

ampers

Diverse Radio for
Minnesota's Communities

Report to the Minnesota State Legislature Fiscal Year 2025



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 2025 SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES JANUARY 15, 2026

Submitted To: Representative Zack Stephenson, Chair, Legislative Coordinating Commission
Bobby Joe Champion, Vice Chair, Legislative Coordinating Commission.
Representative Lisa Demuth, Vice Co-Chair, Legislative Coordinating Commission
Senator Fong Hawj, Chair, Senate Environment, Climate and Legacy Committee
Senator Steve Green, 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: Dwayne Megaw, General Manager KMSU-FM and 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 FY25, AMPERS stations garnered 11 awards for Legacy programming, bringing our cumulative total to 119 state and regional broadcast awards.

This year, AMPERS, KFAI, and WTIP all received multiple awards from the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists, while KQAL and WTIP secured five awards from the Midwest Broadcast Journalism Association. These awards showcase 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 FY25, we supported more than 750 Minnesota artists and musicians, employed 116 contractors, and funded 17.62 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. This employment supported 24 part-time and 43 full-time staff across the state, reflecting our commitment to strengthening local economies and communities.

The [MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds](#) Facebook page generated 9,652 reactions, 1,000 comments, and 1,040 shares. The podcast stream of [Native Lights Podcast: Where Indigenous Voices Shine](#) had 8,025 downloads and received a Third-Place award from the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists. Additionally, we supported several initiatives aimed at preserving the Ojibwe language. In total, AMPERS and its member stations produced more than 1,632 radio programs in FY25. The AMPERS website is now the home to nearly 31,000 Legacy segments and shows.

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, ensuring 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 FY2025 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 FY25. 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.



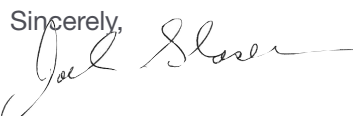
Sincerely,

Joel A. Glaser
AMPERS President & CEO

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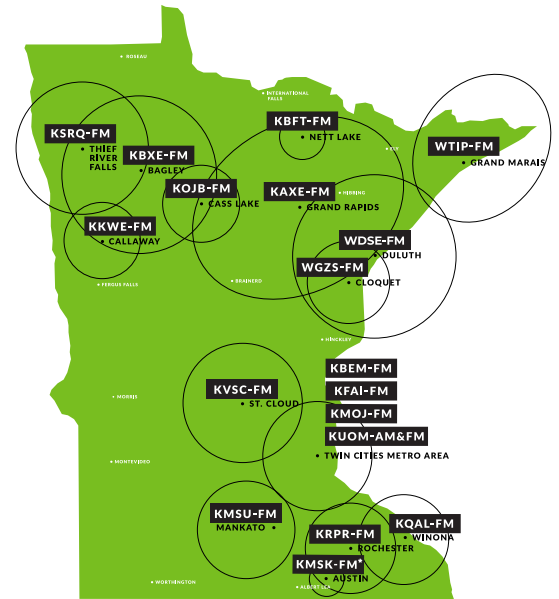
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ABOUT AMPERS

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	KOJB-FM	90.1 FM
Mankato / Austin	KMSU-FM / KMSK-FM	89.7 FM / 91.3 FM
Minneapolis / St. Paul	KBEM-FM (Jazz88)	88.5 FM
Minneapolis / St. Paul	KFAI-FM	90.3 FM
Minneapolis / St. Paul	KMOJ-FM	89.9 FM
Minneapolis / St. Paul	KUOM-AM/FM (Radio K)	770 AM / 100.7 FM / 104.5 FM
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

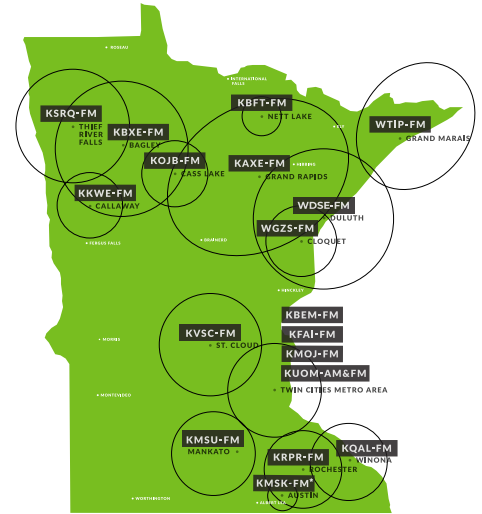
STATION REPORTS

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

MINNESOTA'S LEGACY

Minnesota's Legacy was a series of sound-rich 90-second segments showcasing the organizations and the people who have benefited from Minnesota's Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment. The goal of the yearlong project was to inform the citizens of Minnesota about how funds from the constitutional amendment were used. Listeners learned about various projects to improve water quality, protect and preserve the state's land, enhance parks and trails, increase access to the arts, and preserve Minnesota's culture and history.

AMPERS began research and production on **Minnesota's Legacy** in FY24. In FY25, AMPERS finished production and broadcast the 39 segments on 12 member stations. To measure project success, AMPERS tracked the number of segments produced, the estimated number of listeners, and listener survey comments. The series had approximately 262,200 listeners.

The project resulted in more local and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and ensured that residents had a better understanding of how funds from the state's Cleanwater, Land, and Legacy Amendment were spent. AMPERS achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

MINNESOTA NATIVE NEWS

Minnesota Native News was a weekly radio segment covering topics and events relevant to the state's Native American communities that aired on 14 AMPERS stations. The team producing the program was comprised of nine reporters in FY25, both Native and non-Native. In FY25, **Minnesota Native News** covered relevant stories across the state, from a Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act case to the release of "Star Wars: A New Hope"



Minnesota Native News, which included a segment about Minnesotan's role in producing Star Wars in Ojibwe, aired on 12 stations statewide.



STATION REPORTS

in Anishinaabemowin; from the Great Lakes Indigenous Farming Conference to Indigenous led placemaking at Owámniyomni (St. Anthony Falls in Minneapolis).



To measure project success, AMPERS tracked the number of segments produced, the estimated number of listeners, and listener survey comments. AMPERS produced and broadcast 30 **Minnesota Native News** segments in FY25, and the series had approximately 112,000 listeners. Listeners expressed positive engagement with the yearlong project. One KAXE listener said, “I love hearing the indigenous voices and perspectives that have so often been neglected.” Another stated, “I appreciate this knowledge on current events I couldn’t get anywhere else.” Another shared the program’s contribution to their own learning, noting: “I enjoy hearing native news from a native perspective. Helps me think about things in a different way.”

In FY25, 10,220 people followed **Minnesota Native News** on Facebook and over 2,000 followed on Instagram. The **Minnesota Native News** Facebook page received 1,100 visits and 81 content interactions in FY25. The podcast stream of **Minnesota Native News** had 6,183 downloads and 87 estimated subscribers across platforms in FY25. AMPERS received Third Place, News Feature Reporting for the **Minnesota Native News** segment, “Anangong Miigaading- “Star Wars: A New Hope” Released in Ojibwe Language” at the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalism Page One Awards.

Minnesota Native News resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and a better understanding of the state’s culture and history, especially Native-American culture and history, than if the project hadn’t happened. AMPERS achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

MN90: MINNESOTA HISTORY IN 90 SECONDS

MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds

explored Minnesota history through engaging short segments covering topics including pop culture, sports, politics, business, entertainment, and more. In FY25, audiences learned about the State Fair’s famous skyride, the state’s first brewery, the Northshore’s thomsonite mineral, and Minnesota’s first grocery store. **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.

To measure project success, AMPERS tracked the number of segments produced, the estimated number of listeners, and comments from listener surveys. AMPERS produced 60 segments of **MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds** in FY25. AMPERS estimates that **MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds** segments reached about 200,000 Minnesotans each week. Listeners expressed overwhelmingly positive engagement with the popular series. One KAXE listener stated, “I learn something new about our state every time.” Another said, “Preserving our local history is vital.”



MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds aired on 15 stations across the state reaching about 200,000 listeners each week.

STATION REPORTS

10,044 people followed the **MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds** Facebook page in FY25 and posts saw 9,652 reactions, 1,000 comments, and 1,040 shares. The year's top Facebook post about **MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds** content received 377,810 views and 239 comments. **MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds** resulted in an increase in locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. The project increased listeners' knowledge about Minnesota's history and cultural heritage. AMPERS achieved the proposed results for the project.

