS partnered with Ampers to produce **MN90: Fond du Lac History in 90 Seconds**. The 90-second segments were produced in a fun and engaging manner to help preserve and teach listeners about the culture and history of the Fond du Lac Nation. In the last two months of the biennium, Producer Chaz Wagner created ten segments of **Fond du Lac History in 90 Seconds**, five more than promised in the workplan. This project was a late addition so the segments were produced but did not air. Once the segments air in FY24, Ampers will estimate the number of listeners who heard the segments. Because the segments were produced so late in the biennium, we are unable to report on measurable outcomes at this time but will include them in the FY24 Legislative Report.

OGICHIDA VOICES SEASON THREE/FOND DU LAC'S OGICHIDA VOICES

WGZS partnered with Ampers to create **Ogichida Voices Season Three** also known as **Fond du Lac's Ogichida Voices**. The project resulted in ten 90-second segments, featuring the stories, memories, and experiences of different members of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa who served in the military. The series recognized and honored the knowledge, experience, and leadership of Native veterans, from their own perspective and in their own voice. Native Americans have had and continue to have the highest number of members in the U.S. military per capita of any cultural group. The station estimates that about 300 people heard the on-air segments of **Ogichida Voices Season Three/Fond du Lac's Ogichida Voices**.

The nine-month project also resulted in the creation of 500 CDs of **Ogichida Voices Season Two**, a compilation of the segments produced for the previous season. WGZS is distributing the CDs for free at community events. **Ogichida Voices Season Three/Fond du Lac's Ogichida Voices** resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and gave more Minnesotans access to and the opportunity to learn about Minnesota's Native American history, specifically the role that Fond du Lac Veterans have played. WGZS achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



WGZS is preserving the lived experiences of Fond du Lac Veterans by distributing free CDs with their stories.

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GRAND MARAIS/GUNFLINT TRAIL/GRAND PORTAGE – WTIP, 90.7 FM / 89.1 FM / 90.1 FM



Station Description

WTIP-FM (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage) broadcasts at 90.7 FM in Grand Marais with translators at 89.1 FM on the Gunflint Trail and 90.1 FM in Grand Portage. Operated by Cook County Community Radio, WTIP is the first community radio station broadcasting on the North Shore of Lake Superior. The station engages visitors and residents throughout a 1,500 square mile area of woods and waters, including the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Serving all of the communities along the North Shore, from Two Harbors to Grand Portage, on the Gunflint Trail and across Lake Superior on the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, WTIP provides an arena for information-gathering, discussion, and expression.



WTIP-FM (Grand Marais / Gunflint Trail / Grand Portage) coverage area

Program Descriptions

ANISHINAABE BIZINDAMOO MAKAK

Anishinaabe Bizindamoo Makak, which translates to Anishinaabe Listening Box (radio), was the result of a partnership between WTIP and the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe. The show was hosted by Ojibwe Language Coordinator and teacher Erik Redix, whose bilingual approach to storytelling featured telling stories in English and Ojibwemowin - the Ojibwe language. The monthly half-hour program welcomed guests Maajigwaneyaash (Dr. Gordon Jourdain); Karen Drift; Obizaan and Chato Gonzales; Nancy Jones; and Anton Treuer.

Anishinaabe Bizindamoo Makak was a year-long project, resulting in 12 episodes. WTIP estimates that about 13,000 people heard the on-air elements of the project. The shows were also made available via SoundCloud, receiving more than 500 listens. Providing on-demand access via SoundCloud increased awareness about the cultural and environmental issues and topics relevant to the Lake Superior Region, including tribal lands. Full episodes of **Anishinaabe Bizindamoo Makak** were also available on the station's website, providing Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, abilities, and incomes with better access to cultural and history programming created by public broadcasting. WTIP achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

BOUNDARY WATERS PODCAST

The **Boundary Waters Podcast** captured stories about the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW), the most visited wilderness area in the United States, which is often referred to as "Minnesota's crown jewel." WTIP provided its audience with an audio format they could take with them into the BWCAW, beyond the reach of the radio station's signal. The podcast consisted of lively 25- to 40-minute conversations with people enthusiastically



Lee Obizaan Staples and Chato Gonzales helped to preserve the Ojibwe culture and language as guests on WTIP's Anishinaabe Bizindamoo Makak.

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sharing their BWCAW stories and experiences, including the use of hammocks, a field of biology known as “soundscape ecology”, and outdoor photography, among others.



The **Boundary Waters Podcast** received additional support from Borderland Lodge, Bucks Hardware, NorthStar Canoes, Piragis, Tuscarora Lodge, Sawbill Outfitters, Bent Paddle Brewing, and Ely Outfitting Company. WTIP produced 27 episodes, garnering almost 60,000 listens on SoundCloud in FY23. Links to the bi-monthly episodes of the **Boundary Waters Podcast** were showcased as Hero images on WTIP’s website, adding up to 60 minutes of wilderness-related content and information to the catalog of content published monthly on WTIP. The station estimates that about 13,000 people heard the on-air elements of the yearlong project.

The **Boundary Waters Podcast** achieved its proposed outcome of increasing awareness about the cultural and environmental issues and topics relevant to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

COMMUNITY VOICES ON NORTH SHORE MORNING AND NORTH SHORE WEEKEND

For its **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend** project, WTIP produced and contributed content relevant to daily life on the North Shore for the station’s weekday variety show, North Shore Morning. Three-hour recap episodes aired on Saturday mornings on WTIP’s program North Shore Weekend. **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend** shorts (that were three to 10 minutes long), were creative, artistic pieces and interviews that presented a variety of perspectives on different aspects of the culture and way of life, as voiced through community members representing different areas and aspects of the North Shore region.

Additionally, WTIP was also present at three events: the Gunflint Mail Run Sled Dog Race, the Grand Marais Arts Festival, and the Gunflint Trail Canoe Races. WTIP produced two hours of on-air content from each event for **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend**.

In FY23, WTIP produced 100 new segments that were featured on **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend**. These regular features came from WTIP projects **Trail Time** (22 segments),

focusing on the Gunflint Trail; **Notes from Reservation River** (ten segments), essays from Grand Portage band member and writer Jess Koski; **Superior Reads** (14 segments), featuring WTIP commentator Lin Salisbury interviewing authors; **Best of Ourselves** (21



WTIP’s Boundary Waters Podcasts garnered almost 60,000 listens on SoundCloud.



Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend covered more than 100 different topics ranging from life on the Gunflint Trail to missing and murdered indigenous women.

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segments that were also aired on KICL in Iowa City), where host Marcia Hyatt explored how to be intentional, creative, and joyful in life and, *Northwoods Naturalist* (33 segments, some of which also aired on KICL in Iowa City and by Ampers stations KAXE/KBXE), sharing information and insights about the great outdoors in Northeastern Minnesota.



In all, *Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend* contributed 676 hours of content showcasing Minnesota musicians, artists, historians, writers, scientists, storytellers, and other locally focused, Minnesota-created content. Features were uploaded to SoundCloud and shared via WTIP's website. Regular features produced in FY23 received over 10,000 SoundCloud listens.

The *Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend* project earned a prestigious award from the Midwest Broadcast Journalists. A segment from *Notes from Reservation River*, written by Jess Koski and produced by Staci Drouillard, received first place in the Broadcast Writing division in 2023. WTIP achieved its proposed outcomes for this project.

IN THE FIELD

WTIP's *In the Field* series explored people's lives and the contributions people make to our shared cultural legacy through work. Each episode focused on a local resident and their chosen vocation. We learned what they do, why they do it, and how their work shapes and is shaped by our cultural and physical landscape.

In FY23, WTIP produced 3 short (eight to 12 minutes long) segments for *In the Field*. These segments featured Creaking Tree Farm owners Ian and Rachael Andrus, an interview with weaver Christine Novotny, and a visit to a sugarbush on Good Harbor Hill, located in the Maple Forest along the Lake Superior Highlands.

In the Field segments received close to 300 listens on SoundCloud via the project page on WTIP's website. The station estimates that about 13,000 people heard the on-air segments. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and increased the number of Minnesota residents who had their work and stories showcased through public broadcasting. *In the Field* was a three-month project and WTIP achieved its proposed outcomes for the project.

IT HAPPENS HERE: THE ROOTS OF RACIAL INEQUITY ON THE NORTH SHORE

It Happens Here: The Roots of Racial Inequity on the North Shore was created by WTIP and intended to root listeners in the history of racist treatment of Black, Indigenous, and people of color in Cook County. The project explored how racism has manifested over the years from the arrival of the first white settlers to the present day. *It Happens Here: The Roots of Racial Inequity*



Producer of Community Voices on North Shore Morning, CJ Heithoff helped generate more than 670 hours of cultural, historical and artistic programming on WTIP.



WTIP's In the Field took listeners to a sugarbush on Good Harbor Hill to learn what it takes to get sap from the tree to the breakfast table as maple syrup.

STATION REPORTS

on the North Shore incorporated local research on topics related to racism and racial injustice as well as current voices and perspectives on the many aspects of racism in our community.



Working closely with community members Tim Cochrane, John Morrin, Marisa Anywaush, Amira Anderson, Tyler Howell (who all served as project advisors and content contributors), and Mille Lacs band member Leah Lemm (co-host), WTIP produced six, eight- to 19-minute segments. Guests included University of Minnesota professor Brenda Child and former Grand Portage Chairman Norman Deschampe, among others. Some segments also aired on Minnesota Public Radio.

It Happens Here: The Roots of Racial Inequity on the North Shore won first place for “Best Series” from the Midwest Broadcast Journalists Association for ***It Happens Here: The Roots of Racial Inequity on the North Shore***, produced and written by Staci Drouillard and co-hosted by Leah Lemm. (2022). The series also received a Regional Edward R. Murrow Award for “Excellence in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.” (2022) Awards were issued in 2023 for work completed in 2022.



It Happens Here: The Roots of Racial Inequity on the North Shore segments were posted on WTIP’s website and SoundCloud, where they received more than 450 listens in FY23. The station estimates that more than 30,000 people heard the on-air elements of the project. This project provided Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, abilities, and incomes with better access to cultural and historical programming through public broadcasting. WTIP achieved its proposed outcomes for this yearlong project.

THE LAKE SUPERIOR PROJECT

The Lake Superior Project explored the culture, environment, and history of Lake Superior and how the Lake affects people’s lives and culture along Minnesota’s North Shore. The station utilized new and existing partnerships, interviews with organizations and individuals, relationships with members of tribal governments and Band members, and uncovered new resources to highlight and enhance the rich cultural legacy of our region. WTIP produced five segments over six months.



Listeners of WTIP’s The Lake Superior Project learned about this amazing natural resource including the important role it has played in our state for commercial fishermen.

Produced by different storytellers, ***The Lake Superior Project*** is a cornerstone arts and cultural heritage feature on WTIP. The station partnered with Superior National Forest, Tettegouche State Park, and the Grand Portage Band of Ojibwe. Topics included the Grand Marais harbor, the health of the Superior National Forest, and deciphering early Ojibwe names for North Shore rivers and streams.

STATION REPORTS

The seven- to ten-minute segments were heard more than 350 times on SoundCloud. The station estimates that about 13,000 people heard the on-air segments. **The Lake Superior Project** increased the locally-focused content and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. **The Lake Superior Project** increased locally produced and relevant historical and environmental content that increased the knowledge and understanding of issues concerning Lake Superior and the surrounding area. WTIP achieved its outcomes for this project.



LIVE AT WTIP VIDEO SERIES

Live at WTIP Video Series was a video and archive project that captured live music sessions. Performances were filmed, mixed, and distributed by WTIP, while audio was broadcast as part of WTIP's Friday evening live music programming. A series of videos for each performance was shared over social media and made available online.

In FY23, WTIP recorded and aired segments of four performances, featuring Josh Cleveland, Mae Simpson, Maygen & the Birdwatcher, and The Thirsty River. From the four performances, the station produced 11 six- to ten-minute segments. Edited segments of the live performances of the **Live at WTIP Video Series** were aired via WTIP's **Scenic Route** program and reached an estimated 13,000 listeners. Videos posted on Vimeo received 676 views and videos posted on YouTube received 1,597 views. The addition of video as a multi-media approach to content creation and sharing has benefitted an increased number of Minnesota musicians, by exposing both a broadcast audience as well as an on-demand visual audience to their songs and performances. WTIP achieved its proposed outcomes for its **Live at WTIP Video Series** which was a four-month project.

RADIO WAVES MUSIC FESTIVAL

Radio Waves Music Festival was a three-day event featuring local and regional musicians in a family-friendly setting. The celebration was held at the Grand Marais Recreation Park, just a short walk from Lake Superior. Musical acts represented a number of genres; from polka and Americana to alternative rock and classic country. Artists included Rich Mattson & the Northstars; Superior Siren; Sam Miltich & the Clearwater Hot Club with Briand Morrison; Cryote; and more.

Radio Waves Music Festival attracted 1,000 music fans and received an additional \$8,000 grant from Visit Cook County. Twenty-two musical acts joined WTIP in the Grand Marais Rec Park for this three-day celebration of live music and community on the North Shore, increasing the number of Minnesota musicians whose work is showcased by public broadcasting. The station estimates that about 13,000 people heard the on-air promotional performances for the project. WTIP achieved its proposed outcomes for the **Radio Waves Music Festival**, which was a yearlong project.



WTIP's incredibly popular Radio Waves Music Festival attracted 1,000 music fans to Minnesota's North Shore. Pictured is Ginger Bones.

STATION REPORTS

SCENIC ROUTE

Scenic Route was a weekly, one-hour show dedicated to featuring the music and writing of local & regional musicians, along with interviews and announcements related to live music events. Hosted by Will Moore, **Scenic Route** increased the number of Minnesota musicians who had their work showcased through public broadcasting. Guests included Dave Simonett, Gregg McVicar, Phil Cook, Dessa, Diona Johnson, Chan Poling, and more. The station estimates that about 13,000 people heard the **Scenic Route** on-air throughout the year.

WTIP created 61 episodes of **Scenic Route** showcasing the work of 64 local or regional Minnesota performers. WTIP partnered with MN Spin, Duluth Homegrown, and the Twin Ports Music Fest for **Scenic Route**. The 64 interviews were also made available via wtip.org as on-demand audio pieces. Those 64 interviews received 1,753 listens on SoundCloud in FY23. The **Scenic Route** project was a yearlong project for which WTIP achieved its proposed outcomes.

SOUNDS AND SPARKS

Sounds and Sparks was a monthly feature that focused on interviews with Minnesota-based artists about their new releases, going track-by-track through their albums. **Sounds and Sparks** explored the moments that inspired each song on the record, and the lyrics behind them, discussing storytelling moments of when and where a song came to them, as well as the circumstances of their writing it. **Sounds and Sparks** was rapid-fire, with snippets of the songs interlaced within the conversations. In FY23, six eight- to 15-minute segments were produced.

Sounds and Sparks in-depth features focused on Minnesota musicians and was made available through on-demand distribution via SoundCloud (where they garnered 204 on-demand listens) helped to increase the number of Minnesota musicians that had their work showcased through public broadcasting. Artists featured included Rich Mattson & the Northstars, Dre AKA Jamaican, Jaedyn James, Eli Gardiner, The Foxgloves, and Clay Fulton. **Sounds and Sparks** was a six-month project and WTIP achieved its proposed outcomes for this project.

TRAVELING THE OLD NORTH SHORE

Traveling the Old North Shore was a program focused on the history of Lake Superior's North Shore. Each feature utilized historic, archival materials collected by the Cook County Historical Society and put into story form, for the WTIP listening audience. Content centered around the



WTIP's **Scenic Route** showcased the work of more than 60 Minnesota musicians like Caitlin Nicol-Thomas.



WTIP partnered with the Cook County Historical Society for its **Traveling the Old North Shore** project and taught listeners about the Toimi Children's Cemetery, Monker Lake, and more.

STATION REPORTS

people, places, and businesses within the North Shore region. WTIP produced three eight- to ten-minute segments in FY23. ***Traveling the Old North Shore*** was a three-month project.



In FY23, ***Traveling the Old North Shore*** brought listeners on a visit to the Toimi Children's Cemetery, Petrell Finnish Community Hall, and Monker Lake. These segments built a deeper understanding of local history including the stories behind lost people, lost cities, and the reasons behind changing the names of some historic places.

Traveling the Old North Shore segments distributed via the WTIP website received 291 listens on SoundCloud. The station estimates that about 13,000 people heard the on-air elements of the project which increased the amount of Minnesota-based content produced by public broadcasting and gave listeners a better understanding of Minnesota culture and history. WTIP achieved its proposed outcomes for this project.



“I used to always say I liked the news, but now I like the eclectic selection of music. I’m introduced to a lot of new artists on *Sidetracks* and *Scenic Route* and have been reintroduced to artists I enjoy.” –

Justin Cavey, commenting on *Sidetracks* and *Scenic Route*

STATION REPORTS

GRAND RAPIDS / BRAINERD – KAXE, 91.7 FM / 89.9 FM



Station Description

KAXE-FM (Grand Rapids / Brainerd) broadcasts at 91.7 FM in Grand Rapids with translators at 89.9 in Brainerd. KAXE's studios are located in Grand Rapids and are operated by Northern Community Radio. The programming engages a diverse community through news and information, music and entertainment, and events that reflect the cultures of Northern Minnesota.

Program Descriptions

THE ECONOMICS OF RURAL ART

The Economics of Rural Art was about the physical, emotional, & intellectual process of creating public art. The project explored and shared artists' stories about the economics of public art in towns across Northern Minnesota and what it means to those communities. Guest artist John Bauer talked about his new project providing a large sculpture and outdoor art area for KAXE and shared his thoughts on how important it is for art pieces to be displayed in public in non-traditional spaces. *The Economics of Rural Art* also interviewed Itasca Community College engineering students Cody Barstad and Michael Nordstrom about the large outdoor windmill art project they engineered and built for the grounds at the KAXE radio station.



KAXE-FM (Grand Rapids / Brainerd)
coverage area

The Economics of Rural Art was a yearlong project, KAXE produced and aired three shows. Each show was nine to 12 minutes long and also aired on KBXE. Of the listeners surveyed who said they had heard *The Economics of Rural Art*, 94% agreed that the project increased locally- and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio, and increased the number of local artists that have their work showcased through public broadcasting. The station also received positive comments suggesting the audience believed *The Economics of Rural Art* reflected the priorities of Arts and Cultural Heritage Funding for public broadcasting. The station estimates that approximately 4,700 people heard the shows. KAXE achieved its proposed outcomes for this project.

BETWEEN YOU AND ME PODCAST

Between You and Me Podcast produced content that spoke to the daily life and culture of Northern Minnesota from the Iron Range to Grand Rapids, Bemidji, and Brainerd, and just about every point in between. The *Between You and Me Podcast* project consisted of 40 shows, each 15 to 60 minutes long. These segments highlighted unique voices such as artist Alan Sparhawk from the Low's Sparhawk band talking about turning to the joy of music in his grief, as well as an episode dedicated to highlighting the importance of rural areas celebrating Black History Month. *Between You and Me Podcast* was a five-month project.



“So nice to hear sane people having an interesting conversation – a rarity in today’s media.”

– KAXE listener,
commenting on *Between You and Me Podcast*

STATION REPORTS

When referring to the ***Between You and Me Podcast*** one listener said, “So nice to hear sane people having an interesting conversation – a rarity in today’s media.” Additional comments and feedback the station received suggest that listeners believed the project gave them more knowledge, information, and access to the arts and that the project reflects the priorities of Arts and Cultural Heritage Funding for public broadcasting. The station estimates that approximately 4,700 people heard the shows. KAXE produced 40 episodes of the ***Between You and Me Podcast*** in FY23 and received an extension to produce and air the remaining six in FY24. The 40 episodes significantly increased the amount of locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public broadcasting and gave listeners increased access to local artists as well as cultural and historical information. The segments also aired on KBXE. KAXE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



BOOZHOO NANABOOZHOO

The ***Boozhoo Nanaboozhoo*** project was created by independent producer Michael Lyons to teach listeners the Ojibwe language and culture through radio programming and puppeteering. The puppets, Nanaboozhoo and Natasha, shared stories, poetry, prayers, singalongs, and music drawn from the Ojibwe culture, traditions, humor, and language.

Boozhoo Nanaboozhoo was a yearlong project that achieved its goals of airing 24 mini-shows on KAXE and KBXE. Each mini-show was one to two minutes in length. The same radio segments also aired on the ***Boozhoo Nanaboozhoo*** YouTube channel with video components.

Boozhoo Nanaboozhoo YouTube channel has more than 4,300 subscribers. Listeners learned the Ojibwe words for sunset & sunrise, maple sugar, as well as sage & smudging and its importance in sacred medicine practices of the Anishinaabe peoples, and much more.



KAXE's FY23 listener survey found that of those who listened to the ***Boozhoo Nanaboozhoo*** on-air segments, 95% agreed that the project helped make the Anishinaabe culture and language more accessible. The station estimates that the on-air broadcasts, which also aired on KBXE, reached about 4,700 people.

MUSIC ON THE RIVER LIVE

Music on the River Live was a free concert at the KAXE's amphitheater on the Mississippi River held in July. The popular event was highly promoted on-air and on social media. The concert featured musicians Erik Koskinen and Sarah Streitz. The event was roughly 90 minutes long and more than 250 people attended. KAXE recorded the artists' live performances and created two on-air broadcasts (one hour long and one two hours long). The station estimates that the on-air broadcasts reached about 4,700 people. ***Music on the River Live*** was a five-month project.

In KAXE's annual survey, of those who said they attended the ***Music on the River Live*** concert, 100% said it increased their knowledge and access to the arts.

STATION REPORTS

Listener comments show that they felt **Music on the River Live** reflected the priorities of the Arts and Cultural Heritage Funding for public broadcasting. KAXE achieved its proposed measurable outcomes for the project.



STAY HUMAN

For the **Stay Human** project, independent producer Michael Goldberg created and hosted a weekly hour-long program showcasing local writers, poets, and essayists read by the writers. The **Stay Human** series explored words and music for spirit and courage through topics such as baseball, adventure, the summer solstice, making history, and other thought-provoking themes. KAXE estimates that about 4,700 people heard the **Stay Human** shows.

KAXE's **Stay Human** segments increased the audience's appreciation for spoken word and storytelling. This was demonstrated by positive comments from listeners like Kathleen from Cook who said, "**Stay Human** this morning was brilliant, as were all the contributing writers, poets, philosophers and musicians. What an extraordinary hour spent being reminded what to honor and celebrate together today. Being human! Thanks also to those involved in its production and all who keep KAXE on the air. Can't imagine life without it ... without all of you!"

Stay Human exceeded its projected outputs of 44 shows by producing 46 shows, featuring 153 stories. The station's annual survey helped to prove the project met the proposed measurable outcomes. In addition to positive listener comments, of the listeners who said they had heard Stay Human, 100% said the shows give them more knowledge, information, and access to the arts, particularly to writers and storytellers. This was a yearlong project that was also distributed on stations KICI (Iowa City), WVTF (Southwest Virginia), and KBXE. KAXE achieved its proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



KAXE's Music on the River was a free 90-minute concert that showcased Minnesota musicians and attracted about 250 people.



KAXE produced and shared more than 260 artistic, cultural, and historical radio shows and segments in FY23.

STATION REPORTS

LEECH LAKE / CASS LAKE – KOJB, 90.1 FM



Station Description

KOJB-FM (Leech Lake/Cass Lake) broadcasts at 90.1. KOJB, The Eagle, is owned and operated by the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. The station serves the more than 9,000 members of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe as well as those living and working in the surrounding communities. KOJB's programming provides information about weather, news, public service announcements, Native news, humor, music, and local events.

Program Descriptions

ENVIRONMENTAL VOICES

Environmental Voices featured expert commentary on various environmental topics such as nuclear energy, the pros and cons of hydroelectricity, what geothermal energy is and how it works, simple ways to go green at work, ways to eat environmentally friendly, and how to use plants to improve indoor air quality.

KOJB produced a total of 156 ten-minute segments of **Environmental Voices** which were produced with a focus on the values that humans must protect the earth. Native American culture and history were interwoven into this environmental program to give everyone a better understanding of how we should care for the environment for future generations. KOJB interviewed individuals with the Leech Lake Division of Resource Management, The Leech Lake Health Division, and other local experts.

Environmental Voices was a yearlong project. KOJB over-delivered on what was promised in the workplan for **Environmental Voices** producing 156 rather than 104 segments. The station estimates that about 350 people heard the on-air segments. The project resulted in significantly more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and gave listeners a better understanding of Native American culture and history. KOJB achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

TRADITIONAL OJIBWE PLANTS, HERBS, AND TEAS.

KOJB produced 80 ten-minute segments of **Traditional Ojibwe Plants, Herbs, and Teas**. The segments educated listeners about the cultural and historical aspects of our first medicine, which is plants. The project explored many topics including herbal preparations, health remedies, gardening herbs, and gathering native Minnesota plants, all from the perspective of traditional Native American culture. Additionally, this project offered non-Native Americans the opportunity to learn and incorporate some aspects of Ojibwe culture into their lives and community life. Listeners learned how the velvet leaf can help with ulcers and fevers; how to remove warts with the purple coneflower; the benefits of licorice and elderberry,



KOJB-FM (Leech Lake / Cass Lake) coverage area



Award-winning producer Marie Rock produced more than 150 episodes of Environmental Voices for KOJB.

STATION REPORTS

as well as how to naturally combat sinus infections, hair loss, depression, and more. The project resulted in more than 13 hours of cultural and historical programming.



Traditional Ojibwe Plants, Herbs, and Teas was a yearlong project. KOJB over-delivered on what was promised in the workplan for this project producing 80 rather than 78 segments. The station estimates that about 350 people heard the on-air segments. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and gave listeners a better understanding of Native American culture and history. KOJB achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

HISTORY OF LEECH LAKE

For the **History of Leech Lake**, KOJB's host Elaine Fleming, an Elder of the Leech Lake Nation, also known by her spirit name, One Thunderbird Woman with the Loon Clan, shared stories and memories of Leech Lake history. Through recollections of times and people, Elaine explored memories and stories that are not found in any textbooks. This program provided a rich historical perspective on American Indian life and how it relates to today. KOJB produced 52 segments of **History of Leech Lake** that were each 10 minutes long. Listeners learned about the Forests of Anishinaabe, early boarding schools, logging and liquor issues of the early 1900s, the establishment of the Chippewa National Forest, the role Veterans from Leech Lake played in WWI, the 1189 Rice Commission, and more.



In the 52 ten-minute episodes of the History of Leech Lake listeners learned about historical information not found in textbooks.

KOJB created more than eight hours of programming for the **History of Leech Lake** project resulting in significantly more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. The station estimates that about 350 people heard the on-air segments of this project. Listeners learned a great deal more about Minnesota's Native American history. KOJB achieved the proposed measurable outcomes with this nine-month project.

LIVING THE OJIBWE WAY OF LIFE

Living the Ojibwe Way of Life explored topics such as burial day preparations, how food and water are medicine, understanding drum ceremonies, historical trauma, why are clans important, the difference between a nation and a community, dreams, Indian names, and more. Host Adrian Liberty produced 52 ten-minute segments for this nine-month project. The program brought the past to the present by featuring stories that have been passed from generation to generation by exploring the lives, food, language, and culture of the Ojibwe people. **Living the Ojibwe Way of Life** promoted increased interest, understanding, and knowledge of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, a federally recognized Indian tribe in Minnesota.

