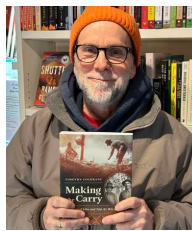


ampers

Diverse Radio for
Minnesota's Communities

Report to the Minnesota State Legislature Fiscal Year 2024



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



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 2024 SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

JANUARY 15, 2025

Submitted To: Senator Bobby Joe Champion, Chair, Legislative Coordinating Commission
Representative Melissa Hortman, Vice Co-Chair, Legislative Coordinating Commission
Representative Lisa Demuth, Vice Co-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 Joe McDonald, Co-Chair, House Legacy Finance Committee
Representative Samantha Vang, Co-Chair, House Legacy Finance Committee
Members of the Legacy Finance Committee in the Minnesota House of Representatives

Cc: Michelle Yurich, Executive Director, Legislative Coordinating Commission
Sally Olson, Commission Administrator, Legislative Coordinating Commission

Submitted By: Faith Ahlgreen, AMPERS Chair
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

On behalf of AMPERS and our member stations, I am proud to share the continued impact of the Legacy funds we receive, which enable us to provide high-quality programming that enriches communities throughout Minnesota. Our work remains widely recognized by our peers, and in FY24, AMPERS stations garnered nine awards for Legacy programming, bringing our cumulative total to 108 state and regional broadcast awards.

This year, KFAI and WTIP each received multiple accolades from the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists, while KQAL and WTIP secured five awards from the Midwest Broadcast Journalism Association. Additionally, KSRQ's Rom Ogaard was honored with an award from the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council. These awards highlight the exceptional work of our stations in delivering diverse, impactful content.

AMPERS and its member stations continue to foster the arts, culture, and history of Minnesota. In FY24, we supported nearly 800 Minnesota artists and musicians, employed 125 contractors, and funded 17.64 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. This employment supported 22 part-time and 68 full-time staff across the state, reflecting our commitment to strengthening local economies and communities.

Legacy funds have also been essential in preserving and sharing Minnesota's rich and diverse history. The [Minnesota Native News](#) team produced over 200 hours of programming, highlighting the events and issues of Minnesota's eleven sovereign nations. KMSU's [Minnesota Music Channel](#) provided invaluable exposure to Minnesota musicians through its streaming and HD radio platform. Additionally, we supported several initiatives aimed at preserving the Ojibwe language. In total, AMPERS produced over 1,290 radio programs in FY24, adding to a cumulative total of more than 29,290 artistic, cultural, and historical radio segments since receiving Legacy funds in FY09.

On behalf of the AMPERS Board of Directors and our member stations, I extend our sincere gratitude to the Legislature and the citizens of Minnesota for your ongoing support of our programming through the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF). We hope you will continue to support our work so that we can ensure our programming serves all Minnesotans, with a special focus on underserved and underrepresented communities and cultures across the state.

Please consider this letter as our formal annual report to the Legislature for the FY2024 ACHF grants. The report includes all required information, along with feedback from listeners, artists, and other organizations that have benefited from our Legacy programming in FY24. Due to the extensive content, the Table of Contents and Index are interactive, with clickable links for easy navigation. Words underlined in green are also hyperlinks.

Thank you once again for your support, and we look forward to continuing our important work together.



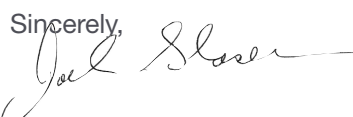
Sincerely,

Joel A. Glaser
AMPERS President & CEO

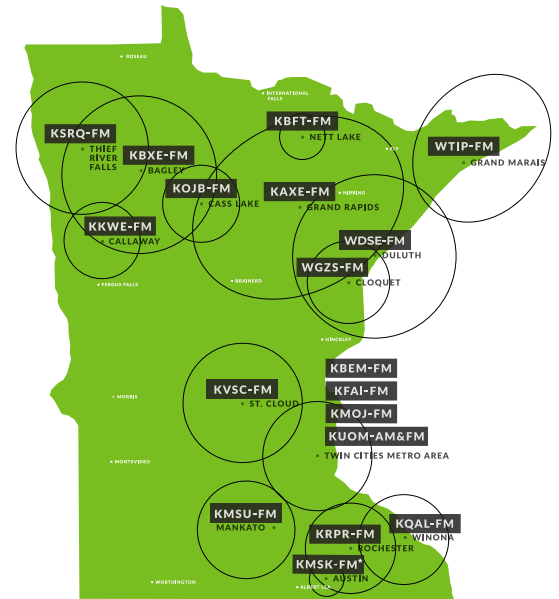
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ABOUT AMPERS

AMPERS is a collection of 17 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. Six 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’s 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.



<i>City</i>	<i>Station</i>	<i>Dial Position</i>
Bagley / Bemidji	KBXE-FM	90.5 FM
Bois Forte / Nett Lake	KBFT-FM	89.9 FM
Duluth	WDSE-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	KQJB-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
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

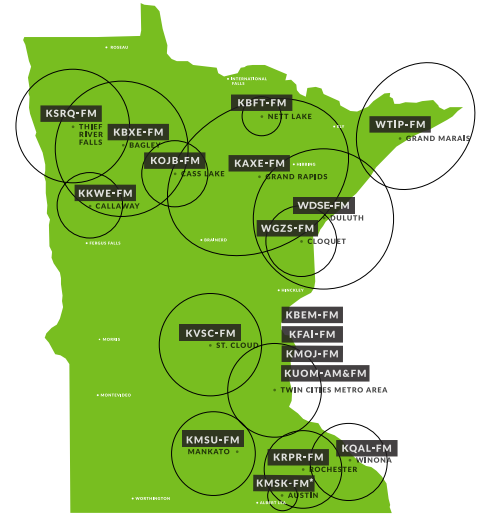
STATION REPORTS

AMPERS – STATEWIDE



Organization Description

AMPERS (Statewide) represents and supports 17 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

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 FY24, audiences learned about Leann Chin’s journey to fast food fame, how a devastating fire led to the destruction of the State Capitol building in 1881, and about the Minnesotan who left his mark on amusement parks throughout America with his creation of the iconic Tilt-A-Whirl ride.

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 200,000 Minnesotans each week. More than 8,750 people follow **MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds** on Facebook. In FY24, the **MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds**’ Facebook posts reached almost 853,845 people, and prompted 27,411 content interactions. AMPERS gave away about 2,500 **Best of MN90** CDs at the 2024 Minnesota State Fair.

MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds resulted in an increase in locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio.

In a survey conducted by KAXE, 100% of the respondents said they remembered hearing MN90 and all 100% 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.

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



Counter Stories aired on 12 AMPERS stations reaching about 180,000 each week and generated 14,343 podcast downloads.



STATION REPORTS



and social justice culture in a region grappling with demographic change. Unfortunately, Don passed away in March. The tragic unexpected loss led the team to produce a show celebrating Don's life and the incredible impact he had on our state. Understandably, that show ended up being the last **Counter Stories** episode of FY24. The team ended up producing 27 half-hour radio programs in FY24. Podcasts, made available online and through streaming, were 45 to 60 minutes long. **Counter Stories** ended up being a ten-month project.

In FY24, **Counter Stories** posts had 14,343 downloads AMPERS estimates that the program reached about 180,000 people. **Counter Stories** aired on 12 AMPERS stations, and several episodes aired on non-AMPERS radio stations such as KLCC (Eugene, Oregon), KTSW (San Marcos, Texas), and KCUR (Riverside, California). Additionally, the program has more than 1,500 followers on Facebook. In FY24, the **Counter Stories** discussed topics such as celebrating Ramadan, the long road to DEI in healthcare, and how the jingle dress is used for community healing. **Counter Stories** 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** achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

NATIVE LIGHTS PODCAST: WHERE INDIGENOUS VOICES SHINE

For [**Native Lights Podcast: Where Indigenous Voices Shine**](#) AMPERS produced 26 half-hour on-air segments, and 26 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 FY24, **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 [**Rhiana Yazzie: Empowering Indigenous Creativity**](#), [**John Villebrun: Cultivating the Next Generation Through Basketball**](#), and, [**Tashia Hart: Art, Nature, and the Path to Growing Joy**](#). **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 103,000 people. The podcast episodes had 16,431 downloads. On Apple Podcasts, **Native Lights** has 46 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 better understanding of the culture and history of Minnesota's Native American communities.



Native Lights has a 5-star rating on Apple Podcasts, aired on 13 AMPERS stations, and generated 16,431 podcast downloads.



STATION REPORTS

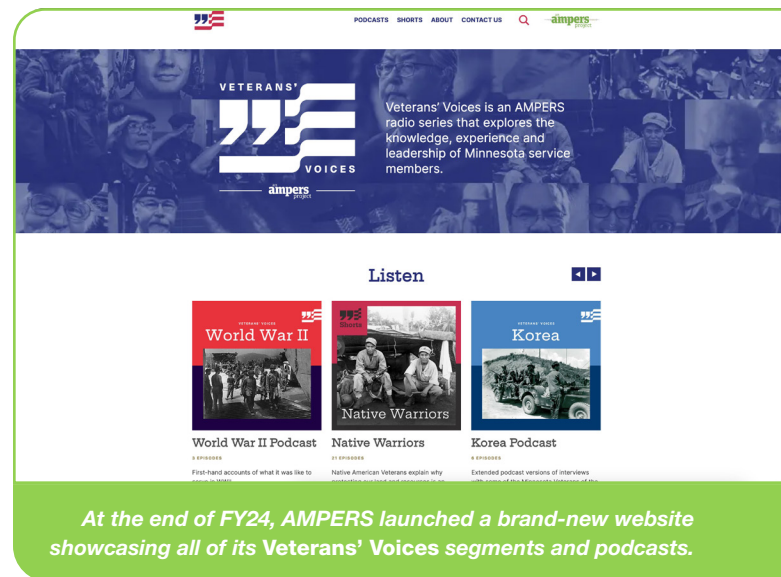
The project also resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. AMPERS achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



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 non-commercial radio stations eligible for full state subsidies and made available online to all Minnesotans now and in the future. The website contains more than 28,290 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 FY24, AMPERS did complete a new website for [Veterans' Voices](#). The brand-new site makes it much easier for Minnesotans to access all of the great content from the **Veterans' Voices** series. The new **Veterans' Voices** website did not go live until the last week of FY24 so we do not have any analytics available to report at this time. In FY24, unfortunately, the Application Programming Interface (API) infrastructure that allows AMPERS to upload the content and share the segments and shows with the rest of the stations broke. The software is more than ten years old. AMPERS is working with Public Radio Exchange (PRX) to create a new API that we are hoping should be created and implemented in FY25. In the meantime, to stay in compliance with grant guidelines, AMPERS is ensuring all segments are uploaded, archived, and available to the public via Public Radio Exchange (PRX). **AMPERS digital archive, website, and social media** project was a yearlong project.

The AMPERS website received 63,000 page views, 194,000 events, and attracted 39,000 active users in FY24. In FY24, the AMPERS Facebook page had more than 8,000 likes and 7,800 followers. The AMPERS Facebook page reached about 50,000 people. Podcast feeds associated with AMPERS' Legacy projects generated more than 57,476 downloads in FY24. **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.



RACIAL RECKONING: GROUND ZERO DOCUMENTARY

Racial Reckoning: Ground Zero Documentary was a video documentary featuring 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



STATION REPORTS

stories they covered. The video documentary was completed and released in late FY23. **Racial Reckoning: Ground Zero Documentary** was a yearlong project. The **Racial Reckoning** Facebook page has 2,900 likes and 3,100 followers. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. AMPERS achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



MINNESOTA LEGACY SERIES

AMPERS began researching and producing the **Minnesota Legacy Series** in FY24. The goal of the project is to inform the citizens of Minnesota about how the funds from the constitutional amendment are being used. Listeners will learn about various projects being funded to improve Minnesota's water quality, protect and preserve the state's land, enhance our parks and trails, support the arts, increase access to the arts, and preserve the state's culture and history. AMPERS began working on the 90-second segments of **Minnesota Legacy** in late FY24 and worked on the project for three months. Work on the series will continue into FY25. Because the segments did not air in FY24, AMPERS is not able to report on the measurable outcomes for this project. AMPERS will assess and report on the measurable outcomes for the **Minnesota Legacy Series** in FY25.

MINNESOTA NATIVE NEWS

In FY24, **Minnesota Native News** informed listeners about the grand opening of Migizi's new building, allowing the organization to better serve Native youth. Migizi lost its former home in the unrest following the murder of George Floyd. The organization helps Native youth develop digital storytelling skills to help train them for a career in broadcasting or podcasting. **Minnesota Native News** also taught listeners about an effort by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community to bring bison back to their tribal homelands. The project also looked into the impact the Native American Graves Protection and Reparation Act was having in Minnesota and what some members of Minnesota's Indigenous communities had to say about the final rule that went into effect in January of 2024. The **Minnesota Native News** team produced 36 five-minute newscasts for this yearlong project.



Minnesota Native News aired on 14 AMPERS stations statewide informing listeners about efforts to bring bison back to their tribal homelands and other important information about the state's Indigenous communities.

Minnesota Native News aired on 14 AMPERS stations (some stations offered the program more than once) to an audience of approximately 111,600 listeners. Nearly 10,000 people "like" **Minnesota Native News** on Facebook and more than 2,400 follow on Instagram. Facebook posts reached 72,881 people and received 1,800 content interactions. The featured podcast feed received 6,011 downloads during the fiscal year. A listener survey found that of the 84% of the respondents who said they remembered hearing **Minnesota Native News**, 100% 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.

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.

Program Descriptions

ANISHINAABE-BIPOC FASHION SHOW

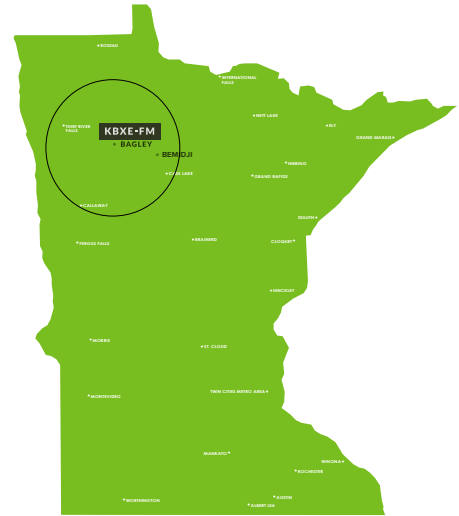
KBXE partnered with Native Apparel Designer Delina White from I Am Anishinaabe fashion company to produce the **Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show** at the Native Nations Fashion Night on April 25, 2024. The show was held at Quincy Hall in Minneapolis and also featured designs from Delina White, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe; Rebecca Mousseau, Spirit Lake Dakota Nation; and Christy Ruby, an Alaskan Native Tlingit Indian from Ketchikan. There was also music, food, and a marketplace. White sought to bring in Native people for all the production and artistic elements. An estimated 250 people attended the event.

In addition to the event, two 13-to-17-minute segments were aired featuring interviews with White (Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe) and staff members from KAXE/KBXE who attended the event. The station estimates that about 4,800 people heard the on-air segments, which also aired on KAXE. In its annual listeners survey, of the respondents who said they heard the Anishinaabe Fashion show interviews, 100% said the interviews helped to increase awareness and knowledge of history and how it affects peoples' lives. The **Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show** was a yearlong project that achieved all its proposed measurable outcomes.

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 43 episodes of these in-depth segments, which varied in length, from five to 16 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 host Andrew Dziengel. Some



KBXE (Bagley / Bemidji) coverage area



100% of surveyed listeners who heard the Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show interviews said the segments increased their knowledge of our state's history.

STATION REPORTS

of the people interviewed in the **Area Voices** segments included storyteller Ann Marie Newman; percussionist Eric Sundeen, artist Sharon Nordrum, from Ricky Tics Art; and director Jacob White, from the Ely Film Festival.



The station estimates that about 4,800 people heard each episode of **Area Voices**. In the FY24 listener survey of KBXE listeners, 81% 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 KAXE. KBXE over-achieved their proposed outputs for **Area Voices** producing three more shows than proposed in FY24. 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 DERECHO Rhythm Section, The Foxgloves and Davina and the Vagabonds.

More than 1,500 people attended the **Bemidji Block Party** throughout the day. KBXE broadcast select performances from the show for a one-hour-long radio special. Commenting on the **Bemidji Block Party**, event goer Bonnie L. said, “We had a great time! Well done Bemidji Brewing and KBXE!!”

In addition to the 1,500 people who attended the event, an estimated 4,800 people listened to the broadcast on KBXE. 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 radio elements of the **Bemidji Block Party** also aired on KAXE. KBXE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this six-month project.



About 1,500 people attended the Bemidji Block Party and another 4,800 people heard the hour-long radio special.

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 33 segments of **What We're Reading** and aired them during the Morning Show. Each segment was between five 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 FY24 were Grand Rapids children’s librarian Tracy Kampa, who talked about her recommendations for children’s books; author Matthew Batts, who talked about his book *The Last Supper Club*; and Bemidji novelist Will Weaver, discussing his newly-released book *Power & Light*.



What We're Reading



STATION REPORTS

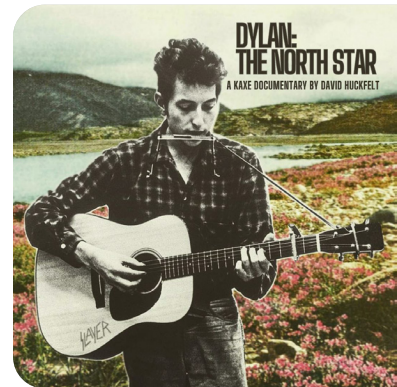
What We're Reading increased Minnesotan's knowledge of writers and their works by showcasing more writers through public broadcasting and giving listeners greater access to the work of Minnesota's authors. The station's annual survey helps to show that KBXE achieved the proposed outcomes for the project. Of the respondents who said they had heard **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 and WTIP. The station achieved the proposed outcomes for this yearlong project.



BOB DYLAN LEGACY PROJECT

For its **Bob Dylan Legacy Project**, KBXE and David Huckfelt produced a radio documentary entitled *Dylan: The North Star*. The program showcased the work of Minnesota's Nobel Prize-winning songwriter and musician Bob Dylan. KBXE produced four radio shows for the **Bob Dylan Legacy Project**. *Dylan: The North Star* aired as two-hour specials. Each show was between 26 and 32 minutes long. Listeners learned about the impact of Dylan's work on Minnesota through interviews and covers of Dylan's music by Minnesota musicians. Some of the Minnesota musicians featured in *Dylan: The North Star* were Erik Koskinen, singing his cover of "All Along the Watchtower"; Low, singing their version of "Knocking on Heaven's Door"; Trampled by Turtles covered "Shelter from the Storm"; and J.S. Ondara sang "Blowing in the Wind". The documentaries also aired on KAXE.

The station's annual survey helped to show that KBXE achieved the proposed outcomes for the project. Of the respondents who said they had heard *Dylan: The North Star* 100% said the project helped to increase their access to Minnesota history and culture. KBXE worked on the **Bob Dylan Legacy Project** for four months and achieved the proposed outcomes for the project.



“Hearing about new books and authors adds to my life! I can then access these for my reading pleasure and share them with friends. It’s all about building community!”

– KBXE listener, commenting on *What We're Reading*

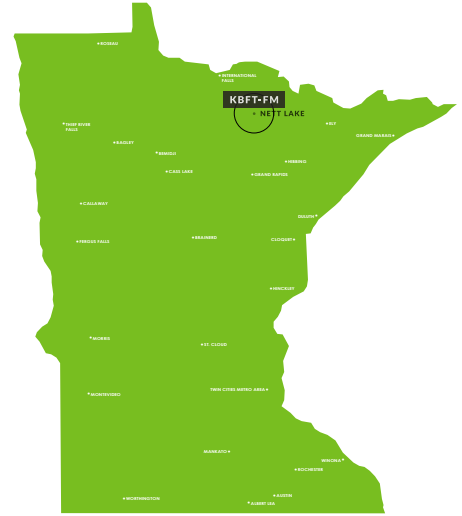
STATION REPORTS

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 Elementary 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

ANISHINAABEMOEN

Anishinaabemoen is designed to preserve the Anishinaabe language. In FY24, the station produced and aired a total of 100 **Anishinaabemoen** segments. In each 30-second segment, Bois Forte Anishinaabe elder Karen Drift taught listeners 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 also produced 500 CDs of **Anishinaabemoen** to reach a wider audience. KBFT distributed 200 of the CDs in FY24, and the remaining will be distributed in the future.

KBFT delivered the segments promised in its work plan 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 16 hour-long shows for this yearlong project, by producing what was promised in the work plan. 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.

STATION REPORTS

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 4 one-hour live concerts as well as 4 five-minute radio segments to promote and support the artists and the concerts. Some of the artists featured included Sihasin, Keith Secola, David Huckfelt, Annie Humphry, War Bonnet 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.

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 FY24, KBFT produced five segments of **Strongville** each of which were five minutes long. The segments explored family history, genetic lineage, historical artifacts, and more. The episodes resulted in more local and Minnesota content produced by public radio. **Strongville** will give Minnesotans a better understanding of Native American culture and history. The producer was impacted by the floods in Northern Minnesota. Segments were produced in FY24 and will air in FY25 so there are no measurable outcomes to assess or report.

POW WOW BOOK

KBFT improved on its **Pow Wow Book** in FY23 which carried over to FY24. The station added some information and made it easier to read. Rather than making it for a specific Pow Wow, the station updated again in its FY24 version 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 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 (page 95).

The station worked on the **Pow Wow Book** for about two months and produced an additional 1,000 educational booklets. The station distributed approximately 500 books in FY24, and the remainder will be distributed in the future. 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.