NATIVE LIGHTS: WHERE INDIGENOUS VOICES SHINE

Native Lights Podcast: Where Indigenous Voices Shine was a year-long podcast project focused on Native voices, views, and testimonies, from a basis of strength and humor. Hosted by siblings Leah Lemm and Cole Premo, both Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe citizens, **Native Lights Podcast: Where Indigenous Voices Shine** centered on Native community members around Mni Sota Mkoce (Minnesota), and their experiences of finding their gifts and sharing them with community. Each episode highlighted stories of joy, strength, history, and change from Native people shaping the future, while honoring those who came before them. **Native Lights Podcast: Where Indigenous Voices Shine** was a yearlong project that aired on 13 AMPERS stations statewide, featuring educators, leaders, artists, authors, business owners, chefs, farmers, and journalists. Episodes included conversations with Gordon Coons, Moira Villiard, Amber Annis, Allison Waukau, Dan Ninham, BearPaw Shields, Vernon DeFore, and David Wise.

To measure project success, AMPERS tracked the number of segments produced, the estimated number of listeners, and listener survey comments. AMPERS produced and broadcast twenty-five 28-minute **Native Lights Podcast: Where Indigenous Voices Shine** segments in FY25, the series reached approximately 102,700 people. The project received positive engagement from listeners. One KAXE listener said, "Love listening to Native Lights! Love Leah's voice, always interesting dialogue with her brother and their guests." Another stated, "I live on one of the reservations and feel the information is important." Still another shared: "I think it's important that we all get more exposure to our First Nations people. There's much to learn from their culture, history, and experience." The podcast stream of **Native Lights Podcast: Where Indigenous Voices Shine** had 8,025 downloads and 126 estimated subscribers in FY25. AMPERS received Third Place, Podcast for the 2024 season of **Native Lights: Where Indigenous Voices Shine** at the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists Page One Awards.

Native Lights Podcast: Where Indigenous Voices Shine resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and a better understanding of the state's culture and history, especially Native-American culture and history, than if the project hadn't happened. While AMPERS inadvertently failed to update its workplan to update the outputs for this project and only delivered 25 rather than 30 segments, we feel that the 25 segments that AMPERS did produce and distribute achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project, because it still resulted in more Minnesota-focused content.



Amber Annis, PhD



Gordon Coons



Moira Villiard



David Wise



STATION REPORTS

VETERAN'S VOICES: GULF WAR I

Veteran's Voices: Gulf War I was the FY25 edition of AMPERS' popular radio series exploring the knowledge, experience and leadership of Minnesota service members.

Veteran's Voices: Gulf War I featured engaging and moving oral histories from First Gulf War Minnesota veterans detailing their experiences during deployment, as well as after their service.

Veteran's Voices: Gulf War I educated Minnesotans about what it was to be an ICU nurse during the conflict, the experience of receiving mail from loved ones back home, and how some Veterans developed understanding and empathy for Iraqi civilians during their time overseas.

Veteran's Voices: Gulf War I was a six-month project. To measure project success, AMPERS tracked the number of segments produced, the estimated number of listeners, and listener survey comments. AMPERS produced 27 90-second segments and broadcast 20 of these at least once on 13 AMPERS stations. All 27 segments were uploaded to Public Radio Exchange (PRX). ***Veteran's Voices: Gulf War I*** had an estimated on-air audience of 288,200.

Veteran's Voices: Gulf War I resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio than would exist without the project, as well as content that history teachers can use in Minnesota. AMPERS achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

AMPERS DIGITAL ARCHIVE, WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA & STATION SUPPORT

Through the year-long **AMPERS** digital archive, website, and social media initiative, AMPERS has made it more accessible 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 them 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 30,500 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 FY25, AMPERS started the research and development phase of its updated website project. AMPERS selected the firm Flying Orange, after meeting with multiple potential vendors and soliciting RFP quotes. Flying Orange conducted a listening session with AMPERS staff to identify needs and functionality desired by the updated website, with a focus on visitor and listener access. Due to website functionality issues, AMPERS does 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. In FY25, AMPERS met with Public Radio Exchange (PRX) and Flying Orange to work on reconnecting the website with the API. The updated website will go live in FY26. In the meantime, to stay in compliance with grant guidelines, AMPERS



Nearly 300,000 listeners got to hear what it was like for Minnesotans to serve in the first Gulf War thanks to Veterans' Voices: Gulf War I.

STATION REPORTS

continues to upload and archive all segments to the Public Radio Exchange (PRX) so that they are available to the public. Funds for this project are also used to help assist all AMPERS stations with Legacy project and project management as well as oversight, assistance, and even production of segments and shows for the AMPERS Group Project.



To measure project success, AMPERS tracked social media statistics, the number of segments uploaded to Public Radio Exchange (PRX), and listener comments and feedback. In FY25, the AMPERS Facebook page had over 7,800 followers and 1,100 visits. The post with the most engagement garnered a reach of 2,441 people and 63 interactions. The AMPERS Instagram page had 115 visits and close to 300 followers. Podcast feeds associated with AMPERS Legacy projects generated 15,410 downloads in FY25.

The 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.



AMPERS and its member stations used Legacy funds to help pay more than 769 artists for their work in FY25.

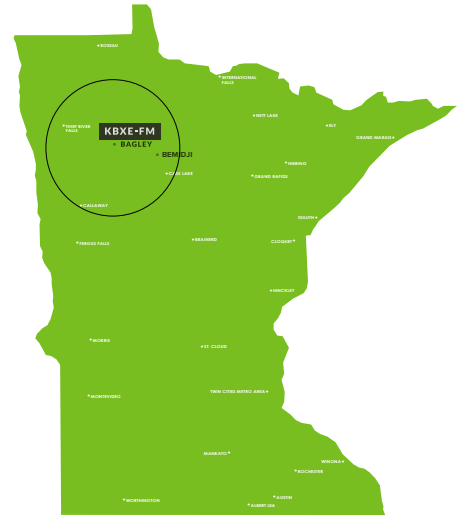
STATION REPORTS

BAGLEY / BEMIDJI – KBXE, 90.5 FM



Station Description

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



KBXE (Bagley / Bemidji) coverage area

Program Descriptions

HAM RADIO

Ham Radio featured James Beard award-winning cookbook author, chef, writer, and gardener Amy Thielen. The segments helped to assist area cooks, celebrate seasonal local foods, engage with listeners, and tell kitchen and food stories of the region.

KBXE produced six hour-long segments of **Ham Radio**. Listeners learned about culturally significant foods of northern Minnesota through interviews with locals, such as Erin Haefele of Green Scene in Walker, Chef David Kinch, and his Park Rapids area cousin Bill Dinger, and 87-year-old lutefisk master Wally Everson.

KBXE's annual survey showed that the station achieved the proposed outcomes for the project. Of the respondents who said they heard **Ham Radio**, 93% said the project gave them more access to Minnesota arts and culture. **Ham Radio** was a year-long project that also aired on KAXE. The station achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

GET DOWNTOWN WITH KBXE

KBXE presented **Get Downtown with KBXE**, a free community event that included family-friendly entertainment at The Loft Event Center in downtown Bemidji. The event featured music from Chastity Brown and Dilly Dally Alley.

More than 100 people attended the **Get Downtown with KBXE** event. KBXE broadcast select performances from the show for an hour-long radio special. A commenter from the FY25 survey said, "This was such a fantastic event. A great night of super talented MN musicians and community connection. Events like this are so important and create space for people to come together."



Get Downtown with KBXE attracted more than 100 people to the Loft Event Center in Bemidji.

STATION REPORTS



In addition to the 100 people who attended, an estimated 5,000 people listened to the broadcast on KBXE and KAXE. Of those surveyed in KBXE's annual survey who said they listened to or attended the **Get Downtown with KBXE** event, 100% said the project increased their knowledge, information, and access to Minnesota's history and cultural heritage. The **Get Downtown with KBXE** event was a four-month project. KBXE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

AREA VOICES

Area Voices was a radio segment that focused on the artistic and cultural stories of Northern Minnesota. Hosted by Andrew Dziengel, **Area Voices** showcased fascinating historical stories, the unique cultural heritage, and life experiences of residents creating art in Northern Minnesota. KBXE produced 53 episodes of these in-depth segments, which varied in length, from eight to 22 minutes, and aired during the Morning Show.

Listeners were informed of cultural happenings within the local arts scene through interviews and engaging conversations. Some of the people featured on **Area Voices** included artist Isabelle Harmon, Watermark Art Center Executive Director Lori Forshee-Donay, theater director Corey Rembarger, potter Marie Brown, and artist Rory Wakemup.