Living the Ojibwe Way of Life resulted in more than eight hours of cultural content significantly increasing the amount of locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by KOJB. The station estimates that approximately 350 people heard the on-air elements of the **Living the Ojibwe Way of Life**, which gave more Minnesotans a better



STATION REPORTS

understanding and awareness of Minnesota history and culture, especially Native American history. KOJB achieved the measurable outcomes for this project.



VETERANS' VOICES: LEECH LAKE

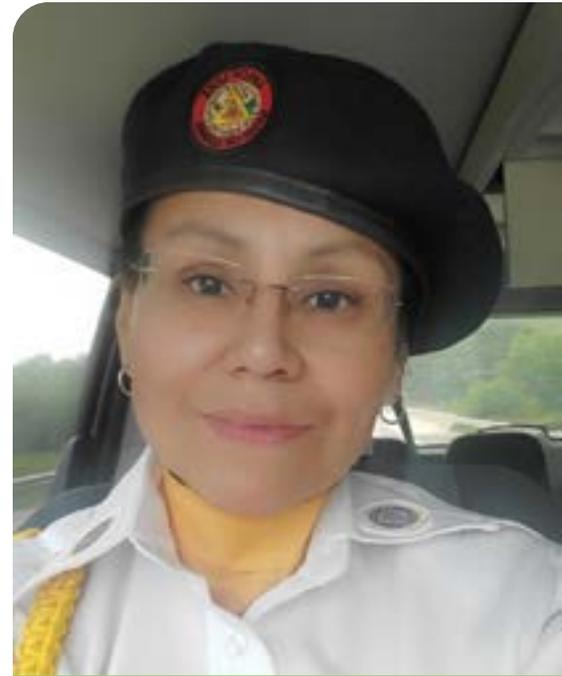
KOJB collaborated with Ampers to produce 21 episodes of **Veterans' Voices: Leech Lake**. Expanding on Ampers' incredibly popular **Veterans' Voices** franchise, producer Chaz Wagner spoke with members of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe who served in the Armed Forces and helped to protect our country. Each of the segments was two minutes long. Listeners were introduced to Theodora Redwing, who trained fellow female recruits in the Navy; Glen Cloud, who served on the USS Oklahoma; and Rebekah Fineday, who served eight years in the Air Force; along with several others. The stations estimates that about 350 people heard the on-air segments.

Veterans' Voices: Leech Lake resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. The project showcased the memories and stories of five Veterans who are members of the Leech Lake Banke of Ojibwe. KOJB achieved the proposed measurable outcomes with this 42 minutes of cultural content.

OJIBWEMOWIN, LEARNING THE OJIBWE LANGUAGE

Ojibwemowin, Learning the Ojibwe Language, was a critical endeavor for KOJB as more and more Ojibwe language speakers pass away threatening the future of the Ojibwe language. The instructor for this program focused on repetition and memorizing as a key to acquiring this language, along with core meanings and stories associated with the words to create a wider understanding and knowledge of the language. The two-minute segments play a critical role in helping to preserve the Ojibwe language. KOJB produced a total of 52 ten-minute segments of **Ojibwemowin, Learning the Ojibwe Language** for this nine-month project.

Ojibwemowin, Learning the Ojibwe Language resulted in more than eight hours of critically important cultural content significantly increasing the amount of locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by KOJB. Host Adrian Liberty taught listeners more than 50 different words and phrases along with helping to put them into context. Context is very important because Ojibwe words don't translate directly to English and the words can have a different meaning depending on the context. KOJB estimates that about 350 people hear the on-air segments. **Ojibwemowin, Learning the Ojibwe Language** helped to preserve the Ojibwe language and give Minnesotans a better understanding and awareness of Native American history and culture. KOJB achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



Christine Leith talked about what it was like to be in Operation Desert Fox during the Persian Gulf War in one of her episodes of Veterans' Voices: Leech Lake.



KOJB produced and aired more than 55 hours of ACHF programming in FY23.



STATION REPORTS

MANKATO / AUSTIN – KMSU / KMSK, 89.7 FM / 91.3 FM

Station Description

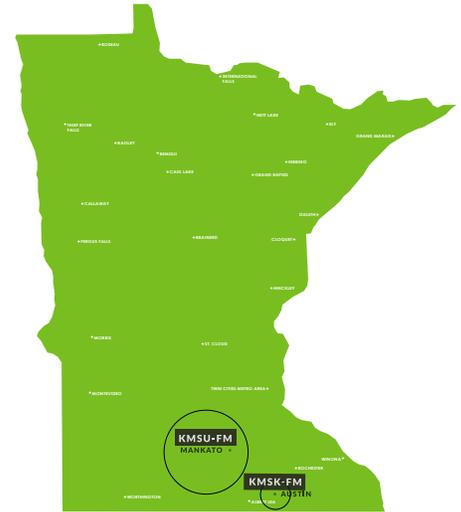
KMSU-FM (Mankato) broadcasts at 89.7 FM and sister station **KMSK-FM (Austin)** rebroadcasts KMSU's programming on 91.3 FM. Owned and operated by Minnesota State University, Mankato, KMSU serves South Central Minnesota with a blend of cultural, news, and artistic programming that's unique to the region. KMSU is a volunteer-run, listener-supported, free-form radio station. The station focuses on community and variety, and its programming is like Minnesota weather. If you don't like what you're hearing, come back in five minutes. KMSU and its Listeners: Together They Make Great Radio!

Program Descriptions

MINNESOTA MUSIC CHANNEL

KMSU embarked on an ambitious initiative to launch the **Minnesota Music Channel**, an online streaming and Hybrid Digital (HD) radio platform meticulously curated to spotlight the rich tapestry of Minnesota's musical landscape. This dedicated channel serves as a comprehensive showcase, not only amplifying the melodies of Minnesota musicians but also incorporating insightful interviews and programming that delve deep into the intricacies of their craft. To realize this vision, KMSU made strategic investments in Hybrid Digital (HD) equipment, enhancing its broadcast transmitter capabilities to allow for a digital signal, essentially a second radio station, dedicated exclusively to Minnesota music and musicians. A quote taken from KMSU media coverage by Mankato Free Press, Shelley Pierce, a KMSU radio co-host, aptly noted, "While its current rendition is captivating, the potential for further enrichment is palpable."

Central to the **Minnesota Music Channel's** character is its unwavering focus on Southern Minnesota's musical talents. A standout segment, 15 on the 15, shines a spotlight on artists or bands residing within a 15-mile radius of the KMSU studios, ensuring local talents receive due recognition. The channel strikes a harmonious balance between legendary figures like Prince, Bob Dylan, and The Replacements, and emerging artists eager to carve their niche in the global music landscape. Catering to diverse musical palates, the channel traverses a myriad of genres— from folk, rock, and jazz to extreme metal, hip-hop, experimental sounds, and even polka. Testament to its burgeoning success, the **Minnesota Music Channel** garnered 191 unique listeners, amassing an impressive 534 listening hours via the station website and the KMSU App in FY23. Anchored by a yearlong commitment, this initiative underscores KMSU's dedication to celebrating Minnesota's musical heritage while championing its vibrant contemporary scene which increased locally focused content. **Minnesota Music Channel** significantly increased the amount of locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and allowed more Minnesota artists and musicians to have their work showcased through public broadcasting. KMSU achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



KMSU-FM (Mankato) and KMSK-FM (Austin) coverage area



STATION REPORTS

LARGE OUTDOOR MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES

KMSU played an instrumental role in amplifying Southern Minnesota's vibrant music and arts culture by actively supporting multiple **Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances** throughout the year. The project included a notable collaboration with the **Rock Bend Folk Festival**, an annual musical event that follows Labor Day weekend, drawing an impressive crowd of around 10,000 attendees. Additionally, KMSU's **Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances** project extended to promoting and enhancing the reach of community events such as **Alive After Five** and **Songs on the Lawn**. These free outdoor concerts, held at the Civic Center Plaza in downtown Mankato, showcased a blend of local and regional talent, curated in partnership with Greater Mankato Growth and the City Center Partnership. Further expanding its cultural footprint for the **Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances**, KMSU collaborated with the **Austin Artworks Festival**, a two-day celebration spotlighting local artists, and spotlighted events at Wheeler Park in North Mankato and Minnesota Square Park in St. Peter. A pivotal moment in this lineup was the **Ambassador's Bluesfest**, often held as the inaugural event ushering in Southern Minnesota's lively summer of arts and music festivities.

To ensure inclusivity and accessibility, KMSU broadcast the **Alive After Five** concerts live, providing a platform for those unable to attend physically. The station's programming spectrum was enriched with tailored segments such as the 59-minute **Minnesota Original Music Festival** review and live broadcasts spanning three hours of the **Rock Bend Folk Festival**. Additional content included a 30-minute review for **Blues on Belgrade**, comprehensive previews for **Songs on the Lawn**, **Austin Artworks**, **The Ambassador's Bluesfest**, and a succinct 10-minute preview for **Music in the Park**. With an estimated reach of 5,000 listeners per segment, KMSU's strategic initiatives not only showcased a diverse array of arts, crafts, and musical genres but also fostered a sense of community engagement. Cumulatively, these events attracted over 24,000 attendees in FY23, offering residents and visitors alike a rich tapestry of music and art experiences. This enabled the project to meet measurable outcomes through the platform for local artists, musicians, historians, writers, and various creatives, enabling them to showcase their talents and contributions through public radio, spotlighting the artist's work to a broader audience. **Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances** successfully met the objectives outlined for this multifaceted yearlong project.

COLLABORATION WITH THE ARTS CENTER OF ST. PETER

KMSU enhanced a dynamic partnership with the Art Center of St. Peter, orchestrating a compelling series of music events as part of the **Collaboration with the Arts Center of St. Peter** initiative. Functioning as an intersection of promotional, financial, and hosting support, KMSU amplified local jazz talent through five well-curated events at the Pavilion in Minnesota Square Park in St. Peter. The lineup showcased artists such as Masa Ishikawa, Liz Draper and Friends, Steely Ann, EZ Jazz Trio, and Joe Tougas and Associates, drawing an



KMSU's Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances project helped to attract more than 24,000 people to area arts and music events.

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enthusiastic audience totaling approximately 820 attendees. Beyond live performances, this collaboration extended its creative reach with a captivating radio drama production of *Plan 9 From Outer Space*, enlisting community members to lend their voices to this 59-minute broadcast. Further enriching the project's tapestry was the Pageant and Singalong Nation Midlife Recital, a poignant live music performance where community members rendered songs that resonated with them during the challenging pandemic period. KMSU worked on its **Collaboration with the Arts Center of St. Peter** project for five months.



In alignment with the project's objectives, KMSU amplified these collaborations through three one-hour programs, reaching an estimated on-air audience of about 5,000 listeners. This expansive platform not only showcased live recordings from these events but also spotlighted local residents who contributed their creative prowess to the radio drama production. The collective resonance of these endeavors was noticeable, as evidenced by the enthusiastic reception from listeners and participants alike.

Collaboration with the Arts Center of St. Peter resulted in increased exposure to professional performing arts and the work of professional artists and gave more Minnesotans of all ages ethnicities and incomes access to Minnesota arts and music than they would have had without this project. KMSU achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

COLLABORATION WITH MSU DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC PERFORMANCE SERIES

KMSU collaborated closely with the Music Department at Minnesota State University, Mankato (MSU) to curate a distinctive concert series under the banner **Collaboration with MSU Department of Music Performance Series**. This ambitious project showcased a diverse lineup of Minnesota-based artists, including notable names such as Cactus Blossoms, Scott Miller, John Wright, Erik Koskinen, Molly Dean Anderson, City Mouse, and Sarah Morris. Integral to this initiative

was the invaluable hands-on experience provided to MSU's Music Department students, allowing them to immerse themselves in the practical aspects of concert production and audio technology. Over the course of the yearlong project, the series culminated in five live events, each drawing an impressive audience of approximately 500 attendees.

To amplify the project's reach and impact, KMSU crafted a 59-minute broadcast segment encapsulating the sound of these live events. This segment, which attracted about 5,000 on-air listeners, was shared with a broader audience through Public Radio Exchange



KMSU's Collaboration with the Arts Center of St. Peter helped to put local jazz musicians in front of an audience of more than 800 people.



The Cactus Blossoms of Minneapolis were among the bands showcased by KMSU's partnership with the Minnesota State University, Mankato's Department of Music.

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(PRX). The initiative not only highlighted the talent of Minnesota’s vibrant music scene but also provided a pivotal platform for local musicians to have their work exposed to a new audience and showcased on public radio which the musicians were grateful for when surveyed. The project also gave more Minnesotans of all ages ethnicities and incomes access to this Minnesota arts and music than would have been the case if KMSU had not done this project. KMSU achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for ***Collaboration with MSU Department of Music Performance Series***.



MANKATO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA RECORDINGS

KMSU spearheaded the ***Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings*** project, a comprehensive endeavor encompassing the production, recording, editing, and broadcast of four meticulously crafted stereo recordings of Mankato Symphony Orchestra (MSO) concerts. With the primary goal of enhancing accessibility to local classical music, the project aimed to bring the richness of orchestral performances to the airwaves for Southern Minnesota residents. The live concerts were captured with professional precision, utilizing multiple microphones and state-of-the-art digital equipment. These recordings were then expertly edited into four distinct 60 to 90-minute shows, featuring compelling works by renowned composers such as Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, Howard Blake, Michael Abels, Joan Tower, and Dimitri Shostakovich. The broadcast of each performance typically occurred the Sunday following the live event, marking the culmination of this ten-month project.



Those unable to attend the Mankato Symphony Orchestra concerts in person were still able to enjoy the beautiful music thanks to KMSU’s Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings project.

The impact of KMSU’s ***Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings*** was substantial, reaching an estimated audience of 5,000 listeners per segment. Expanding the project’s reach, the station made these recordings accessible on the Public Radio Exchange (PRX), and concerted efforts were undertaken to share them with various broadcast partners. The project garnered commendation from the MSO, with Executive Director Dr. Bethel Balge, and Ernesto Estibarribia, Music Director and Conductor, expressing appreciation for being interviewed before each recorded performance was featured. They liked the ability to guide the listening audience through the performance. This collaborative effort effectively realized the proposed outcomes, demonstrating KMSU’s commitment to bringing the cultural richness of classical music to a broader audience in Southern Minnesota.

MAHKATO WACIPI (POW WOW)

KMSU played a role in amplifying the 50th Annual Mahkato Traditional Wacipi, an esteemed Indian Pow Wow held at Dakota Wokiksuye Makece, through its Legacy project ***Mahkato Wacipi (Pow Wow)***. In alignment with the event’s profound vision statement, which underscores the Mahkato Mdewakanton Association’s commitment to reconciliation and cultural preservation, KMSU produced a compelling 20-minute interview. This segment not only promoted the ***Mahkato Wacipi (Pow Wow)*** but also enlightened listeners about its historical significance. Mahkato Traditional Wacipi vision statement reads that “in the



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spirit of reconciliation, Mahkato Mdewakanton Association is committed to healing and enriching the experiences of Dakota and non-Dakota communities through the preservation and sharing of Dakota history, traditions, and culture.” The Pow Wow took place at the Land of Memories Park in Mankato and honored the 38 Dakota members who were killed in the largest mass execution in the United States. This gathering of nations celebrated and honored traditions and ancestors, with the goal of reconciliation and bridge-building between all nations through education, storytelling, and the sharing of Dakota Indian culture. **Mahkato Wacipi (Pow Wow)** was a three-month project.



Reflecting the project’s profound impact **Mahkato Wacipi (Pow Wow)** helped support Indigenous dancers and drummers at the annual Mahkato Traditional Wacipi, that drew an impressive attendance of approximately 3,500 individuals. Attendees learned more about Dakota culture as well as the 1862 U.S.–Dakota Conflict. The station estimates approximately 5,000 people heard the on-air elements of the project. The project helped give Minnesotans a better understanding of Native American history and culture and helped arts and culture to thrive more than would have been the case had KMSU not been able to do this project. The station achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



KMSU’s Mahkato Wacipi (Pow Wow) project helped to attract and teach more than 3,500 people about Indigenous dancing, drumming, and other elements of a traditional Pow Wow.

SMALL VENUE MUSIC & ARTS PERFORMANCES

KMSU played an important role in enhancing and promoting Southern Minnesota’s vibrant music and arts scene by actively publicizing and contributing to a diverse array of **Small Venue Music and Arts Performances** in the Mankato and St. Peter area. This multifaceted project saw KMSU collaborate with local venues and businesses, showcasing 27 live events that collectively drew a lively audience of approximately 2,500 attendees. The station also curated and aired five on-air shows, each showcasing hour-long performances that captured the essence of the region’s diverse musical tapestry as part of this yearlong project.

Among the standout events was the **Golden Hour** series, a melodious journey that brought local music acts to the outdoor patio of the Wine Café in downtown Mankato. KMSU produced a one-hour review of **Golden Hour** featuring selected performances recorded live at the event. The Music Events at **Mankato Makerspace** series, hosted at the nonprofit creative studio Mankato Makerspace, provided a platform for local musicians to captivate audiences while introducing newcomers to this vibrant artistic community. The impactful Juneteenth celebration in Civic Center Plaza honored African American independence, fostering a space for cultural appreciation, empowerment, and the support of Black-owned businesses.

The station also produced **Free Form Freaktout Presents**, two 30- to 60-minute performances recorded and featured on Free Form Freaktout, an hour-long review show of **Keeping it Local Presents**, a showcase of local singer-songwriters at The Enchanted Muse in Mankato, and an hour-long show entitled **KMSU Presents**, which featured selected performances recorded during the various live events associated with the project.



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The project also included initiatives like *Free Form Freakout Presents*, offering outsider musicians a live platform and radio exposure, and *Keepin It Local Presents*, a showcase of local singer-songwriters at The Enchanted Muse in Mankato. The expansive KMSU Presents series featured 11 music performances at various small venues, enriching the local cultural landscape. These on-air elements gave listeners increased exposure to professional performing arts and the work of professional Minnesota artists



Acknowledging the pivotal role played by small music venues in the community's social fabric, KMSU's efforts fostered deepened relationships between the station, community members, and these vital cultural spaces. The station estimates that the on-air elements of **Small Venue Music and Arts Performances** reached about 5,000 listeners who were treated to captivating interviews and recorded performances, featuring Minnesota artists such as Good Night Gold Dust, Silver Summer, Given Names, Thirsty Giants, Liz Draper, Bee Balm Fields, Ben Scruggs, Laura Karels, Nate Boots, iE, and Chris Bertrand. More Minnesotans had access to this Minnesota music than would have if KMSU had not done this project. The station achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for **Small Venue Music and Arts Performances**.



KMSU's Small Venue Music & Arts Performances promoted nearly 40 performances by Minnesota musicians including Kit Kildahl and Josh Gravelin.

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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL – KBEM (JAZZ88), 88.5 FM



Station Description

KBEM-FM “Jazz88” (Minneapolis / St. Paul) broadcasts at 88.5 FM and is heard online at Jazz88.fm. KBEM is the Twin Cities’ source for jazz, blues, and roots music, as well as BBC World News and MnDOT traffic reports. Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) launched KBEM as a learning lab more than 50 years ago. Since then it has grown to become financially self-supporting and one of the highest-rated jazz stations in the nation, while still fulfilling an educational mission as part of MPS. KBEM receives nearly half of its annual revenue from individual donors. Those donations, along with state and federal grants, support radio and digital audio services, live events, and hands-on educational programs.



KBEM-FM “Jazz88” (Minneapolis / St. Paul) coverage area

Program Descriptions

FLASH CONCERT SERIES / JAZZCLECTIC CONCERT SERIES

Jazz88 successfully executed its **Flash Concert Series**, later re-branded as its **JazzClectic Concert Series**, through a strategic collaboration with Chadwick Phillips and his production firm, The Avant Garde. Together, they orchestrated four live concert events featuring some of Minnesota’s finest jazz and jazzy musicians. The carefully selected performers showcased their talents in high-foot traffic locations and peak times, garnering increased attention for both the artists and the jazz art form. The primary objective of The **Flash Concert Series / JazzClectic Concert Series** was to introduce jazz to an audience unfamiliar with the vibrant landscape of Minnesota’s current live performers. Rather than hosting exclusive, ticketed events, the initiative aimed to reach individuals where they already were, broadening the accessibility of jazz.

Noteworthy artists, such as Brandon Commodore’s NRG, Kevin Washington & Ra Spirit, and LA Buckner & Big Homie, performed at the four concerts, each of which was transformed into on-air broadcasts to extend the exposure to those unable to attend in person. The three-month project encompassed hour-and-a-half live events, edited down to one-hour broadcasts, attracting approximately 3,700 live attendees and reaching an additional 23,000 listeners through on-air broadcasts.



Instead of bringing people to the concerts, Jazz88’s JazzClectic Concert Series brought the concerts to the people, like this one at the Mall of America.

The concerts, which were offered free of charge to the public, not only exposed a significant number of Minnesotans to arts and culture but also provided invaluable exposure for the participating musicians. The strategic partnerships formed with the Mall of America, Allianz Field/Minnesota United FC, and the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board

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helped give even more Minnesotans access to these cultural concerts. Furthermore, Jazz88's commitment to fair compensation was evident, as all sixteen musicians involved were paid for their performances. The project successfully met its proposed measurable outcomes, solidifying the **Flash Concert Series / JazzClectic Concert Series** as a resounding success in promoting jazz and enriching the cultural landscape of Minnesota.



JAZZ@MPS

Jazz@MPS was a comprehensive initiative undertaken by Jazz88, which encompassed a series of programs derived from live concerts, in-studio performances, and insightful interviews with aspiring student jazz musicians at both high school and college levels. The overarching goal of the program was not merely to showcase the musical prowess of today's emerging talents but also to delve into their inspirations and aspirations within the jazz tradition. Among the standout performances were Minneapolis Edison High School's concert at Disneyland, local artist Pete Whitman leading Minneapolis South High's jazz band, and the University of Minnesota's Twin Cities director of jazz, Dean Sorenson, presenting his own work along with recordings from his students.

In close collaboration with Minneapolis Public Schools high school band directors and college jazz directors from prominent institutions like the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, Minnesota State University-Moorhead, Winona State University, and Minnesota State University-Mankato, Jazz88 facilitated the involvement of 180 musicians, a substantial number of whom were students. The yearlong project resulted in the creation of 15 new hour-long shows which were part of the 52 **Jazz@MPS** shows that Jazz88 broadcast in FY23. These weekly broadcasts reached an estimated audience of approximately 81,000 individuals, providing a platform for youth musicians and instructors from across Minneapolis Public Schools to significantly expand the reach of their musical contributions. Through these on-air programs, their creative work resonated with a broader audience. **Jazz@MPS** also resulted in more local and Minnesota-focused content produced by public broadcasting. The station achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

MINNESOTA JAZZ TRACKS

The **Minnesota Jazz Tracks** project featured a comprehensive 24/7 streaming audio service, showcasing recordings and engaging conversations with talented Minnesota jazz musicians. In addition to this content, the project incorporated other KBEM-produced and Legacy Amendment-funded materials. The station further expanded its reach by broadcasting a two-hour weekly radio show on its FM signal every Monday night.

Throughout the course of the yearlong project, the on-air shows reached about 122,000 listeners, complemented by an estimated streaming audience of 93,075. The initiative comprised a 24/7 continuous stream and 52 weekly 2-hour programs, yielding substantial engagement with the stream, which was accessed 538,263 times by nearly 17,000 different visitors. Beyond the quantitative metrics, this project played a pivotal role in providing our state's jazz musicians with access to a significantly larger audience, thereby enhancing the accessibility of their work to all Minnesotans. **Minnesota Jazz Tracks** gave KBEM's

A promotional graphic for "Minnesota Jazz Tracks" with a blue background. At the top, the title "Minnesota Jazz Tracks" is written in large, bold, white and yellow letters, with "With Sam Keenan" in smaller white text below it. Below the title are three small images: a man playing a saxophone, a group of people, and a man sitting on a bench. At the bottom, it says "Mondays at 7pm" and "KBEM 88.5 FM & Anytime at jazz88.fm". A green banner at the very bottom contains the text: "Minnesota Jazz Tracks included a 24/7 online stream as well as a two-hour weekly on-air radio broadcast."/>

Minnesota Jazz Tracks
With Sam Keenan

Mondays at 7pm
KBEM 88.5 FM & Anytime at jazz88.fm

Minnesota Jazz Tracks included a 24/7 online stream as well as a two-hour weekly on-air radio broadcast.

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Legacy-funded programming more venues and resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. KBEM achieved the measurable outcomes for this project.



TWIN CITIES WEEKEND/TWIN CITIES THIS WEEK

Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week consisted of two weekly eight-minute segments of interviews artfully mixed with an artist's own music. Each of the two segments of **Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week** aired three times during the week preceding the performances. Additionally, this project created non-date-specific versions of the radio programs, called Minnesota Music Profiles, which promoted an artist in general, and which many artists posted on their own websites as a marketing tool. Musical artists of all genres were represented and promoted, potentially bringing them more work, as they could use the piece as a marketing tool.

KBEM's **Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week** project prominently featured key artists such as Lila Ammons, Dakota Dave Hull, Nunnabove, and Charlie Maguire. This comprehensive initiative spanned both on-air programming and podcasts, with the on-air segments reaching an estimated audience of approximately 15,000 listeners each week. The production team successfully created and delivered 79 episodes of **Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week**, surpassing the initial projection by nine episodes and staying within the original budget.

A noteworthy aspect of the project was its inclusive approach, showcasing musical artists across various genres, aiming to provide them with increased exposure and opportunities to earn income for their work. The project's impact extended beyond traditional broadcasting, with **Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week** amassing nearly 600 on-demand plays on Public Radio Exchange (PRX). This online platform facilitated broader accessibility and engagement, contributing to the overall success of the project and reinforcing its role in supporting and promoting diverse musical talent within the Twin Cities community. This yearlong project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. The station achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for the project.

THE JAZZ IMAGE - MINNESOTA EDITION

The Jazz Image - Minnesota Edition was a series created from archival interviews that longtime Minnesota jazz broadcaster, the late Leigh Kamman, conducted with key Minnesota jazz musicians. This archival tape was matched to music by the featured artist and recently recorded narrative information to put the conversation in context. Featured artists included musicians like Dave King, Adi Yeshaya, and Mary Louise Knutson

The Jazz Image - Minnesota Edition was a yearlong project and included a total of ten segments that were each five to seven minutes long. An estimated 34,000 people heard the on-air segments. Jazz88 received positive feedback about **The Jazz Image - Minnesota Edition**. Ruth Farina from St. Paul told the station, "Really enjoying the Leigh Kamman segments when I happen to hear them on the air." She went on to ask how she can listen to the segments online. **The Jazz Image - Minnesota Edition** resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and also gave listeners a better sense of the historical depth of jazz talent in the Twin Cities. Jazz88 achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

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JAZZ LEGENDS – THE ELDERS

Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders was a live concert and radio broadcast to honor and promote several notable and prolific jazz figures with Minnesota connections. Some of these legends, who are in their 70s and 80s, continue to perform and did so at this event along with a backing group of younger Minnesota musicians. The FY23 event and broadcast posthumously honored pianist/clarinetist and ‘A Prairie Home Companion’ musician and Jazz88 ‘Jazz Originals’ host Butch Thompson, who earned Legend status in his lifetime. The show also featured living Legends Denny Malmberg (piano/accordion/bass), Douglas Ewart (saxophone, flute), and Joan Griffith (guitar, bass, mandolin).