Native Music Fest Back to School

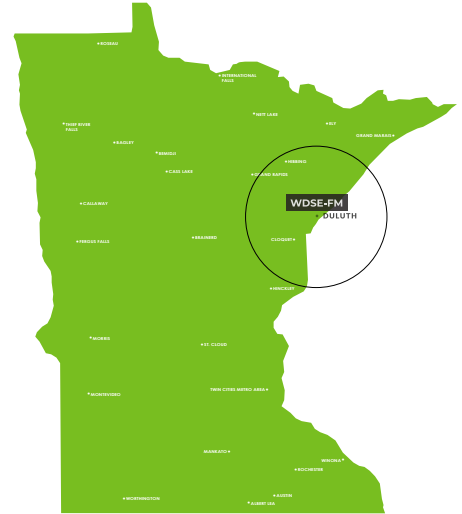
STATION REPORTS

DULUTH – WDSE, 103.3 FM



Station Description

WDSE-FM (Duluth) broadcasts at 103.3 FM. WDSE, The North 103.3, 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

LAKE SUPERIOR RADIO THEATER VARIETY SHOW AND DRAMATIC PRODUCTIONS

For its Radio Theater program, which the station referred to on-air as Lake Superior Radio Theater Presents, WDSE produced and recorded original radio shows that incorporated comedy, drama, and custom music, all in front of a live studio audience. This was a partnership with an existing, highly successful radio theater company, Take It With You (TIWY), that operates in the Duluth area but had lacked actual radio support. TIWY was in its 8th season with sell-out crowds at the Zeitgeist Theater in Duluth, and this partnership created the possibility of the show not only continuing but also growing into further dramatic productions to be aired on WDSE-FM. WDSE spent 20 hours researching and preparing for four hour-long events of Lake Superior Radio Theatre Presents that the station will finish producing and air in FY25. WDSE partially achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project. The remaining measurable outcomes will be produced in FY25 and reported on in the FY25 Legislative Report.

HOMEGROWN MUSIC FESTIVAL

WDSE provided extensive coverage of the 2024 Annual Duluth **Homegrown Music Festival**. The station delivered eight days of daily updates during the festival. The station produced six radio segments for this program, each of which was about 25 minutes long. 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.



WDSE produced about three hours of local radio programming showcasing musicians at the Homegrown Music Festival.

The **Homegrown Music Festival** had live performances in the studio from artists who were participating in the festival. The multi-day, multi-venue event featured 200 bands such as Janie and the Spokes, Indecent Proposal, and The Trash Cats. The station estimates that about 400 people heard the on-air coverage of **Homegrown Music Festival**. The two-month project helped to showcase the work of Minnesota musicians, gave Minnesotans easier access to

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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.

The **Behind the Bridge Sessions** was a month-long project. The station produced three half-hour shows for the project in FY23 and aired the shows in FY25. There were a total of 312 views on YouTube for the **Behind the Bridge Sessions**. WDSE-FM worked with WDSE-TV to capture the episodes and they were then posted to the station’s YouTube channel and advertised on the website and social media platforms in FY24. This project resulted in an increase in local and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio in comparison to before this program existed. Minnesotans had a better understanding of the local artists working in North Minnesota as well as a further awareness of the Symphony’s presence in the community. WDSE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

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 genres underrepresented on commercial radio. **Live from Studio A** aired 28 episodes during the FY24 fiscal year and featured artists such as Keith Secola, Charlie Parr, Jon Edwards, John Gorka, and Chastity Brown.

WDSE reports **Live from Studio A**’s on-air shows were around thirty minutes long and reached an estimated 400 listeners. Each **Live from Studio A** program included performances and interviews with Minnesota musicians from a variety of genres. WDSE-FM engineered, mixed, recorded, and broadcast the live performance and interviews and archived and share them online. This year-long project increased local and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. **Live from Studio A** allowed more Minnesota musicians to have their work showcased through public broadcasting providing them with increased exposure.



WDSE’s Live from Studio A showcased more than 30 Minnesota musicians underrepresented on commercial radio.

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The project also resulted in more local and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. WDSE achieved the proposed outcomes for **Live from Studio A**.



MINNESOTA READS AND MN READS SUMMER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION BLOCK PARTY CONCERT

Minnesota Reads and MN Reads Summer Solstice Celebration Block Party Concert was an ongoing program that partnered with local bookstores and Minnesota authors to enlighten the community through the literary arts. For the **Summer Solstice Celebration Block Party Concert**, WDSE partnered with Zenith Books and Wussow's Concert Café, both independent, locally owned businesses. For the project, WDSE produced 42 radio segments that were each 7 to 12 minutes long and one live four-hour event. The event featured multiple bands, including Duluth native Gaelynn Lea for its **Minnesota Reads and MN Reads Summer Solstice Celebration Block Party Concert**.

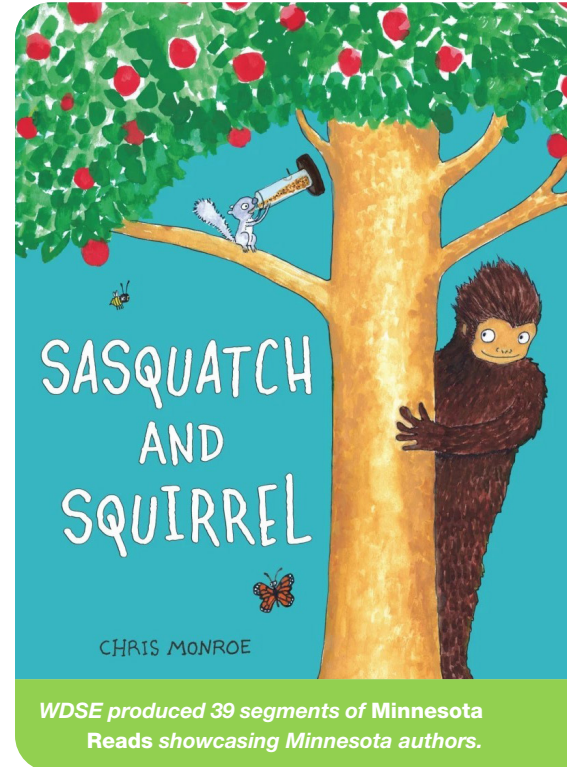
Minnesota Reads and MN Reads Summer Solstice Celebration Block Party Concert offered statewide connections with a broad geographical range of authors, topics, and inspirations. Paul Metsa, Alayne Hopkins, and Shawna Weaver were among the Minnesota authors showcased. The event attracted about 500 attendees. **Minnesota Reads** was a yearlong project.

WDSE estimates the 42 on-air segments of **Minnesota Reads** reached approximately 200 listeners each week. Each of the **Minnesota Reads** segments was seven to 12 minutes long. The station achieved its goal of supporting and increasing awareness of Minnesota authors as well as increasing the amount of local and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio allowing more Minnesota authors to have their work showcased through public radio. WDSE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for **Minnesota Reads and MN Reads Summer Solstice Celebration Block Party Concert**.

THE LOCAL RADIO SHOW AND MINNESOTA MUSIC ARCHIVE

The Local was a weekly two-hour program showcasing Minnesota music with an emphasis on musicians from Duluth and the surrounding area. The show included interviews and live performances, an events calendar, and hosts created web and social media content surrounding local music. The **Minnesota Music Archive** focused on spotlighting and archiving music from Minnesota bands with the option for Minnesota musicians to interact and share items in the Archive. 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 Allen Sparhawk, Dave Simonette, and Mara Lovejoy. This project was conducted over a year.

WDSE produced and aired 52 two-hour-long episodes of **The Local Radio Show**. The station estimates that about 400 people heard the program each week. The project provided listeners with more awareness of the local and regional music scene. **The Local Radio Show** also resulted in significantly more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by WDSE, increasing the number of local artists, musicians, historians,



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writers, authors, and others who had their work showcased through public radio and benefited from the increased exposure. WDSE had to put an end to and remove **The Minnesota Music Archive** from its online platform; rather than attracting posts from undiscovered artists it primarily attracted bots and inappropriate comments from trolls, and there was no automated method to restrict the inappropriate content. WDSE is producing web segments of **The Local Radio Show** for the web that the station will post in FY25. Despite the fact the station wasn't able to produce the **Minnesota Music Archive** in FY24, by showcasing more than 52 musicians and producing 52 two-hour long episodes of local music programming, significantly increasing the amount of Minnesota-focused content, WDSE achieved the proposed outcomes for **The Local Radio Show**.

COMMUNITY FESTIVAL COVERAGE

WDSE FM strove to participate and enhance a variety of Community Festivals through support and coverage. During FY24, **Community Festival Coverage** included the Duluth Rhubarb Festival, the Finn Festival, and Park Point Arts Festival. Often, this support included providing live music that complimented the nature of the festival. Artists highlighted were Big Wave Dave, Breanne Marie and the Front Porch Sinners, Life Parade, and Steve Solkela. This **Community Festival Coverage** resulted in a more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and was a three-month-long project.

During the **Community Festival Coverage** project, the Rhubarb Festival attracted 3,000 attendees, and the FINN Festival also drew a crowd of 3,000 attendees. WDSE-FM produced and aired three ten-minute episodes of **Community Festival Coverage**. The station estimates that approximately 8,400 people heard the program on the station. Monica Hendrickson, the organizer of the Rhubarb Festival, expressed her gratitude, stating, "Thank you for your support with organizing the music. We had a record turnout this year."

Community Festival Coverage provided Minnesotans with a better understanding of the issues facing the region and offered opportunities to learn fun and exciting information about Minnesota culture. The large crowd lingering to listen to music at the Rhubarb Festival engaged the public for a longer duration per visit. Instead of merely shopping for rhubarb dishes and leaving, the public had reason to stay on the festival grounds, thereby increasing opportunities for cultural immersion. WDSE began working on the **Community Festival Coverage** during the last three months of FY24. The station achieved some of the measurable outcomes for this project. But, the bulk of the outputs and outcomes will be delivered in FY25 and reported on in the FY25 Legislative report per the last work plan revision.

NATIVE ELDER HISTORY PROJECT

WDSE-FM will continue the tradition of recording, broadcasting, and maintaining the online, on-demand availability of native oral history through a series of interviews with indigenous elders. In FY24 the station began working on the **Native Elder History Project** which focus on the artistic contributions of native culture to the overall culture of the area. It will result involves a three-part interview and podcast with Carl Gawboy, Wendy Savage, Jill Doerfler, and Ivy Vainio, all members of Ojibwe tribes in the area, as they discuss the founding of the Ojibwe Art Expo back in 1974. **Native Elder History**



"Thank you for your support with organizing the music. We had a record turnout this year."

– Monica Hendrickson,
Organizer Rhubarb Festival,
commenting on *Community
Festival Coverage*

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Project will result in more indigenous-focused content produced by public radio. More indigenous culture will be showcased and archived through public radio. WDSE worked on **Native Elder History Project** for four weeks in FY24. The bulk of the work on this project will be in FY25 and the station will assess and report on the measurable outcomes for it in the FY25 Legislative Report per the revision of their FY24 work plan.



AMPERS and its member stations have used Legacy funds to produce and archive more than 29,000 artistic, cultural, and historical radio segments and shows which are available to all Minnesotans.

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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

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 twenty 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. In FY24, the series shared the stories of 10 Veterans including Shelly West, Tony Page, Vern Northrup, Warren Lees, Robert Wallace, and Fond du Lac Tribal Chair Kevin Dupuis. **Fond du Lac's Ogichida Voices** was a six-month project.

The station estimates that about 300 people heard the on-air segments of **Ogichida Voices Season Three/Fond du Lac's Ogichida Voices**. **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.



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. Producer Chaz Wagner created ten segments of Fond du Lac History in 90 Seconds, five more than promised in the work plan. This project was a late addition to WGZS' FY23 work plan. While the producer completed the segments in FY23, WGZS was not able to air the segments until FY24.

WGZS estimates that approximately 300 people heard each of the ten segments of **MN90: Fond Du Lac History In 90 Seconds**. Listeners learned about the aid Fond du Lac offered during the Dakota War, the land the University of Minnesota returned to the Fond du Lac Tribe, and when

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Fond du Lac made Anishinaabemowin the official language of the Band. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and gave Minnesotans a better understanding of the history of the Fond du Lac nation. WGZS covered ten different topics during this six-month project which achieved its proposed measurable outcomes.



AMPERS collaborated with WGZS to produce 30 ACHF segments highlighting the people and the history of the Fond du Lac Reservation that the station would not have been able to do without the partnership.

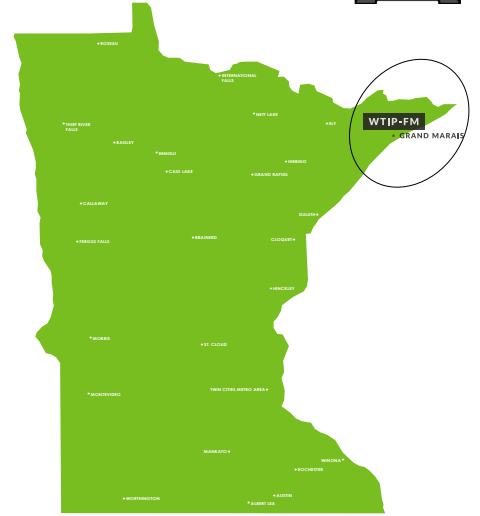
STATION REPORTS

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 program features stories from 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 three full episodes plus eight short features. WTIP estimates that about 13,000 people heard the on-air elements of the project. The segments were also made available via SoundCloud, receiving nearly 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** and short stories from the series 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. **Anishinaabe Bizindamoo Makak** was awarded First Place for Specialty Programming at the 2024 Midwest Broadcast Journalism Awards for Episodes 20 and 21, which featured interviews with Obizaan and Chato Gonzales, hosted by Erik Redix and produced by Staci Drouillard.



The Midwest Broadcast Journalism Awards recognized WTIP's Anishinaabe Bizindamoo Makak with First Place in the Specialty Programming category.

BOUNDARY WATERS PODCAST

The **Boundary Waters Podcast** captured stories about the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCWW), the most visited wilderness area in the United States. WTIP provided

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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 27- to 58-minute conversations with people sharing their BWCAW stories and experiences, including paddler profiles, wolves and wilderness, new rangers at Cache Bay, paddling the Mississippi River, and the 100th episode milestone! WTIP also introduced a new feature of the podcast called *Keep it Wild*, a 7 – 10 minute monthly check-in with the U.S. Forest Service.



WTIP produced 18 episodes of the ***Boundary Waters Podcast***, plus eight segments of *Keep it Wild*, garnering almost 37,000 listens on SoundCloud in FY24. Links to audio stories from the ***Boundary Waters Podcast*** were shared via social media and showcased as Hero images on WTIP's website, adding up to 58 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. Episode 90 of the ***Boundary Waters Podcast*** won first place in the Podcast category at the Midwest Broadcast Journalism Awards and third place in the Podcast division at the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists 2024 Page One Awards. 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.



WTIP's Boundary Waters Podcast earned a 3rd Place Award from the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists.

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 people, places, and businesses within the North Shore region. WTIP produced seven eight- to ten-minute segments in FY24. ***Traveling the Old North Shore*** was a seven-month project. In FY24, ***Traveling the Old North Shore*** explored the resort history of Saganaga Lake, covered the history of the downtown jail in Grand Marais, shared stories about the Pincushion Dump, and walked the trails at Mineral Center, the former home of the poet Joanne Hart. These segments built a deeper understanding of local history including the stories often left behind. ***Traveling the Old North Shore*** was awarded first place in the Soft Feature category at the 2024 Midwest Broadcast Journalism for the 2023 segment entitled *Toimi Children's Cemetery*, produced by Martha Marnocha.



Traveling the Old North Shore took top honors from the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists in the Soft Feature category.

Traveling the Old North Shore segments distributed via the WTIP website received nearly 850 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.

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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 two events: 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 FY24, WTIP produced 87 original features that were aired on **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend**. Of the 87 segments, 19 of them were about the Gunflint Trail and aired on WHCP in Cambridge and KAXE in Grand Rapids. Five segments showcased a Grand Portage couple who walked across the United States to raise awareness about harm reduction and opioid overdose. Thirteen featured WTIP commentator Lin Salisbury interviewing authors. And 19 segments, that also aired on KICI in Iowa City, and KGUA in Northern California, showcased host Marcia Hyatt exploring how to be intentional, creative, and joyful in life.



Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend generated more than 670 hours of artistic, cultural, and historical programming.

In all, **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore**

Weekend contributed an average of 3,744 content segments, features, and interviews in FY24, generating 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 FY24 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. The segment **Getting Prepared**, written by Marcia Roepke, received first place in the Broadcast Writing division in 2024. WTIP achieved its proposed outcomes for this 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 racial inequity within the context 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 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.

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Working closely with community members John Morrin, Marisa Anywaush, Amira Anderson, and Tyler Howell, who served as project advisors, WTIP produced three, eight- to 13-minute segments. Guests included Professor Anton Treuer, Grand Portage elder and diversity trainer John Morrin, and Anishinaabe elder and historian Alta McQuatters.



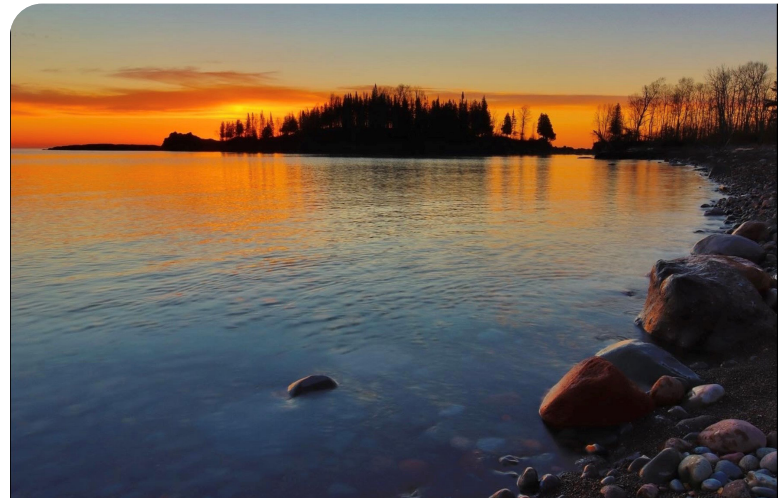
It Happens Here: The Roots of Racial Inequity on the North Shore won first place in the Podcast Division at the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalism 2024 Page One Awards.

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 150 listens in FY24. The station estimates that more than 13,000 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 nine segments over twelve months.

Produced by different storytellers, ***The Lake Superior Project*** was a cornerstone arts and cultural heritage feature on WTIP. The station partnered with Sugarloaf Cove, and the Grand Portage Band of Ojibwe. Topics included the history of Sugarloaf Cove, the story of White Sky Rock, a look back at Reserve Mining Company in Silver Bay, sisters who serve on the Grand Portage Tribal Council, and Indigenous opposition to the Tamarack mine.



WTIP partnered with Sugarloaf Cove and Grand Portage Band Of Ojibwe to produce The Lake Superior Project.

The seven- to ten-minute segments were heard more than 550 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.

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In FY24, WTIP recorded and aired segments of three performances, featuring Colleen Myhre, Maria Nickolay, and *Buffalo Galaxy*. From the three performances, the station produced six, 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 YouTube received 1,882 views. The addition of video as a multi-media approach to content creation and sharing has benefited 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 three-month project.



RADIO WAVES MUSIC FESTIVAL

Radio Waves Music Festival was a three-day event featuring 100 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 hip hop and Americana to alternative rock and classic country. Artists included *Stonebridge Singers*, *Briand Morrison with Clearwater Hot Club*, *Humbird*, *David Huckfelt & Jeremy Ylvisaker*, and *Colleen "Boss Mama" Myhre*.

Radio Waves Music Festival attracted 700 music fans and received an additional \$10,000 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. By welcoming 700 people, plus 100 musicians to **Radio Waves Music Festival**, WTIP helped to provide Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, and incomes with better access to cultural programming through 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.

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 Keith Secola, Cherry Dirt, the Big Wu, Shemekia Copeland, and more. The station estimates that about 13,000 people heard the **Scenic Route** on-air throughout the year.

WTIP created 53 episodes of **Scenic Route**, each of which was about 58 minutes long, showcasing the work of 53 Minnesota performers. WTIP partnered with the North Shore Music Festival, Duluth Homegrown, and the Twin Ports Music Fest for **Scenic Route**. The 53 interviews were also made available on the station's website as on-demand audio pieces. The **Scenic Route** was a yearlong project and WTIP achieved its proposed outcomes.



The Radio Waves Music Festival showcased more than 100 musicians.

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.



KAXE-FM (Grand Rapids / Brainerd) coverage area

Program Descriptions

MN MUSIC PLACEMAKING

MN Music Placemaking offered listeners diverse, live and culturally relevant music experiences. This project featured insights and lists of local musicians performing in the area through twenty-five weekly segments titled *The Setlist*. **MN Music Placemaking** also included a free live concert, *Kick it with KAXE*, featuring Erik Koskinen and Mae Simpson. Around 175 people attended the event. Live interviews with the performers from the event were held at the KAXE studio.

KAXE's FY24 listener survey found that of those who listened to **MN Music Placemaking** on-air segments, 89% agreed that the project helped listeners feel more informed and gave them more exposure to Minnesota musicians and their music. **MN Music Placemaking** listener Charley Wagner from Longville said, "Thanks, Malachy, for keeping your finger on the pulse of northern MN music with your weekend setlist!" The station estimates that the on-air broadcasts, which also aired on KBXE, reached about 4,800 people. KAXE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this 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. The shows provided writers with the opportunity to read their own work to listeners. The **Stay Human** series explored words and music for spirit and courage through topics such as outdoor music, home repair, road trips, vinyl records, and other thought-provoking themes. KAXE estimates that about 5,600 people heard the **Stay Human** shows.

KAXE's **Stay Human** segments increased the audience's appreciation for spoken word and storytelling. The station's listener survey included positive comments including one who said, "**Stay Human** provides a much needed pause in our busy lives to consider our humanity as individuals and as members of a community."



KAXE's Stay Human shared more than 180 stories about our state.



STATION REPORTS

Stay Human exceeded its projected outputs of 40 shows by producing 41 shows, featuring 181 stories, including two live storytelling events held at Klockow Brewing and Bemidji Brewing. 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**, 92% said the shows gave them more knowledge, information, and access to the arts, particularly to writers and storytellers. This was a yearlong project that was also aired on KICI-FM (Iowa City, IA), KDX (Worldround Radio), WSLR-FM (Sarasota, FL) WTIP, and KBXE. KAXE achieved its proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



THE ECONOMICS OF RURAL ART

The Economics of Rural Art was about the physical, emotional, and intellectual process of creating public art. By collaborating with local artists to create public art and gathering spaces, the initiative connected residents and visitors through artistic expression. **The Economics of Rural Art** highlighted local artists and arts organizations including Nelson Studios, Charles Ringer, Roger Loyson, and Mueller Studio. The public art beautifies the environment and strengthens social bonds, inviting diverse voices to be heard and appreciated. KAXE produced radio segments to highlight the transformative impact of these efforts, showcasing how public art builds more inclusive and vibrant rural spaces.