KBXE produced 5 more segments of **Area Voices** than promised in its workplan, increasing Minnesotan's knowledge of artists and their works by showcasing more artists through public broadcasting. The station estimates that about 5,000 people heard each episode of **Area Voices**. Of the respondents who said they had heard the program, 99% said they gained more access to Minnesota cultural heritage and history. Respondents also remarked that the programming helped increase locally focused content on public radio. **Area Voices** was a yearlong project. Segments of the program also aired on AMPERS station KAXE. KBXE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

ANISHINAABE-BIPOC FASHION SHOW

KBXE partnered with Native Apparel Designer Delina White from I Am Anishinaabe fashion company to produce the **Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show**. The show was presented at the Native Nations Fashion Night at the InterContinental Saint Paul Riverfront hotel in Saint Paul. The **Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show** featured designs from Delina White and Sage Davis of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Bineshi-ikwewag of Turtle Mountain, North Dakota, Lavender Doris of Red Lake, and Shannon Gustafson of Ontario, Canada. There was also music, food, and a marketplace. White worked with an all-Native production and artistic crew.



KBXE produced 53 episodes of Area Voices showcasing the unique culture of Northern Minnesota.



The Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show gave attendees and listeners a better understanding of Native American culture.

STATION REPORTS



The station estimates that about 250 people attended the event. In addition to the event, two 13-to 23-minute segments were aired featuring interviews with White (Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe) about the first-ever Creative Economy Summit and the Fashion Show. The station estimates that about 5,000 people heard the on-air segments, which also aired on KAXE. That audience helped the station achieve its goal of helping more Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, and income have greater access to Minnesota history and culture. KBXE's annual survey shows that the station met its other proposed measurable outcome for this project. Of those who heard the on-air segments, 100% said the project gave them more knowledge, information, and access to the arts and Minnesota's cultural heritage. The **Anishinaabe-BIPOC Fashion Show** was a six-month project that achieved all its proposed measurable outcomes.

WHAT WE'RE READING

KBXE produced 32 segments of **What We're Reading**, which showcased books and the Minnesota authors who wrote them. Hosted and produced by independent producer Tammy Bobrowsky, the series introduced listeners to our state's authors, poets, and essayists. KBXE aired the segments during the Morning Show. Each segment was between six and 17 minutes long. Listeners learned about the authors through in-depth discussions about their latest work. Authors and books featured on **What We're Reading** in FY25 included Grand Rapids children's librarian Tracy Kampa, who talked about her recommendations for children's books; author Marcie Rendon, who talked about her book *Where They Last Saw Her*, about missing and murdered Indigenous women; and author Dennis E. Staples discussed his new novel -- a spine-chilling and darkly humorous thriller that takes place in a Northern Minnesota casino. The station estimates that approximately 5,000 people heard each of the segments.

KBXE produced 8 more segments of **What We're Reading** than promised in its workplan, increasing Minnesotan's knowledge of writers and their works by showcasing more writers through public broadcasting and giving listeners greater access to the work of Minnesota's authors. The station's annual survey showed that KBXE achieved the proposed outcomes for the project. Of the respondents who said they had heard **What We're Reading**, 99% said the project helped to increase their access to and appreciation for the writer's art in Minnesota. **What We're Reading** was a year-long project that also aired on KAXE.



Of surveyed listeners who heard What We're Reading, 99% said the project increased their access to and appreciation for Minnesota writers.

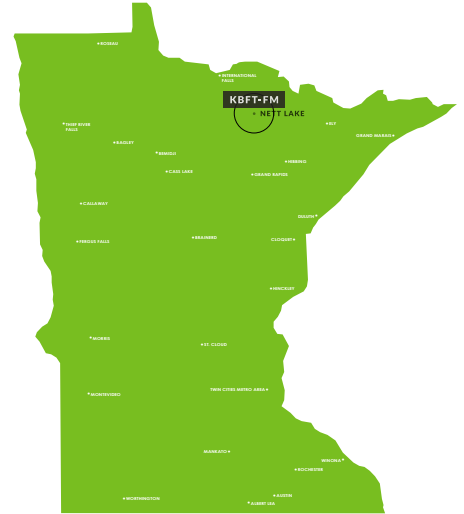
STATION REPORTS

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 helped to preserve the Anishinaabe language. In FY25, the station produced and aired a total of 100 **Anishinaabemoen** segments. In each 30-second segment, KBFT taught listeners basic Anishinaabe words, action words, and common phrases. The station estimates that about 300 people heard the segments on-air.

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 eight-month project.

NATIVE MUSIC FEST SERIES

KBFT's **Native Music Fest Series** consisted of four one-hour live concerts (two paid by the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund and two paid by KBFT's Community Service Grant). The station used Legacy funds to produce two of the concerts, pay the Native musicians, and create two five-minute radio segments to promote and support the artists and the concerts. Some of the artists featured included Keith Secola, Itz Lil Lee, Orville Councillor, Bobby V, and War Bonnet. 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 an eight-month project that showcased eight 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 artists and musicians to have their work showcased through public media. KBFT achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project

ANCESTRAL EMBERS
NATIVE MUSIC FEST.

APRIL

2ND
6PM-9PM
BOIS FORTE
GOVT BUILDING
NETT LAKE, MN

3RD
6PM-9PM
FOND DU LAC
TRIBAL COMMUNITY
COLLEGE COMMONS
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CLOQUET, MN 55720

4TH
6PM-9PM
DR ROBERT
POWLESS
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CLEAN WATER
LAND &
LEGACY
AMENDMENT



STATION REPORTS

STRONGVILLE

Strongville was a series that KBFT produced in FY24 but aired in FY25. **Strongville** is a historical site in Nett Lake. The Strong families once lived there and farmed crops there. The families that lived there predominantly spoke Anishanabemoen. The Strong families' descendants recounted memories of former traditional Chiefs of Nett Lake gathering in Strongville to hold community meetings that addressed the issues that affected everyday lives of the entire village. In FY24, KBFT produced five segments of **Strongville**, each of which was five minutes long. The segments explored family history, genetic lineage, historical artifacts, and more. The station estimates that approximately 300 people heard the on-air segments.

The episodes resulted in more local and Minnesota content produced by public radio. The **Strongville** segments also gave Minnesotans a better understanding of Native American culture and history. Once the segments aired in FY25, KBFT achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



AMPERS's website is now home to nearly
31,000 Legacy segments and shows.

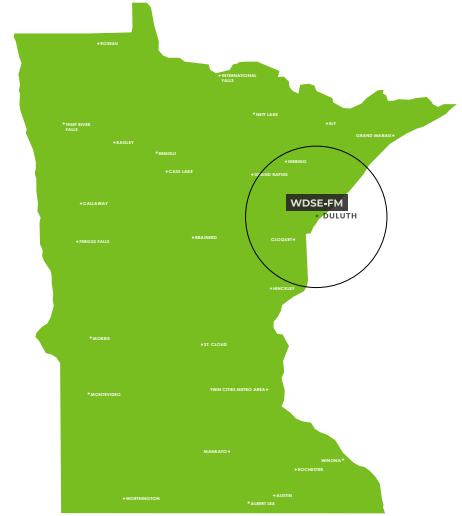
STATION REPORTS

DULUTH – WDSE-FM, 103.3 FM



Station Description

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

COMMUNITY FESTIVAL COVERAGE

WDSE-FM covered, promoted, and contributed programming for the Minnesota Film Festival in Duluth with its **Community Festival Coverage** project. WDSE-FM partnered with the festival organizers to provide an immersive celebration of area culture. Featured guests included Venus DeMas, Tessa Blake, Jennifer Manocherian, and Erin Mae. WDSE-FM produced 23 segments and aired 13 of these daily for two weeks. On-air episodes were between five and seven minutes in length. Website versions of the segments were longer, ranging from six to 22 minutes.

The station estimates that its **Community Festival Coverage** content reached about 6,400 listeners in FY25. The project increased the number of local artists, musicians, historians, writers, authors, and filmmakers who had their work showcased through public radio and benefited from increased exposure. In addition, **Community Festival Coverage** resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. The station produced and delivered three more segments than promised in its workplan. WDSE-FM achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project

HOMEGROWN MUSIC FESTIVAL COVERAGE

WDSE-FM’s **Homegrown Music Festival Coverage** project involved photojournalism, blogging, and special on-air radio broadcasts of Duluth’s eight-day, multi-venue, 200-band music festival. Featured artists in FY25 included Wes Hadrich, Emily Haavik and the 35s, Jumpsuit, The Brothers Burn Mountain, Black River Revue, The Penny Peaches, Tin Can Gin, Superior Siren, Misisipi Mike Wolf, Ponyfolk, Hot Tamale Cosmos, Father Hennepin, Four Mile Portage, and Sugar on the Roof. WDSE-FM was able to leverage this Legacy project to secure an additional \$1,000 sponsorship from Music Go Round.



WDSE-FM produced 23 radio segments for its **Community Festival Coverage**, three more than promised in its workplan, showcasing Minnesota musicians, authors, filmmakers, and more.