The Jazz Image – Minnesota Edition was a yearlong project. The live concert itself was about two hours which the station edited down to a special one-hour on-air show. About 300 people attended the concert. The station estimates that about 4,000 people heard the on-air show. Jazz88 partnered with the Minnesota History Center for **The Jazz Image – Minnesota Edition**, which showcased the work of six Minnesota musicians. The success of this project reflects Jazz88’s commitment to preserving and promoting the cultural heritage of jazz in Minnesota while fostering connections between generations of musicians and audiences alike. Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and made Minnesotans more aware of the rich history of Minnesota jazz. KBEM achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



Jazz88 partnered with the Minnesota History Center for Jazz Legends – The Elders.

MPS VOICES

For its **MPS Voices** project, Jazz88 worked on and eventually launched an audio stream featuring the work of Minneapolis Public Schools students, at [MPSVoices.com](https://www.mpsvoices.com). Content examples include student-generated podcasts, music performances, spoken word performances, school lunch menus, public service announcements, MPS school news from any school, and special music programming. All of this was designed to give Minneapolis Public Schools students, teachers, and faculty a platform to inform, entertain, and share their talents and artistry.



MPS Voices provided aspiring young artists with a much larger audience for their work.

MPS Voices was a yearlong project. The majority of the year was spent developing the concept, website, and distribution platform. The station reports that about 90 students were involved throughout the creation and launch process. The stream itself didn’t launch until mid-June of 2023 so analytics are not available. As a result, Jazz88 is unable to report on measurable outcomes at this time but will track and report on them in the FY24 Legislative Report.

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TWIN CITIES JAZZFEST–MAIN STAGE & BROADCAST PARTNER

Jazz88 provided listeners with two days of live programming with its **Twin Cities JazzFest–Main Stage & Broadcast Partner** project. The station partnered with the *Twin Cities Jazz Festival* to give more people access to the concerts by broadcasting them live on-air and on the Minnesota Jazz Tracks and MPS Voices audio streams. Those unable to attend the concerts in person could still enjoy the music from wherever they were listening to Jazz88, on-air or online. In addition to showcasing top Minnesota acts like Davina and the Vagabonds, Jack Brass Band, and Katia Cardenas, the project also carried the national headliner performances and helped to promote up-and-coming jazz artists including youth acts. **Twin Cities JazzFest–Main Stage & Broadcast Partner** resulted in 30.5 hours of live programming from the festival. The station also recorded the concerts and is using the content to add live cuts to regular rotation from fabled Minnesota live jazz acts who rarely or never cut studio albums, and also to offer full-length live sets as on-air specials in FY24.



Twin Cities JazzFest–Main Stage & Broadcast Partner was a yearlong project that resulted in significantly more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. The station estimates that about 38,000 people attended the festival and that another 18,500 people heard the on-air elements. **Twin Cities JazzFest–Main Stage & Broadcast Partner** helped to showcase the work of 200 musicians, a large number of whom were youth. KBEM achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



Jazz88's Twin Cities Jazzfest - Main Stage & Broadcast Partner project resulted in more than 30 hours of live radio programming.

STATION REPORTS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL – KFAI, 90.3 FM



Station Description

KFAI-FM (Minneapolis / St. Paul) broadcasts at 90.3 FM. Founded in 1978, KFAI is known for its eclectic entertainment and public affairs programming. KFAI's volunteer-powered 24/7/365 broadcast features nearly 90 programs in nine languages, with 83 programs produced locally and in-house. BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, and intersectional identities lead more than 60% of the programs on the broadcast schedule, making KFAI one of the most culturally and socio-economically diverse broadcast media outlets in Minnesota.



KFAI-FM (Minneapolis / St. Paul) coverage area

Program Descriptions

10,000 FRESH VOICES

KFAI's produced 26 segments of its award-winning **10,000 Fresh Voices** series. The project consists of mini-documentaries, four to seven minutes long, about Minnesota arts, culture, and history. The segments are produced by Minnesotans from across the state. The project highlighted under-told stories from our state, with a particular focus on stories from BIPOC, LGBTQ+, immigrant, and low-income communities. Forty individual Minnesotan artists and/or cultural influencers were profiled in **10,000 Fresh Voices** stories, including Border CrossSing, Ecuador Mantra, Women's Advocates, and Jaida Grey Eagle.

10,000 Fresh Voices segments aired weekly on KFAI's **MinneCulture Presents** program as well as other times throughout the week. The station estimates that in total the 10,000 Fresh Voices segments reached a broadcast audience of 15,000 to 20,000 people and 2,360 listens on SoundCloud. Of the 26 segments produced, the segment "The Tiny Town that (Almost) Wasn't" was featured in an episode of the Anoka County Historical Society podcast. **10,000 Fresh Voices** received a first-place award from the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists for the segment "History Submerged in the Land of 10,000 Lakes," a story produced by Michelle Bruch about a husband-wife team that searches for artifacts in Minnesota lakes and rivers.

10,000 Fresh Voices was a yearlong project. It resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio, gave more Minnesotans increased access to the arts, culture, and history of the state than they would have had if the programs hadn't aired, and showcased forty Minnesota artists and cultural influencers. KFAI achieved its proposed measurable outcomes for **10,000 Fresh Voices**.



10,000 Fresh Voices and MinneCulture earned a First Place Award from the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists.

HIDDEN BLACK FOODWAYS

KFAI originally planned for **Hidden Black Foodways** to be an audio documentary series that would shed light on stories of Black food pioneers, culinary artists, and phenomena

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within the canon of Black, African American, and African cookery. Unfortunately, due to staffing issues, KFAI had to cancel the project. However, as a result of the research KFAI conducted for the project, the station was able to digitize and publish three episodes of KMOJ's *Public Policy Forum* hosted by Al McFarlane and broadcast live from Lucille's Kitchen in North Minneapolis. These tapes, from 1998 and 2002, chronicle important community conversations that were broadcast on an Ampers station. KFAI distributed the shows online via Public Radio Exchange (PRX) and can be used for historical documentation in the future. They also provide Minnesotans with a public record of community dialogue. KFAI canceled the *Hidden Black Foodways* project and removed it from its workplan. But, because the station spent a small amount of Legacy funds on research for the project (less than \$1,000), Ampers requested that the station still create some form of deliverables for it. So, the station created three podcasts that were between 35 and 78 minutes long. Because KFAI canceled this project and removed it from its workplan, there were no measurable outcomes for the project.



LIVE FROM MINNESOTA

Live from Minnesota was KFAI's concert series that showcased original content by artists living and working in Minnesota and featured performances by creators spanning experience/career levels, age groups, musical genres, cultural identities, and members of the LGBTQIA+ community. Each performance was curated with the intention of 1) increasing access and representation in the performing arts, 2) creating paid opportunities for working artists and industry professionals, 3) uplifting local talent, and 4) creating shareable content for working artists.



KFAI produced two concerts showcasing Minnesota bands for its Live from Minnesota project.

KFAI held two live concerts as part of the *Live from Minnesota* project. For the *DUH! Halloween Dance Party*, KFAI worked with The 90s Preservation Society to present the event, held at the Cedar Cultural Center, that featured Mine, The Butter Boys, and the Real Chuck Norad. The station estimates that 150 people attended the event. The *DUH* concert provided emergent artists a platform. The artists all shared that they felt adequately compensated, which is not often felt in the music industry. They also expressed appreciation for the fact that they could easily share the videos KFAI created giving the artists even more exposure. They had a tangible output that they could use to share their music more broadly.

For its second event, KFAI partnered with the *FLOW Northside Arts Crawl* to produce a *Live from Minnesota* concert, which served as the impetus of a new partnership between KFAI and the West Broadway Business and Area Coalition. The *FLOW* concert featured ShaVunda Brown, Ehnyla Tiye, Epitome No Questions, and Yonic Jameson, with emcee Ashlii Henderson. Two thousand people attended the *FLOW Northside Art Crawl*. Unfortunately, the video and audio recordings from the *FLOW* concert were lost when the equipment was stolen from the community producer's vehicle.

In addition to the half-hour show that aired from the *Live from Minnesota DUH* show, KFAI also produced three shows in FY23 from concerts recorded in FY22, featuring Mrs. Pinky and the Great Fox, The Muatas, and Javier Trejo y Caballo C3smico. The station estimates that between

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15,000-20,000 listeners heard the on-air shows. **Live from Minnesota** also shared six videos of individual songs performed at the **DUH** concert on YouTube, garnering 1,392 views.



Live from Minnesota resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio, allowed more Minnesota artists to have their work showcased through public media, and exposed more Minnesotans to Minnesota musicians. KFAI achieved its proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

MINNECULTURE

KFAI combined **MinneCulture In-Depth** and **MinneCulture Podcasts** into one project, **MinneCulture**, in FY23. The award-winning project consists of in-depth radio documentaries and podcasts covering a variety of Minnesota arts, culture, and historical topics. The ten **MinneCulture** episodes were 15 to 30 minutes long. Hosted by John Gebretatose, **MinneCulture** had a particular focus on stories from the BIPOC, LGBTQ+, immigrant, low-income, and other historically marginalized communities. The goal of the series was to explore the people and events that have shaped our state throughout the years.

In FY23 **MinneCulture** taught listeners about the love letters between Rose Cleveland and Evangeline Simpson Whipple, the Kensington Runestone, A. A. Ames, women of the Minnesota Fur Trade, and much more. The project showcased 17 artists and/or cultural influencers. These artists/cultural influencers had their work showcased on PRX, SoundCloud, KFAI.org, and over-the-air.

MinneCulture garnered 750 listens via SoundCloud and 2,617 podcast downloads and 3,367 podcast listens. The **MinneCulture** Facebook page saw 8,994 Facebook engagements. The station estimates that between 15,000 and 20,000 heard the on-air segments. **MinneCulture** was a 40-week project. KFAI achieved the proposed outcomes of giving more Minnesotans access to art and culture, increasing the amount of locally focused content on public radio, and increasing awareness of how history has affected our lives.



MinneCulture listeners learned the role women played in Minnesota's fur trade.

STATION REPORTS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL – KMOJ, 89.9 FM



Station Description

KMOJ-FM (Minneapolis / St. Paul) broadcasts at 89.9 FM. The station features soul, blues, urban gospel, reggae, jazz, hip-hop, spoken word, and talk shows aimed at African-American listeners. Formed in the mid-1970's, the station trains broadcasters as it shares vital information with people living in the eleven-county metropolitan area. More than 88% of African Americans in the marketplace listen to KMOJ.

Program Descriptions

40PINIONS

40pinions was a vibrant talk show that sparked meaningful and penetrating conversations about pressing issues in the African American Community. The show's four hosts, Thomas Berry, LaToya Wilson, Tiffany Washington, and Walter "Q-Bear" Banks, covered topics like racism, health disparities, childcare challenges within the community, African American History, and domestic violence issues within the community. **40pinions** was a four-month project.

The weekly hour-long program had a vibrant listener participating throughout the show. **40pinions** aired live at 8 am on Saturdays starting in March. The station estimates that between 10,000 and 12,000 people heard the shows. KMOJ produced 16 shows in FY23 exposing listeners to more of Minnesota's African American culture and history allowing them to make more informed decisions in the future. **40pinions** resulted in significantly more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. KMOJ achieved the proposed outcomes for this project to inform and educate listeners who may benefit from the discussions.

DANCING WITH THE DJS

More than 1.8 million people attended the 2023 Minnesota State Fair where KMOJ held its **Dancing with the DJs** series. During each of the 12 days of the fair, KMOJ featured Minnesota-based DJs, including DJ Ray Mills, DJ Shine, DJ Ones, DJ Lady T, and DJ Chill Will, among others. Fair attendees had the chance to show off their favorite dance moves that coincided with the unique sounds of a dozen urban DJs reflecting their personal and cultural musical styles. Fairgoers heard a range of DJ spinning techniques, several different styles of music, and saw many different dance steps from various dance organizations that performed in front of KMOJ's space along with the DJs. KMOJ promoted the series on-air, on their website, and on social media, resulting in 22 DJs requesting to take part in **Dancing with the DJs**. Twelve local DJs got to showcase their work at KMOJ's booth at the Minnesota State Fair for this project.



KMOJ-FM (Minneapolis / St. Paul)
coverage area



State Fairgoers got to enjoy the musical talent of 12 DJs thanks to KMOJ's Dancing with the DJs project.

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KMOJ estimates more than 250,000 people passed by their booth during the 12 days of the State Fair, providing the 12 DJs with incredible exposure. **Dancing with the DJs** was a six-month project and achieved its goal of increasing exposure for local DJs and increasing the number of local artists who had their work showcased through public broadcasting.



DISRUPTIVE NARRATIVES

Disruptive Narratives reached into the heart of the KMOJ community to give voice to people across communities, neighborhoods, and generations by bringing forward stories, perspectives, and experiences that previously had not been heard. **Disruptive Narratives** focused on people who are impacted by history and systemic processes of neglect and disinvestment. The show focused on sharing cultural perspectives often not shared because they tend to challenge what our society may think it knows. The guests served as the experts as they were given the opportunity to express their own reality.

Led by Dr. Brittany Lewis of Research in Action, and in partnership with Ampers, KMOJ produced 12 half-hour episodes of **Disruptive Narratives** which featured seven community members. The shows explored tough topics like Missing and Murdered African American Women, art justice, youth leadership, and housing justice. The station estimates between 10,000 and 12,000 people heard the shows. **Disruptive Narratives** was a six-month project. KMOJ achieved its proposed outcomes of creating more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and helping to increase awareness of Minnesota's African American culture and history.



Led by Dr. Brittany Lewis, KMOJ's **Disruptive Narratives** tackled tough topics like missing and murdered African American women and housing injustice.

RONDO'S GOLDEN TYME CUPPA LOVE

The radio documentary **Rondo's Golden Tyme Cuppa Love** got its title because Golden Thyme is more than a coffee shop. For more than 20 years, it's been the heart of Rondo, St. Paul's legendary Black neighborhood. KMOJ partnered with Ampers to produce this powerful 30-minute program. With KMOJ Host of Bukown Holland, listeners went back in time, hearing how the Golden Thyme Coffee Cafe' evolved into a meeting place for sharing ideas, developing plans, meeting new people, and convening old friends separated by the construction of Interstate 94 which separated a largely African American community with rich history. Prior to the freeway cutting the neighborhood in half, the area had been experiencing a social and cultural boom showcasing music, theater, and more

The thirty-minute special was highly promoted online by a proud team of community producers and community members, who felt a documentary focus on the historic coffee shop was long overdue. After the initial airing, on Juneteenth, there were requests for encore performances. The station estimates that between 10,000 and 12,000 people heard the documentary. **Rondo's Golden Tyme Cuppa Love** was a 9-month project that resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and gave listeners a better understanding of the area's African American history. KMOJ achieved its proposed outcomes for this project.

LOL: LIVE ON LOCATION

KMOJ's **LOL: Live on Location** events were an opportunity to take the radio studio into the community and broadcast excerpts, or even a two to four-hour show live

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on location. For KMOJ's Juneteenth Celebration, the *KMOJ Morning Show* hosts Freddie Bell and Chantel SinGs broadcasted the station's four-hour program from the steps of the State Capitol Building in St. Paul from 6 am to 10 am. The event was held in partnership with the office of State Senator and Senate President Bobby Jo Champion in celebration of Juneteenth and it becoming a state holiday.



The second **LOL: Live on Location** took place in August at the second annual Black Business in the Midway event, a celebration of black businesses. The community-centered gathering included games, free food, family activities, and, of course, music. **LOL: Live on Location** was on-air from the event for four hours, taking four call-ins.

LOL: Live on Location was a two-month project that showcased the Twin Cities' community, culture, and history. KMOJ estimates that 200 people attended the **LOL: Live on Location** events and that more than an additional 10,000 to 12,000 listeners heard the broadcasts. The events and broadcasts resulted in more local and Minnesota-focused content produced by KMOJ. They also helped to increase awareness about Minnesota's African American culture and history. KMOJ achieved the proposed outcomes for **LOL: Live on Location**.

SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW

Someone You Should Know was a series of short radio segments that featured influential Black Minnesotans. These individuals are making a difference in their community in education, healthcare, business, and more. **Someone You Should Know** acquainted audience members with these individuals, their work and impact, and issues important in their circles.

KMOJ, in partnership with Ampers, produced 14 segments showcasing nine community members including alcohol and drug counselor Desi Williamson, barber and small business owner Teto Wilson, and community leader Chandra Smith-Baker, among others. **Someone You Should Know** was a three-month project which helped to increase awareness about Minnesota's African American culture and history and resulted in more local and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. KMOJ achieved its proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

THE ICE: EXPANDING THE REACH OF MINNESOTA'S 1ST URBAN HIP-HOP FORMAT

The Ice: Expanding the Reach of Minnesota's 1st Urban Hip-Hop Format offered culturally specific programming and was geared to the 18- to 24-year-old crowd. Like KMOJ, **The Ice: Expanding the Reach of Minnesota's 1st Urban Hip-Hop Format** is focused on serving the African American community. The project included a 24/7 stream, providing access to more listeners. This project significantly expanded the HD station's reach through its dedicated website and social media.

The Ice: Expanding the Reach of Minnesota's 1st Urban Hip-Hop Format

was a daily, year-long project, showcasing primarily African American artists. Programmed by a growing list of volunteers, the project received weekly submissions of new music from up-and-coming artists. **The Ice: Expanding the Reach of Minnesota's 1st Urban Hip-Hop Format** averages almost 900 listeners per week and its Facebook page gained approximately 400 "Likes" in FY23. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. KMOJ achieved its proposed outcomes for this project.



KMOJ took the show on the road with **LOL: Live on Location** in celebration of Juneteenth.



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MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL – KUOM (RADIO K), 770 AM / 100.7 FM / 104.5 FM / 106.5 FM



Station Description

KUOM-AM/FM “Radio K” (Minneapolis / St. Paul) broadcasts at 770 AM, 100.7 FM, 104.5 FM, and 106.5 FM. Owned and operated by the University of Minnesota–Twin Cities, Radio K is the award-winning student-run radio station playing an eclectic variety of independent music both old and new. Radio K educates students, breaks ground in musical programming, and provides cutting-edge cultural coverage. Radio K serves listeners in Minneapolis-St. Paul and around the globe through online streaming.



KUOM-AM/FM “Radio K” (Minneapolis / St. Paul) coverage area

Program Descriptions

BTS: BEHIND THE SCENES WITH MINNESOTA’S MUSIC MAKERS

BTS: Behind the Scenes with Minnesota’s Music Makers

worked to preserve art and music being created by Minnesotans today and provide access for all to enjoy. ***BTS: Behind the Scenes with Minnesota’s Music Makers*** consisted of interviews and live performances that were recorded, archived, and distributed with today’s mobile-technology user in mind, providing an all-access pass to the best of Minnesota’s vibrant music culture. The segments included three to five minutes of performances and two-minute interviews. In FY23, highlighted artists were Night Moves, Buffalo Galaxy, Ozone Creations, and BZ3 Oragin Trio. KUOM produced 40 segments of ***BTS: Behind the Scenes with Minnesota’s Music Makers***, 25 more than proposed in its initial workplan. ***BTS: Behind the Scenes with Minnesota’s Music Makers*** was a yearlong project.

Segments from the ***BTS: Behind the Scenes with Minnesota’s Music Makers*** were aired on Radio K to an estimated monthly audience of 24,000 people. Radio K worked with 15 University of Minnesota students giving them valuable experience working on the project. By producing the project, Radio K expanded access to music and arts programming through the use of multiple digital platforms. Doing so gave more Minnesotans access to the arts and gave more up-and-coming artists the chance to be heard. KUOM is proud to have achieved the proposed outcomes and exceeded the proposed outputs for this project.

LOCAL VIBES

Local Vibes helped to showcase Minnesota artists who may not have been widely known previously across the state. The 10- to 15-minute show is the state’s only all-Minnesotan hip-hop program. In Fiscal year 2023, Radio K produced 20 shows which featured 20 different artists such as Jada Lynn, Righteous Emcee, Maevuim, Kion Rose, and more. ***Local Vibes*** garnered positive feedback from artists



Radio K produced 40 segments of BTS: Behind the Scenes with Minnesota’s Music Makers, 25 more than initially proposed.

STATION REPORTS

and listeners who appreciated the content and quality of programming. After listening to **Local Vibes**, Meaghan from Golden Valley said “Not only are the staff and students among the coolest on campus, Radio K creates a home for learning, development, and community. So proud of the Radio K team!” **Local Vibes** was a yearlong project.



Local Vibes increased Minnesota-based content produced by public radio and featured 20 interviews with artists from our state. The project allowed 5 students to receive hands-on instruction and experience in producing, promoting, and archiving a public radio music program featuring student music. Radio K shared this content through a number of platforms including its nearly 7,000 Instagram followers. KUOM achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

32 AND YOU FROM REAL COLLEGE PODCAST

The **32 and You from Real College Podcast** helped listeners deepen their appreciation for Minnesota and Minnesotans. The weekly 30-minute broadcast featured in-depth reporting about the state’s history, arts, and culture through a student lens. In FY23, it showcased Art-a-Whirl, a concert at 7th St. Entry, graffiti art, and a look into the daily lives of artists who were also educators! **32 and You from Real College Podcast** was a yearlong project. **32 and You from Real College Podcast** looked at the legacy and cultural impact of the 32nd state’s history and culture through conversations with innovators and artists, truck drivers, and baristas. Sharing these stories shapes who we are becoming, promotes life-long learning, and active engagement with the artists of Minnesota. **32 and You from Real College Podcast** produced 20 episodes that were broadcast on-air and made available online as podcasts on a range of platforms to reach a wider audience.



Local Vibes showcased the work of 20 different Minnesota artists.



More than 80% of those surveyed said that 32 and You from Real College Podcast deepened their appreciation of Minnesota and Minnesotans.

In Radio K’s yearend listener survey, more than 80% of the respondents said that **32 and You from Real College Podcast** deepened their appreciation of Minnesota and Minnesotans. The station estimates that about 21,500 heard the shows. The station featured 55 people and organizations from Minnesota. Twenty-one students received hands-on instruction and experience in producing, promoting, and archiving the segments. The project increased the number of local artists, musicians, historians, writers, and others who had their work showcased through public radio and benefited from the increased exposure. KUOM achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.



STATION REPORTS

ROCHESTER – KRPR, 89.9 FM

Station Description

KRPR-FM (Rochester) broadcasts at 89.9 FM. The station has strong ties to Rochester Community and Technical College where community members have the opportunity to record and air their own locally-produced radio shows. KRPR serves the region with many other, locally-produced, community-based programs and weekly interviews. Listeners tune in to hear great music, local news, and information about the regional music scene. All of KRPR's programming is designed to entertain, inform, and educate the audience about current events, concerns, and issues that affect Southeast Minnesota.

Program Descriptions

R-TOWN

For the **R-Town** project, a collaboration with KSMQ-TV, KRPR broadcasted 24 two-minute segments that explored business, culture, and history, along with current happenings in the arts community of Rochester and the surrounding area. In FY23, **R-Town** covered themes from the sky/subway systems and businesses to curling leagues, entertainment, historical events, fashion, music, and more. The one-on-one interviews with locals featured things to do, where to go, and events and festivals in and around Rochester, making people aware of the various resources available to them to fully enjoy the Rochester and surrounding community.

KRPR estimates the on-air radio segments were heard by approximately 8,400 people. **R-Town** increased locally focused content on public radio and helped more Minnesota artists, historians, writers, and history makers to have their work showcased through public broadcasting. **R-Town** was a yearlong project and KRPR achieved its proposed outcomes for this project.

MN90: ROCHESTER HISTORY IN 90-SECONDS

KRPR and Ampers collaborated to produce and broadcast **MN90: Rochester History in 90 Seconds**, a series of short, fun, and engaging stories exploring the history of Rochester and the surrounding area. **MN90: Rochester History in 90 Seconds** covered a wide range of topics including sports, politics, agriculture, business, pop culture, entertainment, and more. Some of these segments included stories such as Franklin D. Roosevelt's most trusted aide; Harry Hopkins, laid up at the Mayo Clinic during the start of WWII; how assistant cashier Elizabeth Steichen from Eyota's Farmers State Bank found herself on the running board of a bank robbers' getaway car; and, how in 1914 The Rochester Hustlers had an encounter with rookie pitcher, Babe Ruth, from Providence Grays.



KRPR-FM (Rochester) coverage area



Thanks to a partnership between KRPR and KSMQ-TV, listeners are able to hear portions of KSMQ-TV's R-Town segments on the radio.



Lou Gehrig spent time at Mayo but didn't sit idle. MN90: Rochester History in 90 Seconds listeners learned what he did with his down time.

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MN90: Rochester History in 90 Seconds gave listeners more access to history, created more locally focused content, and showcased Minnesota historians and history makers. In addition to providing segments on-air to an estimated 8,400 listeners, KRPR also made CDs that were partially distributed at the annual car show and as giveaways. KRPR exceeded the proposed outputs by producing 43 rather than 30 segments. KRPR achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

VETERANS' VOICES: ROCHESTER

KRPR collaborated with Ampers and the local Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. (VFW) to produce and broadcast **Veterans' Voices: Rochester**, a series of short and engaging stories exploring the experiences of Minnesota Veterans from Rochester and the surrounding communities. Each segment allowed a Minnesota Veteran to share their memories of their time in the military.

Veterans like Merle Peterson shared a story about how he found himself overseas surrounded by soldiers in the Korean War just two years after his high school graduation, and Terry Throdson talked about how he had fish and chips with the Queen Mother while stationed in Scotland with the U.S. Navy. **Veterans' Voices: Rochester** gave listeners more access to history, resulted in more locally focused content created by public radio, and showcased Minnesota Veterans.

KRPR and Ampers interviewed 10 Veterans and exceeded their projected goal of 30 segments by producing 37 **Veterans' Voices: Rochester** in FY23. The station estimates that the on-air segments reached approximately 8,400 people. KRPR achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

ROCHESTER ARTS

KRPR collaborated with Ampers to produce **Rochester Arts**, a series consisting of highly produced 90-second segments, exploring fun, moving, and delightful artistic moments in the history of Rochester and the surrounding region. The 30 **Rochester Arts** segments will offer listeners bits of art history from around the area. Some of the topics covered in FY23 included stories about Dr. Mabel Ulrich, a physician in Minneapolis who opened her own bookstore in Rochester, John Chuchik, who traveled to Washington DC and competed in the 1952 National Spelling Bee as an eighth grader, and more.

Rochester Arts was a four-month-long project. The producer completed the segments in late FY23 so they won't air until FY24. As a result, there are no ways to assess the measurable outcomes for this project at this time. KRPR and Ampers will assess the project during and after the segments air and report on those assessments in the FY24 Legislative Report.



Rochester listeners heard first-hand experiences from Veterans like Cyril Kubista who was drafted in 1956 and was quickly promoted to Motor Sergeant.



KRPR listeners heard about a Rochester High School graduate who used film and physics to try to determine if more than one person shot JFK.