The Economics of Rural Art was a yearlong project, KAXE produced and aired two shows. Each show was nine to 12 minutes long. Of the listeners surveyed who said they had heard **The Economics of Rural Art**, 92% agreed that the project increased locally- and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio, and increased the number of local artists that had 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. A total of two AMPERS stations aired these shows. The station estimates that approximately 4,800 people heard the shows. KAXE achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.



92% of those surveyed said **The Economics of Rural Art** increased the number of local artists that had their work showcased through public broadcasting.

CENTERSTAGE MINNESOTA

Centerstage Minnesota showcased the stories 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 LAAMAR, Little Fevers, Erik Koskinen, Annie Humphrey, and Wild Horses. KAXE's annual survey showed the station achieved the goal of showcasing and informing listeners about Minnesota-made music with **Centerstage Minnesota**. KAXE over-delivered for this yearlong project producing 46 two-hour shows, six more than proposed in its work plan. The segments aired a total of 92 times.

In KAXE's listener survey for FY24, 84% said they remember hearing the program, and of those, 98% agreed they felt more informed about local music because of the program. One listener surveyed wrote, "I like the diversity of the artists. [You] definitely learn more about local musicians." **Centerstage Minnesota** segments also aired on AMPERS stations WGZS and KBXE. KAXE achieved the proposed outcomes for **Centerstage Minnesota**. The station estimates that about 5,000 people heard the segments. KAXE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

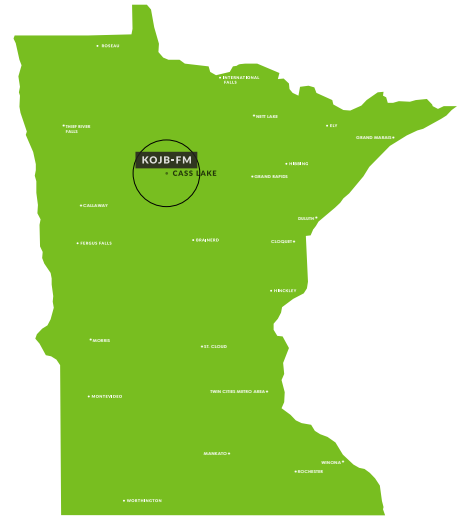
STATION REPORTS

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.



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

Program Descriptions

ANISHINAABE MUSIC & ARTIST FESTIVAL

The **Anishinaabe Music & Arts Festival** was a two-day event in which Minnesotans and native artists showcased their music from a wide range of musical genres, from cultural to contemporary styles of music. Listeners were able to enjoy skillfully crafted compilations from local and national acts such as Indigenous, Midnight Express, Annie Humphrey, and Corey Medina. Also, artists ranging from painters, craftwork, beadwork, and other forms were showcased during the event, which attracted 250 attendees. The station broadcast some of the concerts from the two-day event. Each segment was 30-60 minutes long, broadcasting on-air for about eight hours on the station. KOJB partnered with the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe and Minnesota Tourism Grant, to provide local artists with the space to showcase their music to a broader audience.

The **Anishinaabe Music & Arts Festival** provided Native and Non-Native artists of all genres, a platform to perform and promote their works. In addition, it enabled individuals from all walks of life to gain a better understanding of the traditional and contemporary lifestyles of the Native American culture. The event showcased Minnesota musicians from around the state from various musical genres totaling 11 different acts. The event also allowed culinary artists to highlight their cultural cuisines. The station estimates that about 300 people heard the on-air segments. Artist Corey Medina provided great feedback about the event saying “Great Show! So many different artist from contemporary to traditional. It’s cool to have a wide variety of music in just two days.” KOJB achieved the measurable outcomes for this project.



KOJB's Anishinaabe Music & Arts Festival showcased 11 different musical acts.

ENVIRONMENTAL VOICES

Environmental Voices featured expert commentary on various environmental topics such as global warming and climate change. There were discussions with Leech Lake Division of Resource Management addressing issues facing our natural resources such as forests,



STATION REPORTS

animals, and wild rice, to name a few. The program also discussed day-to-day issues with the environment and weather and offered ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle. KOJB produced 52 seven- to 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, State of Minnesota, and other local experts.



Environmental Voices was a yearlong project. The station estimates that about 300 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.

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. The station produced 36 ten to fifteen-minute segments for this yearlong 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 about 300 people heard the on-air elements of the **Living the Ojibwe Way of Life**, which gave more Minnesotans a better understanding and awareness of Minnesota history and culture, especially Native American history. KOJB achieved the measurable outcomes for this project.

TRADITIONAL OJIBWE PLANTS, HERBS, AND TEAS

KOJB produced 25 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 about herbs for depression remedies, hair loss, and sinus infections, as well as healing plants found in swamps, bogs and wetlands. The project provided cultural and historical programming.



Living the Ojibwe Life promoted increased interest, understanding, and knowledge of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.

STATION REPORTS

Traditional Ojibwe Plants, Herbs, and Teas was a five-month project. The station estimates that about 300 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.



The residents of Leech Lake and the surrounding areas benefit from KOJB's production of more than 22 hours of Legacy programming as a result of the station's partnership with AMPERS.

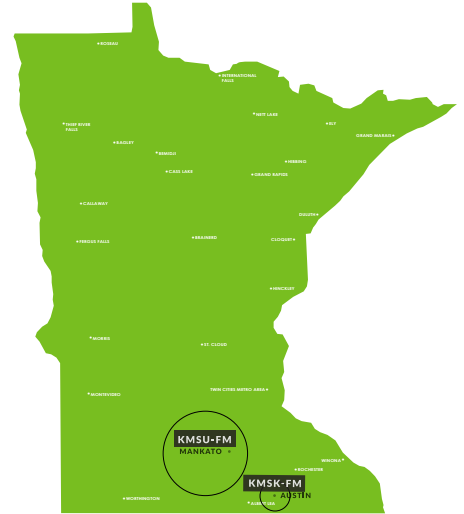
STATION REPORTS

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!



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

Program Descriptions

RADIO DRAMA

For its project **Radio Drama**, KMSU embarked on a creative journey with a captivating production of *House on Haunted Hill*, enlisting community members to lend their voices to this 59-minute broadcast.

This project not only showcased the talents of local actors but also highlighted the collaborative spirit of the community, as residents contributed their creativity and skills to bring the haunting story to life. From sound effects to voice acting, the production served as a platform for local talent, fostering a sense of pride and connection among participants. **Radio Drama** increased the locally focused content and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio by collaborating with community members.

The addition of whimsical, fictional old-fashioned sponsorship messages crafted by participants further enhanced the atmosphere, adding a nostalgic touch that resonated with 5,000 listeners who were exposed to **Radio Drama**. By involving the community in every aspect of the project, KMSU created an engaging experience that not only entertained but also strengthened bonds among residents, making the broadcast a memorable highlight of the season.

Radio Drama was a three-month project and achieved the proposed measurable outcomes.



KMSU brought community members together to help produce its Radio Drama.

MINNESOTA MUSIC CHANNEL

KMSU helped hundred of Minnesota musicians get significantly more exposure to the citizens of our state with its **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 served 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. Musician Erik Koskinen commented, "Thanks so much for interviewing me and letting me do some live songs in-studio. Having my music on the **Minnesota Music Channel** is really great!"

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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, Gear Daddies, Charlie Parr, 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 900 unique listeners, amassing an impressive 8,700 listening hours via the station website and the KMSU App in FY24. 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.



The Minnesota Music Channel is believed to be the only station in the state exclusively broadcasting music from Minnesota.

LARGE OUTDOOR MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES

KMSU played an instrumental role in amplifying Southern Minnesota's vibrant music and artistic 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 event that follows Labor Day weekend, drawing an impressive crowd of approximately 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



KMSU's Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances attracted performers and audiences of all ages.

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.



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To ensure inclusiveness 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 as well as broadcasting live performances from each of the Songs on the Lawn concerts. Additional content included a 30-minute review for Blues on Belgrade, comprehensive 30-minute previews for Austin Artworks, The Ambassador's Bluesfest, the Greater Mankato Diversity Council's Juneteenth event, and well as 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 31,900 attendees in FY24, 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 proposed measurable outcomes 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 four well-curated events at the Pavilion in Minnesota Square Park in St. Peter. The lineup showcased artists such as Hannah Bretz, Anja Menk, Eric Zimmerman, Ryan Rader, Evan Bierer, and Masa Ishikawa, drawing an enthusiastic audience totaling approximately 850 attendees. Further enriching the project's tapestry was the Pageant and Singalong Nation Midlife Recital, a poignant live music performance where community members performed a selection of Queen and David Bowie songs. 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 a 59-minute radio program, showcasing highlights from the Jazz concerts, reaching an estimated on-air audience of about 5,000 listeners. 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



KMSU's Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances allowed those unable to attend to enjoy the performances on the radio.



KMSU's Collaboration with the Arts Center of St. Peter amplified local jazz and attracted about 850 to the events.

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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.



MANKATO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA RECORDINGS

KMSU proudly produced 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 Aaron Copland, Igor Stravinsky, Samuel Barber, Dmitri Shostakovich, Louise Farrenc, and George Frideric Handel. The broadcast of each performance typically occurred the Sunday following the live event, marking the culmination of this ten-month 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.



Those unable to attend a Mankato Symphony Orchestra concert could still enjoy the music on the radio thanks to KMSU.

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 Erik Koskinen, Stacy Kay, Luke LeBlanc, Ron Arsenault, Billy Steiner, and City Mouse. 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 750 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

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on-air listeners, was shared with a broader audience through Public Radio Exchange (PRX). The full performances were broadcast in their entirety on KMSU-HD2, The **Minnesota Music Channel**. 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 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**.



MAHKATO WACIPI (POW WOW)

KMSU helped to amplify the Annual Mahkato Traditional Wacipi, an esteemed Indian Pow Wow held at Dakota Wokiksuye Makoce, 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 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.



KMSU taught listeners about Native American culture and history with its 20-minute program about the Mahkato Wacipi (Pow Wow).

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 7,500 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, which included a recorded broadcast of the drummers and dancers performing during the Grand Entry. 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.

SMALL VENUE MUSIC AND 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



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KMSU collaborate with local venues and businesses and other nonprofit organizations, showcasing 10 live events that collectively drew a lively audience of approximately 1,600 attendees. The station also curated and aired three on-air shows, each showcasing performances that captured the essence of the region's diverse musical tapestry as part of this yearlong project.



Among the standout shows were The Music Events at Mankato Makerspace series, hosted at the nonprofit creative studio Mankato Makerspace, which provided a platform for local musicians to captivate audiences while introducing newcomers to this vibrant artistic community. The station also produced *Free Form Freaktout Presents*, two 30- to 60-minute performances recorded and featured on *Free Form Freaktout* and an hour-long review show of *Keeping it Local Presents*, a showcase of local singer-songwriters recorded live at The 410 Project, a community art space located in downtown Mankato. Each of the shows was shared with other public radio stations via PRX, the Public Radio Exchange. The full-length recorded performances were featured on KMSU-HD2, The **Minnesota Music Channel**. 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 Alan Sparhawk, Silver Summer, The Muatas, Thirsty Giants, Liz Draper, Bee Balm Fields, Ben Scuggs, Mary Clare Stroh, The Wannas, Tim Eriksen, Laura Karels, Beret Finken, 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**.



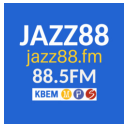
KMSU's Small Venue Music and Arts Performances showcased 10 events that attracted more than 1,600 people.



KMSU aired full performances from the Small Venue Music and Arts Performances on the Minnesota Music Channel to give artists even more exposure.

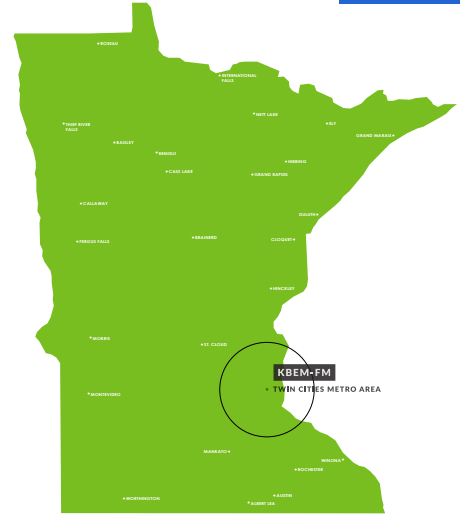
STATION REPORTS

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

MINNESOTA 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 FY24 event and broadcast honored saxophonist/clarinetist and music educator, Brian Grivna; pianist/arranger Mikkel Romstad; internationally known cardiologist, saxophonist, clarinetist, and practitioner of New Orleans jazz, Dr. Henry Blackburn, and award-winning jazz vocalist and educator, the late Roberta Davis. Pianist Phil Aaron and his Trio, featuring bassist Graydon Peterson and drummer Phil Hey, accompanied the Legends. Clarinetist Tony Balluff also sat in with Blackburn.

Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders was a yearlong project. The live concert itself was about 90 minutes and the station edited down to a special one-hour on-air show. About 172 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 **Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders**, which showcased the work of nine 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.

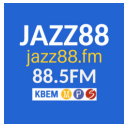


Jazz88 produced a 90 minute live event and one-hour radio show for Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders.

JAZZCLECTIC CONCERT SERIES

Jazz88 successfully executed its **JazzClectic Concert Series** through a strategic partnership with Steve Heckler and his production company, KXH Events, for FY24. Together, they orchestrated two live concert events featuring some of Minnesota’s finest

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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 **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.

One concert featured Jazz Women All Stars which includes: Mary Louise Knutson, piano; Sue Orfield, saxophone; Joan Griffith, bass and guitar; Jendeen Forberg, drums, Linda Peterson, piano and vocals; Ginger Commodore, vocals; and Patty Peterson, vocals and Emcee. MaryAnn Sullivan and her band MaryAnn & The Moneymakers performed at the second concert. The station transformed the two concerts into on-air broadcasts to reach those unable to attend in person. The two-month project resulted in two two-hour live events, and two radio shows that were edited down to 60 and 90-minute broadcasts. The live concerts attracted more than 3,000 people. The station estimates the on-air broadcasts reached about 4,000 more listeners.

The concerts, which were offered free of charge to the public, not only showed a significant number of Minnesotans to arts and culture but also provided invaluable exposure for the participating musicians. Jazz88's commitment to fair compensation was evident, as all eleven musicians involved were paid for their performances. The project successfully met its proposed measurable outcomes, solidifying the **JazzClectic Concert Series** as a resounding success in promoting jazz and enriching the cultural landscape of Minnesota.



The JazzClectic Concert Series took the music to the people and attracted about 3,000 people.

JAZZ@MPS

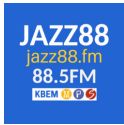
Jazz@MPS, was a comprehensive initiative undertaken by Jazz88, which encompassed a series of programs derived from live concerts, in-studio performances, and insightful interviews with aspiring student jazz musicians at both high school and college levels. The overarching goal of the program was to showcase the musical prowess of today's emerging talents and delve into their inspirations and aspirations within the jazz tradition. Among the standout performances were Southwest High School's performance at the Eau Claire Jazz Festival with award-winning director Reid Wixson; the student-led band Jazz Combo, a combo with a rotating group of students each year; The North Hennepin County College 2024 JazzFest performance, featuring Aubrey Logan; and the inaugural performance at the new CTE center.

In close collaboration with five 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 three college programs allowing 75 students to perform and be interviewed. It also showcased the work of ten directors, professors, and guest instructors. The yearlong project resulted in the creation of 15 new hour-long radio shows which were part of the 50 **Jazz@MPS** shows that Jazz88 broadcast in FY24. These weekly broadcasts reached an estimated audience of approximately



STATION REPORTS

79,000 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. Some of the showcased artists included Happy Apple, Chris Bates, Claudia Schmidt, and LA Buckner.

The yearlong project included a 24/7 continuous stream and 52 weekly 2-hour programs, yielding substantial engagement with **Minnesota Jazz Tracks**. The stream was accessed 34,490 times for an average of 39 minutes per session in FY24. 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 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.



Jazz@MPS allowed about 75 students to perform and be interviewed on Jazz88.

TWIN CITIES WEEKEND/TWIN CITIES THIS WEEK

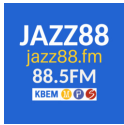
Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week consisted of two weekly eight-minute segments of interviews artfully mixed with an artist's own music. Each of the two segments of **Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week** aired three times during the week preceding the performances. Additionally, this project 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 Davina and the Vagabonds, Kavyesh Kaviraj, Leslie Vincent, 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 70 episodes of **Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week**, meeting their initial projection 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

STATION REPORTS

and opportunities to earn income for their work. 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 include notable musicians such as Nachito Herrera, Patty Peterson, and Vicky Mountain.

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 68,000 people heard the on-air segments. Jazz88 received positive feedback about **The Jazz Image – Minnesota Edition**. Doris Overby from Minneapolis told the station, “I like this program a lot! The Leigh Kamman interviews with all those great jazz legends is interesting and fascinating. Delighted that the interviews have regained two time slots on KBEM.” **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.

MPS VOICES

For its **MPS Voices** project, Jazz88 provided Minnesotans with an audio stream featuring the work of Minneapolis Public Schools students, at 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, as well as sports play-by-play and commentary. 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. Discussions with Minneapolis Public Schools’ Superintendent were highlighted and students of Minneapolis Public Schools shared their passion for music through their own personal playlist. Notable local artists interviewed included Ava Levy, Kamasi Washington, and Disembodied Humanity. The Read & Believe Podcast featured guest Shayla Reaves from WCCO-TV.

MPS Voices was a yearlong project in FY24 with a 24/7 continuous stream and podcasts of varying lengths. The station reports that approximately 30 students contributed to **MPS Voices** this year. The project resulted in approximately 1,900 unique downloads and 1,200 stream listens. Youth musicians and instructors from across the Minneapolis Public Schools practiced, broadcast, and enhanced their craft through the creation of webcast content. KBEM achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



MPS Voices is a 24/7 continuous stream designed to give Minneapolis Public School students, teachers, and faculty a platform to inform, entertain, and their their talents and artistry.

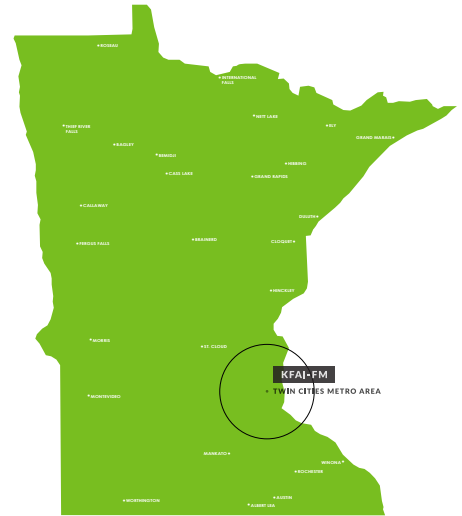
STATION REPORTS

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

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 LGBTQIA2S+ community. Each performance was curated to increase access and representation in the performing arts, create paid opportunities for working artists and industry professionals, uplift local talent, and create shareable content for working artists.

KFAI held two live in-person concerts as part of the **Live from Minnesota** project. The first event featured artists such as Fanaka Nation, The Pretendians, and the Shalita Band, which celebrated the music, culture, and vibrancy of the Cedar-Riverside/Westbank neighborhood during the Our Streets MPLS: Open Streets. The station estimates that 1,200 to 2,00 people attended the open-air street event. The Our Streets MPLS: Open Streets concert provided emergent artists with a tremendous exposure opportunity. The musicians all said that they felt adequately compensated, which is not often the case 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.



LA Buckner and Big Homie played at the Hook & Ladder Lounge as part of Live from Minnesota. Photo by Line Break Media.

For its second **Live From Minnesota** event, KFAI partnered with The Hook & Ladder and produced a concert that showcased L.A. Buckner with BiG HOMiE. The event celebrated the richness of South Minneapolis, from Franklin Avenue East to East Lake Street. It also showcased the life and art that has endured and helped support the community after the civil unrest at the corner of East Lake Street and Minnehaha Avenue. The station reports that about 400 attended the concert.

STATION REPORTS

KFAI recorded the **Live From Minnesota** concerts and produced seven half-hour shows from the recorded content. The station distributed shows of individual performers on Public Radio Exchange (PRX), SoundCloud, YouTube, Podcast channels, and the station's website. KFAI also aired the shows on 106.7 St. Paul's Radio Without Boundaries. The station estimates the recorded segments of **Live From Minnesota** reached an estimated 100,000 listeners across the various platforms. **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 yearlong project.



10,000 FRESH VOICES

KFAI's produced 28 segments of its award-winning **10,000 Fresh Voices** series. The project consists of mini-documentaries, four to six 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, LGBTQIA2S+, immigrant, and low-income communities. Individual Minnesota artists and/or cultural influencers were profiled in **10,000 Fresh Voices** stories, including Cynthia Johnson of Lipps, Inc., Charlie Parr, Heid Erdrich (Minneapolis' first poet laureate), HUGE Theater, and Black family histories on Lake Adney, just to name a few.

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 100,000 people. The segments also had 2,156 plays on SoundCloud. Each **10,000 Fresh Voices** segment was published on PRX, KFAI.org, SoundCloud, and KFAI'S MinneCulture Facebook and Twitter pages. All segments were broadcast at least

once on MinneCulture Presents on Mondays at 1pm on 90.3FM in Minneapolis. KFAI Producer and Managing Editor Julie Censullo received 2nd Place for Best Feature Reporting at the 2023 Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists Page One Awards for her **10,000 Fresh Voices** story "Rudos in the ring, tecnico in the community"

10,000 Fresh Voices was a yearlong project in FY24. 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**.