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The **Homegrown Music Festival Coverage** project included one event with approximately 500 people in attendance, a three-hour live broadcast from Hoops Brewery, live in-studio performance sessions, and broadcast recordings from the festival. WDSE-FM estimates that 1,300 listeners in total tuned in to the live broadcast. In addition, WDSE-FM produced and aired 15 segments – five to 30 minutes in length – for the project. The segments included five live in-studio performance sessions, five festival day recaps, and five blog reports. All segments were also published online. WDSE-FM used social media engagement to measure the project's success. The station tallied 2,787 total engagements on Facebook of their Homegrown related content. The project increased the number of local artists, musicians, historians, writers, authors, and others who had their work showcased through public radio and benefited from the increased exposure. **Homegrown Music Festival Coverage** also resulted in more local and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. WDSE-FM achieved the proposed measurable outcomes with this two-month project.

LAKE SUPERIOR RADIO THEATER VARIETY SHOW AND DRAMATIC PRODUCTIONS

WDSE-FM produced and recorded consistent radio theater episodes performed in front of a live audience that also broadcast on-air. The **Lake Superior Radio Theater Variety Show and Dramatic Productions** project incorporated comedy, drama, and music. The project was a partnership with Take It With You, a highly successful local company but lacking actual radio support. Actors featured included Blake Thomas, Mackenzie McCullum, Ryan Nelson, Nick Gosen, Kendra Carson, Mary Fox, Katy Helbacka, Bri Graham, Blake Reistad, Matt Riehle, Cory Coffman, and Zach Stoger. The nine-month-long project was comprised of four live audience, theatrical performances, each produced into aired episodes, and then eight studio produced episodes, also aired as a serial. This made for 12 unique broadcasts of varying length. The station estimates that approximately 120 people attended each live recording. The corresponding recorded episodes ranged from 53 minutes to an hour and nine minutes in length.



WDSE-FM partnered with Take It With You, a successful arts organization in Duluth, for its Lake Superior Radio Theater Variety Show and Dramatic Productions project.

The station estimates that **Lake Superior Radio Theater Variety Show and Dramatic Productions** reached approximately 700 on-air listeners with the yearlong project. The on-air shows increased the number of local artists and musicians who had their work showcased through public radio. In reviewing their ratings for that particular timeslot over the past three years, WDSE-FM identified that listenership grew significantly. The project also resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. WDSE-FM achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project

LIVE FROM STUDIO A

Live from Studio A was a series of 20- to 38-minute broadcast interviews and performances from Minnesota musicians and bands of all genres. WDSE-FM broadcast 15 **Live from Studio A** episodes in FY25, which were also archived and shared online. The station also developed an archival program that aired each weekday and featured programs from the past as well as



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curated music originally performed on the show. FY25 artists included Tony Derrick, Grant Glad, The Ameri-Finn All Stars, Ian Alexy, Kaylee Matuszak, The Penny Peaches, Teague Alexy meets Woodblind, Pine and Fire, Sugar on the Roof, Water Cat, Ponyfolk, Mike Munson, Keith Secola, Jada Brown, Leonard Sumner, Jamie Sky, Thor Leseman, and Adam Moe.

WDSE-FM estimates that about 6,000 listeners tuned in to the **Live from Studio A** segments. Listeners expressed positive engagement. David Haaversen said, “I’m loving the new Studio A segments at noon, thank you.” Artist Dan Israel stated, “Thanks to the North 103.3 in Duluth for playing my song You Don’t Love Me Anymore from my 2015 album Dan on their **Live from Studio A** show yesterday.” Ian Alexy shared: “Thanks Christine for being so professional and doing your homework on my music. It is so great Thank you so much!”

To measure project success, WDSE-FM tracked web and social media statistics. In FY25, the project saw multiple Facebook posts with hundreds of interactions each, totaling 22,241 interactions. **Live from Studio A** resulted in more Minnesota artists and musicians having their work showcased through public broadcasting and more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. WDSE-FM achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project.



Live from Studio A generated more than 22,000 interactions on Facebook.

THE LOCAL RADIO SHOW AND MINNESOTA MUSIC ARCHIVE

The Local was a weekly two-hour program showcasing Minnesota music with an emphasis on artists from Duluth and the surrounding area. The show included interviews and live performances, an events calendar, and web and social media content about local music.

In FY25, the project showcased local artists such as Mara Lovejoy and community members such as JAM Duluth Vice President & Associate Director, Grant Carl. WDSE-FM produced 52 120-minute-long episodes each week for a year in FY25, and two special guest segments. Each included a 60-second-long daily calendar of events. The station estimates that about 1,400 listeners heard on-air segments and that the online segments had 4,931 listens.

The Local Radio Show and Minnesota Music Archive was a yearlong project. The on-air and online segments helped to showcase local artists, musicians, historians, writers, and authors, providing them with significantly more exposure than they would have received had the segments not aired. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. The station produced two more on-air radio segments than it promised in its workplan. WDSE-FM achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project.

MINNESOTA READS AND MN READS SUMMER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION BLOCK PARTY CONCERT

For its **MN Reads and MN Reads Summer Solstice Celebration Block Party Concert** program, WDSE-FM partnered with local bookstores and Minnesota authors to bring literary



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arts to the community through a series of weekly interviews. FY25 featured interviews included Ashley Shelby, Taiyon J. Coleman, Jayson Iwen, Teresa Peterson, Tony Dierckins, Jeff Lemke, Princess Titus, and many more. WDSE-FM produced 40 segments, one more than promised in its workplan, each of which was seven to 14 minutes in length.

WDSE-FM estimates that the ***MN Reads and MN Reads Summer Solstice Celebration Block Party Concert*** program, WDSE-FM on-air segments reached an estimated 2,000 listeners. To measure project success, WDSE-FM tracked web and social media statistics. In FY25, the project tallied 200 online streams. The project increased the number of local artists, musicians, historians, writers, authors, and others who had their work showcased through public radio and benefited from the increased exposure. In addition, the project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. WDSE-FM achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project.

NATIVE ELDER HISTORY PROJECT

The ***Native Elder History Project*** was a three-part series of oral history interviews with Native elders broadcast on air and distributed online. The project featured Wendy Savage and Carl Gawboy's reflections on their history and the Ojibwe Art Expo. WDSE-FM produced and aired three episodes, each aired weekly for three weeks. The project ran for five months. On-air segments were between eight and 10 minutes long, while episode versions published online were between 21 and 31 minutes long.

WDSE-FM estimates that approximately 6,400 listeners heard the ***Native Elder History Project*** segments. Listeners expressed positive engagement. One exclaimed, "Excellent that you're documenting these events! They had a big influence on the region." Another said, "Fabulous job on this podcast, Ivy and Jill! I loved it--informative, warm, funny, everything I had hoped for and more! (I especially [liked] the fact that I could go back and listen to it on the North's website, as I was in the shop with dad when it aired this morning.)" Another listener stated, "I just finished listening to this podcast, and I highly recommend it! ...This is a must-listen to for all artists and Native Artists alike." Host Jill Doerfler also expressed accolades, stating, "Miigwech to everyone who has played a role in bringing this amazing project to fruition!"

To measure project success, WDSE-FM solicited listener, author, and artist comments and feedback. Based on the comments received, individuals learned information in the podcast that increased their understanding of the culture and history of Minnesota's Native population. The series was widely listened to both on air and through WDSE-FM's social media channels and website. The station tallied 3,390 impressions on Instagram and Facebook and 169 total engagements. ***Native Elder History Project*** resulted in more indigenous focused content produced by public radio and more indigenous culture being showcased and archived through public radio. WDSE-FM achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



WDSE-FM helped educate listeners about the region's Native American history with its Native Elder History Project.

STATION REPORTS

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

FOND DU LAC ANISHINAABEMOWIN

Fond du Lac Anishinaabemowin was a series of 10 two-minute segments with Fond du Lac elder Rick DeFoe exploring the Ojibwe language. FY25 segments included language protocols around elders, respect, the seven teachings, and morning prayers. WGZS partners with AMPERS for six months to produce the **Fond du Lac Anishinaabemowin** segments which helped to preserve the Ojibwe language as well as the stories and history behind the words.

WGZS has approximately 1,500 followers on Facebook. The station estimates that about 300 listeners heard the segments. WGZS achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project by increasing locally focused content and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and by helping to preserve the Ojibwe language which is an incredibly important part of Minnesota history.