STATION REPORTS

ST. CLOUD – KVSC, 88.1 FM



Station Description

KVSC-FM (St. Cloud) broadcasts at 88.1 FM. The station is owned and operated by St. Cloud State University (SCSU). KVSC, Your Sound Alternative, has been serving the St. Cloud community for more than 55 years. As a campus and community station, with student broadcasters and community volunteer hosts, KVSC’s programming offers a vast array of diverse music, community news, high school and SCSU sports, and more. The station also develops creative events for the community such as **Trivia Weekend** and **Granite City Radio Theatre**. KVSC serves a terrestrial radio audience of 60 miles from St. Cloud and streams its content live on KVSC.org.



KVSC-FM (St. Cloud) coverage area

Program Descriptions

GRANITE CITY RADIO THEATRE

KVSC’s **Granite City Radio Theatre** was a live, audience-interactive radio show performed in front of a live audience and broadcast live on-air from the Pioneer Place Theatre in St. Cloud. The shows included locally-written and comedic skits, a house band, guest musicians, a radio serial drama, a trivia challenge, and other segments. Some of the top artists showcased in the **Granite City Radio Theatre** productions included Dave Simonett, Becky Schlegel, Steve Roehm, Chris Castino. This was a yearlong project that included four on-air radio programs, four live events, and four podcasts. Each of the live events, the on-air radio programs, and the podcasts were all two hours long. The station estimates that about 1,020 people attended the live events and an additional 10,000 people heard the on-air radio programs. The podcasts were downloaded more than 270 times.



The four productions of Granite City Radio Theatre showcased 18 artists and attracted more than 1,000 people to the live shows.

The four productions of **Granite City Radio Theatre** showcased 18 different artists all of whom got paid for their work. Sixteen students were involved in producing the shows and received hands-on instruction and experience in producing and promoting a live artistic and cultural program. They were involved in and learned about graphic design, marketing, live audio production, broadcast engineering, stage lighting, and more. **Granite City Radio Theatre** gave more Minnesotans the opportunity to participate in and be exposed to more art and culture. More local actors, writers, and musicians had their work showcased through public broadcasting and earned income from the work. KVSC achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



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MONDAY NIGHT LIVE AUDIO-VIDEO SYNCH

The **Monday Night Live Audio-Video Synch** project gave KVSC listeners the opportunity watch the station's incredibly popular **Monday Night Live** concerts online. The **Monday Night Liveshows** spotlight St. Cloud area and Minnesota musicians with a live hour of their music on radio and TV. For the **Monday Night Live Audio-Video Synch** the station partnered with St. Cloud State University's TV station to develop a direct link between the TV broadcast of **Monday Night Live** and a live video stream with a pop-out video media player on KVSC.org providing Minnesotans with a higher-quality broadcast. In the 20 shows KVSC produced for **Monday Night Live Audio-Video Synch**, artists like Twin Citizen, Pullstring, Sawyer's Dream, and Dave Velk gained significantly more exposure for their music. Each show was an hour long.



KVSC estimates that about 10,000 people heard the on-air radio shows. Five students were involved in the project. They received hands-on instruction and experience in producing and promoting a live artistic and cultural radio show. Twenty local musicians were showcased by the **Monday Night Live Audio-Video Synch** project. The project increased the number of local artists, musicians, speakers, historians, writers, and others who had their work showcased through public radio and benefited from the increased exposure. There were 25 writers, musicians, speakers, contractors, and stage crew who benefited from their experience and were paid for their services as a result of this project. **Monday Night Live Audio-Video Synch** also resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. KVSC achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

GREAT THEATRE LIVE RADIO PRODUCTION

For **Great Theatre Live Radio Production** KVSC partnered with local theatre company, Great River Educational Arts Theatre, to create a live-action radio drama production of **The Great Gatsby**. While produced in the tradition of a radio drama, KVSC welcomed a packed house of viewers at the Helgeson Learning Lab Theatre. It was broadcast live on KVSC and streamed via KVSC.org. The cast and crew included local community members and Saint Cloud State University (SCSU) students. **Great Theatre Live Radio Production** was an eight-month project that resulted in a two-hour live event, radio broadcast, and web stream.



*KVSC partnered with the Great River Educational Arts Theatre for a live-action radio drama production of **The Great Gatsby** which showcased 17 local artists.*

The station estimates that about 180 people attended the live event and an additional 450 people listened to the radio broadcast. The station received a lot of positive feedback about **Great Theatre Live Radio Production**. Dez from St. Cloud said, "First time seeing a live radio drama. Wasn't sure what to expect but this was cool!" The partners were excited too. Kenda Norton-Danda of the GREAT Theatre said, "What a brilliant partnership. I look forward to our next project." The project showcased 17 different local artists, authors, historians, musicians, and arts organizations. Local performers and artists, including several first-time performers, were able to put their artistic abilities on a stage for all to see and hear. Students were directly involved in the production through hands-on experience with lighting, live sound mixing, broadcast audio control, sound design, graphic design, event marketing, and more. **Great**

STATION REPORTS

Theatre Live Radio Production also resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. KVSC achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



UNTOLD STORIES OF CENTRAL MN AND ARTS COLLAGE PRODUCER, SKETCH WRITER

KVSC produced 30 episodes of **Untold Stories of Central MN**. The half-hour in-depth multiple-sourced radio shows and podcasts featured historians, artists, authors, musicians, and other compelling regional newsmakers telling their stories relevant to Central Minnesota. The station also produced more than 150 three-minute episodes of Arts Collage that promoted arts and culture events in Central Minnesota. This project also helped to support the sketch writer and script editor for Granite City Radio Theatre.

Untold Stories of Central MN and Arts Collage was a yearlong project that showcased people, organizations, events, and topics like Julie Blaha, C. Willi Myles, Youth Mental Health, Central MN Children’s Museum, and Holocaust Remembrance Day. The station estimates the segments reached about 20,000 people. The project helped to showcase the work of 36 different Minnesota artists, authors, historians, musicians, and arts organizations. Podcasts of **Untold Stories** were downloaded 1,921 times. **Untold Stories of Central MN and Arts Collage Producer, Sketch Writer** contributed to more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and gave more local artists, historians, and musicians the opportunity to have their work showcased through public broadcasting. KVSC achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

SPEAKER AND EVENT SERIES

KVSC, in partnership with campus and community organizations, presented a speaker **Speaker and Event Series**. The three-month project resulted in two two-hour-long events that attracted a total of about 1,000 people. Some of the key speakers and artists included C. Willi Myles, Keith Secola, Samson Brothers, and December Wind. The station partnered with the St. Cloud State University’s American Indian Center for the project. KVSC’s **Speaker and Event Series** showcased a total of seven different Minnesota artists. These individuals were able to reach a greater audience and they were also paid for their work on the project. There were 11 students involved and planning, promoting, and producing the events. KVSC achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



KVSC’s Speaker and Event Series showcased some of Minnesota’s underrepresented artists like the Samson Brothers.

KVSC NEWS DEPARTMENT STAFF COVERAGE OF ARTS AND CULTURE

The KVSC news department placed a special emphasis on covering local and regional artistic and cultural events that don’t typically get the attention of traditional media. The student-led staff delivered news and information about artistic, historical, and cultural events from St. Cloud, the surrounding area, and the campus of St. Cloud State. Some examples of events and organizations they reported on include the Central Minnesota Children’s Museum, the Stearns County History Museum, the Center for Holocaust



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Studies, and Independent Music Collaborators of Central Minnesota. The Monday through Friday daily reports were one to 30 minutes long for this yearlong project.



KVSC estimates that about 20,000 people heard the work produced for the ***KVSC News Department Staff Coverage of Arts and Culture*** project. Eleven different students helped to produce the 260 stories for the project. Students learned the importance of reporting on arts and cultural issues, and how to present these stories in an interesting manner. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. KVSC achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

MN Music Concert Series

KVSC's ***MN Music Concert Series*** was a huge success. The station's ***90s Alt Rock Rewind Weekend*** was a two-day event featuring three bands. The concerts attracted more than 600 people with about 200 people attending the first night and approximately 400 people attending the second. Mad Alice headlined the event, which also featured Radio Nation and Revved Up. KVSC's ***MN Music Concert Series*** was a yearlong event.

KVSC promoted the concert weekend with on-air interviews. The station estimates that about 500 people heard the on-air elements of the project. A total of seven students were involved with the ***MN Music Concert Series***. The students received hands-on experience with lighting, live sound mixing, sound and graphic design, event marketing, and more. The project gave Minnesotans the opportunity to participate in and be exposed to more art and culture. It also resulted in more local musicians having their work showcased through public broadcasting. And, the artists were paid for their performances. KVSC achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



KVSC's MN Music Concert Series attracted more than 600 people and showcased three local bands over two days.

STATION REPORTS

THIEF RIVER FALLS – KSRQ, 90.1 FM



Station Description

KSRQ-FM (Thief River Falls) broadcasts at 90.1 FM. KSRQ, Pioneer 90.1, covers the northwest corner of Minnesota from its two studios at Northland Community & Technical College in Thief River Falls and East Grand Forks. Listeners in rural communities including Warren, Crookston, Red Lake Falls, Karlstad, and the Red Lake Reservation tune to the station for its wide array of music and talk programming. Station staff and local volunteer hosts provide friendly, informative conversations that have made the station an important part of the community. Pioneer 90.1 features adult alternative and Americana music every weekday, with evening programming that ranges from polka to metal to classic country.



KSRQ-FM (Thief River Falls) coverage area

Program Descriptions

HOMETOWN HISTORY

The popular series **Hometown History** featured residents of communities in KSRQ’s listening area sharing nostalgic stories related to the culture and history of their hometowns. Segments included content from county historical museums along with the personal recollections of local people. Among the stories heard on **Hometown History** were tales of sugar beet farming, with its required late-night/early morning harvests; the operation of a small-town bakery in the 1970s; the history of St. Hillaire (a community once known as “the New Chicago”); and early immigration to the flatland of northwest Minnesota.

In FY23, KSRQ produced 40 segments of **Hometown History**, more than the 35 proposed, resulting in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. Each segment ran between three and 29 minutes long. Segments aired weekly to an estimated 300 on-air listeners per segment. The resulting almost eight hours of produced content promoted awareness of county historical museums in northwest Minnesota. Stories and recollections of 17 guests were collected in interviews for the **Hometown History** project and archived online and helped to preserve Minnesota’s culture and history.

Hometown History also included one in-person event - a pandemic-delayed screening of the film “It Ain’t Easy,” which was produced in northwest Minnesota in 1972. The restored film played to two near-capacity auditoriums and was attended by 175 people as well as the family of the film’s director, Minnesota native Maurice Hurley. This was a yearlong project and KSRQ achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for it.



Russell Lileks has been documenting the History of Thief River Falls since he started his first scrapbook in 1972. He shared his first-hand knowledge of the area on Hometown History.



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ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

KSRQ's **Artist Spotlight** radio series informed the community about local art projects and events. Because many of the featured guests were Legacy grantees, **Artist Spotlight** served an important role in informing listeners of how Legacy funds are used to enhance life in our communities.

This collaborative project, with the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council, featured interviews with photographers, painters, sculptors, woodcarvers, vocalists, musicians, actors, directors, arts advocates, educators, festival and county fair organizers from Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, and Roseau Counties. One artist said, "I had a great time chatting with Ron [West, host], and I'm hoping that some writers and theater artists in the Northwest region will be interested in participating in our programs. Thank you for including us!"

KSRQ produced and aired 39 segments of the **Artist Spotlight**. Each weekly episode was five to 20 minutes long and reached about 225 listeners each week. The Northwest Minnesota Arts Council's also posted the segments on its website. The station showcased 42 different artists and arts organizations with the series. Artist Spotlight, which was a yearlong project, resulted in 6.7 hours of original Minnesota arts programming. The station received positive comments about the project which are available upon request. KSRQ achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

KEZAR MUSIC SHOWROOM PRESENTS

The **Kezar Music Showroom Presents** was an hour-long weekly show that showcased a variety of vintage and new audio recordings by local musical acts. KSRQ produced and aired 19 episodes, hosted by Thief River Falls' music store owner and musician Joe Kezar. Most of the archival recordings, dating as far back as the 1960s, were made locally and had never been broadcast until now. Six of the episodes featured interviews with area musicians including a visit with members of the Back Behind The Barn Boys, a country band from the small town of Gatzke, who recorded in Nashville and toured nationally after winning a country music showdown competition in the early 1980s. Two of the programs broadcasted in FY23 were recordings made as part of **Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions**, including a performance by Bemidji-area band Corey Medina and Brothers.



The Kezar Music Showroom Presents project dug deep into the Thief River Falls musical archives to deliver more than 19 hours of local music content.

KSRQ estimates about 800 listeners heard each of the **Kezar Music Showroom Presents** segments. The project produced 19 hours of music by 36 Minnesota-based solo or group performers. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. The popular show continues to allow more Minnesota-based artists to have their work showcased through public broadcasting and exposes more Minnesotans to their work. The **Kezar Music Showroom Presents** was a year-long project and KSRQ achieved the proposed outcomes for the project.



STATION REPORTS



KSRQ 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

To celebrate 50 years on the air, KSRQ radio, which started at a mere 10 watts of power, highlighted its early days with its project **KSRQ 50th Anniversary Celebration**. Back then the station relied heavily on student broadcasters. For **KSRQ 50th Anniversary Celebration** the station's early days were placed within the context of state, national, and local events that were happening at that time, including the proliferation of small FM radio stations that were beginning to appear on college campuses nationwide in the early 1970s. These low-power radio stations were an important part of campus life, offering a new outlet for student creativity and a home for diverse music styles. Due to the fleeting nature of radio, much of what was heard on KSRQ is gone forever. However, a collection of artifacts has been preserved through this project so future generations can explore the evolving technology and culture that helped campus and community radio stations thrive in Minnesota and nationwide. KSRQ staff collected and digitized photos, newspaper clippings, and audio and video tapes to create a timeline of the station's history.



About fifty alumni returned to the station for the KSRQ 50th Anniversary Celebration.

The **KSRQ 50th Anniversary Celebration** included interviews that were edited down to hour-long segments. The station also produced and aired a 50-minute broadcast featuring an interview with Howard Rokke, an instructor with the broadcasting program at Northland Community and Technical College from 1968 until his retirement in 1999. This show reached about 800 listeners over the air.

Former student Jason Searcy said, "Thanks for putting this together! My class of 1990 was very memorable and I think of them often, Mr Rokke was a big early influence on my career."

The **KSRQ 50th Anniversary Celebration** allowed KSRQ to connect with former student broadcasters and the wider Thief River Falls community. KSRQ staff located and digitized more than 300 photos, along with newspaper clippings, documents, analog audio and video tapes.

Additionally, KSRQ organized and held a reunion for former student broadcasters at their station in May 2023. Approximately 50 alumni attended the event, which was highly promoted on social media - garnering a lot of attention from and interaction with alumni near and far, who enjoyed revisiting their college days.

Alum Conrad Goroski said, "I enjoyed a visit with fellow 1974 - 1975 classmate Dave Vagle. Sincere thanks to Mark Johnson, and family, the Howard Rokke Family, and staff at the college in hosting this 50th reunion for the Audio Communications alumni."

The **KSRQ 50th Anniversary Celebration** was a year-long project, It increased the amount of locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and helped to preserve Minnesota's history. KSRQ achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.



STATION REPORTS



PIONEER 90.1 LIVE SESSIONS

Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions was a very successful series of free concerts and in-studio performances with Minnesota-based bands and solo musical performers. The station partnered with the City of Thief River Falls, the Thief River Falls Chamber of Commerce, and Thief River Falls Public Schools to bring the community together for six free live musical performances and one instrumental musical workshop for middle school students.

The free musical performances, which included artists such as Copper Street Brass, Church of Cash, and Rumbleseat, were attended by 60 to 125 people each, and the instrumental music workshop was attended by 100 student musicians. River Fest, a music festival held in August, was attended by approximately 2,000 people. In total, KSRQ estimates the project attracted about 2,660 people to the free live concert events in FY23. Each concert was heavily promoted on-air, on social media, and in print media. Thirty-one Minnesota-based solo or group performers took part in this project and were paid for their work.

Of the seven **Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions** events, portions of three were broadcast, two as part of KSRQ's Legacy project **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**. Live performances averaged 90 minutes each. The broadcasts were each an hour long and reached about 800 listeners, each. Additional performances from each show are being edited for broadcast in FY24 for Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions, with additional interviews added to the music.

The yearlong project resulted in an increase in local and Minnesota-focused content produced and aired by public radio. It allowed more Minnesotans to participate in and be exposed to art and culture. It also resulted in more Minnesota artists having their work showcased by public broadcasting. KSRQ achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

PIONEER POLKACAST KSRQ HD-2

KSRQ's **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2** was a high-definition radio signal and stream solely dedicated to preserving, curating, and sharing music and interviews of polka performers of the past, along with contemporary polka musicians. The station made the programming available on one of its digital (HD) terrestrial radio channels, as well as a web stream. The HD channel and stream, one of KSRQ's most successful and well-known projects, featured a 24/7 mix of new and vintage Minnesota-made polka and old-time music. More than just a music playlist, the **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2** featured 500 shows hosted by KSRQ staff and volunteers who shared their knowledge and love of a traditional music genre that sparks nostalgia among generations of Minnesotans. The project also featured two 15-minute on-air interviews.

In FY23, more than 15,000 people listened to more than 8,600 hours of **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2** online, with an average time spent listening of more than six hours per session. Others listen via the HD-2 radio broadcast in Thief River Falls, Warren, Crookston, Red Lake Falls, and other communities in northwest Minnesota. The popular project also garnered \$2,262 from listener donations.



KSRQ hosted seven events and concerts for its Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions which showcased more than 30 musicians and performing groups; the station estimates the program attracted about 2,600 people.

STATION REPORTS

As part of the project, KSRQ presented a full day of live polka music at the East Grand Forks American Legion Club, which, as part of a partnership, provided the venue at no cost. The event featured performers from Middle River, the Duluth area, and Sauk Centre to an estimated 150 attendees.

The **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2** web page views were up 21.65% from the previous fiscal year, totaling 53,664 page views for the year. Its reach was wide, with listeners from around the country. Olivia, a **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2** listener from Spanish Fort, Alabama commented, “I have been loving each of [volunteer host] Cathy Erickson’s shows for about six months. She is delightful and a blessing to her many listeners all over. Thanks for providing awesome programs !!!” **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2** was a yearlong project which helped to showcase more Minnesotans on public radio, expose more Minnesotans to art and culture, and resulted in an increase in locally and Minnesota-focused content produced and aired by public radio. KSRQ met the proposed outcomes for this project.



Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2 is one of the station's most successful and well-known projects that consistently attracts listeners from around the world.



Pioneer **PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2** generated more than 8,600 hours of programming that attracted more than 15,000 listeners.

STATION REPORTS

WHITE EARTH / CALLAWAY – KKWE, 89.9 FM

Station Description

KKWE-FM (White Earth / Callaway) Reservation and surrounding areas. Nijii, the Ojibwe word for friend, represents the relationship the station continues to cultivate with communities within and outside the exterior boundaries of White Earth Reservation while abating old racial stereotypes. As you listen you will find a large variety of music genres, local, state, national, and international news, and other educational programming that revitalizes Anishinaabe traditions and exemplifies cultural values.

Program Descriptions

CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Nijii Radio's **Cultural Exchange** initiative curated and presented four live events strategically situated in neighboring communities, aiming to illuminate the rich tapestry of the Anishinaabe culture and other prevailing cultures in the region. These immersive gatherings served as conduits for individuals to come together, forging connections through the exchange of knowledge, stories, culinary delights, and artistic expressions. The profound impact of the **Cultural Exchange** project was underscored by the exponential increase in the number of Minnesotans exposed to the Anishinaabe culture, a testament to the transformative power of Nijii Radio's **Cultural Exchange** dedication to cultural enrichment. The project gained even more exposure and impact through the station's live broadcasts of the events which ranged in length from one to two hours.

From the event spaces of New York Mills Cultural Center to the Nevis Chamber and the serene setting of Sugar Lake Lodge, these events found a diverse audience, drawing attendance ranging from 50 to 1,025. The six-month **Cultural Exchange** project not only broadened cultural horizons but also provided a platform for communal sharing and understanding. Lucinda eloquently captured the essence, expressing, "I'm honored to share our culture with others and learn about other cultures at the same time."

The radio segments broadcast live on air during these events became windows into Ojibwe drum and dance groups, Aztec dancers, and Finnish storytellers. The station estimates that about 300 people heard the on-air segments. Nijii Radio's **Cultural Exchange**, through this endeavor, not only exposed more Minnesotans to the Anishinaabe culture but also became a catalyst for fostering cross-cultural understanding and appreciation within the community. The project also resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. KKWE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



KKWE-FM (White Earth / Callaway) coverage area



Cultural Exchange attendees were exposed to and learned about everything from Ojibwe drum and dance groups to Aztec dancers and Finnish storytellers.

STATION REPORTS

NIJII'S MINNESOTA MIXDOWN SERIES

In the pursuit of cultural enrichment, KKWE, operating as Nijii Radio, embarked on the transformative **Nijii's Minnesota Mixdown Series** project, delivering art and culture to the White Earth Reservation and the rural communities around the reservation within KKWE's listening area. This project provided a platform for Minnesota musicians and artists to showcase their talents, fostering a vibrant exchange of creativity across diverse communities. Over the course of the nine month project, **Nijii's Minnesota Mixdown Series** resulted in four live events in FY23, featuring concerts ranging from 45 to 90 minutes, featuring acclaimed artists such as Corey Medina and Brothers, Charlie Parr, Blue Dog, and Erik Koskinen. These concerts were not confined to the live audience, as KKWE recorded and broadcast them on-air, amplifying their reach.

These live events, drawing an impressive attendance of approximately 2,525 people, became conduits for cultural infusion, reaching rural communities across KKWE's listening region. The stations estimate programs also reached roughly another 500 people on-air. The resounding success of **Nijii's Minnesota Mixdown Series** was echoed in the positive feedback from listeners and participants who lauded the project's local focus. Tracy Gangley of the Nevis Community Council encapsulated this sentiment, stating, "Nijii radio does a great job at finding a variety of Minnesota musicians; there's music for everyone to enjoy." This sentiment reflects the project's success in not only attracting a diverse audience but also in achieving its overarching goal—granting Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, and income brackets greater access to Minnesota's art and music. The project also resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. KKWE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

VETERANS' VOICES: WHITE EARTH

KKWE removed the Veterans' Voices: White Earth project from its FY23 workplan because the station could not find a producer for the project. Before canceling the project, the station spent \$440 on research and development. Because the station had spent Legacy funds, Ampers required the station to provide the citizens of Minnesota with some form of a deliverable for the funds it spent on the project. KKWE produced one two-minute segment and posted it online for all Minnesotans to access now and in the future. Because the station removed the project from its workplan there were no measurable outcomes to achieve.

THE NEW OJIBWEMOWIN

The New Ojibwemowin was a testament to KKWE's commitment to preserving the rich tapestry of the Ojibwe language, utilizing the vibrant voices of children as the conduits of linguistic heritage. This project saw the recruitment of ten youths who underwent Ojibwe language lessons, infusing vitality into a deeper cultural legacy. KKWE then transformed these lessons into radio segments, breathing life into the endeavor to significantly broaden the reach of Ojibwe language learning.



Nijii's Minnesota Mixdown Series attracted more than 2,500 people to see artists like this fire fan dancer at Muskie Days.

STATION REPORTS

KKWE produced 26 episodes of ***The New Ojibwemowin*** that were two to five minutes reaching an estimated 300 listeners. The Callaway Boys and Girls Club generously volunteered their time to the program. Landon, a participant in ***The New Ojibwemowin*** mentioned, “It was fun learning the language and hearing them on the radio.” Beyond the aim of linguistic preservation, these segments wove a cultural tapestry, seamlessly integrating the Ojibwe language into the fabric of the community.



The success of ***The New Ojibwemowin***, as measured by KKWE, not only safeguarded a linguistic heritage but also became a catalyst for cultural immersion, enriching the community with the Ojibwe language. The project resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and helped expose more Minnesotans to Native American culture and history. KKWE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

OJIBWE ARTS RISING

KKWE created a series of seven live workshops designed to share knowledge of Anishinaabe culture for ***Ojibwe Arts Rising***. These immersive sessions delved into the intricate arts of crafting ribbon skirts/shirts, hand drums, moccasins, medicine bags, quillwork, and traditional medicines, each accompanied by the enlightening teachings embedded within them. Through these workshops, ***Ojibwe Arts Rising*** illuminated the beauty and significance of Ojibwe arts and crafts, introducing them with reverence and authenticity to the communities of Northwest Minnesota. ***Ojibwe Arts Rising*** was a yearlong project.

Harnessing the power of multimedia, KKWE shared these workshops through its on-air broadcasts and social media platforms. The station produced seven shorter 5 to 15-minute snippets to extend the reach of the project. The station estimates that about 300 people heard the on-air segments. The impact of these programs is reflected by Joann, a listener who stated, “I love that you guys incorporate the teaching with the classes it’s so important.”

Ojibwe Arts Rising introduced 204 individuals, spanning diverse ages, ethnicities, and socioeconomic backgrounds to an Ojibwe art form and its accompanying historical narrative through the live events. Goals were met through positive feedback and robust attendance. ***Ojibwe Arts Rising*** fostered a deeper appreciation and understanding of Anishinaabe culture within the broader Minnesota community. It also resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. KKWE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

OJIBWE LIFE WAYS

KKWE’s ***Ojibwe Life Ways*** resulted in a series of thirteen radio shows that were seven to 15 minutes long that served as windows into Ojibwe life. This endeavor sought to transcend the airwaves, providing a platform for members of the Ojibwe community to share their culture, instilling a deeper understanding of the Anishinaabe’s traditional ways and their enduring significance for future generations. ***Ojibwe Life Ways*** was a three-month project in FY23.



Attendees of KKWE’s Ojibwe Arts Rising got hands-on experience making moccasins, ribbon skirts, hand drums, and more.

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Listeners were immersed in the voices of the Ojibwe people, unraveling the threads of their history, practices, and cultural activities. These weekly shows were not only broadcasts; they were insightful conversations and windows into the lives and learnings of thirteen Ojibwe artists. Through the power of storytelling and firsthand accounts, the series aimed to bridge gaps of understanding, fostering a greater appreciation for the Ojibwe culture and its importance. Shirley, a participant in the project said, “I think it’s important to get this knowledge out there to help keep the culture alive.” The station estimates that about 300 people heard the on-air segments. ***Ojibwe Life Ways*** resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio.



“I think it’s important to get this knowledge out there to help keep the culture alive.”

– Shirley, commenting on *Ojibwe Life Ways*

STATION REPORTS

WINONA – KQAL, 89.5 FM

Station Description

KQAL-FM (Winona) broadcasts at 89.5 FM. KQAL is owned and operated by Winona State University and is staffed primarily by student volunteers. For more than 45 years, KQAL has served a dual role in the communities in and around Winona. It presents unique programming to its listeners, in the form of several musical genres, plus local arts, historical and cultural programs that are unduplicated and exclusive to KQAL. The station is also a training ground for Winona State University students who are discovering the timeless art of radio. Whether it's a music shift, hosting a sports show, or producing a podcast, KQAL provides a student experience, like no other.