MINNECULTURE

KFAI's **MinneCulture** project consists of **MinneCulture** In-Depth and **MinneCulture** Podcasts. The award-winning project in-depth radio documentaries and podcasts cover a variety of Minnesota arts, culture, and historical topics. **MinneCulture** episodes ranged



10,000 Fresh Voices highlighted under-told stories from our state with an emphasis on BIPOC, immigrant, and low-income communities.

STATION REPORTS

in length from 12 to 60 minutes long. Hosted by John Gebretatose, **MinneCulture** had a particular focus on stories from the BIPOC, LGBTQIA2S+, 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 FY24 **MinneCulture** taught listeners about Dudley Riggs, Peter Jespersion, Tommy Mischke, search & rescue in the BWCA, and much more. The project showcased seven artists and/or cultural influencers. Their work was showcased on PRX, SoundCloud, podcasts, WTIP, Radio Without Boundaries, KFAI.org, and broadcast on KFAI.

MinneCulture garnered 1,260 streams from SoundCloud and 1,603 streams from the podcast host site Blubrry. **MinneCulture** received 2nd Place for Best Podcast at the 2023 Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists Page One Awards. The station estimates that 100,000 listeners heard the on-air segments. **MinneCulture** was a 43-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.



KFAI's MinneCulture helped the station earn a Second Place award from the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists in the Podcast Division.



Britta Greene records Clawhammer Mike playing on Stone Arch Bridge for the MinneCulture episode "Saving Minnesota Old Time Music."

STATION REPORTS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL – KMOJ, 89.9 FM



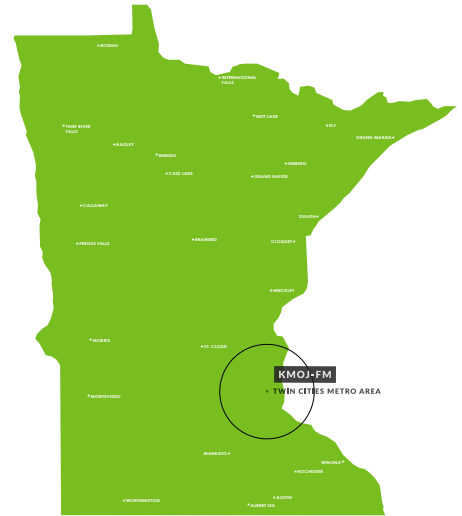
Station Description

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

MN 90: AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

Minnesota African American History was a series of 90-second radio segments that featured influential African American Minnesotans, places, or events that helped to shape Minnesota History. The series placed a spotlight on places like the Penumbra Theatre in St. Paul and The Way in Minneapolis, and influential people like Spike Moss, and Ray Covington. The station estimates that approximately 20,000 people heard the segments.



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

KMOJ, in partnership with AMPERS, produced 20 segments. **Minnesota African American History** was a twelve-month project that helped 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.

DISRUPTIVE NARRATIVES

The goal of **Disruptive Narratives** was to reach deep into the community, raise voices from across neighborhoods and generations, and bring forth stories, experiences, and historically marginalized perspectives. The shows helped highlight Minnesotans who have been impacted by our state's history and systemic processes of neglect and disinvestment and in the past may not have had a seat at the table to feel seen. The project helped showcase cultural perspectives often overlooked because they challenge what we as a society think we know. For these shows, the guests were the experts and were allowed to express their reality.

In FY24, KMOJ partnered with AMPERS to produce a total of 12 thirty-minute shows. Host Dr. Brittany Lewis talked with experts about addressing the historical root causes of gun violence, navigating the family court system which has been shaped by bias and trauma, and, reimagining black leadership. Production on the **Disruptive Narratives** continued into FY25. KMOJ is unable to report on measurable outcomes for this project because the shows will air in FY25 and the station will track and report on the proposed outcomes in the FY25 Legislative Report.



STATION REPORTS

4OPINIONS

4Opinions was a vibrant talk show that sparked meaningful and penetrating conversations about pressing issues in the African American Community. The show's hosts 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. **4Opinions** was a yearlong project.

The weekly hour-long program had a vibrant listener participating throughout each show. **4Opinions** aired live at 8 am on Saturdays. The station estimates that between 10,000 and 12,000 people heard the shows each week. KMOJ produced 46 shows in FY24 exposing listeners to more of Minnesota's African American culture and history allowing them to make more informed decisions in the future. **4Opinions** resulted in significantly more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. KMOJ achieved the proposed outcomes for this project which also helped to inform and educate listeners about Minnesota's African American culture and history.

DANCING WITH THE DJs

Nearly 2 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 Lazy T, DJ Shine, DJ DrummaBoi, DJ IntenZ, and DJ Stil Will, The Arch-E-Tect, 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, as well as DJ segments were featured on the air.

KMOJ estimates that more than 250,000 people passed by their booth during the 12 days of the State Fair, providing the twelve 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.

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 on location. For KMOJ's Juneteenth Celebration, **4Opinions** host Tiffany Washington broadcast the station's four-hour program from the steps of the State Capitol



4Opinions tackles tough topics like racism, health disparities, and other challenges with the African American culture and community.



KMOJ's Dancing with the DJs attracted about 250,000 people at the 2023 Minnesota State Fair.

STATION REPORTS

Building in St. Paul which included interviews with Troop and David Hollister. The event was held in partnership with The Anika Foundation in celebration of Juneteenth.



The second **LOL: Live on Location** took place in August at the Third 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. **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, a series of short (60-second) radio segments, featured influential Black Minnesotans, introduced as. These individuals made 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 20 segments showcasing different community members including former Mayor Sayles-Belton, former CEO of Union Gospel Mission, Dr. Charles Morgan, and Black History professor Dr. Keith Mayes, among others. **Someone You Should Know** was a yearlong project that 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.

KMOJ LEGACY SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH

KMOJ Legacy Social Media Outreach is a weekly visual representation of KMOJ's Legacy programming designed to promote audience engagement across platforms while enhancing the storytelling aspect of the report. There were approximately 40,000 impressions across the platforms. Graphics help to simplify complex data, making it easier for stakeholders to grasp the program's impact at a glance. These visual elements provided a clear, compelling snapshot of how the show connects with its audience, demonstrating the success of multi-channel strategies.

KMOJ produced a lot of great artistic, cultural, and historical programs. The **KMOJ Legacy Social Media Outreach** project helped to give those programs even more exposure. The project helped draw more attention to current programs like **Someone You Should Know**, **4Opinions**, **Minnesota's African American History**, as well as some of KMOJ's previous ACHF work. The project made it easier for Minnesotans to access the content about the state's art, culture, and history. KMOJ achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project.

Tune in to 89.9 KMOJ Radio
Saturday, May 4
8 AM

Tiffani Love
LR Wilson
Walter Q Bear Banks
Nicole Pacini

The KMOJ Legacy Social Media Outreach project helped to significantly enhance the exposure of the station's ACHF programming.

STATION REPORTS

PURPLE LEGACY

The goal of **Purple Legacy** was to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Prince's groundbreaking album and film, **Purple Rain**. Through engaging storytelling, interviews, and in-depth research, this series aimed to provide listeners with a rich understanding of Prince's roots and the cultural impact of **Purple Rain**. In FY24, KMOJ partnered with AMPERS to begin producing 40 ninety-second segments highlighting historical moments and local connections that shaped **Purple Rain** and its enduring impact on Minnesota and beyond. Production of **Purple Legacy** began in late FY24 as a last-minute addition to KMOJ's work plan and continued into FY25. As a result, KMOJ is unable to report on measurable outcomes but will assess the outcomes once the segments air in FY25 and will report on those outcomes in the FY25 Legislative Report.



Purple Legacy

In FY24 KMOJ and AMPERS began producing 40 segments of Purple Legacy in honor of the 40th Anniversary of Purple Rain.



Legacy funds were used to pay more than 115 contractors to producer artistic, cultural, and historical radio segments and shows in FY24.

STATION REPORTS

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.

Program Descriptions

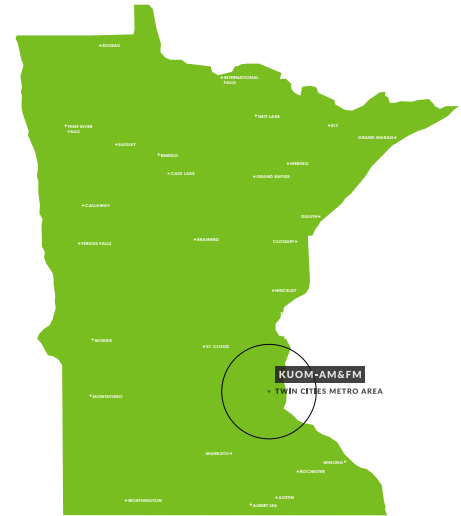
THE VANGUARD PROJECT

The Vanguard Project explored the various forces that shape our state and our culture from a younger generation. **The Vanguard Project** taught listeners what it meant to be a Minnesotan today through interviews, music, stories, and sound-rich reporting all from a diverse student perspective. The three to five-minute broadcasts featured in-depth reporting about the state’s music, arts, and culture through a student lens. Radio produced 20 episodes of **The Vanguard Project** and made the segments available online as podcasts on a range of platforms to reach a wider audience as well as broadcasting them on-air. In FY24, **The Vanguard Project** explored topics about George Morrison, Freedom Fighters, and Hair as Resilience. Sharing these stories encouraged explorations and challenging stereotypes of all shades, **The Vanguard Project** celebrates what it means to speak Minnesotan.

The Vanguard Project, which was a yearlong project, gave more Minnesotans the opportunity to be exposed to a wide variety of art, culture, and history. The station estimates that about 24,000 people heard the shows. The student-led project gave more Minnesotans the opportunity to participate in and be exposed to more local and student-generated and produced music. KUOM achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

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 fifteen minutes of interviews and three-minute videos. In FY24, the project highlighted a variety of artists including FINICK, We are the Willows, Rosie Castano,



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



Fifteen University of Minnesota Students got hands-on experience working on **BTS: Behind the Scenes with Minnesota’s Music Makers**.

STATION REPORTS

and Covalent Blonde. KUOM produced 45 interviews and 45 videos of **BTS: Behind the Scenes with Minnesota's Music Makers**, 20 more than proposed in its initial work plan. **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. KUOM expanded participation and exposure to the arts, culture, and history of Minnesota among individuals of all ages, ethnicities, abilities, and income levels. 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 five-minute shows provided listeners with the state's only all-Minnesotan hip-hop program. In Fiscal year 2024, Radio K produced 20 shows which featured 20 different artists such as J'Mere, Jlox, Tori Little, and more. KUOM produced six more shows than proposed in its initial work plan.

Local Vibes garnered positive feedback from artists and listeners who appreciated the content and quality of programming. After performing on **Local Vibes**, musician Tori Little said, "Thank y'all so much for having me! Loved the experience!" **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 seven 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 11,300 Instagram followers. KUOM achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.



Radio K produced 45 segments of **Local Vibes**, 20 more than promised in its work plan.

"THE LAND OF 10,000 STORIES" FROM REAL COLLEGE PODCAST

"The Land of 10,000 Stories" from Real College Podcast prepared its listeners to answer the age-old question of what culture, art, and history shaped Minnesota and what changes are in store for them. Through engaging interviews, profiles, wild tales, historical facts, and plenty of sound, **"The Land of 10,000 Stories"** investigated the diverse forces that created Minnesota's legacy and continue to shape our state today. From poets to pipe-layers, everyone has a story to tell and on Radio K, the station has a microphone or two for them to share it. The 30-minute segments showcased stories such as Story Slam at Walter Library's 100th Anniversary, Pride Through Art - the Keith Haring Exhibit at The Walker Art Center, Waking the Oracle at the Weisman Art Museum, and more. Fostering engagement and exploration as **"The Land of 10,000 Stories" from Real College Podcast** looked at where we are going



STATION REPORTS

with an understanding of where we've been: it's exploring all of Minnesota - one voice at a time. **"The Land of 10,000 Stories"** produced 20 episodes that were broadcast on-air and made available online as podcasts on a range of platforms to reach a wider audience.



"The Land of 10,000 Stories" deepened the listeners' appreciation of Minnesota and Minnesotans. The station estimates that about 21,500 heard the shows. Twenty-one students received hands-on instruction and experience in producing, promoting, and archiving the segments. The yearlong 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.

RCP 55w

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Reply to radiok770...

Twenty-one students helped to produce, promote, and archive segments of **The Land of 10,000 Stories**.



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.



KRPR-FM (Rochester) coverage area

Program Descriptions

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 25 **Rochester Arts** segments offered 11,300 listeners bits of art history from around the area. Listeners learned about Bon Jovi’s connection to Minnesota, Rochester Chorale Arts Ensemble, Chatfield Brass Band, and the Rochester Chamber Music Society. Some of the topics covered in FY24 included stories about the Rochester Chamber Music Society, which offered three concerts in Rochester; pianist and piano teacher Horacio Nuguid, who thought Rochester needed another music group for small ensembles; and, live ensemble music highlighting different genres.

Rochester Arts 90-second segments aired weekly in FY24. The **Rochester Arts** project allowed more artists and arts organizations to have their work showcased through public broadcasting and resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. KRPR achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

R-TOWN

For the **R-Town** project, KRPR teamed up with KSMQ-TV, to create 20 two-minute segments that explored business, culture, and history, along with current happenings in the arts community of Rochester and the surrounding area. The FY24, **R-Town** segments showcased Thursdays Downtown, Nerdinout, Pasquale’s Pizzeria, and D-Bat. For this project, KSMQ-TV edited their **R-Town** television series into radio segments to give even more Minnesotans the opportunity to learn the artistic, cultural, and historical content they feature with the Legacy funding the TV station receives. KSMQ was not able to finish the segments until the very end of FY24. As a result, KRPR is unable to report on the measurable outcomes. KRPR will air all 20 segments in FY25 and will then assess and report on the proposed measurable outcomes in the FY25 Legislative Report.

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. The six-month project resulted in 25 ninety-second segments.

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MN90: Rochester History in 90 Seconds aired weekly and covered a wide range of topics including sports, politics, agriculture, business, pop culture, entertainment, and more. The project taught KRPR listeners about the crop circle mystery at a Lake City farm in 1979, the 2019 restoration of the Joseph Lister Pullman car that used to run patients between the Mayo Clinic and Chicago in the 1930s, a Rochester anthropologist who examined a skeleton storied in Southern Italy and determined it was more than 2,500 years old, and, a multimillionaire widow who disappeared in 1977 after checking out from the Kahler Grand Hotel.

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 11,300 listeners. The project gave Minnesotans a better understanding of Minnesota's history. KRPR achieved the proposed outputs by producing 25 segments. KRPR achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



MN90: Rochester History in 90 Seconds listeners learned about the multimillionaire widow who disappeared in 1977 after leaving the Kahler Grand Hotel.



KRPR's partnership with AMPERS helped the station to produce and air 65 segments about local art, culture, and history it wouldn't have been able to do on its own.

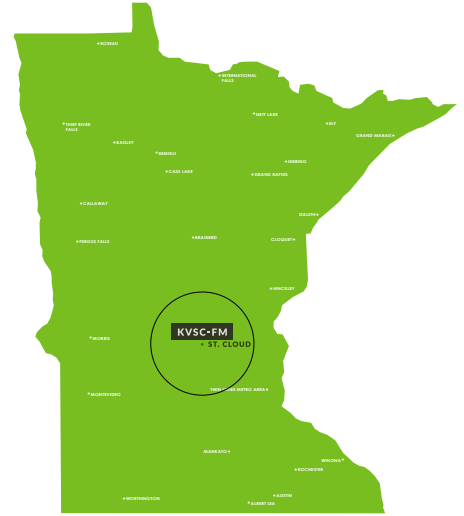
STATION REPORTS

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

PROJECT 37 COLLABORATION

KVSC collaborated with the Independent Music Collaborators of Central Minnesota to support **Project 37**. **Project 37 Collaboration** sought to provide a place for all ages to enjoy a sober and safe venue for music. This project supported and created events aimed at Minnesota audiences that included Minnesota musicians and artists of all ages. The two-month project resulted in a three-hour-long event that attracted a total of about 100 people. Some of the key musicians and artists included VideoTape, Wild Residence, and The Incredibly Humble.

The station partnered with the Independent Music Collaborators of Central Minnesota for **Project 37**. KVSC’s **Project 37 Collaboration** showcased a total of ten different Minnesota artists and musicians. These individuals were able to reach a greater audience and they were also paid for their work on the project. There were two students involved and planning, promoting, and producing the events. The station is expanding the project in FY25 to include radio programs in addition to the on-air interviews conducted in FY24. KVSC achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



KVSC partnered with the Independent Music Collaborators of Central Minnesota to produce the Project 37 Collaboration, a three-hour music event.

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 Dan Murphy, Leslie Vincent, Becky Kapell, and Collective Unconscious. This was an 8-month project



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that included four on-air radio programs, four live events, and four podcasts. The live events, the on-air radio programs, and the podcasts were all two hours long. The station estimates that about 700 people attended the live events and an additional 10,000 people heard the on-air radio programs. The podcasts were downloaded more than 396 times.



The four productions of **Granite City Radio Theatre** showcased 17 different artists all of whom got paid for their work. Eighteen 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.



Granite City Radio Theatre showcased 17 artists all of whom got paid for their work.

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

KVSC produced 20 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 100 two- to three-minute episodes of **Arts Collage** that promoted artistic and cultural events in Central Minnesota. This project also helped to support the sketch writer and script editor for **Granite City Radio Theatre**. An enthusiastic comment from Tom of St. Cloud said, “Always happy to talk to KVSC for the Untold Stories. They do great work.”

Untold Stories of Central MN and **Arts Collage** was a yearlong project that showcased people, organizations, events, and topics like Granite City Theater Collective, Pamela McNeill, Dan Mondloch, and Central Minnesota Theatre Company. The station estimates the segments reached about 20,000 people. The project helped to showcase the work of 22 different Minnesota artists, authors, historians, musicians, and arts organizations. Nearly 20,000 listeners were exposed to under-represented artists and cultural events in Minnesota via this project. Podcasts of Untold Stories were downloaded 1,803 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.

CENTRAL MN MID-WINTER CONCERT

KVSC’s **Central MN Mid-Winter Concert** was a live musical concert featuring Minnesota artists at a St. Cloud music venue. The artists represented a diverse sound and the diversity of the state. This concert was held in conjunction with KVSC’s annual

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Trivia competition. The station's **Central MN Mid-Winter Concert** was a one-day event featuring local talent. The concert attracted about 450 people with the event featuring Radio Nation. KVSC's **Central MN Mid-Winter Concert** was a two-month project.



KVSC promoted the concert in conjunction with KVSC's annual Trivia competition. The 450 attendees at the event were exposed to musical artists they otherwise might not have been. A total of ten students were involved with the **Central MN Mid-Winter Concert**. 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 artist were paid for their performances. KVSC achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

CENTRAL MN COMMON ROOTS MUSIC FESTIVAL COLLABORATION

KVSC's **Central MN Common Roots Music Festival Collaboration** was a huge success. KVSC collaborated with the Independent Music Collaborators of Central Minnesota to present the **Common Roots Festival**. The **Common Roots Festival** was a showcase celebrating and supporting grassroots talent, beautiful art, area performers, and original music. This project supported the main stage for one night, plus provided marketing and technical support for the entire event. The station's **Common Roots Festival** featured twenty performers. The concerts attracted more than 5,000 people over four days. Some highlighted bands were Red Eye Ruby, Black Wine, TJ Larum & the Ride, and Of the Orchard. KVSC's **Central MN Common Roots Music Festival Collaboration** was a one-month event.

KVSC promoted the **Common Roots Festival** in collaboration with Independent Music Collaborators of Central Minnesota. With the additional support from KVSC, several artists were able to be added to the lineup. The 5,000 attendees at the Common Roots Festival were exposed to a wide array of Minnesota artists that they might not have been otherwise. 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 twenty artists were paid for their performances. The station is expanding the project in FY25 to include radio programs in addition to the on-air interviews conducted in FY24. KVSC achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



KVSC helped to attract about 5,000 people to the Common Roots Festival.

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 musicians, events, and organizations they reported on included the Nur-D, Joe Bartel, Oister Boy, and the Living Wage for Musicians Act. Additional

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support for this project also came from the SCSU Student Government. 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. Fifteen 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.

MNL ON THE ROAD

MNL On The Road was an expansion of KVSC's **Monday Night Live** program. The project featured live musical concerts featuring Minnesota artists at a St. Cloud music venue. The artists and performers represented diverse sounds and the diversity of the state. The concerts were broadcast live on radio through KVSC and on television through UTVS Television at St. Cloud State University. The **MNL On The Road** shows showcased St. Cloud area and Minnesota musicians by airing over an hour of their music on radio and TV. For its **MNL On The Road** project, the station partnered with St. Cloud State University's TV station to develop a direct link between the TV broadcast of **MNL On The Road** and a live video stream accessible through KVSC.org and social media sites, providing Minnesotans with a higher-quality broadcast. During the two live events, KVSC produced for **MNL On The Road**, artists like WHY NOT and Kiss the Tiger gained significantly more exposure for their music. Each show was about 60 to 75 minutes long.

KVSC estimates that about 10,000 people heard the on-air radio shows. Fifteen students were involved in the project. They received hands-on instruction and experience in producing and promoting a live artistic and cultural radio show. Eight local musicians were showcased by the **MNL On The Road** 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 10 writers, musicians, speakers, contractors, and stage crew who benefited from their experience and were paid for their services as a result of this project. **MNL On The Road** also resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. KVSC achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this eight-month project.



KVSC broadcast two hour-long live concerts for its MNL On The Road project.

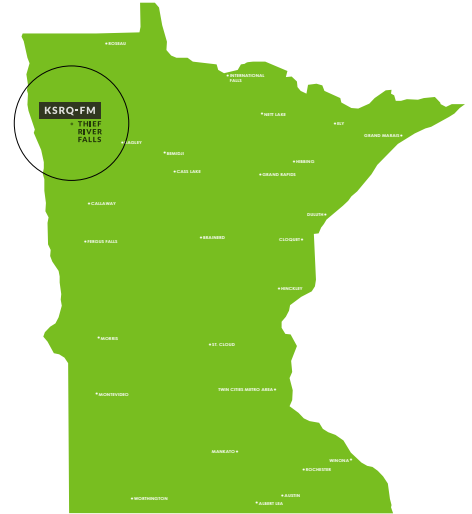
STATION REPORTS

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

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. Artists highlighted were Arts Accessibility, Mental Health, Arts Education, and more.