FOND DU LAC ARTS

Fond du Lac Arts was a series of 10 two-minute segments spotlighting artists from the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. **Fond du Lac Arts** explored the stories, creative expression, and craftsmanship of Fond du Lac artists from a range of disciplines. The segments helped to shine a light on a variety of different art forms, ranging from music and visual arts to writing and beading in the Fond du Lac area. FY25 segments featured Maggie Thompson, Joyce LaPorte, Thomas Peacock, Allie Tibbetts, Karen Savage-Blue, Chi Ma'iingan, Moira "Miri" Villiard, Biidaasige Thomas Howes, Janis Fairbanks, and Jeff Savage.

WGZS has approximately 1,500 followers on Facebook. The station estimates that about 300 listeners heard the segments. WGZS achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project by increasing locally focused content and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. In addition, the more Minnesota artists benefited by having their work showcased through public broadcasting, providing them with significantly more exposure than they would have received had WGZS not produced and aired the segments.



WGZS partnered with AMPERS to create a series of radio segments to help preserve the Ojibwe language.

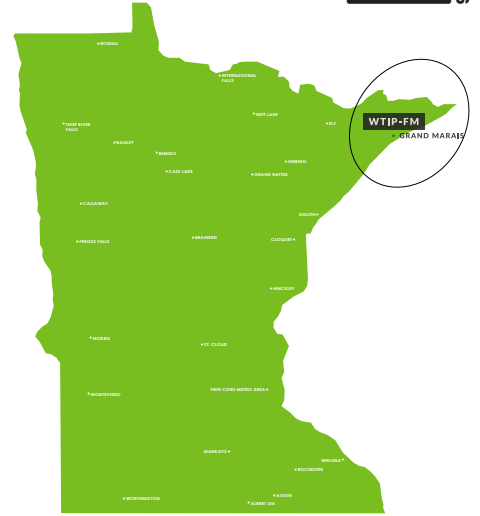
STATION REPORTS

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

HARVEST NORTH

Harvest North was a series that highlighted the many ways people in Northeast Minnesota engage in food systems. The series featured Creaking Tree Farm and Good Nature Farm in FY25, among a range of commercial growers, subsistence farmers, and foragers.

Harvest North covered food from produce to animal products, while showcasing the ways that local growers and harvesters participated in Northeastern Minnesota’s unique food systems in low-impact or regenerative ways. In FY25, WTIP produced seven segments, each 15-42 minutes long. Segments were aired once or twice, monthly, during the four months of the project.

To measure project success, WTIP tracked the number of segments produced and the listening audience size for broadcast segments. The seven **Harvest North** segments reached approximately 14,000 listeners in FY25. The project increased locally-focused and Minnesota-focused content and helped provide Minnesotans of all ages with better access to culture and history programming produced by public media. WTIP achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

COMMUNITY VOICES ON NORTH SHORE MORNING AND NORTH SHORE WEEKEND

Community Voices on North Shore Morning was a two-hour, staff produced daily program with content related to daily life on the North Shore. This project included an additional three-hour recap on Saturday mornings called **North Shore Weekend**.

These programs presented a variety of perspectives, highlighting different aspects of Minnesota North Shore culture, voiced through community members through a mix of short-form, creative, artistic pieces and interviews. Features included North Woods Naturalist, Trail Time, Notes from Reservation River, Pack



Harvest North showcased farmers, foragers, and other food producers from Northeastern Minnesota.

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& Paddle, Mindfulness Monday, Superior Reads, Bird Notes with Molly Hoffman and many others. Community voices showcased in FY25 included those from the Gunflint Trail, Grand Portage, all five Cook County schools, area naturalists, pet service organizations, and more.



Community Voices on North Shore Morning partners in FY25 included Cook County Schools, the YMCA, Tofte Township, Grand Marais Art Colony, North House Folk School, Cook County Higher Education, Drury Lane Books, The Retrievers, Wolf Ridge ELC, Grand Portage Nation, Walleye magazine (Thunder Bay), and Arrowhead Electric Cooperative. WTIP produced and aired 312 segments in FY25. The station estimates the segments reached approximately 14,000-18,000 listeners.

To measure success, WTIP tracked the number of artists, historians, and writers the project showcased and estimated the audience size for on-air segments. In FY25, North Shore Morning and **North Shore Weekend** showcased 84 different artists, historians, writers, and others each week. This was an exponential increase in the number of Minnesota musicians, artists, historians, and community members featured on public media.

Community Voices on North Shore Morning and **North Shore Weekend** created an additional 52 hours per week of locally-focused and Minnesota-focused content created by public media. WTIP achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project.



WTIP used Legacy funds to produce 312 segments of **Community Voices on North Shore Morning**.

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 an ongoing series created by WTIP, in partnership with community members. The goal of the series was to root listeners in the history of racism, including stories from Black, Indigenous, and people of color, on the North Shore. The series explored how institutional racism manifested over the years – from the arrival of settlers to the present day. The project 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 the region. WTIP produced three 9-12-minute segments in a four-month time span, covering topics such as the complicated nature of symbols and the role of allies in undoing racism.



To measure project success, WTIP tracked the number of segments produced and the listening audience size for broadcast segments. WTIP estimates that its three **It Happens Here** segments reached about 14,000 listeners. The project increased BIPOC-relevant content, providing Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, abilities, and incomes with better access to locally-produced culture and history programming about Northern Minnesota and the Arrowhead region. WTIP achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

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LAKE SUPERIOR PROJECT

Lake Superior Project was a short feature that explored the arts, culture, environment, and history of Lake Superior. The series showed how Lake Superior affected people's lives and culture along the North Shore through environmental reporting and interviews with organizations, individuals, tribal government members, and Grand Portage community members. The series utilized new and existing partnerships, including with Cook County Soil and Water, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and the North Country Trail Association.



In FY25, WTIP produced and aired four eight-to-10-minute segments about Lake Superior. **Lake Superior Project** covered a number of important topics, including water clarity of inland lakes, the importance of Riparian Zones, the Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald from the perspective of a former Great Lakes mariner, and rare botanicals found along the North Shore.

To measure project success, WTIP tracked the number of segments produced and the listening audience size for broadcast segments. The **Lake Superior Project** segments reached an estimated 14,000 via North Shore Morning, and again on **North Shore Weekend**. The WTIP staff worked on the **Lake Superior Project** for four months.

Exploration of relevant topics related to water quality and other environmental topics created an increased awareness about the cultural and environmental issues that impact the Lake Superior watershed and increased the amount of locally and Minnesota-focused content created by public media. WTIP achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

LIVE AT WTIP VIDEO SERIES

Live at WTIP used live performance videos to tell the story of Minnesota musicians' process of creating and sharing their work. The creation of this content allowed WTIP to showcase Minnesota's rich musical talent through on-air programs that directed listeners to online videos, making it accessible to the public through WTIP's website and video platforms. In FY25, WTIP featured Twin sisters Lauren and Bethany Dahl, who perform as Fetus Friends through one live recording. The station re-purposed the content as two videos released on YouTube, each five to eight minutes long, and two audio recordings of the same length broadcast on air.

To measure project success, WTIP tracked the number of segments produced and the number of artists, historians, and writers showcased. **Live at WTIP** showcased two Minnesota musicians and reached an estimated 14,000 listeners. The project increased the number of Minnesota musicians who benefited from increased audience exposure, which utilized multi-media distribution, including video and audio content. WTIP achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this one-month project.

MUSIC IN THE WEEDS

Music in the Weeds was a series that took the public on an auditory and visual journey to meet music makers on their turf. Whether in their backyards, in their communities, or at locations special or significant to them and their craft, interviews and performances



The Lake Superior Project looked at how Minnesota's largest lake impacts the citizens and environment of our state.

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documented local musicians' stories about creating and performing. Through this multimedia content, WTIP shared information about the North Shore's rich musical talent and culture.



WTIP produced three six to nine-minute segments of **Music in the Weeds** in FY25, with longer, six to 38-minute interview segments. On-air programs directed listeners to online videos, expanding WTIP's reach outside of traditional broadcast. Artists featured in WTIP's recording sessions over a three-month period were: Basalta, Watershed Group, and Barbara Jean Meyers & Mike Lewis.

To measure project success, WTIP tracked the number of segments produced, on-air listeners, and web streaming. The station estimates that **Music in the Weeds** content reached an estimated 14,000 listeners via broadcast on **Scenic Route**, as well as 1,594 views on YouTube in FY25. The project increased the number of Minnesota musicians whose work was showcased by public radio and also resulted in an increase in locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. WTIP achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



RADIO WAVES MUSIC FESTIVAL

The **Radio Waves Music Festival** was a three-day event held September 6-8, 2024, featuring local and regional musicians in a family-friendly setting. It was a celebration of local and regional music held at the Grand Marais Recreation Park, just a short walk from Lake Superior. Musical acts represented a number of genres, from polka and Americana to alternative rock and Classic Country. The festival showcased the work of 24 local and regional musicians. **Radio Waves Music Festival** performances were recorded live, then shared with WTIP's broadcast audience during the winter of 2025.