Program Descriptions

THE LIVE FEED

KQAL's **The Live Feed**, an extraordinary concert series, showcased the vibrant music scene of Winona through live performances by local and regional artists. Offering listeners, a window into the city's musical heartbeat, the series was recorded on-site and embraced diverse genres, spanning from folk to hip-hop to death metal. **The Live Feed** has become a cornerstone of KQAL's Legacy programming, collaborating with both Minnesota legends and emerging talents. The project featured 45 shows recorded at 45 live in-person events, captured the essence of music happenings, from intimate solo performances in coffee houses to headlining acts at bustling festivals.

In collaboration with local performers, festivals, and venues, **The Live Feed** was a beacon, illuminating musicians and bands across the spectrum. From the soothing melodies of Peoples Brothers Band to the rhythmic beats of YAM Haus, the series curated exceptional content from various local music festivals, becoming a sonic journey for avid listeners. The project, offered as a dynamic 30- to 60-minute weekly program, also found its way into the digital realm through an engaging podcast format, making it accessible to a broader audience.

The Live Feed was not just a program; it was a yearlong celebration of musical diversity.

The Live Feed granted its audience a passport to the unexplored realms of local talent, enriching their musical palates and reaching new audiences. Approximately 395 listeners tuned in for each segment, and an additional 270 on-demand listens via the podcast feed in FY23 underscored its impact. This initiative, a collaboration between the station, venues, and promoters, deepened community arts connections. In addition to airing on KQAL, a station



KQAL-FM (Winona) coverage area



KQAL's **The Live Feed** featured 45 shows recorded from 45 different live in-person events.

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in Florida aired segments of *The Live Feed* as well. The project significantly increased the amount of locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio that helped to increase access to arts and culture and allowed more artists to have their work featured on public radio. KQAL achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



CULTURE CLIQUE

For its **Culture Clique** project, KQAL created a compelling radio series delving into and celebrating the rich tapestry of cultures woven by the diverse residents of the Winona area. Through engaging 15- to 30-minute weekly programs, **Culture Clique** explored aspects of heritage, the area's culture, and more, shedding light on ways of life often concealed from outsiders. This project transcended local boundaries, with stations as far as Alabama and California broadcasting segments of **Culture Clique**. A yearlong endeavor, **Culture Clique** delivered 23 unique programs, sharing enriching cultural and historical dialogues, introducing listeners to both accomplished authors and emerging storytellers. The initiative provided a platform for previously unheard perspectives, allowing individuals and groups with cultural insights to showcase their work and knowledge through the powerful medium of public radio.



Culture Clique listeners learned about everything from Norwegian dancers to Wild Irish Tales.

The funding for **Culture Clique** catalyzed a significant surge in locally and Minnesota-focused content, enabling KQAL to amplify the narratives of artists, historians, writers, and storytellers from the region. Noteworthy achievements punctuated the year, with awards such as First Place in the Student Market Radio category for the documentary special *Growing Up in a Cult* by Jiovani Burmudezm and the Award of Merit in the Small Market Radio category for the series *The Oak Center General Store* by Bill Stoneberg. Collaborating with the Winona County History Center for the Engage Winona event, **Culture Clique** became a conduit for artistic and cultural awareness in Southeastern Minnesota. The station estimates that approximately 375 individuals tuned in for each broadcast segment, and an additional 367 on-demand listens were garnered through the podcast feed. The re-broadcasts on KWMR in Point Reyes, California, and WJAB in Huntsville, Alabama, further extended the reach of this celebration of culture and art, showcasing the vibrant essence of Southeast Minnesota to a broader audience. **Culture Clique** resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. The project also expanded access to arts and culture and allowed Minnesota artists, historians, writers, storytellers, and others to have their work showcased through public radio. Because of **Culture Clique**, residents of Southeastern Minnesota became more aware of local artistic, cultural, and historical events. KQAL achieved its proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

DON'T CHA KNOW & ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT DOWNLOAD

Embodying the essence of Winona, **Don't Cha Know & Arts and Entertainment Download** have become the quintessential source for all things local. The show delves into community discussions and events, serving as a spotlight for upcoming arts, history, and cultural programming. In FY23, KQAL passionately crafted 47 segments of **Don't Cha Know & Arts and Entertainment Download**, transforming the airwaves into a conduit of community awareness. Covering a spectrum from family art programs to cultural events, art history, and current affairs, the show captivates audiences and fosters a deeper connection with the pulse of Winona. As expressed by Winona resident Daven Heckman,



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“I heard our event mentioned on Don’t Cha Know, the International digital media arts conference, and it was nice to hear them talk about it.” Aired on a weekly half-hour slot, this year-long project is a testament to KQAL’s commitment to community engagement.



With each on-air segment reaching an estimated 275 individuals, **Don’t Cha Know & Arts and Entertainment Download** emerged as a dynamic platform that not only increased awareness of local exhibits, activities, learning opportunities, and live events but also provided a vital stage for 11 organizations and their directors to champion their causes through public radio. The project acted as a catalyst, interweaving art and culture into the fabric of the community, while simultaneously elevating the profiles of local artists, historians, and writers through public broadcasting. **Don’t Cha Know & Arts and Entertainment Download** resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and increased the number of local artistic, cultural, and historical individuals and organizations and events that had their work showcased and promoted through public radio. KQAL achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

ART BEAT

The KQAL **Art Beat** project served as a vibrant canvas, showcasing the diverse talents of local artists and offering a glimpse into their creative lives and processes. This inclusive endeavor welcomed artists working across various mediums, from painting and woodwork to glass, metal, beadwork, drawing, and sewing.

Art Beat’s overarching goal was to unveil distinctive insights into the minds of individuals fearlessly expressing themselves. Through engaging conversations with local artists, authors, and poets, **Art Beat** became a compelling platform for listeners to delve into the intricacies of artistic expression. Notably, Winona State student Jiovani Bermudez garnered an Eric Sevareid Award of Merit for his work, *Last of the Better Days Ahead*, featuring a Charlie Parr Book Reading in the Student Market Radio category.



KQAL’s Art Beat helped to promote and draw attention to cultural and artistic events in the area for all ages.

Art Beat’s events unfolded at esteemed venues such as the Minnesota Marine Art Museum, Winona Art Center, Minnesota Conservatory for the Arts, Winona State University Art Department, and the Blue Heron Coffee Shop. In FY23, KQAL produced 17 new segments of **Art Beat**, each lasting 15 to 30 minutes, expanding on a growing catalog of previous years’ programming available online for a broader audience through podcasts. By spotlighting the works of 17 artists and collaborating with local arts organizations, **Art Beat** not only introduced new audiences to these creative voices through public radio but also became a resonant platform for artistic expression in the community. The station estimates that 325 individuals tuned in weekly to the broadcast program, while the **Art Beat** podcast amassed an additional 260 on-demand listens, reflecting a robust engagement with the project. Leveraging Legacy funds, KQAL successfully heightened the prominence of local and Minnesota-focused content on public radio, achieving the proposed measurable outcomes for **Art Beat** and nurturing a richer cultural tapestry within its broadcast reach.

STATION REPORTS

THE SOUND

The Sound, a captivating weekly show, featured local music coupled with insightful discussions with the brilliant minds behind the melodies. This program, a dedicated exploration into the artistry of music creation, provided listeners with an intimate understanding of the personalities, producers, sound engineers, and the intricate temporal tapestry woven in the process of crafting exceptional local music. Renowned guests such as Sleeping Jesus, Fenix Dion, and Fires of Denmark enriched the 30- to 60-minute programs, which not only graced the airwaves weekly but were also thoughtfully crafted into podcasts, extending their reach to broader audiences. The yearlong endeavor resulted in 12 distinctive segments, each a testament to the vibrant musical landscape of Minnesota.

The Sound spotlighted the works of 12 Minnesota artists, captivating an estimated 350 broadcast listeners per segment. By transcending local boundaries and offering these segments as downloadable podcasts, KQAL provided a seamless and accessible avenue for music enthusiasts across Minnesota to discover new artists and immerse themselves in their creative realms. With 372 on-demand listeners in FY23, the podcast feed served as a digital portal to the rich tapestry of Minnesota's musical landscape. Delving into the dreamy pop-electronica sounds of Sleeping Jesus with their latest album, *Leave the Party Early*, **The Sound** became a conduit for residents in Southeastern Minnesota to deepen their awareness of the intricate artistic, technical, and industry best practices within the realm of music. **The Sound** resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content created by public radio with the goal of increasing access to art and culture. The project also increased the number of Minnesota artists, producers, writers, and others who had their work showcased through public radio and made residents of Southeast Minnesota more aware of their work. KQAL achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



The Sound featured local musicians combined with insightful discussions about the stories behind the music.

AWARDS RECEIVED FOR ACHF PROGRAMMING

Ampers (Statewide) earned an honor from the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists (MNSPJ). It was for the **Minnesota Native News** project. The segment **On The Ballot** produced by Emma Needham and Marie Rock took second place in the “Politics/government reporting” category. For the **On The Ballot** segment, producer Emma Needham spoke with new and returning Native Candidates from midterm races across the state. It Highlighted Native candidates running for office at the state level, but also Native candidates in local races, including the city council race in Bemidji and candidates for school board both in Minneapolis and in Brainerd.

KQAL (Winona) received three Eric Sevareid Awards from the Midwest Broadcast Journalist Association (MBJA). For the **Art Beat** project, Winona State student Jiovani Bermudez received an Award of Merit for **Last of the Better Days Ahead, a Charlie Parr Book Reading** in the “Student Division” category. It was a glimpse at the stories behind the works of local artist Charlie Parr with his new book **Last of the Better Days Ahead**. For the **Culture Clique** program, Jiovani Bermudez also won first place in the “Documentary Special Category” of the “Student Market Radio Division” for **Growing up in a Cult**. The segment was about a young woman’s journey growing up in a religious extremist cult. Bill Stoneberg received an Award of Merit in the “Small Market Radio” category for the **Culture Clique** segment entitled **The Oak Center General Store** which showcased a general store built in 1913 that also serves as a music venue and much more for the community.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul) earned four Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists (MNSPJ) awards. First place was awarded to Julie Censullo, Emily Haavik, Matthew Schneeman, Tony Williams, Sheila Regan, Joe Friedrichs, and John Gebretatose for Season Six of the **MinneCulture** Podcast for the “Podcast” category.

MinneCulture also took first place in the “Enterprise/In-Depth Reporting” category which was awarded to Joe Friedrichs for his segment entitled **A History of Fire in the Boundary Waters**. The **10,000 Fresh Voices** program took home first place in the “Feature Reporting” category for the segment, **History Submerged in the Land of 10,000 Lakes**. It was a short documentary about a husband-wife team that searched for artifacts in Minnesota’s lakes and rivers, which was produced by Michelle Bruch. KFAI also received third place in the “Feature Reporting” category. MinneCulture producer Tony Williams earned the award for his segment entitled **The Not-Springs of Mankato** which exposed an early internet hoax with some local flavor.



KFAI earned four awards for its ACHF programming.

AWARDS RECEIVED FOR ACHF PROGRAMMING

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage) received first place for “Best Series” from the Midwest Broadcast Journalists Association (MBJA) for ***It Happens Here: The Roots of Racial Inequity on the North Shore***, produced and written by Staci Drouillard and co-hosted by Leah Lemm. The ongoing series explored the history of racial inequality in Northeastern Minnesota. The series also received a Regional Edward R. Murrow Award for “Excellence in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.” ***The North Shore Morning Community Voices*** feature ***Notes from Reservation River: The Best Dog in the World***, written by Jess Koski and produced by Staci Drouillard, received an MBJA first-place award in the “Writing for Broadcast” category. Koski shared about the life and times of Hansi, his beloved golden-doodle, who he maintains was “the best dog in the world.”



WTIP earned three awards for its ACHF programming.



Ampers and its member stations have received 11 awards for Legacy programming in FY23 bringing the ten-year total to 99 awards!

FUNDING SOURCES

Station	Expense Type	Funding Source	FY23
 Ampers* Statewide	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$200,000.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$511,250.00
	Station Distribution	Dept. of Administration	\$150,000.00
	Supplies	Dept. of Administration	\$500.00
	Postage	Dept. of Administration	\$250.00
 Ampers** Statewide Veterans' Voices Grant	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$25,000.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$119,550.00
	Marketing	Dept. of Administration	\$4,450.00
	Station Distribution	Dept. of Administration	\$45,000.00
 KBXE Bagley / Bemidji	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$58,250.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$60,750.00
 WDSE Duluth	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$52,817.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$24,150.00
	Software	Dept. of Administration	\$6,765.00
	Advertising	Dept. of Administration	\$11,268.00
 WTIP Grand Marais / Gunflint Trail / Grand Portage	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$69,942.60
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$20,057.40
 KAXE Grand Rapids / Brainerd	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$50,415.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$66,085.00
	Equipment/Supplies	Dept. of Administration	\$2,500.00
 KMSU Mankato / Austin	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$36,900.00
	Supplies/Materials	Dept. of Administration	\$2,000.00
	License/Royalty Fees	Dept. of Administration	\$1,100.00
	Advertising	Dept. of Administration	\$500.00
 KBEM Minneapolis / St. Paul	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$7,800.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$87,200.00
 KUOM Minneapolis / St. Paul	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$118,498.00
	Supplies	Dept. of Administration	\$502.00
 KVSC St. Cloud	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$52,675.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$49,000.00
	Advertising	Dept. of Administration	\$2,325.00
	Equipment/Supplies	Dept. of Administration	\$4,000.00
	Student Help	Dept. of Administration	\$11,000.00

FUNDING SOURCES

Station	Expense Type	Funding Source	FY23
 KSRQ Thief River Falls	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$59,000.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$50,000.00
	Equipment	Dept. of Administration	\$5,000.00
	Advertising	Dept. of Administration	\$5,000.00
 KQAL Winona	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$95,000.00

* Ampers funding supports Ampers' statewide ACHF programs as well as the Ampers Group Project. The Ampers Group Project funded ACHF programs for the following stations in FY23: KBFT (Bois Forte / Nett Lake), WGZS (Fond du Lac / Cloquet), KFAI (Minneapolis / St. Paul) KMOJ (Minneapolis / St. Paul), KRPR (Rochester), KOJB (Cass Lake), and KKWE (White Earth / Callaway).

**Ampers received a separate \$194,000 net Legacy grant for its Veterans' Voices project.

*** Please note funding listed above reports FY23 funding and does not include any carryover funding from previous fiscal years because carryover funds were already included in previous Legislative Reports.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR ACHF PROJECTS

Station	Project	Funding Source	Amount
WDSE Duluth	Arts and Cultural Events	Underwriting	\$960.00
WTIP Grand Marais / Gunflint Trail / Grand Portage	Boundary Waters Podcast	Underwriting	\$2,900.00
	Radio Waves Music Festival	Grant	\$8,000.00
KVSC St. Cloud	KVSC News Department Staff Coverage of Arts and Culture	SCSU Student Government	\$5,000.00
		Listener Donation	\$5,000.00
		Underwriting	\$1,000.00
KSRQ Thief River Falls	Pioneer PolkaCast HD-2	Listener Contributions	\$2,262.00



Ampers stations were able to leverage ACHF programs to secure more than \$20,000 in additional funding.

PROGRAM SHARING

Ampers (Statewide) shared 246 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji) shared 267 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake) shared 206 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

WDSE (Duluth) shared 75 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

WGZS-FM (Fond du Lac / Cloquet) shared 20 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage) shared 221 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd) shared 267 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul) shared 142 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul) shared 37 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul) shared 95 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KRPR (Rochester) shared 66 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KVSC (St. Cloud) shared 37 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KSRQ (Thief River Falls) shared 175 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway) shared 51 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KQAL (Winona) shared 73 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

Note: Information above is reported by Public Radio Exchange (PRX) and reflects programs and segments uploaded to PRX between 7/1/22 and 6/30/23.



There are now more than 27,000 Legacy segments and programs on the Ampers website.



COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

Ampers (Statewide): “Your topics are always interesting.”—Brenda Beckman, KBEM listener, commenting on **MN90**

Ampers (Statewide): “Great tidbits of MN history! Please continue this show!”—KBXE listener, commenting on **MN 90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds**

Ampers (Statewide): “MN 90 is a favorite for my kids and myself on our drive to school in the morning!”—KBXE listener, commenting on **MN 90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds**

Ampers (Statewide): “Minnesota Native News has opened my eyes to issues impacting Native Americans in Minnesota. I appreciate hearing stories I don’t hear anywhere else.”—KBXE listener, commenting on **Minnesota Native News**

Ampers (Statewide): “One of the main reasons I’m a sustaining member is to keep hearing MN Native News!”—KBXE listener, commenting on **Minnesota Native News**

Ampers (Statewide): “Great local indigenous perspectives.”—KBXE listener, commenting on **Native Lights**

Ampers (Statewide): “Wonderful contribution to local culture.”—KBXE listener, commenting on **Native Lights**

Ampers (Statewide): “Native Lights is one of the BEST KAXE-KBXE shows ever aired!!!!”—KBXE listener, commenting on **Native Lights**

Ampers (Statewide): “This show is extremely needed, as Northern Minnesota is still very under-educated about the issues presented on Counter Stories.”—KBXE listener, commenting on **Counter Stories**

Ampers (Statewide): “MN90 provides a great service to Minnesota. I love hearing the personalities.”—State Fair attendee, commenting on **MN 90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds**

Ampers (Statewide): “Such a great resource. Thank you!”—State Fair attendee, commenting on **MN 90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds**

Ampers (Statewide): “Great history lessons!”—State Fair attendee, commenting on **MN 90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds**

Ampers (Statewide): “Please keep funding it.”—State Fair attendee, commenting on **MN 90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds**

Ampers (Statewide): “Thanks for the great programs.”—State Fair attendee, commenting on **Veteran’s Voices**

Ampers (Statewide): “Keep up the great work!”—State Fair attendee, commenting on **Veteran’s Voices**



“Minnesota Native News has opened my eyes to issues impacting Native Americans in Minnesota. I appreciate hearing stories I don’t hear anywhere else.”

— KBXE listener, commenting on **Minnesota Native News**

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

Ampers (Statewide): “Thank you for your service and sharing your lives. Not stories. You lived them. Great for classrooms, boardrooms, breakrooms, everywhere. We need peace.”— Molly Fields, commenting on **Veteran’s Voices**

Ampers (Statewide): “Thank you for telling us about the Secret War in Laos”—Paul Nkajloo Vue, commenting on **Veteran’s Voices**

Ampers (Statewide): “Document all the veteran memories. Important! Freedom IS NOT Free! We who gave some must never forget those who gave a lot or all!”— Jerome Ekre, commenting on **Veteran’s Voices**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Community building and celebrating the members of the community is so affirming for me.”— KBXE listener, commenting on **Area Voices**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Area Voices has brought forth amazing, educational presentations!”— KBXE listener, commenting on **Area Voices**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I love Centerstage! It has introduced me to a lot of talented Minnesota artists I would never have heard if it weren’t for Northern Community Radio.”— KBXE listener, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Malachy!! That was a kick arse interview you did with Heiruspecs!! WOW - welcome to KAXE / KBXE! We are lucky to have you!!”— Dave, Bloomington, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Malachy’s interview with Drew Peterson on Friday was an absolute treat. Great insight into the history of his guitars and the Piedmont blues, thank you for that.”— Eric, Minneapolis, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I feel so blessed to live in such a beautiful state of influence and talent. Appreciate this investment in promoting and celebrating the diversity of many local musicians and artists.”— KBXE listener, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “My 6 year old is so jazzed. Miigwech for an all ages show from the Wild Horses concert.”— Kendra Wolfe, commenting on **Music at the Chief**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “The combination of this theater and really good musicians was a highlight of the last season for Bemidji.”— KBXE listener, commenting on **Music at the Chief**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I was inspired to hear this segment and went online to see all the beauty they were describing in these beautiful works of art to be adorned. Loved learning about the significance in every little piece. And work created for our state’s Lt Governor. VERY IMPRESSIVE!”— KBXE listener, commenting on **Anishinaabe Fashion Show**



“I love Centerstage! It has introduced me to a lot of talented Minnesota artists I would never have heard if it weren’t for Northern Community Radio.”

— KBXE listener, commenting on *Centerstage Minnesota*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I heard Mark Christensen read “Landlocked in Minnesota” as I was driving to work. It made my day that much better--as hearing things on KAXE/KBXE so often does!”—Jenny, Pine River, commenting on ***What We’re Reading***

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Programming like this is now more important than ever, considering the rise of book bans and political pressure on our teachers and librarians.”—KBXE listener, commenting on ***What We’re Reading***

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “This is one of my favorite events sponsored by the radio station. There is always an interesting lineup of talented musicians.”—KBXE listener, commenting on ***Bemidji Block Party***

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake): “I am a millennial so I have grown up with a very open mind. I wasn’t going to send a message but there have been quite a few times I heard Aunty Karen’s frustration and wanted to say to her don’t give up! Even a gichi mookomaan is inspired by the culture and language. Please continue language podcasts if you can, I am a grateful for it!”—Rae Shine, commenting on ***Anishinaabemoen In-Depth***

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Thanks again for all of your shows. This note has been a long time coming but isn’t nearly as well composed as it should be. So much thanks for the hours of listening as I drive my truck around my native (but no longer feels like home) eastern Iowa delivering food in the middle of the night. Obviously so much more than outlined here, all the shows about inclusion and diversity, the music, the people, your friendships your love of the area, the community you two have made.”—WTIP listener, commenting on ***Boundary Waters Podcast***

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “I ended up taking my 12 year old daughter with me and in researching found your show. I have since listened to every single one of them, and dare I say, it is my favorite podcast. This renewed my enthusiasm for the BWCA that began when I was in high school and was given a Cliff Wolds brochure by a friend.”—Nate Clow, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, commenting on ***Boundary Waters Podcast***

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “I was recently introduced to your podcast and have listened to a handful of episodes. I appreciate the intimacy to the story telling about the Boundary Waters and getting to know the folks you host and learning about their adventures. At the end of each episode, it feels like I just hung out with you all and there’s nothing a Minnesotan loves more than that!”—Abbie Bowman, Duluth, commenting on ***Boundary Waters Podcast***



“I am a millennial so I have grown up with a very open mind. I wasn’t going to send a message but there have been quite a few times I heard Aunty Karen’s frustration and wanted to say to her don’t give up! Even a gichi mookomaan is inspired by the culture and language. Please continue language podcasts if you can, I am a grateful for it!”

– Rae Shine, commenting on ***Anishinaabemoen In-Depth***

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “We listen non-stop when we’re in town or in the BWCAW and are year-round listeners of the WTIP Boundary Waters Podcast.” — Jon and Rosemary, commenting on ***Boundary Waters Podcast***

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Thanks to the guys for sharing their scary paddling story and how they’re processing everything. It’s amazing what you’re doing with your radio platform. Thanks Joe—Hoorah!” - WTIP listener, commenting on ***Boundary Waters Podcast***

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “WTIP makes us feel like part of the community. You keep the pulse of Grand Marais! We love the Boundary Waters Podcast and Outdoor News Podcast.” — Bill and Denise Johnson, Stillwater and Loon Lake on the Gunflint Trail, commenting on ***Boundary Waters Podcast***

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “We appreciate WTIP’s coverage of environmental issues on DayBreak and North Shore Morning. It’s important to protect this “ship” we’re all on.” — Steven, Carbondale, Illinois, commenting on ***North Shore Morning***

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “I enjoy DayBreak, North Shore Morning, Larry Weber’s weekend nature updates and the Boundary Waters Podcast.” — Jean Brisance, Maple Grove, commenting on ***North Shore Morning***

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “I just loved hearing Chel Andeson talk moths with Mark this morning.” — Michael, Grand Marais Rec Park camper, commenting on ***North Shore Morning***

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “We appreciate WTIP’s authenticity, the great music and outstanding coverage of environmental and natural resource topics that are critical to the identity of the MN Arrowhead.” — Janice and Kent Johnson, Hudson, Wisconsin, commenting on ***North Shore Morning***

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Hi! It is Beautiful! I absolutely Love this!! Chi-Miigwech to you!! I have tears in my eyes, I am so proud!” — Carmen Keyport, Principal, Oshki Ogimaag Charter School, commenting on ***School News on North Shore Morning***

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Thanks, Staci. You and Leah did a great job! I especially like the 90 Million Acres episode, which should never be forgotten in our discussion of boarding school history.” — Brenda Child, commenting on ***It Happens Here***

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “I like Will’s show the Scenic Route. It keeps me connected to Minnesota. I live in France now, but listen online often.” — Chris Olson, Romorantin, France, commenting on ***Scenic Route***



“Thanks to the guys for sharing their scary paddling story and how they’re processing everything. It’s amazing what you’re doing with your radio platform. Thanks Joe – Hoorah!”

– WTIP listener, commenting on ***Boundary Waters Podcast***

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “I used to always say I liked the news, but now I like the eclectic selection of music. I’m introduced to a lot of new artists on Sidetracks and Scenic Route and have been reintroduced to artists I enjoy.”—Justin Cavey, commenting on **Scenic Route**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Gimiigwechiwigoo! Giiwedonong Jiigabiig Oodenaawin Bizindamoo-makak! We all thank you! North Shore Community Radio!”—Margaret Noodin, Grand Portage, commenting on **Anishinaabe Bizindamoo Makak**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “I love listening to Sidetracks. WTIP is my first source of local news, happenings, etc. Radio Waves is my favorite event of the year!”—Elunia Steckelberg, Grand Marais, commenting on **Radio Waves**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Thank you! Centering Indigenous cultures from Dakota and Anishinaabe People is crucial for deepening understanding and respect.”—KAXE listener, commenting on **Boozhoo Nanaboozhoo**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I have been impacted by each of these stories and I find myself self-thinking about the content for some time.”—KAXE listener, commenting on **Economics of Art**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I’m proud to be, still, associated with genuinely Good Radio—Stay Human has been, and is, a wonderful investment in time and attention. Thanks for sharing it with us, even from a distance.—Pete Pierson, commenting on **Stay Human**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Stay Human this morning was brilliant, as were all the contributing writers, poets, philosophers and musicians. What an extraordinary hour spent being reminded what to honor and celebrate together today. Being human! Thanks also to those involved in its production and all who keep KAXE on the air. Can’t imagine life without it ... without all of you!”—Kathleen, Cook, commenting on **Stay Human**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Dear Michael: I absolutely loved today’s program about mail carrying and hearing Karen Noyce’s (and others) familial history through written letters. I am a scholar and trained historian and only 31—I still enjoy handwritten letters, postcards and receiving mail items. Great way to commute back to my cottage in Walker. Miigwech”—Colleena Bibeau, commenting on **Stay Human**

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “What a special afternoon, it is great you have documented so much about all of the elders.”—LuAnn Kinzer, commenting on **Minnesota Jazz: The Elders**



“What a special afternoon, it is great you have documented so much about all of the elders.”