KSRQ collaborated with the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council for **Artist Spotlight**. The project featured interviews with photographers, painters, sculptors, woodcarvers, vocalists, musicians, actors, directors, arts advocates, and educators, as well as festival and county fair organizers from Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, and Roseau Counties. The host of the show, Rom Ogaard of Crookston (known on the air as Ron West) was recognized by the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council as “Arts Advocate of the Year” for his work on the series. He retired this spring after 14 years at KSRQ.

KSRQ produced and aired 64 segments of the **Artist Spotlight**. Each weekly episode was 19 minutes long and reached about 225 listeners. The Northwest Minnesota Arts Council also posted the segments on its website. KSRQ significantly over-delivered on the outputs for this project producing 19 more segments than proposed in the station’s work plan. **Artist Spotlight**, which was a 10-month project, resulted in more than 6 hours of original Minnesota arts programming. **Artist Spotlight** interviews were also archived on the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council’s website under the title “Let’s Talk Art.” KSRQ achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



KSRQ produced and aired 64 segments of Artist Spotlight showcasing art projects and events in Northwest Minnesota.



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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 conversations with the director of a county historical museum and the manager of a rural electric cooperative, along with the personal recollections of local residents. Among the stories heard on **Hometown History** were tales of ghosts in Pennington County; Santa's appearance on a snowmobile instead of a sleigh; pioneering local women in politics, business and the military; farming and floods; and the importance of rural electric co-ops to the development of Northwest Minnesota.

In FY24, KSRQ produced 33 segments of **Hometown History**, resulting in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. Each segment ran between two and 14 minutes long, for a total of over four hours of historical content that was broadcast and archived. Segments aired weekly to an estimated 300 on-air listeners. Naomi Tauberman, who commented on Facebook said, "Fantastic! Knowing more about our community, and surrounding areas, will make this series enjoyable. I wish everyone great success. Thank you for sharing this news." The series promoted awareness of the Pennington County Historical Society's Peder Engelstad Pioneer Village in Thief River Falls and helped to preserve northwest Minnesota's culture and history. KSRQ's yearlong project achieved its proposed measurable outcomes.

KEZAR MUSIC SHOWROOM PRESENTS

Kezar Music Showroom Presents was an hour-long weekly show that showcased a variety of vintage and new audio recordings by local musical acts. In FY24, KSRQ produced and aired 24 episodes, hosted by Thief River Falls music store owner and musician Joe Kezar. One of the episodes featured a visit with members of longtime Northwest Minnesota band Eagle Creek, whose performance was recorded live at RiverFest in Thief River Falls. Twin Cities-area piano and drums duo The White Keys was also recorded live at the two-day music festival. Included in the programs broadcast in FY24 were recordings made as part of **Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions**, including concerts by The Jensen Sisters of Goodridge; Krome of Viking; Tami Lee and the Northern Lights of Goodridge; and student band One Act Rival of Bagley.



KSRQ produced 33 segments of Hometown History teaching listeners about everything from farming and floods to the areas first Arctic Cat dealer.



KSRQ partnered with music store owner Joe Kezar to produce 24 episodes of Kezar Music Showroom Presents showcasing local musicians like the Jensen Sisters.

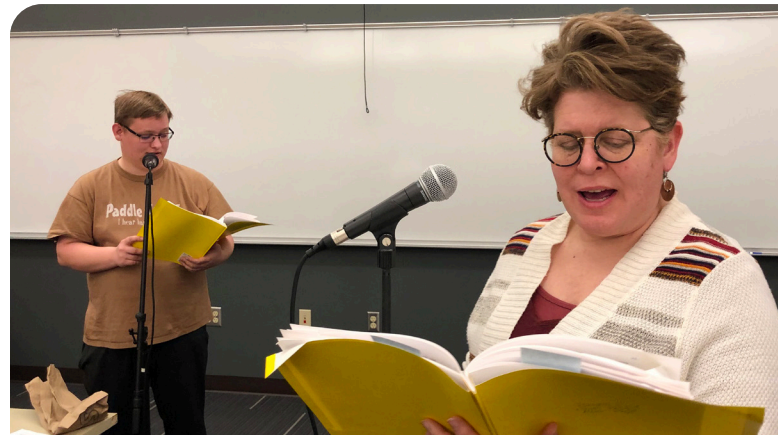
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Also featured in the series were live musical performances recorded at the Pennington County Fair in Thief River Falls. A vintage 1991 performance from Live 'N Kickin' was broadcast for the first time anywhere. The country band, with members from Grand Rapids and Coleraine, was signed to a national recording contract in the early 1990s. KSRQ estimates about 800 listeners heard each of the **Kezar Music Showroom Presents** segments. The project resulted in 24 hours of radio programming featuring 114 Minnesota-based solo or group performers. The project also resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. The popular show allowed more Minnesota-based artists to have their work showcased through public broadcasting and exposed more Minnesotans to their work. **Kezar Music Showroom Presents** was a year-long project and KSRQ. Despite only being able to produce 24 of the proposed 25 episodes, the station was still able to meet the proposed outcomes for the project.

READERS THEATER – BANDIT'S FJORD

Readers Theater – Bandit's Fjord was a two-month project. Allison Page is a nationally-produced playwright, podcaster, and comedy writer, originally from Thief River Falls. The Thief River Falls Area Community Theater commissioned her to write an original radio comedy, titled *Bandits' Fjord*. KSRQ recorded, mixed, edited, and broadcast the highly creative and entertaining 55-minute sci-fi comedy production. A cast of 11 local actors, including two high school students, brought the story to life with a combination of voice characterizations and live sound effects. Leah Wattenphul of Thief River Falls said, "Radio recordings are my ABSOLUTE FAVORITE thing to do. It was so much fun!"



Allison Page is a nationally-produced playwright, podcaster and comedy writer, originally from Thief River Falls. The Thief River Falls Area Community Theater commissioned her to write an original radio comedy, titled "Bandits' Fjord." KSRQ recorded, mixed, edited, and broadcast the approximately hour-long production, featuring a cast of local actors.

Readers Theater – Bandit's Fjord was a modern update on a vintage style of radio entertainment and was heard by approximately 800 listeners when it was broadcast, allowing more Minnesotans to be exposed to art and culture. The project made it possible for more Minnesota artists, specifically local actors and writers, to have their work showcased through public broadcasting. KSRQ met the outcomes for this project.

PIONEER 90.1 LIVE SESSIONS

Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions was a very successful series of free concerts with Minnesota-based bands and solo musical performers. The station partnered with the City of Thief River Falls and the Thief River Falls Chamber of Commerce to bring the community together for 16 free live musical performances. The concerts, which included artists such as McNasty Brass Band, The High 48s, and Brian Wicklund & Mike Dowling,



Twin Cities-area band Bob and The Beachcombers brought their high-energy 1960s beach party to Floyd B. Olson Park in Thief River Falls as part of KSRQ's Live Sessions series. The crowd-pleasing concert was broadcast later on Kezar Music Showroom Presents.



STATION REPORTS



were attended by 100 to 300 people each. **RiverFest**, a music festival held in August, was attended by approximately 2,000 people over two days. In total, KSRQ estimates the project attracted about 2,900 people to the free live concert events in FY24.

Each concert was heavily promoted on-air, on social media, and in print media. Seventy Minnesota-based solo or group performers took part in this project and were paid for their work. One of the concerts featured a band of seven high school students from the Bagley area, who earned the experience of playing before a large audience and having their music broadcast on the radio. Of the 16 **Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions** events, 13 were broadcast as part of KSRQ's Legacy project, **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**. Live performances averaged 90 minutes each. The broadcasts were an hour long and each reached about 800 listeners. The remaining performances are being edited for broadcast in FY25. The 6-month 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 project showcased musicians such as Chmielewski Funtime Band, Peter & Paul Wendinger, Cathy Erickson Band, ipolka Band. 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 550 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 **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2** web page attracted 14,577 views for the year which resulted in 101,473 total listening hours to the **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2**. Its reach was wide, with listeners from



Students from the Thief River Falls Area Community Theater's summer plays performed for KSRQ's Live Sessions series. The performance was recorded for broadcast in FY25.



Pioneer PolkaCast hosts Cathy Erickson and Ron West have both been honored by the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council in recent years for their work in the arts community. Cathy hosted Cathy's Variety Show and Ron hosted the Midday Dance Hall on KSRQ's Pioneer PolkaCast project.



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different states. Don Corish, a **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2** listener from LaCrosse, Wisconsin commented, “I’m listening to PolkaCast this afternoon and I enjoy it very, very much. I just want you guys to know that I’ve been listening to polkas ever since I was 7 1/2 years old. I really enjoy this kind of music. I enjoy PolkaCast and I enjoy having you guys here every day. Thanks for being a part of my day! We love you and keep up the good work. Thanks again for everything that you do.” **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2** was a yearlong project that showcased more Minnesotans on public radio, exposed 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.

MINNESOTA MUSIC MINE

The **Minnesota Music Mine** was a weekly one-hour program dedicated to rediscovering long-lost 45s from a variety of musical genres from the 1950s, 60s & 70s that were recorded in the state of Minnesota. The **Minnesota Music Mine** informed listeners about the many independent music labels that were established in the state and introduced the behind-the-scenes personalities who helped create these lost records. Listeners heard historical stories of the recordings, along with biographies of the entrepreneurs who started and ran the labels, the technical limitations they faced, and the occasional “showbiz” success stories that resulted from their efforts.

KSRQ produced 21 episodes of the show, that featured rarely-heard releases from 15 Minnesota-based independent record labels with names like Twin Town Records, Metrobeat, and Boss Records. These small labels, headquartered in the Twin Cities and in greater Minnesota musical hotspots such as New Ulm, helped aspiring garage rockers and country singers attain their dreams of releasing their songs on 45 rpm records in a time before the internet made it easy for artists to share their music. The project broadcast recordings from almost 60 of those groups, along with the stories behind many of the acts. Artists like Sherwin Linton, The Underbeats, and The Trashmen were featured. KSRQ listeners were re-introduced to a group with ties to Thief River Falls, Back Street Journal, who recorded on a Winnipeg, Manitoba-based label called Fox Records. KSRQ met the proposed outcomes for this project.



Small independent record labels like Twin Town produced hundreds of 45 rpm singles from Minnesota garage bands in the 1950s, 60s, and 70s. KSRQ featured many of these obscure songs on Minnesota Music Mine.

STATION REPORTS

WHITE EARTH / CALLAWAY – KKWE, 89.9 FM



Station Description

KKWE-FM (White Earth / Callaway) broadcasts at 89.9 FM. KKWE, Niiiji Radio, serves the Tribal community of the White Earth Reservation and surrounding areas. Niiiji, 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.



KKWE-FM (White Earth / Callaway)
coverage area

Program Descriptions

THE NEW OJIBWEMOWIN

The New Ojibwemowin was a testament to KKWE’s commitment to preserving the rich tapestry of the Ojibwe language. Each segment taught listeners an Ojibwe word or phrase in an effort to help preserve the language. KKWE produced 26 episodes of **The New Ojibwemowin** each of which were about 30 seconds long. The station estimates that about 100 listeners. Ira Keezer, White Earth Tribal College Student Council President, a participant in **The New Ojibwemowin** mentioned, “This is a great way for us (students) to share what we are learning with the community.” 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 give Minnesotans a better understanding of Native American culture and history, specifically the Ojibwe language. KKWE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

WILD FOODS

KKWE’s **Wild Foods** produced thirteen segments that exposed more Minnesotans to the **Wild Foods** available in Minnesota, where to find them and how to use them. These segments also educated the audience on the health and medicinal benefits of these foods. The two-to-five-minute segments were weekly but multiple segments were recorded at one time. **Wild Foods** was a year-long project in FY24.

The audience learned about Anishinaabe’s traditional ways of how to forage **Wild Foods**, their benefits and how to use them in their daily lives. Audrey Dahl, Wisdom Keeper says “I love researching, learning, experimenting with the **Wild Foods**, and then sharing my knowledge. I am nerdy and love these things.”



KKWE listeners learned about Anishinaabe’s traditional ways of foraging Wild Foods, their benefits, and how to use them in their daily lives.

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Audrey shared 13 **Wild Foods** from the local region. KKWE broadcast the shows over the air and uploaded them to PRX. The station estimates that about 100 people heard the on-air segments. **Wild Foods** resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio.



CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Nijii Radio's **Cultural Exchange** initiative curated and presented three 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. These events found a diverse audience, drawing attendance ranging from 200 to 1,000. The yearlong **Cultural Exchange** project not only broadened cultural horizons but also provided a platform for communal sharing and understanding.

KKWE spent Legacy funds in FY24 on **Cultural Exchange** but did not complete any outputs within the fiscal year; there are no measurable outcomes to report on at this time. KKWE will produce the radio elements for this project in FY25 and will assess and report on the measurable outcomes in the FY25 Legislative Report.

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 eight-month project, **Nijii's Minnesota Mixdown Series** resulted in three live events in FY24, featuring concerts ranging from 45 to 90 minutes, featuring acclaimed artists such as Lenertz and Thornby Band, Corey Medina, Corey McCauley, Charlie Parr, Rootz Within, and War Bonnet.

These live events, drawing an impressive attendance of approximately 1,000 people for Muskie Days Mixdown, 45 people for IFC Mixdown, and 300 people for Jump into Summer Mixdown, became conduits for cultural infusion, reaching rural communities across KKWE's listening region. The



For its Cultural Exchange project KKWE curated and presented three live events designed to illuminate the rich history of the Anishinaabe and other cultures in the region.



Nijii's Minnesota Mixdown Series consisted of three live events featuring acclaimed artists from throughout the state.

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resounding success of **Nijji's Minnesota Mixdown Series** was echoed in the positive feedback from listeners and participants who lauded the project's local focus. Teresa Rojas, Anishinaabe Culture teacher, Waubun Schools, "My kids and I love the events you host, the music is always great and it's always family-oriented so I feel comfortable & safe letting my kids just play." 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 gave Minnesotans a better understanding of Native American culture and history. KKWE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



OJIBWE ARTS RISING

KKWE created a series of thirteen 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. The impact of these programs is reflected by a listener who stated, "I really liked making the dolls, it was a great hands-on experience for me."

Ojibwe Arts Rising introduced 206 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. KKWE recorded and aired four artist interviews for **Ojibwe Arts Rising**. The station achieved most of the proposed outcomes for this project.

MN ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

KKWE began working on **MN Artist Spotlight** in FY24. For this series, the station is planning to produce four interviews that will be 15 to 30 minutes long. This project will highlight Native American artists, bringing culture and art to rural communities across KKWE's listening area. Through programming focused on individual artists, each episode will feature an in-depth interview where the artist shares their unique talent, personal history, and cultural perspective. **MN Artist Spotlight** will result in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. The project will also allow more Minnesota musicians and artists to have their work showcased through public radio. Because the station just began working on this project in FY24, there are no outputs or outcomes to report on at this time. KKWE will assess and report on the outcomes in the FY25 Legislative Report.



Ojibwe Arts Rising gave more than 200 people hands-on lessons about Native American art, culture, and history.

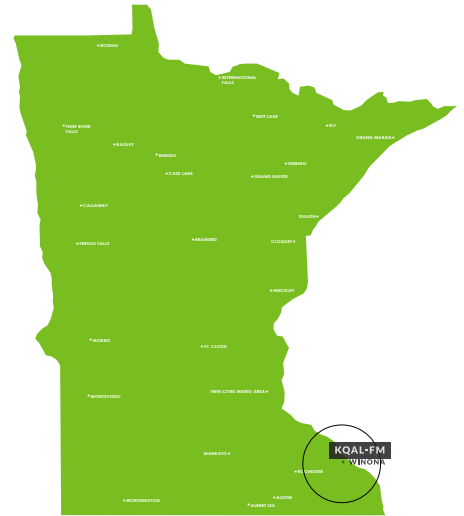
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WINONA – KQAL, 89.5 FM



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.



KQAL-FM (Winona) coverage area

Program Descriptions

REWIND WINONA

The **Rewind Winona** project, developed in collaboration with the Winona County History Center, highlighted the rich heritage of Winona and the Driftless region. Inspired by the successful AMPERS produced MN 90 series, this initiative delved into local policies, historical events, notable figures, and compelling stories, offering listeners a captivating glimpse into the past. Drawing on the extensive archives of the Winona County History Center, the project produced weekly two-minute episodes with one production that aired three times per week over a six-month period. Each vignette explored Winona's ties to Southeastern Minnesota, presenting a diverse range of historical topics, from the city's founding to the legacy of the Watkins empire.

Rewind Winona enhanced public awareness of local history and culture while delivering unique, Winona-focused content tailored to public radio audiences. The project significantly enriched KQAL's locally produced programming, with 26 distinctive episodes showcasing the region's historical identity. The series reached an estimated 365 listeners weekly, demonstrating strong community engagement. By fostering a deeper connection to the city's past, **Rewind Winona** successfully met its objectives, reinforcing the importance of preserving and sharing the stories that define the Winona community.

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



KQAL produced 34 episodes of The Live Feed showcasing Winona's vibrant music scene.

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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 34 shows recorded at 34 different 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. The project showcased two of the bigger acts from the *Mid West Music Fest* Beet Root Stew and My Grandma's Cardigan, both Winonan favorites. Classic Minneapolis hip-hoppers, Heiruspecs, made an appearance, and up-and-comer Landon Conrath appeared on **The Live Feed** as well. The project informed listeners about the *Boats & Bluegrass* festival and showcased Winona's own Texas Toast as well as The Roe Family Singers. 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 410 listeners tuned in for each segment, and an additional 678 on-demand listens via the podcast feed in FY24 underscored its impact. This initiative, a collaboration between the station, venues, and promoters, deepened community arts connections. In addition to airing on KQAL, station KUPR in Placitas, New Mexico aired segments of **The Live Feed** as well. The project significantly increased the amount of locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio 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 produced 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. The project explored topics such as The Winona-Dakota Unity Alliance, The Legalization of Marijuana, and Nerd Nite Winona. A yearlong endeavor, **Culture Clique** delivered 21 unique programs, sharing enriching cultural and historical dialogues, and introducing listeners to both accomplished authors and emerging storytellers. In addition to its weekly broadcast, the show was carefully adapted into podcasts, broadening its audience. 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.



KQAL produced 21 episodes of **Culture Clique** amplifying the narrative of artists, historians, and storytellers from the region.

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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. **Culture Clique** sparked a significant increase in locally and Minnesota-focused content, allowing KQAL to amplify the stories of artists, historians, writers, and storytellers from the region. The year was marked by notable achievements, including First Place in the Student Market Radio category for Dylan Alzates' **Culture Clique** segment entitled "Memoirs of a Farm Girl." Partnering with the Winona County History Center, and Engage Winona, **Culture Clique** became a vital channel for promoting artistic and cultural awareness in Southeastern Minnesota. The station estimates that each broadcast segment attracted around 387 listeners, with an additional 508 on-demand listens via the podcast feed. As a result of **Culture Clique**, there was an increase in public radio content focused on local and Minnesota themes, enhancing access to arts and culture and providing Minnesota artists, historians, writers, and storytellers with a platform for their work. This initiative also heightened awareness among residents of Southeastern Minnesota regarding local artistic, cultural, and historical events. KQAL successfully achieved the measurable outcomes it has set for this project.



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 into the process of crafting exceptional local music. Renowned guests such as Amanda Grace, Luke Callen, and The H30 Jazz Trio, 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 27 distinctive segments, each a testament to the vibrant musical landscape of Minnesota. **The Sound** was awarded an **Eric Sevareid Award** in the Small Market Radio Division, under the category of Documentary/Special, for its "Pert Near Sandstone: Waiting Days" episode. That show was produced by KQAL Program Coordinator, Bill Stoneberg.



KQAL earned an Eric Sevareid Award in the Radio Documentary/Special category for its work on The Sound.

The Sound showcased the works of 27 Minnesota artists, captivating an estimated 375 listeners per broadcast segment. By transcending local boundaries and offering these segments as downloadable podcasts, KQAL created a seamless and accessible platform for music enthusiasts across the state to discover new artists and engage with their creative worlds. In FY24, the podcast feed attracted 604 on-demand listeners, serving as a digital gateway to Minnesota's vibrant musical landscape.

The Sound featured the high energy of Texas Toast and the soulful sounds of Winona singer-songwriter Amanda Grace, making **The Sound** a vital conduit for Southeastern Minnesota residents to deepen their understanding of the artistic, technical, and industry

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practices behind local music. This initiative resulted in a richer array of locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio, aimed at expanding access to art and culture.



Moreover, the project provided greater visibility for Minnesota artists, producers, and writers by showcasing their work through public radio. As a result, Southeast Minnesota residents gained a heightened awareness of their contributions to the region's cultural fabric. Ultimately, KQAL successfully met its measurable goals for the project, demonstrating its impact on connecting communities to the diverse voices of Minnesota's music scene.

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** also helped to highlight local arts festivals including The Winona Art Walk, The Frozen River Film Festival, and The Great River Shakespeare Festival. **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.



KQAL produced 33 episodes of Art Beat drawing attention to area attractions like the Minnesota Marine Art Museum, the Winona Art Center, and the Frozen River Film Festival.

Art Beat's events unfolded at esteemed venues such as the Minnesota Marine Art Museum, Winona Art Center, Frozen River Film Festival, and Theatre Du Mississippi. In FY24, KQAL produced 33 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 33 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 330 individuals tuned in weekly to the broadcast program, while the **Art Beat** podcast amassed an additional 444 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.

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 weekly, 30-to-60-minute program show delves into community discussions and events, serving as a spotlight for upcoming arts, history, and cultural programming. In FY24, KQAL passionately crafted 47 segments of **Don't Cha Know & Arts and Entertainment Download**, transforming the airwaves into a conduit of community awareness. Covering

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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.