Radio Waves Music Festival performers included Annie Humphrey, Keith Secola, Between Howls, and the Carpenter Ants with John Ellison. WTIP broadcast the 18 segments of recorded content from the festival as Radio Waves Music Blocks in April 2025. Each segment was 58 minutes long and reached roughly 14,000 listeners. WTIP only broadcast the content, but did not upload to PRX, due to music licensing rules.

To measure the success of this 52-week-long project, WTIP tracked the number of participating musicians, festival attendance, and conducted a post-event survey. The event showcased 90 regional and local musicians and attracted about 900 attendees. Survey results showed that attendees felt that the event engaged more Minnesotans in locally and regionally created arts and culture. The results also indicated that the attendees felt more Minnesota musicians and artists had their work showcased through public broadcasting. The **Radio Waves Music Festival** gave 90 local and regional artists significantly more exposure through public broadcasting and also allowed them to earn additional income for performing at the festival. WTIP achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project.

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SCENIC ROUTE

Scenic Route was a one-hour program that aired weekly, featuring the music and writing of local and regional musicians along with in-depth interviews and announcements of upcoming musical events. **Scenic Route** aired on Fridays, helping to increase exposure to music, arts and culture for locals and visitors to the North Shore area. Artists featured in FY25 included Annie Humphrey, Keith Secola, Beausolei, Cactus Blossoms, Paul Metsa, Clare Doyle, Between Howls, Dan Murphy, and Tuvergen Band. WTIP also partnered with North Shore Music Association for the project. WTIP produced and broadcast 48 shows, each of which was 58 minutes long, for this yearlong project. The station also uploaded 57 separate **Scenic Route** interviews to Public Radio Exchange (PRX).

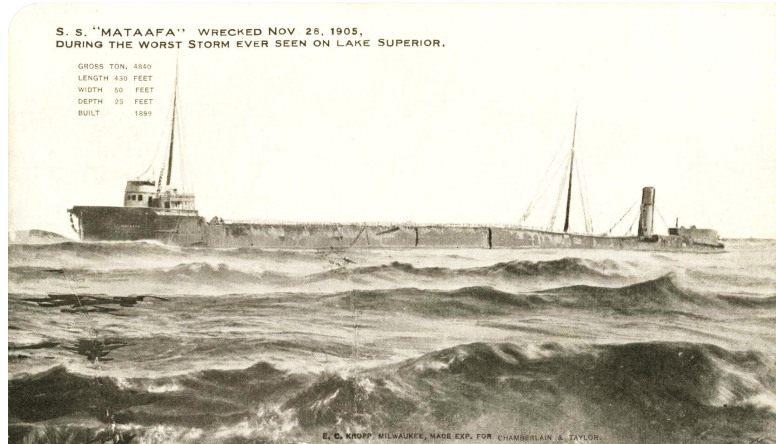
To measure project success, WTIP tracked the number of artists, historians, and writers showcased and the size of the listening audience. **Scenic Route** showcased 48 different musical artists. The station estimates that about 14,000 listeners heard the on-air segments. The project increased the number of Minnesota musicians, artists, historians, and storytellers who had their work showcased on locally-produced, public media. WTIP achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

TRAVELING THE OLD NORTH SHORE

Traveling the Old North Shore was a short feature that focused on the history of the North Shore of Lake Superior, including Cook and Lake counties. Each feature utilized historic, archival materials collected by the Cook County Historical Society and other historical organizations. Content centered on the people, places, and businesses within the North Shore region, including Grand Marais, Grand Portage, Hovland, Gunflint Trail, Lutsen, Tofte, Finland, Silver Bay, Beaver Bay, and other current and former communities along the Shore.

WTIP produced four segments during three months, each eight to ten minutes in length. Featured topics included the history of North Shore shipwrecks, the Pat Bayle State Forest, and the Wilson family history of Maple Hill. WTIP broadcast the segments on both North Shore Morning and **North Shore Weekend** and distributed them on their website and PRX account.

To measure project success, WTIP tracked the number of topics covered, the size of the on-air listening audience, and web streaming engagement numbers. The station



S. S. "MATAAFA" WRECKED NOV. 26, 1905, DURING THE WORST STORM EVER SEEN ON LAKE SUPERIOR.
GROSS TON, 4840
LENGTH 430 FEET
WIDTH 55 FEET
DEPTH 35 FEET
BUILT 1899

Traveling the Old North Shore taught listeners about everything from shipwrecks to what the culture was like in Cook County during the 1950s and '60s.

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estimates that approximately 14,000 people heard the ***Traveling the Old North Shore*** segments on-air and there were an additional 300 on-demand listens through WTIP's website. Project segments provided Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, abilities, and incomes with better access to Minnesota's history and culture. The project also resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. WTIP achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



WTIP BOUNDARY WATERS PODCAST

The ***WTIP Boundary Waters Podcast*** featured stories of travel and adventure from visitors - both past and present - to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCA). This long-format podcast was created to share in-depth interviews with people who work and play in the BWCA. Episodes were produced throughout the year and included the additional feature, Keep it Wild, in partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service/Superior National Forest.

WTIP produced 22 segments of the ***WTIP Boundary Waters Podcast*** during this year-long project. Each episode ranged from 28-58 minutes. The short feature, Keep it Wild, ranged in length from 8-28 minutes. WTIP distributed the content on Public Radio Exchange (PRX), SoundCloud, the station's website, through its podcast RSS stream, and once or twice monthly on air. The project earned a first-place award in the Podcast Division of the Midwest Broadcast Journalists Association's Eric Sevareid awards.

To measure project success, WTIP tracked the number of topics covered, the size of the on-air listening audience, and web streaming engagement numbers. ***WTIP Boundary Waters Podcast*** episodes in FY25 covered more than 22 topics, including traveling with toddlers in the Boundary Waters, extreme rain events in the wilderness, canoeing during the shoulder season, the Boundary Waters Dark Sky designation, ecology, gear, wilderness ethics, access to public lands, and much more. Each podcast episode tallied 14,000-18,000 on-air listens and 22,916 on-demand listens. Keep it Wild segments also aired separately as short features on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend. The ***WTIP Boundary Waters Podcast*** increased awareness about the cultural and environmental issues related to the Boundary Waters through in-depth interviews on a wide variety of relevant topics, as well as pertinent information from the Superior National Forest. WTIP achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



The award-winning WTIP Boundary Waters Podcast generated nearly 23,000 on-demand listens.

STATION REPORTS

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



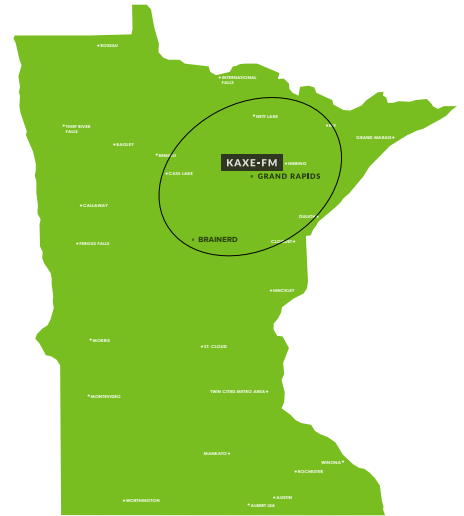
Station Description

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

Program Descriptions

BRIGHT SPOT

Bright Spot was a radio segment that produced uplifting and positive stories that shed light on good things going on in the region. It featured profiles included local heroes, volunteers, and interesting historical figures. KAXE produced 21 episodes of this segment, which varied in length, from six to 34 minutes, and aired during the **Morning Show**.



KAXE-FM (Grand Rapids / Brainerd) coverage area

Listeners heard their neighbors' stories and learned what they care about. Weekly segments included coverage of a cardboard sledding event in Deer River, nonprofit Happy Dancing Turtle's winter scavenger hunt celebration, and KAXE volunteer DJ Ironsides' cycle along the Mississippi River.

The station estimates that about 5,000 people heard each episode of **Bright Spot**. In the FY25 KAXE listener survey, of those who indicated that they listen to **Bright Spot**, 98% said they felt more informed about the people and events in Northern Minnesota. **Bright Spot** was a ten-month project. Segments of the program also aired on AMPERS station KBXE. KAXE over-achieved their proposed outputs for **Bright Spot** by producing one additional show than originally proposed. The 21 segments helped showcase people and events in Northern Minnesota and resulted in more Minnesota-focused content on KAXE. That, combined with the station's survey, shows KAXE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

CENTERSTAGE MINNESOTA

Centerstage Minnesota (Minnesota Mixtape) showcased the lives and talents of Minnesota musicians in hour-long shows. It supported the local music scene by strengthening listeners' sense of place and community through 48-produced one-hour segments. A sampling of musicians featured on the show included Kiss the Tiger, Chastity Brown, Adrienne Lenker, Big Thief, and Bad Bad Hats.