— LuAnn Kinzer,
commenting on *Minnesota Jazz: The Elders*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Congratulations, Denny Malmberg. Wind ensemble was the highlight of my day at South! We loved the dedication to Butch Thompson. Joan Griffiths contributions were fresh and so creative. Thank you! Douglas Ewart’s portion of avant guard jazz seemed out of line for a jazz concert. The other honorees were greatly appreciated.” – Marcia Ha, commenting on **Minnesota Jazz: The Elders**

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Your work, dedication, and kindness are shining through. Not to speak of your talent...amazing! The Show was beyond wonderful!” – Vickie Foster, commenting on **Minnesota Jazz: The Elders**

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “What a unique and marvelous group - congratulations!” – Carolyn Jackson, commenting on **Minnesota Jazz: The Elders**

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thank you, loved talking with Dixie Treichel.” – John Killacky, commenting on **10,000 Fresh Voices**

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Now that’s true investigative journalism at it’s best!” – Joni Modderman, commenting on **MinneCulture**

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Just an honest history piece.” – Laura Nicole, commenting on **MinneCulture**

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “These are great!” – Doug Meade, commenting on **Live from Minnesota**

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I like getting the U of M students’ take on our local arts scene and what’s going on. Thanks for Real College Podcast!” – Cynthia, Minneapolis, commenting on **32 and You from Real College Podcast**

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Radio K has been an important part of my life since the 90s. Thank you for The Magnetic Fields. Thank you for Smog. Thank you for The New Year. And thank you for hundreds of essential local bands!” – Lee, Minneapolis, commenting on **BTS: Behind the Scenes with Minnesota’s Music Makers**

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Radio K is a great part of the Twin Cities music scene. So happy you’re here!” – Jim, Minneapolis, commenting on **BTS: Behind the Scenes with Minnesota’s Music Makers**

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thanks for Introducing me to new music so I don’t listen to the same four bands for the past 30 years.” – Reed, Minnetonka, commenting on **BTS: Behind the Scenes with Minnesota’s Music Makers**



“Radio K gives students a unique cultural autonomy that is invaluable. You can feel the spirit of Minneapolis coming through in every airwave.”

– Jeremy, Minneapolis, commenting on *BTS: Behind the Scenes with Minnesota’s Music Makers*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Radio K gives students a unique cultural autonomy that is invaluable. You can feel the spirit of Minneapolis coming through in every airwave.”—Jeremy, Minneapolis, commenting on ***BTS: Behind the Scenes with Minnesota’s Music Makers***

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Been listening from Day! And you still play my bands, as well as my friend’s bands. I love hearing new music, and hearing you guys discover old music.”—Michael, Minneapolis, commenting on ***Local Vibes***

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Radio K creates a community, leadership opportunities, and career experience for music and radio lovers!”—Katie, River Falls, WI, commenting on ***Local Vibes***

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Not only are the staff and students among the coolest on campus, Radio K creates a home for learning, development and community. So proud of the Radio K team!”—Meaghan, Golden Valley, commenting on ***Local Vibes***

KRPR (Rochester): “We went to the fairgrounds to watch the fireworks this year. I brought a Bluetooth speaker and we listened to KRPR as our backdrop to the fireworks. It was on a Monday and Basement Sessions had just started and it was the perfect background to the fireworks.”—Deana Carr, commenting on ***R-Town***

KVSC (St. Cloud): “We had a terrific time Old Sport! A tremendous congratulations to the cast, crew, director, sound engineering, lighting and everyone involved with The Great Gatsby with GREAT Theatre.”—Mike, St. Cloud, commenting on ***Great Theatre Live Radio Production***

KVSC (St. Cloud): “First time seeing a live radio drama. Wasn’t sure what to expect, but this was cool!”—Dez, St. Cloud, commenting on ***Great Theatre Live Radio Production***

KVSC (St. Cloud): “Thanks for bringing laughter to our area!! It was a fantastic night!!”—Katherine, St. Cloud, commenting on ***Untold Stories of Central MN and Arts Collage Producer***, Sketch Writer

KVSC (St. Cloud): “What a fun experience, it was our first time going. Jay Terry was so Funny. It was Hilarious to see Al Neff not know something in trivia. And the Reason we went Chris Castino was the Hi-light...what a sweet gentle soul so wonderful to see him play live. And he let me take a picture of him and my husband Eric Kerwin together, made his day!!! Will definitely try to catch the show again.”—Jessica, Sartell, commenting on ***Granite City Radio Theatre***

KVSC (St. Cloud): “Great show last night! Such a fun show, and Becky was fabulous, and just such a talented and sweet person! We had to buy a bunch of her cards, too! So cute!”—Kathy, St. Cloud, commenting on ***Granite City Radio Theatre***



“First time seeing a live radio drama. Wasn’t sure what to expect, but this was cool.”

— Dez, St. Cloud, commenting on ***Great Theatre Live Radio Production***

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KVSC (St. Cloud): “Always great to hear some Chris Castino tunes on KVSC - 88.1 FM, maybe even more often over the next couple weeks.”

– Kurt, St. Cloud, commenting on **Granite City Radio Theatre**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Thanks for keeping this genre of music alive!” — Charlie, commenting on **Pioneer PolkaCast**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “My dad is a long-time listener and fan from Erskine. He is recuperating from a back injury with his daughter down in the cities; but he always looks forward to a familiar voice from home and listens to your Sunday/Monday night shows.” — Lori, commenting on **Pioneer PolkaCast**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “I have been loving each of Cathy Erickson’s shows for about six months. She is delightful and a blessing to her many listeners all over. I tune in from Spanish Fort, Alabama. Thanks for providing awesome programs!!! May God bless each person involved.” — Olivia, commenting on **Pioneer PolkaCast**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “The Woodpicks are a Great Band! They put their heart and soul into every song they sing! Joel’s showmanship makes him a legend to everyone who watches his great moves. Many Thanks to Pioneer 90.1 for this very fun evening in the park!!!” — Jon Vik, commenting on **Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “What an awesome concert!! Thanks for bringing them to TRF!!!” — Sarah Rogalla, commenting on Corey Medina & Brothers Concert on **Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Thank YOU!! What an awesome night!! Can’t wait ‘til next Thursday!!” — Russ Holmaas, commenting on Church of Cash Concert on **Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Can you please let us know when this episode will be on the list of past shows? It was fun to listen to - thanks!” — Jacki, commenting on **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Great show! Really enjoyed listening to Joe’s cover of Duck Soup on today’s program.” — Richard, commenting on **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “I enjoyed a visit with fellow 1974 - 1975 classmate Dave Vagle. Sincere thanks to Mark Johnson, and family, the Howard Rokke Family and staff at the college in hosting this 50th reunion for the Audio Communications alumni.” — Conrad Goroski, commenting on **KSRQ 50th Anniversary Celebration**

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “It’s great that Nijjii radio supports local musicians.” — Erin, commenting on **Nijjii’s Minnesota Mixdown Series**



“What an awesome concert!! Thanks for bringing them to TRF!!!”

– Sarah Rogalla, commenting on Corey Medina & Brothers Concert on *Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “Muskie Days is my favorite music event of the year you always have a great line up of Minnesota musicians.”

– Crystal, commenting on ***Nijiji’s Minnesota Mixdown Series***

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “I wish there were more cultural classes like this.”– Mary, commenting on ***Ojibwe Arts Rising***

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “I’m glad these classes are available to everyone to learn.” – Tyler, commenting on ***Ojibwe Arts Rising***

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “I love that you guys incorporate the teaching with the classes its so important...” – Joann, commenting on ***Ojibwe Arts Rising***

KQAL (Winona): “I really appreciate KQAL’s support of our local theater community.” – Robert Armstrong, commenting on ***Art Beat***

KQAL (Winona): “Your segment on Theatre du Mississippi was great, thanks for your coverage.” – Nicole Civettini, Winona, commenting on ***Art Beat***

KQAL (Winona): “Thanks airing the Nerd Night from a couple weeks ago, I missed it and was surprised (pleasantly) to hear it on KQAL.” – Isaac Tepolt, Winona, commenting on ***Culture Cilque***

KQAL (Winona): “I turned on KQAL the other day and heard Decent of Man, cool hearing a local group and their tunes.” – Cooper Lipski, Winona, commenting on ***The Sound***

KQAL (Winona): “I work 2nd shift and appreciate the Live feed on Friday nights, I need to get out and see some of the bands you have on.” – Dylan Alzate, Winona, commenting on ***The Live Feed***

KQAL (Winona): “I heard our event mentioned on Don’t Cha Know, International digital media arts conference, and it was nice to hear them talk about it.” – Daven Heckman, Winona, commenting on ***Don’t Cha Know & Arts and Entertainment Download***



“I really appreciate KQAL’s support of our local theater community.”

– Robert Armstrong,
commenting on ***Art Beat***

COMMENTS FROM MINNESOTA ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Katie, I just listened to the interview I did with you. I thought it showed great editing. I know it was my voice, but as I listened I got choked up at times because my heart and soul were being shared. I should mention that there were several people at the exhibit at MacRostie [who] told me that they had heard the interview and were inspired by it. Thank you from the bottom of [my] heart for making this happen. I will be dropping off a copy of the musical book sometime this week.” — Charles Alberti: Fibonacci Sequence and the Golden Ratio, commenting on **Area Voices**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Thank you so much for having us! We had such a blast!” —The Suzy and Hondo segment, commenting on **Area Voices**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): I really appreciate your gift for interviewing people. It’s a special knack, and you have it! When I told people about it, every single person commented on how comfortable you make the experience, how nice you were. I just wanted you to know. I believe in telling people how awesome they are—try to never let a moment pass. So, you are awesome! I truly enjoyed meeting you, and my interview experience was positive.” — Anne Marie Newman, commenting on **Area Voices**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Thomas X: I’ll be performing at the Bemidji Block Party this Saturday, June 24th! Outdoor event with hella cool stuff going on. I hit the stage at 4pm. Yee!” — Musician, commenting on **Block Party**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Thanks for the spinning!” — Her Crooked Heart, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I hope y’all are as excited as I am!” — The YMA segment, Tracy Kampa, commenting on **What We’re Reading**

WDSE (Duluth): “This collaboration concert was a dream come true. So excited to share it with you thanks to The North 103.3! Save the date!! This was such an awesome experience!!” — Breanne Marie, commenting on **The Bridge Sessions**

WDSE (Duluth): “Next Tuesday! This was such an awesome experience!!!” — Bill & Kate Isles, commenting on **The Bridge Sessions**

WDSE (Duluth): “Shackletons, New Salty Dogs and Woodsong Souvenir members all said they enjoyed the ability to be both on the radio and online/TV. Being filmed was a new experience for them and they enjoyed the process.” — Musician, commenting on **Contract with WDSE-TV**



“I should mention that there were several people at the exhibit at MacRostie [who] told me that they had heard the interview and were inspired by it.”

— Charles Alberti: Fibonacci Sequence and the Golden Ratio, commenting on **Area Voices**

COMMENTS FROM MINNESOTA ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Top shelf music event. From the musician’s parking, the load in help, the fantastic sound and stage was amazing. Such a beautiful setting and community event. I hope you have us back! Thank you, couldn’t be more grateful.”— Colleen Myhre, commenting on **Radio Waves**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Thank you all for your hard work & generous support. After two plus years of the pandemic it was great to play live. Thanks for your 15 years of presenting live, local music. All the best.”— Gene LaFond and Amy Grillo, commenting on **Radio Waves**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Tremendously great experience. I feel so blessed to be asked to come back so many years. It’s a highlight of a musical year for me.”— Musician, commenting on **Radio Waves**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “It was an amazing experience. I felt very welcome and had a blast performing for the crowd. Thank you for having me.”— Musician, commenting on **Radio Waves**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “So glad Radio Waves is back live this year! What an incredible addition to our community. So important that you feature local and regional musicians. Well done!”— Musician, commenting on **Radio Waves**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “The sound crew was superb. I hope you will hire them again. They seemed to understand that the mix for jazz is different than rock. Sky Blue is grateful for all the sound people you have had over the years, and we all felt this year’s performance opportunity was one of our best.”— Mike DeBevec, commenting on **Radio Waves**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Thank you for including me once again in the lineup. This year was so wonderful, to once again be live in front of an appreciative community. I am so grateful to WTIP for making this festival happen, and for it’s ongoing, incredible support for live, local music. Your support has been instrumental to my success as a musician. Thank you!”— Musician, commenting on **Radio Waves**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “This is a must listen show for our household. I have also been able to participate. Great local program.”— Musician, commenting on **Stay Human**

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thanks so much, Phil. Our pic on the page is upside down, but it’s radio, so no problem. Excellent editing, too. We greatly appreciate your help.”— Bill Steiger, from the band No Room For Squares, commenting on **Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week**

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Oh Phil! Wow! That was really nice. Thank you for showing our hearts! I can see why you are one of the best! A lot was said



“Thank you all for your hard work & generous support. After two plus years of the pandemic it was great to play live.”

— Gene LaFond and Amy Grillo, commenting on **Radio Waves**

COMMENTS FROM MINNESOTA ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

in 8 minutes! Thank you for everything!”—Cathy and Abel Pineiro, of the duo Cathy ‘n Abel, commenting on ***Twin Cities Weekend / Twin Cities This Week***

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “This is wonderful Phil! Thank you so much for your support. Not to be a downer, but this biz can be lonely and i feel extremely unsupported at times. But you have been such a key bright light for me.”—Davina Lozier, of the group Davina and the Vagabonds, commenting on ***Twin Cities Weekend / Twin Cities This Week***

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Directors of acts featured on the program offered positive and supportive feedback. They indicated that the exposure benefitted their students’ morale and pursuit of artistry.”—Directors, commenting on ***Jazz@MPS***

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “The honorees and next-of-kin were quite touched by the experience. Some have been out of the limelight and others have stayed in active practice, but all were moved by the recognition and gratitude of the assembled crowd.”—Honorees, commenting on ***Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders***

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Artists broadcast, particularly the youth ensembles, expressed gratitude for our broadcast and webcast efforts.”—Musicians, commenting on ***Twin Cities Jazz Fest-Main Stage & Broadcast Partner***

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “The performers who were presented and well compensated for their work were honored and pleased to partner with KBEM for the project, and access new audiences.”—Musicians, commenting on ***Flash Concert Series***

KVSC (St. Cloud): “What a brilliant partnership. I look forward to our next project.”—Kendra Norton-Dando, commenting on ***Great Theatre Live Radio Production***

KVSC (St. Cloud): “Shout out to all that attending the show last night at St. Cloud State University. I had a blast! I know the weather was a lil sketchy but y’all showed up and showed out! Huge shout out to all the staff at KVSC—88.1 FM for working together to bring me in. It was awesome being back on campus and revisiting classes I never went to.”—C. Willi Miles, commenting on ***Untold Stories of Central MN and Arts Collage Producer, Sketch Writer***

KVSC (St. Cloud): “Wow! What a show! So much love tonight at the season finale of KVSC—88.1 FM’s Granite City Radio Theater with Dave Simonett! Thanks to everyone who does an incredible job putting this thing on!”—Jeff Carmack, commenting on ***Granite City Radio Theatre***

KVSC (St. Cloud): “This was SO MUCH FUN! What a fabulous evening. An absolute honor to be a part of.”—Becky Schlegel, commenting on ***Granite City Radio Theatre***



“The performers who were presented and well compensated for their work were honored and pleased to partner with KBEM for the project, and access new audiences.”

— Musicians, commenting on *Flash Concert Series*

COMMENTS FROM MINNESOTA ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Ron made it comfortable for my student who was nervous. And asked great questions.” — Organizer, commenting on **Artist Spotlight**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “I had a great time chatting with Ron, and I’m hoping that some writers and theater artists in the Northwest region will be interested in participating in our programs. Thank you for including us!” — Artist, commenting on **Artist Spotlight**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “The question of ‘Why do you do this even?’ had the most impact on listeners. The style of the interviewer made the interview fun.” — Musician, commenting on **Artist Spotlight**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Very enjoyable; listening to Ron’s voice is a great experience in its own right! His interviews certainly provide much insight to arts news in NW Minnesota.” — Artist, commenting on **Artist Spotlight**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): Tune in or stream it later—online. “Lost River” just went by a bit ago. Sounded pretty good, if I do say so myself. Lots of local artists. Check it out!” — Terry Ruud, commenting on **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “I love playing for Nijjii radio” —Musician Todd Sisston, commenting on **Nijjii’s Minnesota Mixdown Series**

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “Nijjii radio does a great job at finding a variety of Minnesota musicians, there’s music for everyone to enjoy.” — Tracy Gangle of Nevis Community Council, commenting on **Nijjii’s Minnesota Mixdown Series**

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “I love teaching our culture to the community.” — Tonya, commenting on **Ojibwe Arts Rising**

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “It’s such a great opportunity to share our knowledge and culture.” — Char, commenting on **Ojibwe Arts Rising**

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “It was fun learning the language and hearing them on the radio.” — Landon, commenting on **The New Ojibwemowin**

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “I think it’s important to get this knowledge out there to help keep the culture alive.” — Shirley, commenting on **Ojibwe Life Ways**

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “I’m honored to share our culture with other and learn about other cultures at the same time.” — Lucinda, commenting on **Cultural Exchange**

KQAL (Winona): “Being on KQAL is always so much fun, they are really helpful in getting the word out.” — Cara Eggers, Winona, commenting on **Art Beat**



“I think it’s important to get this knowledge out there to help keep the culture alive.”

— Shirley, commenting on *Ojibwe Life Ways*

COMMENTS FROM MINNESOTA ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

KQAL (Winona): “I always enjoy coming on KQAL to talk about the observatory and current space stuff.”—Dr. Jennifer Anderson, Winona State, commenting on ***Culture Clique***

KQAL (Winona): “I had a great time recording the interview with Bill Stoneberg. We find a lot of common connections between our stories of growing up and we both love good music! He is a nice guy and always a joy to talk with.”—Jason Edwards, Winona, commenting on ***The Live Feed***

KQAL (Winona): “Thank you for your time and the opportunity for me to share today, about the upcoming season of the Winona Municipal Band.”—Levi Lundak, Rochester, commenting on ***Don't Cha Know & Arts and Entertainment Download***



“Thank you
for your
time and
the opportunity
for me to share
today, about the
upcoming season
of the Winona
Municipal Band.”

— Levi Lundak, Rochester,
commenting on *Don't
Cha Know & Arts and
Entertainment Download*



Legacy funds were used to pay contractors
and employees to produce more than
1,000 radio segments in FY23.

PROGRAM COSTS / PRODUCTION COSTS

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): *What We're Reading*: Program Costs: \$13,571.59, Administrative Costs: \$57.82; ***Centerstage Minnesota*:** Program Costs: \$22,133.50, Administrative Costs: \$63.00; ***Area Voices*:** Program Costs: \$24,172.62, Administrative Costs: \$63.38; ***I Am Anishinaabe*:** Program Costs: \$16,608.53, Administrative Costs: \$53.32; ***Bemidji Block Party*:** Program Costs: \$23,593.44, Administrative Costs: \$53.67; ***Music at the Chief Theater*:** Program Costs: \$31,517.34, Administrative Costs: \$61.18.

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake): *Anishinaabemoen-In Depth*: Program Costs: \$10,911.65, Administrative Costs: \$1,636.75; ***Native Music Fest Series*:** Program Costs: \$23,797.04, Administrative Costs: \$3,569.56; ***Anishinaabemoen*:** Program Costs: \$7,801.37, Administrative Costs: \$1,170.22; ***Pow Wow Book*:** Program Costs: \$728.77, Administrative Costs: \$109.31; ***Gawindamoshin*:** Program Costs: \$1,373.55, Administrative Costs: \$206.02; ***BF Community Pow Wow Broadcast*:** Program Costs: \$945.64, Administrative Costs: \$135.62; ***Native Writing Fest Series*:** Program Costs: \$2,189.34, Administrative Costs: \$328.40; ***Strongville*:** Program Costs: \$1,483.36; Administrative Costs: \$222.50

WDSE (Duluth): *MN Reads*: Program Costs: \$8,622.26, Administrative costs: \$0; ***The Minnesota Music Archive*:** Program Costs: \$35,987.62, Administrative costs: \$0; ***Live from Studio A*:** Program Costs: \$11,308.81, Administrative Costs: \$0; ***The Local*:** Program Costs: \$9,770.05, Administrative costs: \$0; ***Arts and Cultural Events*:** Program Costs: \$30,885.89, Administrative costs: \$0; ***Duluth Homegrown Music Festival Coverage*:** Program Costs: \$1,329.31, Administrative costs: \$0; ***In The Spirit of Medicine*:** Program Costs: \$457.50, Administrative costs: \$0; ***Contract with WDSE-TV*:** Program Costs: \$17,970.79, Administrative costs: \$0.

WGZS (Fond du Lac/Cloquet): *MN90: Fond du Lac History in 90-Seconds*: Program Costs: \$1,750.00; ***Ogichida Voices Season Three/Fond du Lac's Ogichida Voices*:** Program Costs: \$4,403.73

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): *Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend*: Program Costs: \$38,220.00, Administrative Costs: \$3,000; ***Anishinaabe Bizindamoo*:** Program Costs: \$1,147; ***In the Field*:** Program Costs: \$2,250, Administrative Costs: \$500; ***Lake Superior Project*:** Program Costs: \$1,200; ***Scenic Route*:** Program Costs: \$1,965; ***The Boundary Waters Podcast*:** Program Costs: \$13,040, Administrative Costs: \$1,200; ***Live at WTIP Video Series*:** Program Costs: \$2,800, Administrative Costs: 1,200; ***Sound and Sparks*:** Program Costs: \$1,965; ***It Happens Here: The Roots of Racial Inequity on the North Shore*:** Program Costs: \$3,637; ***Radio Waves Music Festival*:** \$43,727 Administrative Costs: \$2,000; ***Traveling the Old North Shore*:** Program Costs: \$1,200.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): *Between You and Me Podcast*: Program Costs: \$33,243.06, Administrative Costs: \$83.99; ***Stay Human*:** Program Costs: \$24,301.20, Administrative Costs: \$95.63; ***The Economics of Art in Rural MN*:** Program Costs: \$1,440.97, Administrative Costs: \$170.14; ***Boozhoo Nanaboozhoo*:** Program Costs: \$15,045.17, Administrative Costs: \$177.63; ***Music on the River Live*:** Program Costs: \$9,665.45, Administrative Costs: \$41.45.

KOJB (Cass Lake): *Traditional Ojibwe Plants, Herbs, and Teas*: Program Costs: \$8000.00. ***Environmental Voices*:** Program Costs: \$15,600.00; ***History of Leech Lake*:** Program Costs: \$5,200.00; ***Living the Ojibwe Way of Life*:** Program Costs: \$5,200.00; ***Veteran's Voices: Leech Lake*:** Program Costs: \$4,410.00;

PROGRAM COSTS / PRODUCTION COSTS

Ojibwemowin, Learning the Ojibwe Language: Program Costs: \$5,300.00.

KMSU (Mankato): Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances:

Program Costs: \$32,000; **Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings:** Program Costs: \$9,600; **Grind Fu Cinema:** \$2,550; **Small Venue Music & Art Performances:** Program Costs: \$15,000; **Mankato Wacipi (Pow Wow):** Program Costs: \$3,500; **Collaboration with Arts Center of St. Peter:** Program Costs: \$9,700; **Collaboration with the Department of Music at Minnesota State, Mankato:** Program Costs: \$20,701; **Minnesota Music Channel (HD and Steaming):** Program Costs: \$6,080.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): Twin Cities Weekend / Twin Cities This Week: Program Costs: \$34,000; **The Jazz Image – Minnesota Edition:** Program Costs: \$3,200; **Jazz Legends – The Elders:** Program Costs: \$34,812.79; **Jazz at Minneapolis Public Schools:** Program Costs: \$10,710; **MPS Voices:** Program Costs: \$7,371; **Minnesota Jazz Tracks:** Program Costs: \$15,378.90; **Twin Cities Jazzfest–Main Stage & Broadcast Partner:** Program Costs: \$39,999; **Flash Concert Series:** Program Costs: \$40,000.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 10,000 Fresh Voices: Program Costs: \$25,512.87, Administrative Costs: \$1,382.40; **MinneCulture:** Program Costs: \$31,423.36, Administrative Costs: \$1,036.80; **Live from Minnesota:** Program Costs: \$12,067.30, Administrative Costs: \$518.40; **Hidden Black Foodways:** Program Costs: \$1,748.80.

KMOJ (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 4 Opinions: Program Costs: \$8,430.00; **Dancing with the DJs:** Program Costs: \$8,585.02; **Disruptive Narratives:** Program Costs: \$16,546.90; **Live on Location (LOL):** Program Costs: \$4,417.00. **Rondo's**

Golden Tyme Cuppa Love: Program Costs: \$8,856.00; **Someone You Should Know:** Program Costs: \$2,450.00; **The Ice:** Program Costs: \$19,128.68;

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): Thirty Two and You from Real College Podcast: Program Costs: \$42,975.98; **The Local Vibe:** Program Costs: \$13,934.47; **BTS: Behind the Scenes:** Program Costs: \$62,089.52.

KRPR (Rochester): MN90: Rochester History in 90-Seconds: Program Costs: \$9,055.62; **R-TOWN:** Program Costs: \$4,000.00; **Rochester Music Notes:** Program Costs: \$5650.00; **Veterans' Voices: Rochester:** \$5,600.00.

KVSC (St. Cloud): Untold Stories of Central Minnesota: Program Costs: \$38,000; **Speaker and Event Series:** Program Costs: \$6,000; **Granite City Radio Theatre:** Program Costs: \$48,000; **Monday Night Live Audio – Video Synch:** Program Costs: \$4,000; **KVSC News Department:** Program Costs: \$14,000; **Great Theatre live Radio Production:** Program Costs: \$4,500.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2: Program Costs: \$45,331.34; **Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions:** Program Costs: \$47,688; **Artist Spotlight:** Program Costs: \$14,680.30; **Hometown History:** Program Costs: \$7,266.80; **Kezar Music Showroom:** Program Costs: \$4,610.90; **KSRQ 50th Anniversary Celebration:** Program Costs: \$3,218.05.

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): Nijji's Minnesota Mixdown Series: Program Costs: \$26,756.84; Administrative Costs: \$161.58; **Ojibwe Arts Rising:** Program Costs: \$27,275.14, Administrative Costs: \$112.43; **Veterans' Voices: White Earth:** Program Costs: \$431.00, Administrative Costs: \$0; **Cultural Exchange:** Program Costs: \$9,610.94,

PROGRAM COSTS / PRODUCTION COSTS

Administrative Costs: \$56.03; **The New Ojibweowin:** Program Costs: \$3,239.28, Administrative Costs: \$80.36.

KQAL (Winona): Art Beat: Program Costs: \$19,000.00; **Culture Clique:** Program Costs: \$19,000.00; **The Sound:** Program Costs: \$21,375; **The Live Feed:** Program Costs: \$21,375; **Don't Cha Know & Arts and Entertainment Download:** Program Costs: \$14,250.

Ampers (Statewide): MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds: Program Costs: \$105,433.71, Administrative Costs: \$529.48; **Minnesota Native News:** Program Costs: \$52,319.07, Administrative Costs: \$528.40; **Native Lights Podcast, Where Indigenous Voices Shine:** Program Costs: \$147,855.11,

Administrative Costs: \$742.99; **Ampers Digital Archive, Website, and Social Media:** Program Costs: \$13,617.45, Administrative Costs: \$50; **Racial Reckoning: Ground Zero Documentary:** Program Costs: \$12,073.39, Administrative Costs: \$60; **Counter Stories:** Program Costs: \$121,830.57 Administrative Costs: \$612.21; **ACHF Legislative Report and Station Support:** Program Costs: \$18,073.58 Administrative Costs: \$72,294.30; **Veterans' Voices: The Secret War:** Program Costs: \$43,152.80, Administrative Costs: \$2000; **Veterans' Voices: Untold Stories:** Program Costs: \$60,165.51, Administrative Costs: \$150, **Veterans' Voices in 90-Seconds:** Program Costs: \$28,171.97 Administrative Costs: \$150; **Veterans' Voices: Decoded:** \$15,178.88, Administrative Costs: \$150.