With each segment reaching an estimated 320 listeners, ***Don't Cha Know*** emerged as a vibrant platform that not only heightened awareness of local exhibits, activities, educational opportunities, and live events but also provided a critical space for 11 organizations and their leaders to promote their causes via public radio. The project became a catalyst for weaving art and culture into the community's identity, while simultaneously raising the profiles of local artists, historians, and writers through public broadcasting. As a result, more Minnesota-focused content was produced by public radio, increasing the visibility of local individuals, organizations, and events in the artistic, cultural, and historical spheres. KQAL successfully met the measurable outcomes set for this initiative. The A&E Download aired twice a day, Monday through Friday resulting in approximately 215 episodes, totaling 430 vignettes.



AMPERS and its member stations used Legacy funds to help pay nearly 800 artists for their work in FY24.

AWARDS RECEIVED FOR ACHF PROGRAMMING

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage) received several prestigious awards including top honors for the *Trail Time* episode of **North Shore Morning/Community Voices**. Written by Marcia Roepke, the segment received first place in the Broadcast Writing Division of the Midwest Broadcast Journalists Association Awards. *Episode 90* of the **Boundary Waters Podcast** won first place in the Podcast Division of the Midwest Broadcast Journalism Awards and third place in the Podcast Division at the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalism 2024 Page One Awards. Joe Friedrichs and Matthew Baxley produced the podcast.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul) earned two Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists (MNSPJ) 2024 Page One Awards. Tony Williams, Kira Schukar, Emily Haavik and Julie Censullo won 2nd Place for Best Podcast for KFAI's **MinneCulture**. Julie Censullo won 2nd place in Best Feature Reporting for her *Rudos in the Ring, Técnico in 10,000 Fresh Voices* segment on Minneapolis lucha libre company, Rudos Promotions. Lucha Libre is a style of Mexican wrestling that blends acrobatics, combat, and classic narrative tropes of good and evil to engage audiences.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls) received the Arts Advocate award from the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council (NWMAC) for Rom Ogaard's work on **Artist Spotlight**. Through a partnership with the NWMAC, Ogaard, who is also known as Ron West, spotlighted regional artists and arts organizations weekly on air. Ogaard, who recently retired from his role as radio host at KSRQ, has 43 years of broadcasting experience. He served as Northland Community and Technical College's Radio-Television Program Coordinator for 14 years.

KQAL (Winona) received three awards from the Midwest Broadcast Journalists Association, two of which were for Legacy programs. Dylan Alzate took first place in the Student Radio Division, in the Lifestyle/Specialty Programming category for his **Culture Clique** episode *Memoirs of a Farm Girl*. Bill Stoneberg was awarded First Place in the Documentary-Special category of the Small Market Radio Division for an episode of **The Sound** featuring Minneapolis-based band Pert Near Sandstone.



Rom Ogaard was named 2024 Northwest Minnesota Arts Advocate of the Year by the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council



AMPERS and its member stations have received 9 awards for Legacy programming in FY24 bringing the eleven-year total to 108 awards!

FUNDING SOURCES

Station	Expense Type	Funding Source	FY24
 AMPERS* Statewide	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$ 251,500.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$451,800.00
	Station Distribution	Dept. of Administration	\$192,000.00
	Supplies	Dept. of Administration	\$3,000.00
	Postage	Dept. of Administration	\$200.00
 KBXE Bagley / Bemidji	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$60,000.00
	Equipment/Advertising	Dept. of Administration	\$2,250.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$54,750.00
 WDSE Duluth	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$53,397.05
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$13,102.95
 WTIP Grand Marais / Gunflint Trail / Grand Portage	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$82,910.02
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$34,089.98
 KAXE Grand Rapids / Brainerd	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$62,500.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$49,500.00
	Advertising/Travel	Dept. of Administration	\$5,000.00
 KMSU Mankato / Austin	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$66,000.00
	Supplies/Materials	Dept. of Administration	\$1,000.00
	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$32,500.00
	Advertising	Dept. of Administration	\$500.00
 KBEM Minneapolis / St. Paul	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$7,920.00
	Advertising	Dept. of Administration	\$1,000.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$108,080.00
 KUOM Minneapolis / St. Paul	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$117,000.00
 KVSC St. Cloud	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$35,500.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$70,373.75
	Advertising	Dept. of Administration	\$2,800.00
	Equipment/Supplies	Dept. of Administration	\$8,326.25
 KSRQ Thief River Falls	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$62,000.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$48,680.00
	Equipment	Dept. of Administration	\$4,320.00
 KQAL Winona	Advertising	Dept. of Administration	\$2,000.00
	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$81,000.00

* AMPERS funding supports AMPERS's statewide ACHF programs as well as the AMPERS Group Project. The AMPERS Group Project funded ACHF programs for the following stations in FY24: 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).

** Please note funding listed above reports FY24 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

<i>Station</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Amount</i>
WTIP Grand Marais / Gunflint Trail / Grand Portage	Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend	Grant	\$10,000.00
	Radio Waves Music Festival	Grant	\$10,000.00
KOJB Leech Lake / Cass Lake	Anishinaabe Music & Artist Fest	Grant	\$30,000.00
KVSC St. Cloud	KVSC News Department Staff Coverage of Arts and Culture	SCSU Student Government	\$5,000.00
KSRQ Thief River Falls	Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions	Underwriting	\$6,000.00



AMPERS stations were able to leverage ACHF programs to secure more than \$61,000 in additional funding.

PROGRAM SHARING

AMPERS (Statewide) shared 178 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji) shared 204 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake) shared 15 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

WDSE (Duluth) shared 68 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 191 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd) shared 204 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KMSU (Mankato) Shared 22 ACHF Programs with all AMPERS stations

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul) shared 130 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul) shared 46 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul) shared 85 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KRPR (Rochester) shared 62 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KVSC (St. Cloud) shared 24 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KSRQ (Thief River Falls) shared 194 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway) shared 6 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KQAL (Winona) shared 147 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KMOJ- FM (Minneapolis) shared 72 programs with all AMPERS stations

Note: Information above is reported by Public Radio Exchange (PRX) and reflects programs and segments uploaded to PRX between 7/1/23 and 6/30/24.



COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

AMPERS (Statewide): “The Podcast on this was so good!” — Deirde Lillith, AMPERS Instagram comment on **Minnesota Native News** story about tribal jurisdiction over the upper areas of Red Lake.

AMPERS (Statewide): “It’s very important to help us learn about Native American cultures.” — KAXE listener commenting on **Native Lights: Where Indigenous Voices Shine.**

AMPERS (Statewide): “We need more of this to stir into our cultural soup.” — KAXE listener commenting on **Native Lights: Where Indigenous Voices Shine.**

AMPERS (Statewide): “Very professional and enlightening.” — KAXE listener commenting on **Native Lights: Where Indigenous Voices Shine.**

AMPERS (Statewide): “We have Native Americans to thank for nurturing this place where we live. We need to know and appreciate their history and cultural places.” — KAXE listener commenting on **Minnesota Native News.**

AMPERS (Statewide): “Quality program. I appreciate their reporting.” — KAXE listener commenting on **Minnesota Native News.**

AMPERS (Statewide): “Very important show, usually stop what I’m doing to listen better” — KAXE listener commenting on **Minnesota Native News.**

AMPERS (Statewide): “Thanks for sharing this fascinating history!” — Deb Haug, AMPERS Facebook commenting on **MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds.**

AMPERS (Statewide): “Good source of early history.” — Otis Dunn, AMPERS Facebook commenting on **MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds.**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Thank you for having Dilly Dally Alley on your show! They are such a solid band live and I love their album!” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota.**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “It brings people together in a positive way. More community building!” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota.**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Malachy hosts a great show. He integrates his comments with the music in a smooth and educational way.” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota.**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I like the diversity of the artists. Definitely learn more about local musicians.” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota.**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Best show on radio today. It has opened me up to the diverse Minnesota music scene.” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota.**



“Native News is a very important feature; I’ve learned a lot from the segment and feel more connected to recent developments.”

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

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Proud that the whole program is Minnesota musicians! Lots of new music to check out.” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Very happy to listen to a show promoting and informing such a broad area about MN musicians that might otherwise get lost in the generally crowded music arena.” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I had no idea Minnesota had such a robust local music scene! Great stuff.” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I am made aware of music artists I may not listen to, but for being presented them through this format.” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Thanks, Malachy, for keeping your finger on the pulse of northern MN music with your weekend setlist!” — Charley Wagner from Longville, commenting on **Minnesota Music Placemaking**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I love this new addition to our programming that keeps me informed of live local music events!!!!” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Minnesota Music Placemaking**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Art does happen in a vacuum. And artists need their own community to enrich their work and the larger community to support them economically.” — KAXE listener, commenting on **The Economics of Art in Rural Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I absolutely loved the live Stay Human performances at Klockow. We have talented, soulful people in our area! So happy to be in this community and rubbing shoulders with you and other marvelous folk.” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Stay Human**, “Live at Klockow” segment.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I thought your last program was SO interesting. It was a new way for me to see music making – the drummer’s perspective. Jeff and I thoroughly enjoyed your program on our drive back from Bloomington.” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Stay Human**, “World Drum” segment.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Michael Goldberg hit it out of the park today. His program on letters was fabulous. Funny, heartwarming, and the music fit perfectly with the topic. He is a true gem and made my day!” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Stay Human**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Stay Human provides a much-needed pause in our busy lives to consider our humanity as individuals and as members of a community.” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Stay Human**.



“This is one of the reasons I financially support KAXE. Exposing good local talent & often bringing them to the community for reduced fee or even free concerts! Really contributes to the quality of life and the arts in rural MN.”

– KAXE listener, commenting on *Centerstage Minnesota*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Stay Human shows off the talents of local writers! The music blends beautifully to complement the stories. I’m a regular listener!” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Stay Human**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Very original and makes me feel connected to the local community and the wider human community. Love the music, too.” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Stay Human**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “We try to catch Stay Human every week. Always interesting and frequently heartwarming!” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Stay Human**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I caught it while streaming the other day and enjoyed it enough to listen again now!” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Stay Human**, “Tool for the job” segment.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “This is a wonderful program. The storytellers are so entertaining. Insightful and yes, with local stories.” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Stay Human**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Stay Human shares essays and life experiences of real northern MN people. It presents the diversity of northern and rural Minnesotans beyond the usual stereotypes. I love hearing of the small towns and old Iron Range names.” — KAXE listener, commenting on **Stay Human**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Love Andrew’s enthusiasm for the arts, and his personal connection to local theater.” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “A great way to help listeners learn more about the community!” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Lots of good information that you wouldn’t hear about from other stations.” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Andrew’s interviews are entertaining and informative. I appreciate learning about local artists, and it’s a great resource.” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Such a great resource! I enjoy hearing about what’s going on locally with the art world, whether fine arts, visual arts, crafting, etc!” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Thanks for letting us know about artists who wouldn’t ordinarily be seen.” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “After hearing one of his interviews, I purchased a ticket to attend the performance he introduced me to.” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Area Voices**.



“I love learning more about what artists are up to across the region. Even though I work in the arts, *Area Voices* often introduces me to people I haven’t heard of before.”

— KBXE listener, commenting on *Area Voices*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Andrew’s passion for the arts comes through in his thoughtful interviews.” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Our first BBP was so much fun! Andrew and Malachy are emcees extraordinaire, as well as Heather’s friendly face!” — Brenda Greeley, commenting on **Bemidji Block Party**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Everything was done very well. Tents, location, and bands.” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Bemidji Block Party**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Loved it! New talent I hadn’t known of before.” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Bemidji Block Party**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “It was a fantastic community event! Great to have something like this in Bemidji instead of Grand Rapids.” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Bemidji Block Party**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Block Party is not only fun, but also is a great way to bring attention to artists from the area and local food/drink vendors.” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Bemidji Block Party**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Wonderful festival, had a blast enjoying the community of Bemidji.” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Bemidji Block Party**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “LOVED the Bob Dylan show! Thanks for airing it and for having it available on your archives.” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Bob Dylan Project**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “This special was extraordinary! David Huckfelt is a treasure!” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Bob Dylan Project**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Delina White is delightful and so engaging. She helped me really understand how fashion is part of our culture.” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Diversity building can only improve our human relationships.” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Amazing innovative fashion!” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I appreciate the diversity on KAXE.” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “It would be wonderful to expand programming featuring Native American culture.” — KBXE listener, commenting on **Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I really enjoyed Tammy Brobowsky’s interview with Ty Yule this morning. What a revealing and thoughtful conversation! Today on Juneteenth, it’s great



“Proud of
our local
community
radio station and
our great state
of Minnesota.”

— KBXE listener, commenting
on *Anishinaabe-BIPOC
Fashion Show*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

to celebrate, include and reach out to African Americans, and also to build a world where no one is or feels marginalized. Here's to building community in Northern Minnesota!" — Simon from Grand Rapids, commenting on Talkback from **What We're Reading**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): "Thank you for featuring Tracy Kampa. She has such enthusiasm for the books she shares that makes me want to read them ALL! I love our LOCAL library!" — Laura from Grand Rapids, commenting on Talkback from **What We're Reading**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): "Fantastic, intimate interviews that make me want to READ!" — KBXE listener, commenting on **What We're Reading**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): "Hearing about new books and authors adds to my life! I can then access these for my reading pleasure and share them with friends. It's all about building community!" — KBXE listener, commenting on **What We're Reading**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): "What We're Reading is a really enjoyable and informative segment on Northern Community Radio. I also follow on FB and get lots of good book suggestions there." — KBXE listener, commenting on **What We're Reading**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): "The interviews are always incisive and intelligent. Especially appreciate the introductions to and conversations with Minnesota writers." — KBXE listener, commenting on **What We're Reading**.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): "I love WTIP — lots of new music to add to my playlist from Sidetracks; My husband has been coming to the Boundary Waters since I was 16 years old and I love the Boundary Waters podcast." — Denise Jacobsen, Stillwater, commenting on the **Boundary Waters Podcast**.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): "Awesome, thank you so much Staci! You are doing some extremely valuable work! Looking forward in a good way!" — Ricky DeFoe, Fond du Lac Ojibwe Nation commenting on **The Lake Superior Project**.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): "It is by far my favorite community event of the year! I love everything about it. Repeat talent and new talent every year. It is a fantastic way to cap off the summer." — WTIP listener commenting on **Radio Waves Music Festival**.

KOJB (Leech Lake/ Cass Lake): "Great Venue! It's refreshing to hear local native artist in the NW Minnesota!" — Gina Lemon commenting on **The Anishinaabe Music & Arts Festival**.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): "I don't have much free time to attend concerts or events in person, so it's great to still have access to the local jazz scene via Jazz88. These programs are also a big help when I do have some free time to be able to make informed decisions about which groups and events to attend." — Anthony Karna, Plymouth, commenting on **Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week**.



"I tune in for the local arts and Native news, and I stay for the music. Miigwech!"

— Andrea Carlson, Grand Marais, commenting on *Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “This segment with Phil Nusbaum is of great interest. Where else could I learn so much about artists, concerts, and album releases in a relatively short period of time?” — Doris Overby, Minneapolis, commenting on *Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I enjoy this very much. I like the behind-the-scenes aspect of the musical world around the Twin Cities. It gives you an insight into the artists themselves, which helps you learn what informs their current music or at least personalizes them as people who have interests and challenges like the rest of us.” — Steve Dropkin, from St. Paul, commenting on *Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I enjoyed listening to *The Jazz Image* when it was last broadcast. Great idea to revive it with a twist that’s not just ‘here it is if you missed it the first time around.’” — Steve Dropkin, from St. Paul, commenting on *The Jazz Image – Minnesota Edition*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Leigh Kamman is/was quite the local talent and interviewed many; I heard one episode and liked it. A keeper for sure.” — Steve Payne, from St. Louis Park, commenting on *The Jazz Image – Minnesota Edition*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I like this program a lot! The Leigh Kamman interviews with all those great jazz legends is interesting and fascinating. Delighted that the interviews have regained two time slots on KBEM.” — Doris Overby, from Minneapolis, commenting on *The Jazz Image – Minnesota Edition*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Here to celebrate the heart, soul, artistry, and intellect of our jazz greats in Minnesota.” — Sandy G, commenting on *Jazz Legends: The Elders*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thanks for the wonderful musical memories!” — Cindy S., commenting on *Jazz Legends: The Elders*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thank you—really great to see and hear these legends together.” — J., commenting on *Jazz Legends - The Elders*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thank you for giving us the privilege of participating in this historic performance.” — C.M., commenting on *Jazz Legends: The Elders*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thank you, Patty, for putting this together for KBEM.” — Anonymous, commenting on *Jazz Legends: The Elders*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “What a terrific show. We loved it very much!” — L.P., commenting on *Jazz Legends: The Elders*.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “It’s wonderful to see KFAI out in the city, and that’s on top of the other amazing programs you feature each week! When do you have time to sleep?” — Larry Martin, from New Brighton, commenting on *Live from Minnesota*.



“Absolutely astonishing archive of Leigh Kamman’s. Truly one of the most valuable programs supported by the Fund.”

— Anthony Karna, Plymouth, commenting on *The Jazz Image – Minnesota Edition*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I would have never, in a million years, guessed that KFAI is being run by 3.5 staff members, who are supported by only a handful of independent contractors. Impressive doesn’t even cut it; you’re amazing.” — DA Bullock, from Minneapolis commenting on **Live from Minnesota**.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thanks for sharing this very interesting story.” — Melva Hanson, commenting on **10,000 Fresh Voices**.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Fascinating interview and story!” — Daryl Richard Lawrence, commenting on **10,000 Fresh Voices**.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thanks MinneCulture and producers Britta Greene and James Napoli for doing such a great job with our story!” — Mike Sawyer, St. Paul, commenting on the episode “Saving Minnesotan Old Time Music” from **MinneCulture**.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “This is fascinating, I have never heard of this! What a gem, thanks for sharing!” — Phillip Barbie, commenting on **MinneCulture**.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I cannot tell you how much I loved this! It was so well done.” — Elaina Journey Rowan, Minneapolis, commenting on **MinneCulture**.

KUOM (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I love listening to Radio K’s Real College podcast - so great to get a student’s perspective on local goings-on. Hope it sticks around!” — Radio K listener commenting on **Real College Podcast**.

KUOM (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Radio K’s programming positively impacts the community by giving a platform for others to share their voice through programs like Real College Podcast and Local Vibes. Radio K fosters a culture of positivity for artistic creation that can be felt around Minneapolis. The amount of times people have said Radio K is their favorite radio station in the Twin Cities not only because of the station’s great music taste but also due to its active and local nature.” — Radio K listener commenting on **Real College Podcast**.

KVSC (St. Cloud): “The drummer was SAVAGE! What a fun band!” — Chuck, St. Cloud commenting on **MNL On The Road**.

KVSC (St. Cloud): “ Oh, Granite City Raio Theatre. My heart is laughing at all the fun.” — Brian, St. Cloud commenting on **Granite City Radio Theatre**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “You have such a great broadcast and programming setup. Love the music that’s provided on it. I’m located in Bismarck, ND. Thank you and have a great and safe day!” — KSRQ listener commenting on **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “I am an Old-Time fan. Tried your station and found it has good music. I like Julie Lee, Nathan Neuman, and more. I am enjoying your station right now. Keep it up!” — Ken Kunz, Mapleton, commenting on **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2**.



“Just wanted to let you know that I listen to PolkaCast all the time. I’m down here in the Twin Cities, specifically Bloomington. Enjoy your program. Keep it up!”

— KSRQ listener, commenting on *Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “I am listening ... sitting right by my kitchen HD Radio!” — Sherry Page, Thief River Falls, commenting on ***Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2.***

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “One of my favorite shows of the week!” — Craig Mattson commenting on Cathy’s Variety Show, Thief River Falls, commenting on ***Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2.***

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “My dance partner of 65 years died in August of 2021. I can’t stand to listen to the news after a minute or two. I like the convenience of switching to PolkaCast. We have danced to a good number of the bands that are played.” — Earl Hemmerich, Nisswa, commenting on ***Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2.***

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Hi there! I have relatives in Thief River Falls, and I just love listening to the Polka station. Keep playing the music because I love listening to you guys. Thank you very much.” — Dale Gonsorowski, Grand Forks, ND commenting on ***Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2.***

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “I’m listening to PolkaCast this afternoon, and I enjoy it very, very much. I just want you guys to know that I’ve been listening to polkas ever since I was 7 1/2 years old. I really enjoy this kind of music. I enjoy PolkaCast and having you guys here every day. Thanks for being a part of my day! We love you and keep up the good work. Thanks again for everything that you do.” — Don Corish, LaCrosse, WI commenting on ***Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2.***

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Rom is great, and it’s sad to know that he’ll be retiring.” — KSRQ listener commenting on ***Artist Spotlight.***

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Featured artists showcase and demonstrate their art, which broadens all ages’ experiences of different forms of art.” — KSRQ listener commenting on ***Artist Spotlight.***

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “FREE ADMISSION, EVERY THURSDAY: Please consider attending the Concert in the Park series. It starts on May 30. Last summer I attended every installment, and each one was an evening that was very well spent. Thanks to the Eagles Club, the shows go on rain or shine.” — Marilyn Weir, Thief River Falls, commenting on ***Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions.***

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Little Bobby showed his incredible talent by playing alone and making it sound amazing. Thanks for a terrific surprise concert!” — Stacy Blawat, Thief River Falls, commenting on the last-minute fill-in concert by Little Bobby commenting on ***Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions.***

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Awesome! Thanks for continuing the Thursday music at the Gazebo Park! It is the perfect ending to a Thursday!” — Sherry Page, Thief River Falls, commenting on ***Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions.***



“Having wonderful events like this in smaller communities allows students and adults interested in the arts to expand and share their talents.”