KAXE's annual survey showed that **Centerstage Minnesota (Minnesota Mixtape)** achieved the goal of showcasing and informing listeners about Minnesota-made music. In KAXE's FY25 listener survey, 75% of respondents said they remember hearing the program. Of those, 98% agreed that they felt more informed about local music because of the program. One listener surveyed wrote, "I have learned of so many artists through Centerstage. Artists that aren't normally highlighted and deserve to be." **Centerstage Minnesota (Minnesota Mixtape)** segments also aired on AMPERS stations WGZS and KBXE. KAXE achieved the proposed



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outcomes for **Centerstage Minnesota (Minnesota Mixtape)**. The 48 segments resulted in more Minnesota musicians having their work showcased in public radio and exposing those musicians to a larger audience. The station estimates that about 5,000 people heard each of the segments. KAXE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project.



EVENTS UP NORTH

Events Up North segments were committed to creating a place to showcase local events and activities. The series was crucial in preserving and celebrating the unique culture of Northern Minnesota.

KAXE produced 40 **Events Up North** segments and aired them weekly during the Monday Morning Show. Each segment was between two and 7 minutes long. Listeners learned about events that were happening in their area. Some of the events listed on **Events Up North** in FY25 were: Indigenous Peoples' Day in Grand Rapids and Brainerd, Opera in Bemidji, the Itasca County Fair, and classic movies in Hibbing.



Of those surveyed, 98% said Events Up North increase their knowledge, information, and access to Minnesota arts, culture, and music.

The station's annual survey showed that KAXE achieved the proposed outcomes for the project. Of the respondents who said they had heard **Events Up North**, 98% said the project helped to increase their knowledge, information, and access to Minnesota arts, culture, and music. **Events Up North** was a ten-month project that also aired on KBXE. The 40 segments helped the station to achieve its proposed measurable outcome of creating more Minnesota-focused content for public radio. The station achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

STAY HUMAN

Stay Human was a weekly hour-long program showcasing local writers, poets, and essayists, read by the writers, created and hosted by independent producer Michael Goldberg. In FY25, the **Stay Human** series explored words and music inspiring spirit and courage through topics such as poetry, hunting, citizenship, job interviews, and other thought-provoking themes. KAXE estimates that about 5,200 people heard **Stay Human**. A total of about 130 people attended the two live **Stay Human** storytelling events.

KAXE's **Stay Human** segments increased the audience's appreciation for spoken word and storytelling. This was demonstrated by positive comments from listeners. One surveyed listener remarked, "It's a unique and wonderful program which always manages to make me laugh or touch my heart."

Stay Human met its projected outputs of 40 shows, featuring 274 stories that featured 82 different contributing writers, as well as two live events. 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. The creation of 40 shows supports the fact that the project resulted in more artists and writers having their work showcased by public

STATION REPORTS

radio. This was a yearlong project that was also aired on stations KICl (Iowa City), and KBXE. KAXE achieved its proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

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 48 weekly two-minute segments called The Setlist. ***MN Music Placemaking*** also included a free live concert, Kick it with KAXE, featuring Molly Maher and Woodblind with Teague Alexy. Around 175 people attended the event. A one-hour-long live interview with Molly Maher was also held at the KAXE studio and aired on the station.

KAXE's FY25 listener survey found that of those who listened to ***MN Music Placemaking*** on-air segments or attended the live event, 97% agreed that the project helped listeners feel more informed and gave them more exposure to Minnesota musicians and their music. The station estimates that the on-air broadcasts, which KBXE also carried, reached about 5,000 people. The 48 segments resulted in more Minnesota content created by public radio and helped to showcase Minnesota musicians and artists. These assessment methods show that KAXE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project.



MN Music Placemaking included 48 weekly segments and a free live concert.

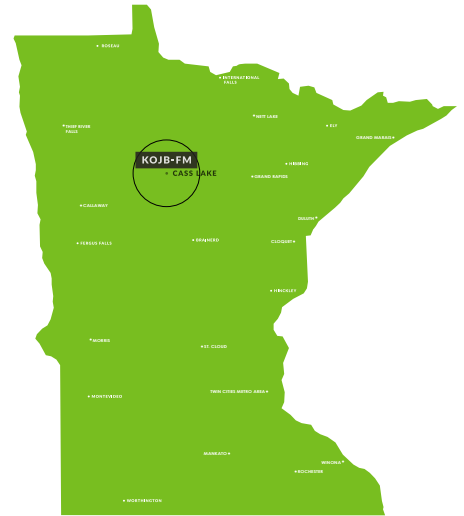
STATION REPORTS

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 LANGUAGE PRESERVATION PROJECT/OUR ELDERS SPEAK

Anishinaabe Language Preservation Project/

Our Elders Speak was a series of 15-minute segments featuring local elder Ojibwe first speakers Melvin Hunt and George Goggleyee Sr. The station estimates that the three-month-long project, which recorded and archived the traditional Ojibwe language for future generations to study and enjoy, reached approximately 5,000 listeners.

KOJB researched, recorded, and produced a total of four 15- to 30-minute segments of ***Anishinaabe Language Preservation Project/Our Elders Speak***, delivering two more than promised in its workplan. This project helped to address the fact that the Anishinaabe language is disappearing. The project resulted in more Minnesota-focused and locally-focused content produced by public radio and exposed more Minnesotans to the state's Native American culture and history. While KOJB's workplan called for six segments that would be 10 to 15 minutes long, the station produced four longer segments that were 15 to 30 minutes long, instead. KOJB achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

ANISHINAABE MUSIC FESTIVAL

The KOJB ***Anishinaabe Music Festival*** showcased Native American artists in all genres of music from Minnesota and across the United States. The event also incorporated traditional and contemporary artists from portrait, digital, crafts, and other forms of artistic expression. Lastly, the event uplifted various organizations to bring awareness to social issues affecting the Native community. The 2025 ***Anishinaabe Music Festival*** lineup included Annie Humphrey, Tall Paul, Richard Schulman, Stella Standingbear, Opie Day Bedeau, and Jason X. Social issues centered at the event included the epidemic of Murdered and Missing Indigenous Relatives. KOJB partnered with the Minnesota Tourism Board and the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe as a part of the event. This four-month-long project



KOJB created four 15- to 30-minute radio segments to help preserve the Ojibwe language.

STATION REPORTS

culminated in an eight-hour show with 523 attendees. The event was comprised of nine live performances each lasting 30-45 minutes, plus additional presentations.



KOJB measured the success **Anishinaabe Music Festival** of the by tracking the number of attendees and listener comments. KOJB tracked attendance through Everbrite RSVPs and used an outside firm to assist with data collection. Attendance increased significantly in comparison to the year prior. David Neeham of Bemidji commented, “Great venue for Native Artists and well-deserved platform for Indian Country.” Tall Paul, one of the performers on the lineup, stated, “It is good to see all the native and local artists at one event. It shows that we have a vibrant music community.” KOJB achieved most of the proposed measurable outcomes for this project. The radio element of this project continued into FY25. The station needed more time to edit, produce and air the radio elements. The assessments for the radio elements will be reported on in the FY26 Legislative Report.



More than 500 people attended KOJB's Anishinaabe Music Festival which featured nine Native performers including Annie Humphrey.

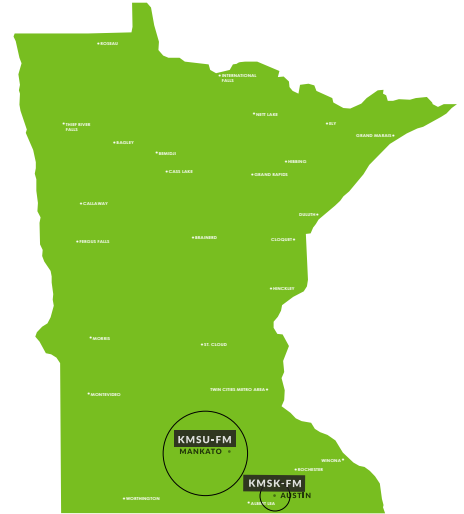
STATION REPORTS

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

MINNESOTA MUSIC CHANNEL

KMSU helped hundreds of Minnesota musicians gain greater exposure across the state through its **Minnesota Music Channel**, an online streaming and Hybrid Digital (HD) radio platform thoughtfully curated to celebrate the rich diversity of Minnesota's musical landscape. This dedicated channel serves as a comprehensive showcase—amplifying the sounds of Minnesota musicians while featuring interviews and programs that explore their creative processes and stories. At the heart of the **Minnesota Music Channel** is a strong commitment to Southern Minnesota's thriving music community. A signature segment, 15 on the 15, spotlights artists and bands located within a 15-mile radius of the KMSU studios, ensuring that local talent receives meaningful recognition.