Ampers and its member stations paid more than 690 Minnesota artists and musicians for their work in FY23.

INVESTMENTS IN OUR STUDENTS

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): had ten students design and participate in the *Annishinaabe Fashion Show*. Students designed the fashion show space and procured models for the show. Eleven students were interviewed and worked on *Area Voices*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): engaged six North High School students to work on *MPS Voices*. One student created and produced shows for *MPS Voices Stream*. Sixty students recorded and were interviewed for *Jazz @MPS*.

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): Recorded 10 students speaking the Ojibwe language for the show *New Ojibwemowin* and more than 58 students participated in making cultural crafts taught in *Ojibwe Arts Rising*.

KMOJ (Minneapolis / St. Paul): engaged six students for event support, setup, and hosting of *Rondo* and seven students supported *Dancing with the DJs*.

KQAL (Winona): had two students per semester for a total of four work as production assistants and hosts for the *Live Feed, Art Beat, The Sound, Culture Clique* events. Students interviewed bands and artists, recorded performances, and edited the performances into on-air segments. The students also recorded and produced promotional announcements.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): worked with 75 students that performed with guest artists in the *Live Sessions* workshop and concert.

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): paid five students and worked with two student volunteers for the *32 and You* segments from *Real College Podcast*. Students were responsible for assisting with the production of original audio content in the field and in the studio. Tasks included in-depth reporting, writing, producing, voicing, field-recording, hosting, audio editing, and mixing. The station paid five students and had three weekly student volunteers for *Behind the Scenes*. Specific tasks included hosting, videography, live-performance engineering, editing and mixing audio, as well as booking and pre-production work which included planning interview questions. Radio K also paid two students and had three volunteers to work on *Local Vibes*. The students hosted shows, engineered live performances, edited, mixed audio, booked interviews, and created interview questions.

KVSC (St. Cloud): had eight students doing marketing design, social media management, audio production and post-production, event setup, live audio mixing, engineering, & lighting for



INVESTMENTS IN OUR STUDENTS

Granite City Radio Theatre. Two students worked in audio production and post-production for *Untold Stories of Central MN*. Eight students provided marketing design, social media management, audio production and post-production, event setup, live audio mixing, engineering, & lighting for **GREAT Theatre Live Radio Production**. Six students created posters, coordinated social media, produced on-air promotions, and provided on-site help for **Speaker & Event Series**. Eight students oversaw poster design, social media and on-air production/promotions and event set up/support for the **MN Music Concert Series**. Two students worked in live and post event production, engineering, and operation for **Monday Night Live Audio Video Synch**. And six students wrote stories, conducted interviews, and posted to websites and social media for **KVSC News Department Staff Coverage of Arts and Culture**.

WDSE (Duluth): partnered with three students to host the show, **Live from Studio A**. The students booked shows and created interview questions as well as hosted the show.



More than 320 students across the state helped to produce or participated in ACHF programming.

INVESTMENTS IN JOBS FOR MINNESOTANS

Ampers (Statewide): 1.65 FTEs (four full-time), 21 contractors, and three artists/performers/musicians.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): 0.53 FTEs (12 full-time employees), two contract employees and 99 artists/performers/musicians.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 0.12 FTEs (one part-time employee), 23 contract employees and 16 artists/performers/musicians.

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake): 1.5 FTEs (three full-time employee), 1 contract employees and 10 artists/performers/musicians.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): 1.26 FTEs (12 full-time employees) and two contract employees and 51 artists/performers/musicians.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 0.5 FTEs (two full-time employee), 19 contract employees and 11 artists/performers/musicians.

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): 0.75 FTEs (two full-time employees and two part-time employees) four contract employees and 71 performers/artists/musicians.

KMOJ (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 0.88 FTEs (one full-time employee) and five contract employees and 22 artists/performers/musicians

KMSU (Mankato): 0 FTEs (no full-time employee and no part-time employees), 37 contract employees and 317 artists/performers/musicians.

KQAL (Winona): 1.7 FTEs (two full-time employee and one part-time employee)

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): .95 FTEs (two full-time employees and one part-time employee), four contract employees and 27 artists/performers/musicians.

WDSE (Duluth): 1.5 FTEs (five full-time employees and two part-time employees) and four contract employees. And 12 artists/performers/musicians.

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 2.98 FTEs (three full-time employees and 12 part-time employees).

KVSC (St. Cloud): 0.8 FTEs (two part-time employees) six contract employees and 29 artists/performers/musicians.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): 1.64 FTEs (5 full-time employees) three contract employees and 22 artists/performers/musicians.



Legacy funds were used to support 53 full-time, 21 part-time, and 108 contract employees.

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

The **Powwow Book Project** was designed by KBFT to invite those who aren't familiar with Pow Wows to learn more about the tradition and feel more comfortable attending one. Readers learned about the Grand Entry, the Dewe' igan (The Drum), what dancers wear, when you can and cannot take pictures, and when non-Natives can participate in a Pow Wow.

The book was given out at two Pow Wows, one in Nett Lake and one in Vermillion, with an estimated 1000 gifted in FY23. During the distribution of the Pow Wow Booklets, the most heard public comment was people always wanted to learn more about Pow Wows and attend them. And people were grateful to the insight as they would feel more comfortable attending the Pow Wows. The **Powwow Book Project** helped to give more Minnesotans a better understanding of Native American culture and history. The complete **Powwow Book** follows.



POW WOW ETIQUETTE INFORMATIONAL PACKET



POW WOW ETIQUETTE INFORMATIONAL PACKET



Sah Gii Bah Gah Pow wow

The “Sah Gii Bah Gah Pow wow” is an annual gathering held once a year in Nett Lake Minnesota. In the Anishinaabe Language, “Sah Gii Bah Gah” means “Moon of the Bursting Buds”. It is a three day pow wow usually held within the first week of June. “Every spring we have that ceremony after the lake opens and before the leaves come out” said Bois Forte Tribal Elder Gene Goodsky. “We’re asking for growth of all plants, rebirth of all the animals and birds. We’re asking for rebirth of everything. We’re asking for regrowth of the wild rice. What we’re doing is feeding the lake”. A pow wow is a gathering of Native Americans who come

together to dance, sing and celebrate. It is a way of honoring and maintaining a spiritual connection to our ancestors. It is believed that the first pow wows took place in the early 1800s and the modern day pow wows started in the early 1900s. The term pow wow is not an English word, you often will see it written out as one word or two. Both are acceptable. Drugs, Alcohol and Cigarette Smoking are forbidden at this sacred event. The Master of Ceremonies (MC) works with the leader of the pow wow committee to make sure this pow wow runs correctly. Always pay attention and listen to the MC at the pow wow.





What is Grand Entry?

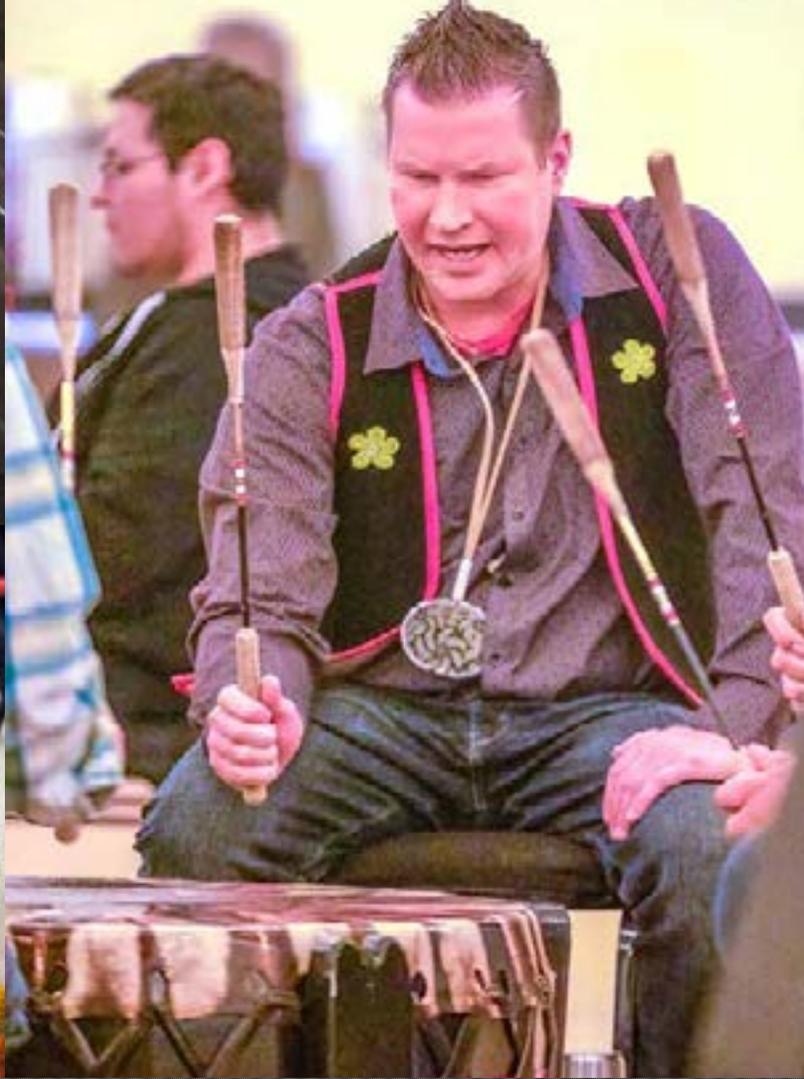
The First Grand Entry is the official beginning of the powwow. The Eagle Staff is the first to enter the powwow arena. It contains four feathers representing the four seasons and four directions. Four ribbons also accompany the staff. The ribbons are red, yellow, white and black and represent the four colors of man. The staff contains two feathers representing the universe and the earth. There are also twelve more feathers representing the twelve moons. Cedar is what the staff is made up of to represent the trees and is covered in fur to represent the animals. The flags enter after The Eagle Staff. The Flag bearers will lead the tribal leaders, dancers and dignitaries into the arena. It is a significant honor to carry a flag for a Grand Entry, an honor typically given to a military veteran. The flags carried include Tribal Flags, POW Flags, The U.S. Flag and Eagle Staffs of various tribes. As a sign of respect, and if you are physically able, please

stand and remain standing as the dancers enter the arena during the Grand Entry.

The United States Flag is held in an honor position despite the horrible treatment to Native Americans. The Flag has dual meanings. It is a way to remember all the Native American Ancestors that fought against this country and all the Native American citizens it holds. Each dancer or person must offer tobacco before entering the pow wow grounds. It's like asking the Spirits for permission to attend this sacred gathering. The MC or Spiritual Leader will usually inform everyone what to do. Pow wows are organized by a committee months before they take place. With help from the tribal council and all committee members these sacred gatherings are made possible and often run smoothly. Be thankful to all involved in organizing and providing funding for these awesome traditional events.



Chaz Wagner singing at the drum



Dewe' igan (The Drum)

At the center of the pow wow is The Drum. In the middle of the circle sits the home reservation drum while other drums are located outside the circle. Drums can be either male or female with the female drum being the most powerful. These drums can be made of moose or beaver hide with fur attached around the outside. Eight men may sit at each drum. The lead singer will sit in the East. In the South sits the second lead singer. The fireman is in the West and heats the drum to make its hide stiff and tight. With the female drum

there are four women that belong to it. Through dreams the drum comes to people, and the spiritual advisor introduces it to all things in the universe (the stars, animals, fish etc.) before it is used.

"You have to know the language when singing at the drum. You need to know the exact words you are singing" Marvin Knott "Traditionally, tobacco was tied in a small buckskin pouch on the side of the drum. The pouch was surrounded by four small poles representing the four directions" Marvin Knott.





What are the dancers wearing?

As the dancers enter the arena, you will immediately notice the beautiful and ornate clothing the dancers are wearing. The regalia the dancers wear is hand crafted and designed specifically for that dancer by the dancer him or herself, a family member, or a close friend. The regalia can also be referred to as an outfit. But, you should never refer to it as a costume, as that can be considered insulting. It can take years to finish the regalia. Some dancers have several outfits and may change for different dances. The feathers are especially Sacred. Please do not touch the regalia.



Bois Forte Band member Leon Chosa receives help adjusting his regalia.



DIFFERENT TYPES OF REGALIA

HOW TO ACQUIRE REGALIA

Although there are many ways to acquire regalia, there is no wrong or right way, as many different Native American communities have their own traditions and teachings.

PASSED DOWN: As a family member passes on, comes of age, or leaves the Pow Wow circle, he or she may pass down their regalia to family or friends.

DREAM: Some dancers have dreams of regalia. One teaching is to always follow your dreams and make them come true.

BOUGHT: Various companies and vendors produce Native American regalia. Some parts of the regalia are bought from big box stores or from local vendors that are hand made.

THE ROACH Made of porcupine hair, horse hair or synthetic hair, this head dress can be colored and styled as seen fit.



JINGLE DRESS Snuff can lids were originally used but now have moved on to other types of metal. Attached to cloth these are the centerpiece for womens jingle dresses.



BREAST PLATE Worn on the chest to protect the chest, these beautiful pieces of artwork were originally carved from bone. Some are now made of plastic and other material.



MOCCASINS Anishinaabe footwear bears the trademark puckered toe. These are made from animal hide and frequently lined with fur and decorated with bead work.



MEDALLIONS Beadwork, patches, mirrors, and other accessories can make up these usually circular pieces of work. Fixed to headbands, shoulders, or hung from the neck, this piece of regalia is very versatile.



BUSTLE There are many styles of bustles from traditional, chicken dance to fancy double bustles. They can be made from imitation feathers or eagle feathers.



TURBAN Most commonly known as a turban, these head dresses are usually made from otter fur and decorated with bead work.



FANS Some use fan to spread their sage smoke, as a dance accessory, or to keep themselves cool while dancing under the hot sun. There are many styles of fans from a full spread to only wing feathers mimicking the wing of a bird.



DANCE STICK A decorated stick or rod that dancers hold to wave at the drum or sky to show their excitement of the dance and song. Feathers, beads, ribbons or almost anything can be added.





Do the dancers and drummers get paid?

It is customary that all dancers and drummers (even children) receive an honorarium, a small amount of cash, for their participation in the pow wow. Some will be competing in specials for a chance to earn \$100, \$200 or \$300. The Sah-Gii-Bah-Gah Pow wow includes Hand Drum, Jingle Grass, Men's Traditional, and Women's Fancy Shawl specials. What the judges are looking for varies by dance category. But, in general, when scoring the dancers the judges are looking at the dancer's footwork, their gracefulness and style, and that they are stopping and dancing in sync with the beat. Please do not boo a judge's decision as it is deemed extremely disrespectful in this setting.



MC Terry Goodsky pictured.





Nett Lake Powwow, 1941

Annie Strong Goodky, second from left, John Nett Lake, Center, and Mrs. John Nett Lake, Center to the left of John.

Sacred Fire Keeping

Before the pow wow begins there are individuals selected in order to keep The Sacred Fire ablaze. It is vital in this belief that the fire must burn before and throughout the pow wow. The people selected to keep this fire going usually rotate in shifts and are paid by the pow wow committee. Anyone is welcome at The Sacred Fire, but it is NOT a place to socialize, get warm nor sit and eat. It is reserved for smudging and ceremonial purposes. People often pick their choice of traditional medicine (tobacco, sweet grass, cedar or sage) and stand at the Fire to pray to the "Creator or Gitchi Manidoo". When their prayer is done they place their medicine in The Sacred Fire. The smoke created carries the prayers up to The Great Spirit. The Sacred Fire is the Spirit of the Pow wow and must be respected and maintained properly.



Can I take pictures and video during the powwow?

The beauty of the regalia and graceful dancing of the pow wow provide elegant opportunities for pictures and video. You are permitted and in fact even encouraged to take pictures and videos with a few exceptions. Please do not take pictures or video of the invocation, of a feather that has fallen off regalia, someone picking up a feather that has fallen, or during a pipe ceremony. There may be a few additional times when the MC asks attendees

not to take pictures or video. Please pay attention to the MC. As long as it is not a time listed above or a time when the MC has asked that no pictures be taken, you may take pictures of anyone dancing or drumming. As would be the case in any situation, if you want to take a picture of an individual or group outside of the dance arena, please ask their permission.

Will there be traditional Native American food?

The answer is Yes, at every pow wow everyone is welcome to attend and eat at the feast. The feast typically begins at 5pm. The traditional foods usually served are Wild Rice, Fish, Venison, Potatoes, Corn, Blueberries and Strawberries. Please allow the elders to be served first. This is a traditional teaching that our elders eat first. In addition, all foods listed above can be purchased throughout the day at concession stands. There is also a plate known as the spirit dish. This dish contains a very small amount of each food served, the food is then

placed on a piece of Birch Bark (wiigwaas) to be placed in the fire. Tobacco is also offered with it to give offering to our Native American ancestors. Feeding the ancestral spirits is what this is often referred as. This offering and sacred tradition has been around for a very long time. The spiritual advisor is the person that usually conducts this ceremony at the pow wow. Never ever touch or take the spirit dish. Also, wait until after the spirit dish is offered to begin eating.

When can non-Natives participate in the pow wow?

There will be times throughout the pow wow when the MC (Master of Ceremonies) will invite everyone, including non-Native Americans, to participate in Inter-Tribal dances. We encourage you to participate in these dances. We ask that non-Native Americans participating in a dance do not hold a child while dancing. If your child is too young to dance on their own, please remain in the audience with them. This custom varies by tribe. The tribes hosting this pow wow are Chippewa. At Chippewa pow wows you are dancing for the spirits. If you dance holding a child, it would be viewed that you are offering your child to the Spirits. Women that are pregnant are not supposed to dance either. Dancing with shorts on is also unacceptable.

Other actions deemed disrespectful at pow wows

- Pointing with your fingers
- Talking during the invocation prayer
- Talking bad about elders
- Making fun of dancers or drummers
- Showing up intoxicated or under the influence of drugs
- Smoking cigarettes near pow wow grounds
- Children should be seated and observe the songs and dance, NOT running around pow wow grounds.
- No drum hopping
- Don't boo a judge's decision during the dance contests



The Arena

The dance arena features a circle. The arena is always blessed and reserved for the dancers. Do not ever walk across it! Traditional Native Customs state that we are supposed to walk in a clock-wise formation in the pow wow arena. The MC will always give instructions on this and ask questions if you do not understand this teaching. Blessing the arena is done before the pow wow begins and is usually conducted by the spiritual leader or spiritual advisor of the tribe hosting the pow wow. Smudging and pipe ceremony are how the arena is blessed. Do not ever disrupt, take pictures, video, or talk while this is happening. The spiritual leader or spiritual advisor will give warning and notice so do not worry or be nervous about observing this ceremony.

"How it was done before, one man would go pass out asemaa (tobacco) the day before the pow wow to singers. If they couldn't be there they wouldn't take the tobacco. The ladies would bring food for a feast. They would all make homemade gifts through the winter for giveaway. Ladies from other reservations would bring theirs. They had a giveaway and trade off of these gifts.



TEACHING

Karen Drift (Bois Forte Tribal Elder and Fluent Speaker of the Anishanabe Language)



ANISHANABE POW WOW DICTIONARY

English	Anishanabemoin
Sage	Bashkodejibik
Cedar	Giizhik
Sweetgrass	Wiingashk
Tobacco	Asemaa
He gives a ceremony	Zagaswe'iwe
East	Waabanong
South	Zhaawanong
West	Ningaabi'anong
North	Giiwedionong
Drum	Dewe'igan
Drumstick	Dewe'iganaak
Feather	Miigwan
Feast	Wiikonge
Fire	Ishkode
Jingle Dress	Ziibaaska'iganagooday
Powwow	Nimi'ihding
Everyone Dance	Aho Nimiiyak
Pipe	Opwaagan
You Look Good	Mino Naagozi
Im Glad To See You	Niminwendam Nawaabamaan
Gift	Bagijigan
They Dance	Niimi'idi
Hello	Aniin or Boozhoo
Be Quiet	Bizaan
Listen	Bizindon
I'm Going To The Powwow	Nee-mi-ih-ding En-Di-Zha
I Have A New Dress	In-Doo-Shki-Goo-Day
Singers	Negamowaad
Dancers	Naamiwaad
Medicine Man	Mashkiki-Inini
Medicine Woman	Mashkiki-Ikwe
They dance in Grand Entry	Biindigeshiimowaad

Bibliography

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2. Bois Forte Elder Karen Drift (done threw interview)
3. "Powwow Visitor's Guide" from www.powwows.com
4. Ampers Powwow brochure from <https://ampers.org>
5. Gene Goodsky quote from Timber Jay Newspaper Article – "Sah Gii Bah Gah powwow returns" June 17th 2021

TYPES OF DANCES AND SONG AT POWWOW

TRADITIONAL DANCES

Men's traditional, Men's fancy dancers, women's jingle dress, women's traditional and shawl dancers are the types of dancers present at various pow wows. There are also various types of dance at the pow wow. The songs also vary. Below is the list of different songs you may hear at the pow wow. The Anishanabe People express their innermost thoughts and feelings in song. There are a multitude of different songs, including Dream Songs, War Songs, Love Songs, Hunting Songs, Healing Songs, Dance Songs Etc.

THE 49ER SONG: It began as an honor song in WWII when 50 young men went to war and 49 returned. The 49er is also a women's choice song. If a woman chooses a man for her partner and he refuses, he is penalized.

THE VETERAN'S SONG: Began long ago when warriors returned from battle. Women met those men one mile from the village, encircled them and sang to them.

NON-TRADITIONAL DANCES

CROW HOP DANCE: Participants dance with a skip-slide foot movement, while they turn, bob and weave.

SHAKE DANCE: Begins with participants shaking bells to a rapid drum beat. Next it changes into a quickened drum beat. The dancers then break into a fast war dance. This process is repeated several times.

THE INTER-TRIBAL DANCE: A social dance that is open to every one including Native and Non- Native spectators. It is the most common dance at the pow wow.

BREAK DANCE: The participants form large circles while the break dancer showcases his/her dance style. When finished the break dancer chooses another dancer for the circle.

ROUND DANCE: A social dance. Participants dance using a side step after forming a circle.

TWO STEP: The two step is a variant of the Round Dance in which the women choose a dance partner.

GIVE AWAY DANCE: The Give Away dance begins with a speech from the sponsor. Gifts are given and those who receive gifts participate in the dance. A partner is chosen to give a gift (shirt, blanket etc.) After this is done, the process is reversed. The Give Away Dance is always danced side-ways.

A TRAVELING SONG: Always sung at the end of the pow wow. This song is a prayer for a good and safe trip home for all who attended the pow wow.

GRASS DANCING

A few believe that grass dancing came from young boys tying grass on their clothes. Before a dance could be held, the grass had to be stomped down. This is where many of the movements are believed to have originated from. This dance was originally a warrior dance but has evolved over the years. Grass dancers primarily stand out by virtue of two things, their dancing style and regalia. The regalia has an almost complete absence of feathers which defines the virtuousness of this traditional regalia. The regalia is made up of pants and shirt, beaded belt, side tabs, armbands, cuffs, front and back apron, moccasins and matching headband. The only feather present is usually a roach feather that is mobile and can sway with the dancer.

HONOR DANCE: All people present are invited to dance in honor of an individual who has passed away. Also honor may be given to a new dancer, a person who is sick or ill or an individual who has made an important contribution to the community.

EAGLE WHISTLE DANCE: A man sounds his eagle bone whistle. The Eagle Whistle is sounded four times. Male dancers must earn the right to use the eagle whistle and receive proper instruction on this dance.

PICKING UP THE FEATHER DANCE: Unique dance that occurs when a dancer has dropped an eagle feather. When a dancer has dropped an eagle feather, regardless of circumstance, it remains on the ground. To pick up the feather would offend the eagle spirit of the dancer. Just as an eagle does not retrieve the feather. Four dancers are required to retrieve the feather. They do this by circling the feather thru dance and touch it four times with their fans. When the dance ends, the feather is picked up and returned to its keeper.

RETREAT DANCE: Ends the pow wow session. It is a goodwill dance of friendship. The eagle staffs and flags are retrieved and retired. Everyone is invited out and encouraged to participate.

Men's Traditional

The Men's Traditional Dance is rooted from the style of the Plains Native Americans, their hunting parties and warriors, their traditional regalia, and their bravery as peoples of America who lived off the land long before settlers came and altered their way of life. There are two dances that a men's traditional dancer should be aware of. One of them is a sneak-up song, where the dancer kneels to the ground and scouts for enemy tracks. In the second part of the dance, the dancer rises

quickly. This depicts the confrontation with the enemy through a symbolic dance style. The second dance is known as the crow hop. In the crow hop dance, the dancer dips down and then steadily rises up. During the hard beats of the drum you will see dancers raise their fans/coup sticks to catch the drum's spirit. Overall the Northern Traditional dance is an exciting dance to witness. This dance commemorates the ancient war parties that were once utilized.



Women's Fancy Shawl Dance

The Women's Fancy Shawl Dance is one of the most athletic dance styles. It is also one of the newest and most recent created to give Native American women a chance to express the same energy and charisma as the Men's Fancy Dance. This Dance has two steps: a regular dance and a crow hop. This dance requires a flashy regalia, fully beaded yoke, hair clips, wrist cuffs, bracelets and moccasins. In general the entire outfit revolves

around the shawl, which contains elegant patterns, long flowing ribbons, and represents the center piece of the regalia. The dance is often said to reflect the beauty of the butterfly. To imitate the swooping of the butterfly, the dancer always holds at least one arm out. Rhythm and repetition make this dance flow in order and sequence. Often the dancer's steps are repeated in sequences of four to represent the four directions and balance.



Jingle Dress Dancing

The Jingle Dress Dance is performed by women and girls in Native American communities. Ziibaaska'iganagooday is the Anishanabemoin word for that dress. The dance gets its name from the metal cones attached to their dresses that make a distinct sound while they dance.

The Jingle Dress is believed to bring healing to those who are sick. Also known as the prayer dress. The dresses come in a multitude of different colors and varieties. Shiny and sparkly beaded material make up the dress. The cones sewn to the dress were traditionally made from old snuff

can lids and hung from the dress with ribbon close to one another. With the cones being attached closely and delicately they make a melodic sound when the women and girls dance. In the present day these cones are often machine made. As the Jingles on the dress hit one another it almost sound as if rain is falling, so the dancer must be light on their feet and stop when the beat stops. Their foot movement is low to the ground, kicking their heels and bouncing on their toes. A zigzag pattern is primarily utilized when the dancer is in formation.



THE MIGRATION OF THE ANISHINAABE

Early legends indicate that, 500 years ago, the Anishinaabe lived near the mouth of the Saint Lawrence River. About 1660 they migrated westward, guided by a vision of a floating seashell referred to as the sacred miigis. At the Straits of Mackinac, the channel of water connecting Lake Huron and Lake Michigan, the vision ended, and the Anishinaabe divided into three groups. One group, the Potawatomi, moved south and settled in the area between Lake Michigan and Lake Huron. A second group, the Ottawa, moved north of Lake Huron. A third group of Anishinaabe, settled along the eastern shore of Lake Superior. Because of this early association, the Potawatomi, the Ottawa, and the Anishinaabe are known collectively as the Three Fires.