— Kalie Gray, Bagley, commenting on Breaking Up The Boys’ Club’s performance on ***Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions***

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “I enjoyed every minute of it! It was a wonderful evening and such a great opportunity for both the band and the community members. I love how it is a consistent, scheduled event. This is something people in the community look forward to each summer. We have family in TRF, and they knew exactly what we were talking about when we invited them to the concert. It is well advertised and well attended! People of ALL ages were in attendance that evening . . . It also opens doors for others who may not get another opportunity for this, whether it is performing or listening. It was a wonderful time for everyone!” — Kalie Gray, Bagley, commenting on Breaking Up The Boys’ Club’s performance on **Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Sweet support for kids! Gives them a good start! Brought family together!” — Wendy Fultz, Bagley, commenting on Breaking Up The Boys’ Club’s performance on **Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Fantastic! Knowing more about our community, and surrounding areas, will make this series enjoyable. I wish everyone great success. Thank you for sharing this news.” - Naomi Tauberman, commenting on **Hometown History**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Excellent recording ... great band!!” - Russ Holmaas, commenting on Tami Lee & The Northern Lights broadcast on **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “As I write, I do share my gratitude for the PolkaCast programming. It is immeasurable the happiness that this music does for all your faithful listeners, especially reaching the shut-ins. It is the pure joy and the feel-good time of their days. The programming is excellent and needed. Personally, in addition, I do thank you for replaying my Memorial Day and Veteran’s Day speeches. This programming means patriotism and thankfulness to our veterans who served. I would be so remiss if I did not compliment the value of PolkaCast as I listen on my car radio. It is such a refreshing traveling companion, aiding concentration on driver safety while I continue my journey with pleasant background listening. The PolkaCast is the only radio station that I listen to. Thank you for not only your station of entertainment but also public service. Many, many thank you’s. May you always be on the air serving the public as you aptly do.” — Don Loeslie, Warren, commenting on **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2**.

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “I really liked making the dolls, it was a great hands-on experience for me.” — KKWE organizer, commenting on Doll-Making Workshop **Ojibwe Arts Rising**.

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “This was amazing, the instructor was excellent.” — KKWE organizer, commenting on Medicine Wheel Workshop **Ojibwe Arts Rising**.

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “Do more of this with more handouts of recipes of the medicines.” — KKWE organizer, commenting on Medicinal Salves Class **Ojibwe Arts Rising**.



“My kids and I love the events you host, the music is always great, and it’s always family-oriented, so I feel comfortable and safe letting my kids just play.”

— Teresa Rojas, Anishinaabe Culture Teacher, Waubun Schools, commenting on *Nijiji’s Minnesota Mixdown Series*

COMMENTS FROM MINNESOTA ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Great job—thanks for including me!” — Christian McShane, commenting on ***Stay Human***.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Thanks, Michael—what a wonderful program you create! Thanks so much!” — Connie Wanek, commenting on ***Stay Human***.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Thanks so much for including us in the BJI Block Party! What an incredible event! The turnout was great and the crowd was fantastic. You all planned an amazing event and we felt very well taken care of. The things you all are doing at KAXE are very impressive and we’re glad to be a part of it all. You’re movers and shakers fighting the good fight! We appreciate it! Please keep us in mind for future events. We’re hoping to get back up north later this year so I’ll be in touch when that happens — perhaps we can coordinate something with KAXE if we make it up your way this fall? Please thank Malachy and all the other workers/volunteers who helped us out so much!” — Maura/The Foxgloves, commenting on ***Bemidji Block Party***.

WDSE (Duluth): “This is great! Thank you for bringing in Gaelynn Lea.” — Jason Wussow, Solstice Event Co-Coordinator, commenting on ***MN Reads and MN Reads Summer Solstice Celebration Block Party Concert***.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Thanks again for everything your family (you and your dad) have done to make this book a success!!!” — Lee Pfanmuller, co-author, *The Breeding Birds of Minnesota* on ***Community Voices on North Shore Morning/North Shore Weekend***.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Grateful for the experience. We’ve played festivals across the Midwest this summer and Radio Waves was top notch- loved musician parking and help loading in. The sound engineer was a dream. Wonderful community. Thanks again. ” — Rob & Jill, Morningbird, commenting on ***Radio Waves Music Festival***.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “As usual it was a great time for the Swing Band. We always wish we had more time!! Thank you WTIP for having us!! And for all you do for the Community and beyond.” — Kathy Bolstad, North Shore Swing Band, commenting on ***Radio Waves Music Festival***.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Another great success for WTIP. Thanks for inviting me to play again this year. Nothing but good things to say. Everyone was helpful, kind, and enthusiastic. Thanks for having me.” — Musician commenting on ***Radio Waves Music Festival***.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “In addition to how much we love it (and everyone)... it always runs wonderfully smoothly - thanks to Staci (doing the advance work), Jerry Lavigne (doing sound), and all of the oh-so-friendly-and-helpful



“What an incredible event! The turnout was great and the crowd was fantastic.”

— Jason Wussow, Solstice Event Co-Coordinator, commenting on *MN Reads and MN Reads Summer Solstice Celebration Block Party Concert*

COMMENTS FROM MINNESOTA ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

volunteers! Thanks for having us back! Such a beautiful, wonderful music festival!” — Musician commenting on **Radio Waves Music Festival**.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Thank you so much for having me, Staci & crew - I look forward to returning and would be glad to come back anytime... best to you, & great work!” — Musician commenting on **Radio Waves Music Festival**.

KOJB (Leech Lake/ Cass Lake): “Great Show! So many different artist from contemporary to traditional. Its cool to have wide variety of music in just two days.” — Corey Medina, Artist commenting on **The Anishinaabe Music & Arts Festival**.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Phil!!!! Thank you THANK YOU. You are SO FREAKIN’ AWESOME. I mean it. You, my friend, are a brilliant interviewer and I love working with you. You have such a great style of how you do what you do, and it’s very engaging. Any show of mine that you see anywhere—please just call me, and you are always on my guest list. Thank you.” — Vocalist Wayne Anthony, commenting on **Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week**.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Phil, that is a beautiful story you put together! Thanks again so much.” — Singer-songwriter Charlie Maguire, Minneapolis, commenting on **Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week**.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Phil, I just listened to it and am wowed by how well you edited it together. The way you weaved us talking about specific themes or parts of the song and then coupled it with the audio was done so eloquently. I will for sure use it as you outlined below. Thank you again!” — Singer-songwriter Luke LeBlanc, commenting on **Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week**.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thank you so much for the interview and doing a story about us. It meant a lot.” — Tyler Upham, Jazz Student at Winona State, commenting on **Jazz@MPS**.

KMOJ (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “We look forward to the fun and excitement from KMOJ,” Pam Simon, Minnesota State Fair commenting on **Dancing with the DJs**.

KMSU (Mankato/Austin): “This event is a really special music event, AND IT’S FREE!” — Eli Hoehn, Organizer, commenting on MN Original Music Festival, **Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances**.

KMSU (Mankato/Austin): “MOMF [Minnesota Original Music Festival] events focus on the creative energy of Minnesota musicians, well-known and up-and-coming artists alike.” KMSU artist commenting on **Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances**.

KMSU (Mankato/Austin): “The mission of this,” Kaleb Braun-Schulz shared, “was to get songwriters at different points in their careers together to chat and perform some songs. ... My goal is to get an idea of how people’s perspectives of their musical careers change over time



“It’s a great time for performers because we get to see and support each other and also meet and hear new musicians.”

– Musician, commenting on **Radio Waves Music Festival**

COMMENTS FROM MINNESOTA ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

and how their goals evolve as they grow.” – Kaleb Braun-Schulz, local musician, commenting on Minnesota Original Music Festival, **Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances.**

KMSU (Mankato/Austin): “They’re amazing – perfect for this.” – Jeffrey Schnobrich, North Mankato resident, commenting on The Good Time Gals performing at Blues On Belgrade, **Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances.**

KMSU (Mankato/Austin): “We are so happy to be able to work with KMSU to broadcast our concerts and support the musicians and sound techs with funding from the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment.” – Liz Sharp, Event Organizer, commenting on Songs On The Lawn, **Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances.**

KMSU (Mankato/Austin): “Rock Bend just seems to get better every year! We had lots of newcomers this year, including the high-energy Titambe West African Dance Group, who entertained the audience and really engaged the kids in learning new dances. The Radzoo brought various reptiles, including an alligator that the kids were invited to touch, and Them Coulee Boys really brought the crowd to their feet. We also had old favorites like City Mouse and Friends and Everett Smithson with a harmonica workshop and Pete Bloedel with his juggling act. Thank you to KMSU for helping us bring this event to our community!” – Trudi Olmanson, Treasurer, commenting on the Rock Bend Folk Festival, **Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances.**

KMSU (Mankato/Austin): “As a longtime attendee (and new committee member) of the Rock Bend Folk Festival, I believe the 33rd festival may have been the best one yet. I heard countless positive comments from attendees and performers regarding the organization of the event, along with the quality of the musical acts, Johnny F’s sound team, and our vendors. Pulling off such an event year after year is a testament to our community’s steadfast support of family-friendly arts and culture. And we can’t do this without our partners: Thanks to our friends at KMSU for supporting Rock Bend!” – Drew Lyon, Rock Bend Folk Festival Committee Member, commenting on **Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances.**

KMSU (Mankato/Austin): “This is such a great space to enjoy music. It’s really cool to be able to offer people the experience of enjoying live music while checking out the hands-on equipment at the Makerspace.” – Cindy Bourne, Executive Director, commenting on Mankato Makerspace, **Small Venue Music and Arts Performances.**

KMSU (Mankato/Austin): “KMSU plays such a diverse selection of music on-air, and it’s really great that Free Form Freakout is able to showcase live performances from some of the artists that are more well-known in the underground scene.” – Dave Peron, Organizer, commenting on Free Form Freakout Presents, **Small Venue Music and Arts Performances.**



“As a student who works closely with some of the grant-funded projects, not only does it allow me to build my professional skills, I enjoy being able to feel connected to the local music scene and work with artists...”

– Radio K Student,
commenting on *Behind the Scenes with Minnesota’s Music Makers*

COMMENTS FROM MINNESOTA ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

KMSU (Mankato/Austin): “The 410 Project in downtown Mankato was the perfect art space to feature singer-songwriters Mary Kay Stroh and Beret Finken in our Autumnal Arias concert. It was a wonderful experience for the artists and the folks who attended the performance. Chris Bertrand and I love being able to feature local musicians on our show.” – Ben Scruggs, Curator for the Keepin’ It Local Show, commenting on KMSU Presents, **Small Venue Music and Arts Performances**.

KMSU (Mankato/Austin): “The Mankato Symphony Orchestra is very thankful for the services KMSU has provided us. They have made professional recordings for years, and the broadcasts of those concerts have extended our audience reach exponentially. Many community members who participated in the performances are able to relive those moments through the broadcasts. We look forward to listening to the MSO on KMSU and extend our gratitude to the station and the Arts & Cultural Heritage funding for making this all possible.” – Bethel Balge, Executive Director, commenting on **Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings**.

KMSU (Mankato/Austin): “Thank you for broadcasting the Pow Wow Grand Entry. I usually attend, but was out of town, and it was great to hear the drummers performing!” – Anonymous caller, commenting on the **Mankato Wacipi (Pow Wow)**.

KMSU (Mankato/Austin): “Recording and broadcasting the Grand Entry is a great way to share the spirit of reconciliation that is core to the Pow Wow.” – Daniel Zielske, Chairman of Mankato Mdewakanton Association, commenting on the **Mankato Wacipi (Pow Wow)**.

KMSU (Mankato/Austin): “The Hot Jazz for Decent People concert series was such a great collaboration between the Arts Center of St. Peter and KMSU. And having the concerts in the Pavilion in Minnesota Square Park in St. Peter makes it all the more special.” – Ann Rosenquist Fee, Executive Director, commenting on the Hot Jazz for Decent People concert series, **Collaboration with the Arts Center of St. Peter**.

KMSU (Mankato/Austin): “This collaboration is a wonderful way for Department of Music students to see how production of a concert really works. And the fact that the performances are broadcast makes it even better!” – Dale Haefner, Curator, commenting on the **Collaboration with MSU Department of Music Performance Series**.

KMSU (Mankato/Austin): “Thanks so much for interviewing me and letting me do some live songs in-studio. Having my music on the Minnesota Music Channel is really great!” – Erik Koskinen, Musician, commenting on **Minnesota Music Channel**.

KVSC (St. Cloud): “Always happy to talk to KVSC for the Untold Stories. They do great work.” – Tom, St. Cloud commenting on **Untold Stories of Central MN and Arts Collage Producer, Sketch Writer**.



“This partnership with KMSU is so important for the continued success of Blues On Belgrade. It helps us feature wonderful local and statewide musicians.”

– Jake Downs, music organizer, commenting on *Blues On Belgrade, Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances*

COMMENTS FROM MINNESOTA ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “I was grateful to have the opportunity to promote the fellowships to residents in NW Minnesota. I hope to see some new applicants thanks to this exposure!” — KSRQ artist commenting on **Artist Spotlight**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “I had a lot of fun, and it was a great opportunity for a budding organization like ours. It was a good experience and I’m deeply appreciative.” — KSRQ artist commenting on **Artist Spotlight**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “I had fun and the host was informative and prepared (knew about our production and organization) — I had enough time to talk about the power of the production. I had fun and am grateful.” — KSRQ artist commenting on **Artist Spotlight**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “I shared info about my connections and invited others to participate.” — KSRQ listener commenting on **Artist Spotlight**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “I connected with the interviewer and feel so supported by the Northwest Arts Council.”
— KSRQ listener commenting on **Artist Spotlight**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Rom has made time throughout the years to advocate for the arts to his wide audience, reaching thousands daily who, like me, feel he is a friend. He is humorous, light-hearted (though deep-voiced), and invested in the northwestern Minnesota community.” — Therese Jacobson, Northwest Minnesota Arts Council Board Member commenting on **Artist Spotlight**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “(Artist Spotlight Host) Rom Ogaard has been one of the most vocal art supporters in the region that I know of. For over 14 years Rom has been with Pioneer 90.1 and has consistently supported artists, art events, and art organizations in both NW Minnesota and NE North Dakota. Not only has Rom spent years promoting the North Dakota Museum of Art, but he has worked with the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council and Campbell Library in East Grand Forks to help get the word out on the arts and culture available in the region, and without a charge to these organizations. This is something that most nonprofits struggle with daily. Having Rom dedicating time each week to these organizations is a lifeline.” — North Dakota Museum of Art Director Mathew Wallace, in nominating Rom Ogaard of KSRQ as Northwest Minnesota Arts Council’s “Arts Advocate of the Year” commenting on **Artist Spotlight**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Huge thanks to Pioneer 90.1 Community Radio and Joe Kezar of Kezar Music Company in Thief River Falls for recording our show and making it available.” — Fred Keller of Skally Line commenting on **Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “I enjoyed every moment of the concert singing fun songs and enjoying the band’s camaraderie. I liked the parts where I would make



“The Mankato Symphony Orchestra is very thankful for the services KMSU has provided us. They have made professional recordings for years, and the broadcasts of those concerts have extended our audience reach exponentially.”

— Bethel Balge, Executive Director, commenting on *Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings*

COMMENTS FROM MINNESOTA ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

eye contact with another band member, and we'd share this moment with a smile. Basking in the moment. Performing in a band makes me feel that all those hours practicing and moments perfecting really pay off when we get to the stage. I thought it was a huge honor for our band to be considered worthy enough to be a part of the Thursday Night Concert Series. I believe having local, live music in a tight-knit community such as Thief River Falls has only improved community health and neighborly attitude towards one another. Music is meant to enlighten, inspire, soothe, and enhance critical thinking for everyone listening, and I think we did just that performing at Thief River Falls last Thursday." — William Gunderson, Student keyboard player and vocalist, Breaking Up The Boys' Club commenting on **Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): "Radio theater is very fun and I love it!!" — Gabby Yoon, Thief River Falls commenting on **Readers Theater – Bandit's Fjord**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): "Seriously—love it! So much fun! And I don't have to MEMORIZE!" — Laura Brickson, Thief River Falls commenting on **Readers Theater – Bandit's Fjord**.

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): "I love researching, learning, experimenting with the wild foods, and then sharing my knowledge. I am nerdy and love these things." — Audrey Dahl, Wisdom Keeper commenting on **Wild Foods**.

KQAL (Winona): "Thank you both for including me on your very cool show. I really enjoyed meeting you and having the opportunity to talk about my music." — The John Paulson Big Band commenting on **The Sound**.

KQAL (Winona): "I thought the flow of the program and the questions were excellent...very well prepared..nice work Giovanni. The studio is awesome too. Thanks so much for the opportunity." — Artist commenting on **The Sound**.

KQAL (Winona): "Thanks for the Art Beat interview feature. I'm humbled to have my weirdo art featured on your show. It was a pleasure talking to you about it all and I probably could have talked with you for hours about it all. One realization I made after listening to your show: I never get used to hearing my own voice." — Peet Fetsch of Tally Mark Press, commenting on **Art Beat**.

KQAL (Winona): "We had a blast this year at Boats & Bluegrass, are so stoked that we got to talk with one of your guys after the set. We wanted to let you know that we are releasing our new album "Capital B" on 12/6/2023, and we thought you or your listeners might want to be the first to hear it—before the rest of the world has access! THANKS!" — Eben commenting on **The Live Feed**.



"This is a great way for us (students) to share what we are learning with the community."

— Ira Keezer, White Earth Tribal College Student Council President, commenting on *The New Ojibwemowin*

PROGRAM COSTS / PRODUCTION COSTS

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): *What We're Reading*: Program Costs: \$17,931.32, Administrative Costs: \$217.35; ***Area Voices*:** Program Costs: \$37,545.78, Administrative Costs: \$358.53; ***Anishinaabe Fashion Show*:** Program Costs: \$18,111.59, Administrative Costs: \$304.75; ***Live Music Block Party*:** Program Costs: \$29,711.12, Administrative Costs: \$328.65; ***Bob Dylan Legacy Project*:** Program Costs: \$23,552.23, Administrative Costs: \$355.53.

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake):
***Anishinaabemoen*:** Program Costs: \$16,304.07, Administrative Costs: \$2,121.01;
***Native Music Fest Series*:** Program Costs: \$41,520.72, Administrative Costs: \$5,206.57; ***Pow Wow Books*:** Program Costs: \$2,091.30, Administrative Costs: \$309.40; ***Native Writing Fest Series*:** Program Costs: \$5,610.52, Administrative Costs: \$610.04; ***Strongville*:** Program Costs: \$549.95; Administrative Costs: \$82.48.

WDSE (Duluth): *MN Reads and MN Reads Summer Solstice Celebration Block Party Concert*: Program Costs: \$19,273.55, Administrative costs: \$250; ***The Local Radio Show and Minnesota Music Archive*:** Program Costs: \$40,496.94, Administrative costs: \$250; ***Live from Studio A*:** Program Costs: \$9,921.87, Administrative Costs: \$250; ***Community Festival Coverage*:** Program Costs: \$3,507.81, Administrative costs: \$100; ***Duluth Homegrown Music Festival Coverage*:** Program Costs: \$11,579.20, Administrative costs: \$250; ***Native Elder History Project*:** Program Costs: \$6,787.50, Administrative costs: \$524.50; ***Lake Superior Radio Theater Variety Show and Dramatic Productions*:** Program Costs: \$0, Administrative costs: \$200.

WGZS (Fond du Lac/Cloquet): *WGZS Ogichida Voices*: Program Costs: \$4,700; ***MN90 Fond du Lac History in 90 Seconds*:** Program Costs: \$2,000.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): *Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend*: Program Costs: \$41,947.02, Administrative Costs: \$2,000; ***Anishinaabe Bizindamoo Makak*:** Program Costs: \$1,226.68, Administrative Costs: \$500; ***Lake Superior Project*:** Program Costs: \$4,104.56, Administrative Costs: \$500; ***Scenic Route*:** Program Costs: \$3,154.32, Administrative Costs: \$500; ***The Boundary Waters Podcast*:** Program Costs: \$7,680.04, Administrative Costs: \$500; ***Radio Waves Music Festival*:** Program Costs: \$25,488.56, Administrative Costs: \$3,000; ***Traveling the Old North Shore*:** Program Costs: \$3,300, Administrative Costs: \$500; ***Live at WTIP Video Series*:** Program Costs: \$3,301.44, Administrative Costs: \$500; ***It Happens Here: The Roots of Racial Inequity on the North Shore*:** Program Costs: \$613.34, Administrative Costs: \$200.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): *Stay Human*: Program Costs: \$29,288.32, Administrative Costs: \$321; ***The Economics of Art in Rural MN*:** Program Costs: \$45,676.15, Administrative Costs: \$342.78; ***MN Music Placemaking*:** Program Costs: \$32,102.53, Administrative Costs: \$318.52; ***Centerstage MN*:** Program Costs: \$31,977.96, Administrative Costs: \$373.47.

KOJB (Cass Lake): *Traditional Ojibwe Plants, Herbs, and Teas*: Program Costs: \$3,750. ***Environmental Voices*:** Program Costs: \$7,800; ***Living the Ojibwe Way of Life*:** Program Costs: \$6,450; ***KOJB Anishinaabe Music & Arts Festival*:** Program Costs: \$21,698.40.

KMSU (Mankato): *Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances*: Program Costs: \$32,439.76; ***Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings*:** Program Costs: \$9,600; ***Small Venue Music & Art Performances*:** Program Costs: \$10,439.76; ***Mankato Wacipi (Pow Wow)*:** Program Costs: \$3,500; ***Collaboration***

PROGRAM COSTS / PRODUCTION COSTS

with Arts Center of St. Peter: Program Costs: \$12,965.46; **Collaboration with the Department of Music at Minnesota State, Mankato:** Program Costs: \$16,648.76; **Minnesota Music Channel (HD and Steaming):** Program Costs: \$13,370; **Radio Drama:** \$2,674.10;

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): Twin Cities Weekend / Twin Cities This Week: Program Costs: \$35,700; **The Jazz Image – Minnesota Edition:** Program Costs: \$5,000; **Jazz Legends – The Elders:** Program Costs: \$15,647.68; **Jazz at Minneapolis Public Schools:** Program Costs: \$10,500; **MPS Voices:** Program Costs: \$348.79; **Minnesota Jazz Tracks:** Program Costs: \$27,305.15; **Twin Cities; Flash Concert Series:** Program Costs: \$19,998.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 10,000 Fresh Voices: Program Costs: \$33,939.83; **MinneCulture:** Program Costs: \$33,561.28; **Live from Minnesota:** Program Costs: \$19,414.84.