(The migration route of the Ojibwe)



(A birch bark canoe of the Ojibwe)

The Anishinaabe acquired the names Ojibwa and Chippewa from French traders. Anishinabeg (also spelled Anishinaabeg, or if singular, Anishinabe) means “first” or “original people.” In the eighteenth century the French called Anishinaabe living near the eastern shore of Lake Superior Salteaux or Salteurs, “People of the Falls.” These terms now used only in Canada. The English preferred to use Chippewa or Chippeway, names typically employed on the treaties with the British government and later with the U.S. government. In 1951, Inez Hilger noted that more than 70 different names were used for Anishinaabe in written accounts (M. Inez Hilger, *Chippewa Child Life and Its Cultural Background* [originally published, 1951; reprinted, St Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1992], p. 2).

The Anishinaabe are a woodland people of northeastern North America. In the mid-seventeenth century there were approximately 35,000 Anishinaabe on the continent. According to the 1990 census, the Anishinaabe were the third-largest Native group (with a population of 104,000), after the Cherokee (308,000) and the Navajo (219,000). Federally recognized Anishinaabe reservations are found in Minnesota (Fond du Lac, Grand Portage, Leech Lake, Mille Lacs, Nett Lake [Bois Forte Band], Red Lake, and White Earth), Michigan (Bay Mills Indian Community, Grande Traverse, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Saginaw, and Sault Sainte Marie), Wisconsin (Bad River, Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac du Flambeau, Mole Lake or Sokaogan Chippewa Community, Red Cliff, and St. Croix), Montana (Rocky Boys), and North Dakota (Turtle Mountain). Others have petitioned for federal recognition. While Anishinaabe reserves are also found in Ontario and Saskatchewan, this account stresses their history in the United States.



(The Miigis Shell)

MEDICINES AND HERBS USED AT POWWOWS

KINNIKINNICK

This word means a mixture of some sort. Used by First Nations people to describe a mixture of herbs used for smoking or medicine. Many versions of kinnikinnick mixtures exist. Below is a list of some common ones.

TOBACCO: Many version of tobacco now exist. This is considered a sacred plant used to smoke in a pipe that carry messages to the creator. It is also used as an offering placed down by a tree when talking with the spirits. It can also be given to a person when showing respect and asking questions.



SAGE: This plant is used to smudge rooms, people, things, and almost anything you can think of, cleansing them from negative energy or to ward away harmful things. It can also be mixed with tobacco to be smoked in a pipe. Many cultures use this for its distinct smell.



DOGWOOD: To utilize this plant the red outer layer is taken off and the inner bark is stripped to be smoked like tobacco or added to a mixture.



MIIGIS - SHELL

Originally utilized by the Mide or medicine people of the Anishinaabe people, this shell, usually a Abalone shell of sorts, is used to hold the kinnikinnick in, allowing it to smoke and be passed around to flood a room, wash over a person or item.



SWEET GRASS: This grass is harvested, braided, and dried out to be added to a smoking or smudging mixture. It is also burned alone to produce a very sweet aroma.



CEDAR: A tobacco offering is always given while harvesting herbs for use. This plant is found in very wet regions, near lakes and swamps. The leaves can be boiled and drank as medicine. they can also be dried out and burned alone or smoked in a mixture.





PRESS COVERAGE



Ampers (State-wide): Ampers diverse radio stations are showcased as the largest of its kind anywhere in the country in the article, “Ampers Aims to Connect Radio and Underserved Communities.” The article details and celebrates Ampers as the 50-year leader in diverse public radio stations. “Stations are often run by volunteers and programmed by and for their specific community”, the article states. *Radio World*, June 5, 2023.



KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): The article “Northern Lights: Native Nations Fashion Night” featured Native artists from several Ojibwe fashion designers and helped promote this event sponsored by KBXE. This event aimed to create a community between artists and guests, moving in a new industry standard for the inclusion of Indigenous voices in fashion. *Fashion Week MN*, April 25, 2023.



KAXE/KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji/Grand Rapids): The article “Free Concert Series to Feature Davina and the Vagabonds” welcomed live music back to the Bemidji area. This collaboration with downtown Bemidji’s Historic Chief Theater presented a free performance by Davina and the Vagabonds. The event was free, thanks to funding from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. *The Bemidji Pioneer*, February 2, 2023.



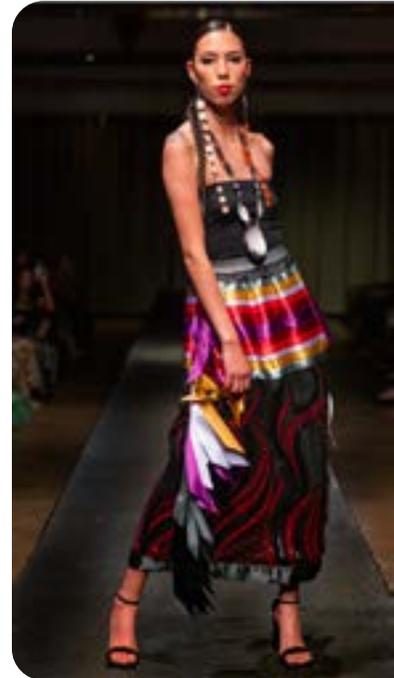
KAXE/KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji/Grand Rapids): The collaboration between KAXE/KBXE and the Historic Chief Theater was featured again in The Pilot Independent. “KAXE/KBXE’s concert series, in collaboration with downtown Bemidji’s Historic Chief Theater, is back for its second season, January-May. This series is made possible by the citizens of Minnesota, with funding from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund,” the article stated. *The Pilot Independent*, February 6, 2023.



WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): In the article, “How Religious Conversion Changed Minnesota’s North Shore,” WTIP North Shore Community Radio producers Leah Lemm and Staci Drouillard look into the history of Catholic missionaries on either side of the border as part of the award-winning series “It Happens Here.” *MPR News* June 6, 2023.



WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): WTIP’s podcast, “It Happens Here: The Roots of Racial Inequity on the North Shore,” is highlighted in the *MPR News* article, “How the U.S.-Canada Border Disrupted Existing Boundaries.” The article provides the interview transcript of David Thompson, of the Eagle Golden clan and his family’s experience with the North Shore border. *MPR News*, June 14, 2023.



PRESS COVERAGE



WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): MPR News featured the first episode of the podcast “It Happens Here,” a series that examined the history and presence of racism on the North Shore for WTIP radio. The article reported that the series won the Midwest Broadcast Journalists Association award for best radio series. *MPR News*, April 12, 2023.



WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): The article, “Larry Weber Compiles Years’ Worth of Nature Notes into New Book,” highlighted Larry’s segment, “Backyard Almanac” which is featured every Friday on WTIP radio’s “North Shore Morning.” Weber has taken an entire year’s worth of his observations, one entry for each day of the year, and turned them into a book, the article states. *Duluth News Tribune* September 1, 2022



KMSU (Mankato): KMSU’s Minnesota Music Channel (MMC) was highlighted in the April 15, 2023, edition of *The Mankato Free Press*. MMC, launched recently by KMSU to complement their existing lineup of programming, features exclusively Minnesota music. And much of that music is local, including artists such as The Ericksons, Kaleb Braun Schulz, Nate Boots, and Joe Tougas and Ann Fee. Minnesota legends such as Bob Dylan, Prince, The Jayhawks, Soul Asylum, Bob Mould, and just about everyone you can think of who calls Minnesota home. *The Mankato Free Press*, April 15, 2023.



KMSU (Mankato): KMSU collaborated with the Austin Artworks Festival, a two-day celebration spotlighting local artists, and spotlighted events at Wheeler Park in North Mankato and Minnesota Square Park in St. Peter. A pivotal moment in this lineup was the Ambassador’s Bluesfest, often held as the inaugural event ushering in Southern Minnesota’s lively summer of arts and music festivities. *Austin Artworks Festival*, May 26, 2022



KMSU (Mankato): The article “So Bluesy: North Mankato Fest Set for Saturday with Toronzo Cannon Headlining” showcased KMSU’s Blues on Belgrade, which featured previews for Songs on the Lawn. “I love the day,” event organizer Jolina Grabianowski says, “It’s exhausting and fun. When the sun goes down over the hillside and I can see all the people having so much fun, it gives me goosebumps.” *The Mankato Free Press*, July 29, 2023.

PRESS COVERAGE

The Free Press **KMSU (Mankato):** *The Mankato Free Press*, August 28, 2022 edition, helped to promote the Mankato Powwow, or the Mahkato Wacipi, as it returned for its 50th annual celebration Sept. 16-18 at Land of Memories Park. “The Mankato Powwow was built on the idea of reunification of the native peoples with the Western settlers and to reconcile for what happened back in 1862,” said Daniel Zielske, referring to the U.S.-Dakota War. “So it’s definitely open to everyone.” *The Mankato Free Press*, August 28, 2022.

The Free Press **KMSU (Mankato):** Local musician and curator of KMSU’s Golden Hour, Colin Scharf, is featured in July 8, 2022 edition of *The Mankato Free Press*. Wide-ranging collaboration has made the series possible. The Wine Cafe, KMSU, and Gold Mine Studios are also partners, and funding comes from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, the article stated. *The Mankato Free Press*, July 8, 2022.

Patch **KBEM (Minneapolis / St. Paul):** The Minnesota History Center showcased Jazz88 (KBEM) as they celebrated Jazz Appreciation Month. Jazz88’s host, Patty Peterson, provided an intimate afternoon of live music and inspiring stories at the Minnesota History Center. *Patch*, April 2, 2023

Thief River Falls Times **KSRQ (Thief River Falls):** The Cathy Erickson Band was promoted in the June 28, 2023, edition of the *Thief River Falls Times*. The Cathy Erickson Band performed for visitors attending the Concert in the Park series put on by KSRQ. Cathy has been entertaining and playing music for almost 50 years, the article states. *Thief River Falls Times*, June 28, 2023.

Thief River Falls Times **KSRQ (Thief River Falls):** The article “Thursday Night Concert in the Park” reported that Minnesota-based Native American blues artist Corey Medina performed during the Concert in the Park series with his band, Corey Medina & Brothers. This series, in partnership with KSRQ, showcases many Minnesota artists. *Thief River Falls Times*, June 21, 2023.

Thief River Falls Times **KSRQ (Thief River Falls):** *Thief River Falls Times* highlighted the Copper Street Brass as part of the “Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions” in partnership with local middle schools. The Minneapolis-based group performed a free concert including popular music from three decades: the 1770s, the 1870s, and the 1970s. *Thief River Falls Times*, May 10, 2023.



GRANTEE CONTACT INFORMATION

<i>Grantee</i>	<i>Contact</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Email</i>	<i>Website</i>
KBXE Bagley / Bemidji	Sarah Bignall	CEO/General Manager	218-301-6955	sbignall@kaxe.org	kaxe.org
KBFT Bois Forte / Nett Lake	George Strong	General Manager	218-757-3185	gstrong@boisforte-nsn.gov	kbft.org
WDSE Duluth	Patty Mester	General Manager	218-788-2811	pmester@wdse.org	thenorth1033.org
WGZS Fond du Lac / Cloquet	Dan Huculak	Station Manager	218-878-7292	danielhuculak@FDLREZ.com	wgzs89.net
WTIP Grand Marais / Gunflint Trail / Grand Portage	Matthew Brown	Executive Director	218-387-1070	matthew@wtip.org	wtip.org
KAXE Grand Rapids / Brainerd	Sarah Bignall	CEO/General Manager	218-301-6955	sbignall@kaxe.org	kaxe.org
KOJB Leech Lake / Cass Lake	Chris Bedeau	Station Manager	218-760-8244	chris.bedeau@llojibwe.net	kojb.org
KMSU Mankato	Dwayne Megaw	General Manager	507-389-5678	dwayne.megaw@mnsu.edu	kmsu.org
KBEM Minneapolis / St. Paul	Dan Larkin	Station Manager	612-668-1745	dan.larkin@mpls.k12.mn.us	jazz88.fm
KFAI Minneapolis / St. Paul	Nora Doherty	General Manager	612-887-4400	nora@kfai.org	kfai.org
KMOJ Minneapolis / St. Paul	Freddie Bell	General Manager	612-377-3924	freddiebell@kmojfm.com	kmojfm.com
KUOM Minneapolis / St. Paul	Sara Miller	Department Director	612-625-0839	mille648@umn.edu	radiok.org
KRPR Rochester	Todd Brakke	General Manager	507-288-6900	todd@krpr.org	krpr.org
KVSC St. Cloud	Jo McMullen-Boyer	Station Manager	320-308-3053	jlmcmullen@stcloud-state.edu	kvsc.org
KSRQ Thief River Falls	Mark Johnson	Station Manager	218-683-8587	mark.johnson@north-landcollege.edu	radionorth-land.org
KKWE White Earth / Callaway	Margaret Rousu	General Manager	218-375-2600	rousu20@gmail.com	nijjiiradio.com
KQAL Winona	Doug Westerman	General Manager	507-457-2364	dwesterman@winona.edu	kqal.org
Ampers Statewide	Joel Glaser	President & CEO	651-587-5550	jglaser@ampers.org	ampers.org

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STATEWIDE

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Chair
freddiebell@kmojfm.com
612-377-3924

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Secretary
staci@wtip.org
218-387-3352

Sara Miller
At-Large
mille648@umn.edu
612-625-0839

Mark Johnson
Vice Chair
mark.johnson@northlandcollege.edu
218-683-8587

Faith Ahlgreen
At-Large
starfire_79@outlook.com
218-375-2012

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Treasurer
dwesterman@winona.edu
507-457-2364

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pjhill13@yahoo.com

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dayeseyee@gmail.com
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davjon317@gmail.com
713-724-2897

Bianca Karjalainen
bianca.karjalainen@gmail.com
503-334-8060

Susie Loeffler
Vice President
ssloeffler@gmail.com
218-259-1998

Charles Black
charles.black@minnesotanorth.edu
316-841-8877

Mary Mitchell
hopefulinnd@yahoo.com
218-556-3249

Doug Baker
Treasurer
thatguyfromgrap@gmail.com
218-256-5752

Sean Dunham
sbd825@gmail.com

David Murphy
damurphs50@gmail.com

Kathleen Hermerding
hermkat@msn.com
218-820-8874

Mike Spry
mspryhome@gmail.com



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BOIS FORTE / NETT LAKE

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Chair
cchavers@boisforte-nsn.gov
218-757-3261

Shane Drift
District I Representative
sdrift@boisforte-nsn.gov
218-757-3261

Robert Moyer
District II Representative
rmoyer@boisforte-nsn.gov
218-757-3261 Ext. 1264

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Secretary/Treasurer
david.tara.geshick@
boisforte-nsn.gov
218-757-3261 Ext. 1267

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District I Representative
travis.morrison@boisforte-
nsn.gov
218-757-3261



WDSE ADVISORY BOARD

DULUTH

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Chair
tmotoole.plc@gmail.com
218-348-3167

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218-724-2893
rflagler@d.umn.edu

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218-525-4313
byronfj@yahoo.com

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tkoecher@mnpower.com

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218-310-2301
hollyjorde@gmail.com

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715-394-8700
Amy.starzecki@
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smith.timothy4@yahoo.com
715-919-4562

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218-349-1316
dennislamkin@hotmail.com

Dr. Arne Vainio
218-729-4964
a-vainio@hotmail.com

Annie Lepper
Past Chair
alepper@mpecu.com
218-213-3948

Jack Lavoy
218-590-5474
jlavoy1963@gmail.com

Patty Mester
Ex-Officio, President &
General Manager)
218-788-2811 / direct
218-788-2831 / station
pmester@wdse.org

Elizabeth Drost
218-387-4675
Elizabeth.Drost@gmail.com

Dale Lewis
218-343-1450
dslewisht@gmail.com

Steve McLachlan
218-834-2111
sdmac03@yahoo.com

Conrad Firling
218-724-3611
cfirling@d.umn.edu

Mark Pass
612-860-4570
thepasses@aol.com



WGZS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FOND DU LAC / CLOQUET

Kevin Dupuis Sr.
Chairman, Fond du Lac
Reservation Business
Committee
kevindupuis@fdlrez.com
218-879-4593*

Robert Abramowski
Secretary-Treasurer,
Fond du Lac Reservation
Business Committee
robertabramowski@fdlrez.
com
218-878-8158

Brad Blacketter
District II Representative,
Fond du Lac Reservation
Business Committee
bradblacketter@fdlrez.com
218-878-7591

Bill Thompson
Executive Director for Tribal
Programs, Fond du Lac Band
of Lake Superior Chippewa
billthompson@fdlrez.com
218-878-7540

Wally Dupuis
District I Representative,
Fond du Lac Reservation
Business Committee
wallydupuis@fdlrez.com
218-878-7515

Terry Savage
Executive Director for Tribal
Enterprises, Fond du Lac
band of Lake Superior
Chippewa
terrrysavage@fdlrez.com
218-878-2358

Roger Smith Sr.
District III Representative,
Fond du Lac Reservation
Business Committee
rogersmithsr@fdlrez.com
218-878-7509

*Fond du Lac Chairman and
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Matthew Brown
Executive Director, WTIP
matthew@wtip.org
218-387-1070

Mary Somnis
President
somniaMary@gmail.com
218-387-3112

Molly Hicken
Vice President
Molly.hicken@gmail.com
218-370-2093

Mike Reeves
Treasurer
mfreeves@mac.com
651-755-5243

Leslie Anderson
Secretary
leslie.joan.anderson@
gmail.com

Clay Ahrens
Board Member
clayahrens@gmail.com
612-710-8965

Carly Puch
Board Member
consciouslycarly@gmail.com
218-387-1070

Dave Tersteeg
Board Member
dtersteeg@boreal.org
218-370-8916



KAXE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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President
dayeseyee@gmail.com
540-809-9668

David John Scribner
Secretary
davjon317@gmail.com
713-724-2897

Bianca Karjalainen
bianca.karjalainen@gmail.com
503-334-8060

Susie Loeffler
Vice President
ssloeffler@gmail.com
218-259-1998

Charles Black
charles.black@minnesotanorth.edu
316-841-8877

Mary Mitchell
hopefulinnd@yahoo.com
218-556-3249

Doug Baker
Treasurer
thatguyfromgrap@gmail.com
218-256-5752

Sean Dunham
sbd825@gmail.com

David Murphy
damurphs50@gmail.com

Kathleen Hermerding
hermkat@msn.com
218-820-8874

Mike Spry
mspryhome@gmail.com



KOJB BOARD/LEECH LAKE TRIBAL COUNCIL

LEECH LAKE / CASS LAKE

Faron Jackson
Senior Chair
faron.jackson@llojibwe.org
218-335-8200

Kyle Fairbanks
Dist I Representative
kyle.fairbanks@llojibwe.net
218-335-8200

Steve White
Dist. II Representative
Steve.white@llojibwe.org
218-335-8202

Leonard M. Fineday
Secretary/Treasurer
leonard.fineday@llojibwe.net
218-335-8200

LeRoy Staples-Fairbanks III
Dist. III Representative
Leroy.fairbanks@llojibwe.org
218-335-3512



KMSU ADVISORY BOARD

MANKATO / AUSTIN

Mohamed Alsadig
Executive Director of Greater
Mankato Diversity Council
malsadig@
mankatodiversity.org
507-385-6653

Ann Fee
Executive Director, Arts
Center of St. Peter
annrosenquistfee@hotmail.
com
507-351-6521

JO Guck Bailey
Owner, Sign Pro of Mankato
joguckbailey@gmail.com
507-345-3388

Dan Urlick
Volunteer Programmer,
KMSK, Austin; Columnist,
Austin Daily Herald
bikerides.dan@gmail.com
507-438-2500

Scott Weilage
President/CEO, Weilage
Advisory Group
scottw@weilage.com
507-625-4810

Kim Rademaker
University Marketing and
Communications, Minnesota
State University, Mankato
kim.rademaker@mnsu.edu

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Minnesota State University,
Mankato, also has the Minnesota
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as its governing body.



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Board of Education, Chair
Sharon.El-Amin@mpls.k12.
mn.us
612-986-3281

Collin Beachy
Board of Education, Vice-Chair
collin.beachy@mpls.k12.mn.us
612-668-0447

Abdul Abdi
Board of Education, Treasurer
abdul.abdi@mpls.k12.mn.us
612-895-0270

Lori Norvell
Board of Education, Clerk
lori.norvell@mpls.k12.mn.us
612-919-8136

Siad Ali
Board of Education, Director
Siad.Ali@mpls.k12.mn.us
612-206-5204

Adriana Cerrillo
Board of Education, Director
Adriana.Cerrillo@mpls.k12.
mn.us
612-986-1613

Kim Ellison
Board of Education, Director
Kim.Ellison@mpls.k12.mn.us
612-668-0445

Joyner Emerick
Board of Education, Director
joyner.emerick@mpls.k12.mn.us
612-472-6074

Fathia Feerayarre
Board of Education, Director
fathia.feerayarre@mpls.k12.
mn.us
612-814-7761

Ira Jourdain
Board of Education, Director
Ira.Jourdain@mpls.k12.mn.us
612-757-6469

Halimah Abdullah
Board of Education, Student
Representative
student.representa-
tive@mpsedu.org

Abdihafid Mohamed
Board of Education, Student
Representative
student.representa-
tive@mpsedu.org



KFAI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL

Kevin Barnes
President
kbar264@aol.com
612-360-3869

David Orenstein
Vice President
dao@dewittllp.com
612-321-6573

Christopher
Zimmerman
Secretary
crz612@gmail.com
612-598-3376

Jacque Pokorney
Treasurer
juju_jacque@yahoo.com
608-843-9616

TJ Larson
Member
tjlarson651@gmail.com
612-281-3552



KMOJ BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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hamla001@umn.edu
722-801-4635

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Vice President
eric@cfid.com
612-377-0594

Paul Campbell
Treasurer
612-244-1154

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Secretary
651-491-9575

Debra Hurston
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651-278-1926



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Radio K Department Director
mille648@umn.edu
612-625-0839

Sarah Lemanczyk

Radio K Programming Advisor
lema0001@umn.edu
612-626-3986

Charlie Klage

Radio K Program Director
radiokpd@umn.edu

Addy Adams

Radio K Music Director
radiokmusic@umn.edu
612-625-5304

Jeff Aronen

Listener Supporter
jaronen@comcast.net
612-789-9524

Courtney Barrette

Director of Engagement &
External Relations
barr0396@umn.edu
612-625-1253

Hallie Beattie

Radio K Alumni Association
hbeattie17@gmail.com

Katie Covey

Director of Student
Engagement, Weisman Art
Museum
covey013@umn.edu
612.624.5154

Jim DuBois

Minnesota Broadcaster's
Association
jdubois@minnesotabroadcasters.
com
612-308-2364

Karla Edin

Radio K Alumni Association
Karla.Edin@aonbenfield.com
612-845-5531

Erin George

Library University Archives
georg038@umn.edu
612-845-5531

David Hill

Student Unions and Activities
hillx075@umn.edu
612-626-7008

Arne Johnson

CCAPS Marketing
arne@umn.edu
612-626-7008

Ashley Kaser

Program Board Advisor |
Student Unions and Activities
kaser007@umn.edu
612-624-9034

Bridget McLaughlin

U o M OSA Marketing
mclau381@umn.edu

Meaghan Miller Thul

Assistant Vice Provost
mthul@umn.edu
612-625-9301

Kelly O'Brien

Project Manager at stamats
kellympls@gmail.com
612-624-4109

Steve Pratt

Listener Supporter
stevenericpratt@comcast.net
612-790-8719

Christine Preston

U of M Design School
cpreston@umn.edu

Alex Simpson

Engineer/Producer/Musician
alex@apsimpson.com
414-507-2226

Reggie Spanier

Exhibits Preparator, Weisman
Art Museum
rspanier@umn.edu
612-625-9608

Martha Weir

Graphic designer/
Videographer
martha.m.weir@gmail.com
651-329-5148

Neil Weir

Chief Engineer
weir0036@umn.edu
612-991-3798

Grace Williams

Radio K Marketing Director
radiokmarketing@umn.edu

NOTE: KUOM (Radio K), being
part of University of Minnesota,
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Minnesota Board of Regents
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Rochester
ceej@us.ibm.com

Esten Martin
Rochester
relish77777@gmail.com

Lois Nagel
Spring Valley
lnagel@frontiernet.net

Bill Nietz, CPA
Rochester
bill@nietztax.com

Brent Syverson
Zumbrota
bsyverson@hcinet.net

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President
todd@krpr.org
507-288-6900

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brian@krpr.org
507-288-6900

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aaron@krpr.org
507-288-6900



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kurtfranke@gmail.com
320-253-6552

Debra Japp
Board Member
dkjapp@stcloudstate.edu
320-308-3158

Cindy Ley
Board Member
caley24@hotmail.com
320-252-0520

Julie Pitzer
Board Member
jpitzer@stcloudstate.edu
320-308-3293

Kristian Twombly
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kmtwombly@stcloudstate.edu
320-308-5638

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kmc@mncable.net
218-681-2148

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Board Member
jamie.bakken@myprowler.org
218-686-3184

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Board Member
philclimb1@yahoo.com
218-686-8610

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Vice President
trfact56701@gmail.com
218-686-6151

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kingcat@wiktel.com
218-689-4824

Grant Nelson
Board Member
grantnelson@gvtel.com
218-689-8977

Pat Brickson
Secretary
patbrickson@gmail.com
218-688-1573

Shannon Jesme
Board Member
shannonj@nwmf.org
218-683-8577

Carl Unbehaun
Board Member
minnesotahomebrew@
gmail.com
218-681-0909

Vanessa Skadem
Treasurer
vskadsem@gmail.com
218-689-4557

Stacey Leake
Board Member
stacey.leake@myprowler.org

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KKWE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Board Chair
susie.ballot@
coll.pvt.k12.mn.us
218-983-4180

Steve Larson
Board Treasurer
Detroit Lakes, MN
shlar@arvig.net
218-847-5583

Teresa Rojas
Member at Large
trojas_08@yahoo.com

Vince Olson
Board Secretary
vince.olson@
coll.pvt.k12.mn.us
218-983-4180

Carlene Hisgun
Member at Large
chisgun@msn.com
218-935-0417



KQAL ADVISORY BOARD

WINONA

Doug Westerman
Chair
dwesterman@winona.edu
507-457-2364

Dana (Kit) Crenshaw
Member
dana.crenshaw@
go.winona.edu
218-235-9951

Dave Dicke
Member
ddicke@exchange.hbci.com
507-474-5884

Grace Guertin
Member
grace.guertin@
go.winona.edu
612-695-2495

John Landrum
Member
John.Landrum@charter.com
920-265-5448

T.J. Leverentz
Member
tamlev6@gmail.com
612-978-3489

Cooper Lipski
Member
cooper.lipski@go.winona.edu
608-632-6791

Mike Martin
Member
mmartin@winona.edu
507-457-5227

Luke Ott
Member
Luke.ott@go.winona.edu
763-310-9725

Mitchell Prosser
Member
mitchell.prosser@
go.winona.edu
952-913-4850

Bill Stoneberg
Member
william.stoneberg@winona.
edu
507-457-5163

Isaac Tepolt
Member
isaac.tepolt@go.winona.edu
715-853-4217

Jayden Tummel-
Baumler
Member
jayden.tummel-baumler@
go.winona.edu
651-494-7349

NOTE: KQAL, being part of Winona State University, also has the Minnesota State Board of Trustees as its governing body.



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