KMOJ (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 4 Opinions: Program Costs: \$21,255; **Dancing with the DJs:** Program Costs: \$4,793.08; **Disruptive Narratives:** Program Costs: \$3,300; **Live on Location (LOL):** Program Costs: \$3,005.56. **Purple Legacy:** Program Costs: \$8,630; **Someone You Should Know:** Program Costs: \$3,200; **MN90: African American History:** Program Costs: \$4,000; **KMOJ Legacy Social Media Outreach:** Program Costs: \$13,360.

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): Local Vibes: Program Costs: \$18,742.50; **BTS: Behind the Scenes:** Program Costs: \$49,121.27; **The Vanguard Project:** Program Costs: \$3,671.75; **The Land of 10,000 Stories from Real College Podcast:** Program Costs: \$45,464.48.

KRPR (Rochester): MN90: Rochester History in 90-Seconds: Program Costs:

\$5,150; **Rochester Arts:** Program Costs: \$5,150; **R-Town:** \$4,000 (paid for by AMPERS rather than ACHF funds).

KVSC (St. Cloud): Untold Stories of Central Minnesota: Program Costs: \$32,000; **Central Minnesota Mid-Winter Concert:** Program Costs: \$2,000; **Granite City Radio Theatre:** Program Costs: \$48,500; **Monday Night Live On The Road:** Program Costs: \$6,600; **KVSC News Department:** Program Costs: \$14,000; **Central Minnesota Common Roots Music Festival Collaboration:** Program Costs: \$4,150; **Project 37 Collaboration:** Program Costs: \$8,000.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2: Program Costs: \$37,414.4; **Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions:** Program Costs: \$21,103.32; **Artist Spotlight:** Program Costs: \$15,364; **Hometown History:** Program Costs: \$9,246.21; **Kezar Music Showroom:** Program Costs: \$7,944; **Readers Theater – Bandit’s Fjord:** Program Costs: \$2,382.08; **Minnesota Music Mine:** Program Costs: \$3,707.55.

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): Niijii’s Minnesota Mixdown Series: Program Costs: \$20,165.11; **The New Ojibwemonin:** Program Costs: \$1,500; **Ojibwe Arts Rising:** Program Costs: \$17,146.85; **Cultural Exchange:** Program Costs: \$4,452.70; **Wild Foods:** Program Costs: \$3,801.25, **MN Artist Spotlight:** Program Costs: \$3,327.50.

KQAL (Winona): Art Beat: Program Costs: \$12,150; **Culture Clique:** Program Costs: \$12,150; **The Sound:** Program Costs: \$16,200; **The Live Feed:** Program Costs: \$20,250; **Don’t Cha Know & Arts and Entertainment Download:** Program Costs: \$12,150; **Rewind Winona:** Program Costs: \$8,100.

AMPERS (Statewide): Counter Stories: Program Costs: \$84,287.72, Administrative

PROGRAM COSTS / PRODUCTION COSTS

Costs: \$377.25; **MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds**: Program Costs: \$70,639.22, Administrative Costs: \$125.75; **Minnesota Native News**: Program Costs: \$82,637.75, Administrative Costs: \$251.50; **Native Lights: Where Indigenous Voices Shine**:

Program Costs: \$98,382.97, Administrative Costs: \$251.50; **AMPERS Digital Archive, Website, Social Media, and Station Support**: Program Costs: \$156,364.30, Administrative Costs: \$15,090.00, **Minnesota Legacy**: Program Costs: \$6,857.00.



“May you
always be
on the air
serving the public
as you aptly do.”

– Don Loeslie, Warren,
commenting on *Pioneer
PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2*.

INVESTMENTS IN OUR STUDENTS

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): engaged 30 students to work on *MPS Voices*. Students participated in podcast recording, as some hosted the podcasts, while others were interviewed. Students also contributed to the overall production of programs and shows, such as editing and they were assisted in posting programming on the *MPS Voices* website. The program highlighted five Minneapolis Public Schools and three college programs including 75 students in performance and interviews **Jazz @MPS**.

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): *New Ojibwemowin* was a show that engaged seven students from the tribal college, a drum-making class engaged 12 high school students and, a Taste of Talent engaged 10 high school students.

KQAL (Winona): had four students assist in the production of KQAL Legacy programs, including *Art Beat*, *Culture Clique*, *The Sound*, and *The Live Feed*. They were trained and participated in each of the four shows as producers, editors, and hosts.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): *Pioneer 90.1 Live Sessions* engaged seven students who performed in the band “Breaking Up The Boys’ Club” and 25 students performed as part of the Thief River Falls Community Theater’s concert in the park. For *Readers Theater–Bandit’s Fjord*, three students acted in the radio play

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): had a total of 44 students involved in Legacy programming throughout the year. For *The Land of 10,000 Stories from Real College Podcast*, the station worked with five student staff (one managing editor/host and four associate producers) and 16 volunteers for a total of 21 students. The *BTS: Behind the Scenes with Minnesota’s Music Makers* involved five student staff (host, engineer, two videographers, and a content coordinator) and 10 volunteers for a total of 15 students. *Local Vibes* included two student staff (a producer and an engineer) and five volunteers for a total of 7 total students. The *Vanguard Project* attracted one student (an Associate Produce).

KVSC (St. Cloud): Two students performed in *Granite City Radio Theatre* shows and four students participated in the production work. Three students produced or helped produce *Untold Stories of Central MN* episodes; two students helped produce the *Central MN Mid-Winter Concert* event; one student did all booking for the *MNL on the Road* concert and two students helped produce it; three students helped produce news-related programming for *KVSC News Department Staff Coverage of Arts and Culture*, while 10 students hosted segments; and two students provided coordination support for the *Project 37 Collaboration*.



Voices Executive Producer Manny Hill working with MPS student to produce content.



More than 232 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), 31 contractors, and 35 artists/performers/musicians /cultural experts.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): 0.82 FTEs (17 full-time employees), 2 contract employees and 108 artists/performers/musicians.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 0.1 FTEs (1 part-time employee), 7 contract employees and 20 artists/performers/musicians.

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake): 0.3 FTEs (3 full-time employee), 4 contract employees and 52 artists/performers/musicians.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): 0.89 FTEs (17 full-time employees), 3 contract employees and 47 artists/performers/musicians.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 3 FTEs (3 full-time employees), 25 contract employees and 24 artists/performers/musicians.

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): 0.5 FTEs (2 full-time employees), 2 contract employees and 37 performers/artists/musicians.

KMOJ (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 0.88 FTEs (3 full-time employees), 5 contract employees and 12 artists/performers/musicians

KMSU (Mankato): 0.37 FTEs (1 full-time employee), 25 contract employees and 252 artists/performers/musicians.

KQAL (Winona): 1.2 FTEs (1 full-time employee and 4 part-time employees)

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): 0.67 FTEs (2 full-time employees and 1 part-time employee), 5 contract employees and 70 artists/performers/musicians.

WDSE (Duluth): 1.5 FTEs (5 full-time employees and 2 part-time employees), 4 contract employees and 12 artists/performers/musicians.

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 3.05 FTEs (3 full-time employees and 13 part-time employees).

KVSC (St. Cloud): 0.86 FTEs (2 part-time employees), 10 contract employees and 30 artists/performers/musicians.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): 1.85 FTEs (5 full-time employees), 2 contract employees and 100 artists/performers/musicians.



Legacy funds were used to support 68 full-time, 22 part-time, and 125 contract employees.

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

The **Powwow Book Project** was designed and updated 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, different types of regalia, 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 FY24. 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

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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.

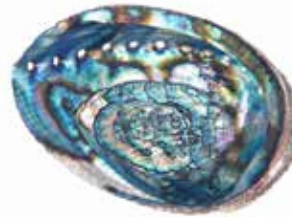


DOGWOOD: To utilize this plant the red outer layer is taken off and the inner bark is stripped to be smoked like tobacco or added to a mixture.



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.





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FASHION WEEK MN

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): The article, “Ojibwe designer Delina White advances equity at Native Nations Fashion Night,” featured Native artist Delina White, Ojibwe fashion designer, and many Native Designers. The Native Nations Fashion Night 2024 event was co-sponsored by KBXE. This year’s theme is Messengers, Protectors and Great Mysteries. Delina said she’d always wanted to combine a Victorian Goth feel with Native fashion. *Fashion Week MN*, April 25, 2024.



The Bemidji Pioneer

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): The article “KAXE to host ‘Northern Voices on Stage’ storytelling event April 18,” KAXE, in partnership with the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund and Watermark Art Center, will host a “Northern Voices on Stage” storytelling event on Thursday, April 18, at Bemidji Brewing. Hosted by Michael Goldberg, producer of KAXE’s *Stay Human* program, the show will feature an array of talented storytellers. *The Bemidji Pioneer*, April 11, 2024.

The Bemidji Pioneer

KAXE/KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji/Grand Rapids): The article, “Dan Gannon to present ‘Discover the Magic Behind the Mic’ at BCHS,” The Beltrami County Historical Society will host Dan Gannon, volunteer coordinator of KAXE/KBXE Northern Community Radio. This collaboration presented a free event by KAXE/KBXE Northern Community Radio to highlight attendees with an exclusive glimpse into the daily life of a volunteer DJ. *The Bemidji Pioneer*, May 14, 2024.

★ **StarTribune KAXE/KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji/Grand Rapids):** The article, “Native fashionista’ creates runway looks – and economic opportunity,” featured Native Nations Fashion Night in Northeast Minneapolis, featuring Delina White, of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe and other Indigenous Designers. “Fashion is such a visual art form,” White said. “You can make statements with it.” The *Star Tribune*, May 13, 2024.



KAXE/KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji/Grand Rapids): The Bemidji Block Party returns on Saturday, June 22nd, presented in partnership with Bemidji Brewing and Northern Community Radio–KAXE/KBXE featuring live music from The FoxGloves, Davina and The Vagabonds, and DERECHO RHYTHM SECTION featuring Alan Sparhawk. *Visit Bemidji*, June 22, 2024.

m EXPLORE MINNESOTA

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): WTIP’s 16th Annual *Radio Waves Music Festival*, Friday, Sept. 8-10, 2023, features twenty-two musical acts



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performing at Sweetheart's Bluff on the west end of the Grand Marais Recreation Area. The **Radio Waves Music Festival** is a celebration of local music and community on the North Shore of Lake Superior. This annual festival, organized by WTIP North Shore Community Radio brings together. *Explore Minnesota* September 8, 2023.



WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): The WTIP **Boundary Waters Podcast** is the original podcast that shares stories exclusively about the canoe-country wilderness. Audio recorded on BWCA and Quetico trips, as well as interviews with officials from Superior National Forest, Ely, the Gunflint Trail, and other locations around the wilderness, which enters its 7th season in 2023. *Rutabaga Paddlesports*, October 17, 2023.

The Free Press KMSU (Mankato): The seventh annual Greater Mankato Juneteenth Celebration, put on by the Greater Mankato Diversity Council, brought a big crowd to the plaza streets and green spaces, where people gathered to celebrate the holiday, which was federally recognized in 2021. The festivities began with a freedom walk from the corner of Second and Walnut street to the civic center plaza. Walk participants were led by a banner honoring the Juneteenth celebrations. According to the GMDC, the freedom walk symbolizes a commitment to honoring the diverse tapestry of American history. *The Mankato Free Press*, June 19, 2024.



KMSU (Mankato): The **Blues on Belgrade** association is celebrating its 14th annual blues and jazz festival. The event is back again for community members to enjoy July 29. **Blues on Belgrade** will be on the 200 block of Belgrade Avenue in North Mankato. The event is free and full of different bands playing all throughout the day. *KEYC NEWS NOW*, July 27, 2023.



KMSU (Mankato): KMSU collaborated with the Austin Artworks Festival 12th year, a two-day celebration spotlighting local artists, and spotlighted events continuing to flourish in downtown Austin. Meanwhile, this year's **Schindler Celebration Concert** is an act that the Festival has tried to pin down for the last few years, but could never secure. Headed by new co-chairs, Lisa Dunlop and Jeff Baldus, the Festival will be just as big of an event as years past, with most everything this year being confined to the area on the green, in the Paramount and the surrounding area. *Austin Artworks Festival*, August 24, 2023.

The Free Press KMSU (Mankato): The article, "A Minnesota Original: Festival's second year shaping up nicely" The Minnesota Original Music Festival's sophomore effort kicks off Wednesday and runs through July 23. It includes a wide variety of performances, panels, open stages, and events— all free. Hoehn, lead man for Captain Gravitone and the String Theory Orchestra, started last year with a five-year plan. Ishikawa will perform at 3 p.m. Saturday, July 22, on the KMSU Main Stage. *The Mankato Free Press*, July 13, 2023.

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The Free Press KMSU (Mankato): The *Pageant Singalong Nation* is back, this time with an event built on the expansive musical catalogs of David Bowie and Queen. This year's free concert, "Under Pressure: The Music of David Bowie and Queen," is at 8 p.m. Saturday at Patrick's on Third in St. Peter with a public dress rehearsal there at 7-8:30 p.m. The show features twenty vocalists singing a selection including Bowie's "Modern Love" and "Young Americans," and Queen's "Somebody to Love" and "Bohemian Rhapsody." *The Mankato Free Press*, November 15, 2023.

The Free Press KMSU (Mankato): The 51st annual Wacipi drew good crowds amid perfect weather. After a nice rain moved through Friday morning, the sun came out in the afternoon for the opening day. The powwow continues Sunday, with the Grand Entry at 1 p.m. The Wacipi each day features the Grand Entry, with all the dancers entering the arena. Leading the Grand Entry are the flag bearers. Flags include the eagle staffs of various tribes and families in attendance, the U.S. flag, tribal flags, service flags and the P.O.W. flag. Native American veterans usually carry flags. *The Mankato Free Press*, September 16, 2023

The Free Press KMSU (Mankato): In this article, "Double the Pleasure," Tim Eriksen and Liz Draper to perform at Carnegie Art Center with an artist talk and concert. Eriksen often performs in communities with active shape-note singing groups, and while Mankato does not have such a group, Carnegie Executive Director Charlie Left ridge is certainly open to the possibility of hosting one in the future. Eriksen's talk will be 2 p.m. and the performance from 7-9 p.m. Joining Eriksen will be Mankato native Liz Draper, who has toured just as widely as Eriksen and has mastered a similarly wide variety of musical styles. *The Mankato Free Press*, November 27, 2023.

The Free Press KMSU (Mankato): Perhaps for many people in the Greater Mankato area the Rock Bend Folk Festival needs no introduction. But every year, year after year — this it's 32nd — the festival begs heralding for its consistency, its high bar of quality and its annual immeasurable contribution to the community. This year 19 acts are planned, two songwriter sets, two open mics and a raffle spread over two days between the Pavilion Stage and the North Grove Stage in St. Peter's Minnesota Square Park. The festival is from noon to 9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 10. The Free Press spoke with performers Sarah Morris, Chris Bertrand, PK Mayo, and longtime Rock Bend sound engineer and festival enthusiast Johnny Foderick about the upcoming festivities. *The Mankato Free Press*, September 3, 2023.



PRESS COVERAGE

The Free Press KMSU (Mankato): In this article, “Thousands get their groove on at St. Peter Ambassadors’ Blues Fest,” while thousands from near and far jammed out, supported vendors and enjoyed the sunshine during the St. Peter Ambassadors’ Blues Fest, a few brave souls got up from their seats and danced in front of the crowd as the Gopher Tones took the stage Saturday. Rochester’s Jeff Mostrom and Ann Farmer drove to St. Peter to see the band and were one of the pairs getting their groove on. *The Mankato Free Press*, June 8, 2024.



KSRQ (Thief River Falls): Breaking Up the Boys’ Club is a Clearwater County high school cover band showcasing rock and roll, country and pop hits from the last 80 years. The band was the first group to perform for Music in the Park of the Thursday Night Concert Series by The Pioneer 90.1, in collaboration with the City of Thief River Falls and Kezar Music. *Thief River Falls Times*, May 30, 2024.



KSRQ (Thief River Falls): Minnesota surf, brought to Thief River Falls Thursday night by Bob and The Beachcombers, entertained the audience at Floyd B. Olson Park in downtown Thief River Falls. Bob and The Beachcombers have been entertaining audiences with their beach music stylings since 1988. The City of Thief River Falls and Pioneer 90.1 partnered this year to create a Thursday Night Concert Series, and Bob and The Beachcombers were one of the bands hired to perform. *Thief River Falls Times*, July 26, 2023.



KSRQ (Thief River Falls): Free Thursday Night Concerts in the Park continued. The second concert of the season was a bluegrass band that goes just by their names, from left: Murphy Smith, Brian Wicklund and Mike Dowling. Every Thursday, a different band or group will perform on the stage in front of the gazebo in Floyd B. Olson Park. An appreciative crowd gathered in the park June 6, in spite of the cooler temperatures. The performance is sponsored and organized by Pioneer 90.1 radio, the city of Thief River Falls and funded by the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment, which is supported by the Legislature and citizens of Minnesota. *Thief River Falls Times*, June 6, 2023.



KSRQ (Thief River Falls): The Jensen Sisters, Kansas and Kendra from Goodridge, began singing together in 2015. The pair had unique sound and chemistry they have been sharing with the world ever since. Their music, they call it “new retro country” is a mix of popular country music as well as their own unique style music. Saturday, the duo performed on the RiverFest stage in Hartz Park in Thief River Falls. *Thief River Falls Times*, August 9, 2023.



KSRQ (Thief River Falls): Music performed by the Downtown Horns, a group of music teachers and friends who share family ties and a passion for horn music, included

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music of Chicago, rock, rhythm and blues. The Pioneer 90.1 concert series, which is held in Floyd B. Olson Park in the gazebo every Thursday, is in collaboration with the City of Thief River Falls and Kezar Music and is made possible by funding from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. *Thief River Falls Times*, August 30, 2023.



KSRQ (Thief River Falls): KROME, a group of cousins from Viking, performed Thursday night, Aug. 10, at the Eagles Club in downtown Thief River Falls. KROME's music is an original mixture of styles and genres. Rock, blues, punk, country, folk and reggae are some of the influences concertgoers will hear from their original music. Their live shows cover a broad range of styles. The performance was part of the Thursday Night Music in the Park in Thief River Falls. *Thief River Falls Times*, August 16, 2023.



KSRQ (Thief River Falls): The distinctive blues sound of Little Bobby could be heard throughout Thief River Falls Thursday night. Little Bobby stepped in to cover the Thursday Night Concert in the Park on June 20. Little Bobby's music interest is a family affair. His father to his grandmother, who is in the "Minnesota Music Hall Of Fame," to all his cousins, all play something. Little Bobby's first Instrument was the drums, He got his first set from his aunt and uncle. His passion soon changed, and he was turned on by the sound of the guitar. *Thief River Falls Times*, June 20, 2024.



KSRQ (Thief River Falls): The Roe Family Singers performed Thursday, July 27 at Floyd B. Olson Park in Thief River Falls. They performed as part of a concert series hosted by Pioneer 90.1 in collaboration with the City of Thief River Falls and Kezar Music. The concert series is made possible with funding from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. *Thief River Falls Times*, August 1, 2023.



KSRQ (Thief River Falls): Fred Keller and Bill Cagley of the Skally Line performed and told stories for residents of Thief River Falls during Music in the Park Thursday night. The Skally Line performed string band blues, Appalachian ballads, fiddle tunes, early country and bluegrass, along with sharing some of the history of Minnesota that many may not know. *Thief River Falls Times*, August 9, 2024.



KSRQ (Thief River Falls): AJ Srubas leaned into his award-winning fiddle playing to enhance the music performed by Steam Machine Thursday at the Eagles Club in Thief River Falls on Thursday, July 6. The City of Thief River Falls partnered with Pioneer 90.1 to create this year's Thursday Night Concert Series. Usually, the Thursday Night Concert is performed in the gazebo at Floyd B. Olson Park, but because of inclement weather, it was moved to the Eagles Club. *Thief River Falls Times*, August 9, 2024.

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Thief River Falls

Times

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): Tami Lee and the Northern Lights performed a variety of country music for the Music in the Park at the gazebo in downtown Thief River Falls Thursday, Aug 17. The group is led by Tami Lee, who has years of experience, and a great attitude, and that makes her a popular performer in northwestern Minnesota. *Thief River Falls Times*, August 23, 2023.

Thief River Falls

Times

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): Shell Shock, a classic rock band from northwestern Minnesota, performed Thursday in the gazebo in Floyd B. Olson Park. The performance was part of the Free Thursday in the Park summer performances sponsored by Pioneer 90.1 and supported by a grant from Minnesota's Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment. *Thief River Falls Times*, July 27, 2024.

Thief River Falls

Times

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): The summer Thursday night concert series continues at Floyd B. Olson Park in Thief River Falls. On Thursday, June 13, the "Finding Nemo KIDS" cast performed. "Finding Nemo KIDS" is a Thief River Falls Area Community Theater production. Pioneer 90.1 is presenting the concert series, thanks to a grant from Minnesota's Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment. *Thief River Falls Times*, June 13, 2024

Thief River Falls

Times

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): The cast of "Quilters" performed Thursday, June 13 as part of Thief River Falls' free summer Thursday night concert series at Floyd B. Olson Park in Thief River Falls. The Thief River Falls Area Community Theater musical recently ended its run on the Northland Community and Technical College stage. Pioneer 90.1 is presenting the concert series, thanks to a grant from Minnesota's Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment. *Thief River Falls Times*, June 13, 2024.

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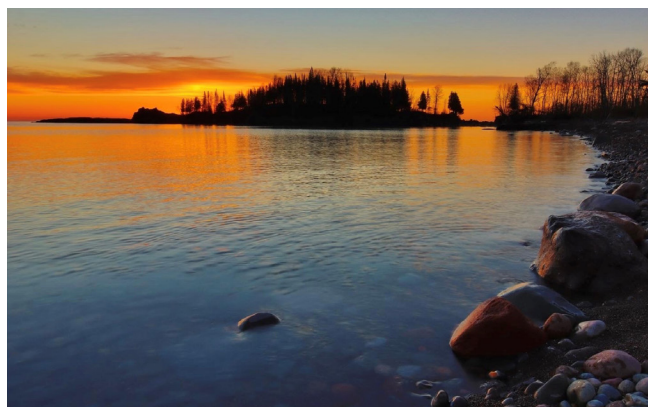
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