The channel strikes a harmonious balance between legendary Minnesota artists—such as Prince, Bob Dylan, The New Standards, Charlie Parr, The Replacements, The Cactus Blossoms, Green/Blue, The Ericksons, and The Big Wu—and emerging musicians eager to make their mark on the broader music scene. Spanning an eclectic mix of genres, from folk, rock, and jazz to hip-hop, experimental music, extreme metal, and even polka, the **Minnesota Music Channel** reflects the full breadth and creative spirit of Minnesota's musical heritage.



KMSU's Minnesota Music Channel created more than 8,700 hours of programming showcasing musicians from our state.

In FY25, the **Minnesota Music Channel** broadcast more than 8,700 hours of programming. KMSU-HD2 had an estimated 965 listeners, while there were 1,050 unique listeners, and 9,800 listening hours via the station website and the KMSU App. Listener and artist feedback were positive in FY25. KMSU achieved the proposed measurable outcomes, increasing the amount of locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and giving more Minnesota artists, musicians, and specifically those with ties to the Mankato area, the opportunity to have their work showcased through public broadcasting with this yearlong project.

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MANKATO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA RECORDINGS

KMSU proudly produced the **Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings** project, a comprehensive initiative encompassing the production, recording, editing, and broadcast of four professionally crafted stereo recordings of Mankato Symphony Orchestra (MSO) concerts. Designed to enhance public access to local classical music, the project brought the richness and artistry of live orchestral performances to listeners across Southern Minnesota.



Each concert was recorded with professional precision using multiple microphones and state-of-the-art digital equipment to capture the full depth and nuance of the performances. The recordings were then meticulously edited into four distinct 60- to 90-minute programs, featuring works by renowned composers such as Anton Dvorák, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Sergei Prokofiev, Pyotr Tchaikovsky, as well as a new composition by Mankato's own Benji Inniger, titled "Bold North." Each program was broadcast on KMSU, typically on the Sunday following the live concert, allowing audiences to relive the experience of these exceptional performances.

In FY25, the **Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings** project featured MSO's 2024 Young Artist Concerto Competition winner, Vladimir Tsiper, internationally renowned cellist Amit Peled, and Latin American international star, Clarice Assad. The 9-month-long project garnered approximately 5,350 on-air listeners, and some of the recordings were aired on MPR's classical channel. Mankato Symphony executive staff and listeners expressed positive feedback. The project resulted in Minnesotans being exposed to more professional performing arts and the work of professional artists. **Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings** also resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. KMSU achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



KMSU's Mankato Symphony Orchestra project allowed those unable to attend the chance to enjoy the concerts at home.



KMSU's Collaboration with MSU Department of Music gave local musicians the chance to share their work with new audiences.

COLLABORATION WITH MSU DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

KMSU partnered closely with the Minnesota State University, Mankato (MSU) Department of Music to create a unique concert series titled **Collaboration with MSU Department of Music** Performance Series. This ambitious initiative showcased an impressive range of Minnesota-based artists, including Paul Mayasich, Erik Koskinen, Garret Steinburg, Kit Kildahl, and City Mouse. A key component of the project was the invaluable hands-on experience it offered to MSU Music Department students, who gained practical knowledge in concert production and audio technology. The performances

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were mixed by local audio engineers John Foderick of Johnny F! Productions, John Wingert of Good Thunder Productions, and Cayle Wendorf of Icabod Productions.



To extend the reach and impact of **Collaboration with MSU Department of Music Performance Series**, KMSU produced a 59-minute broadcast segment capturing the sound and energy of these live performances. The program, which reached approximately 5,000 on-air listeners, was also distributed nationally through the Public Radio Exchange (PRX). Additionally, the full concerts aired in their entirety on KMSU-HD2, The **Minnesota Music Channel**.

This initiative not only celebrated Minnesota's rich and diverse music scene but also provided an important platform for local musicians to share their work with new audiences. Participating artists expressed appreciation for the exposure and recognition they received through public radio. Moreover, the project broadened access to Minnesota arts and music for residents of all ages, ethnicities, and income levels—reaching far more people than would have been possible without KMSU's leadership.

KMSU successfully achieved all proposed measurable outcomes of increasing exposure to professional performing arts and giving more Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, and incomes increased access to Minnesota art and music with the **Collaboration with MSU Department of Music Performance Series**.

LARGE OUTDOOR MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES

KMSU's **Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances** played a vital role in amplifying Southern Minnesota's dynamic music and arts scene by actively supporting eight large outdoor music and arts festivals throughout the year. Among these efforts, a highlight was KMSU's collaboration with the Rock Bend Folk Festival, an annual post-Labor Day celebration that attracts roughly 10,000 attendees. The station's **Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances** project also helped promote and expand the reach of community gatherings such as Songs on the Lawn—a series of free summer concerts held at the Civic Center Plaza in downtown Mankato. Presented in partnership with Greater Mankato Growth and the City Center Partnership, these events showcased an impressive mix of local and regional talent.



KMSU collaborated with a number of arts organizations for its Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances helping to attract nearly 40,000 people to artistic events in South Central Minnesota.

Further extending its cultural impact, KMSU partnered with the Austin ArtWorks Festival, a two-day celebration of local artists in Austin, and supported performances at the Minnesota Original Music Festival in St. Peter's Minnesota Square Park each July, as well as Music in the Park concerts in August at Wheeler Park in North Mankato. The Mankato Diversity Council's Juneteenth Celebration, held on the campus of Minnesota State University, Mankato, brought together audiences to celebrate diverse musical traditions and cultural heritage through performances from artists across the state.

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Rounding out this vibrant lineup, Blues on Belgrade—a full-day celebration of blues music on Belgrade Avenue in lower North Mankato—brought together audiences from across the region. A key highlight of the season, the Ambassador’s Bluesfest, served as the kickoff event for Southern Minnesota’s lively summer of music and arts festivities.

In total, the FY25 **Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances** project successfully implemented eight events and six broadcast shows, reaching an estimated 5,350 on-air listeners and attracting about 38,400 attendees at the in-person events. The broadcast shows from recorded content included: a 59-minute **Blues On Belgrade Highlight Show**, a 59-minute **MN Original Music Festival Highlight Show**, a 180-minute **Ambassador’s Bluesfest Performances Show**, a 120-minute **Rock Bend Folk Festival Highlight Show**, and two 60-minute live broadcasts of **Songs On The Lawn**. The project resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio, gave Minnesotans more exposure to the work of professional artists, and gave more Minnesotans access to the state’s art and music. KMSU achieved its proposed measurable outcomes with this yearlong project.

MANKATO WACIPI (POW WOW)

KMSU helped amplify the 52nd Annual **Mahkato Traditional Wacipi (Pow Wow)**, an esteemed Dakota Pow Pow held at Dakota Wokiksuye Makoce (Land of Memories Park) in Mankato. In alignment with the event’s vision—emphasizing reconciliation, healing, and cultural preservation—KMSU produced a compelling 20-minute broadcast segment featuring the event’s emcee, drummers, and dancers performing during the Grand Entry. The program not only promoted the Mahkato Wacipi but also deepened public understanding of its historical and cultural significance.

KMSU partnered with Mahkato Mdewakanton Association for this three-month-long project. The Mahkato Mdewakanton Association’s vision states that the organization 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 Mahkato Wacipi honors the 38 Dakota men executed in Mankato—the largest mass execution in United States history. This gathering of nations celebrates and honors Dakota traditions and ancestors, fostering reconciliation and understanding through education, storytelling, and the sharing of Dakota culture.

In FY25, performers included the Mazakute Drummers, the Yankton Sioux Drummers, and Emcees Bill Taylor, Galen Drapeau Jr., and Jerry Dearly. Approximately 7,500 people attended the Pow Wow, and an estimated 5,300 listeners heard the broadcast segment on KMSU. KMSU achieved the proposed measurable outcome of increasing exposure of Minnesotans to Native American history and culture and helping arts, culture, and history to thrive in our state.

RADIO DRAMA

For its **Radio Drama** project, KMSU embarked on a creative journey, producing multiple original and classic radio plays, enlisting community members to lend their voices and creative talents to these imaginative broadcasts. The **Radio Drama** series featured



KMSU listeners unable to attend the Mahkato Traditional Wacipi (Pow Wow) still learned about it on-air.



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two original works by local writers James Mackey and Destyni Gessner. Mackey's *The Dark Flamingo* was a six-part radio drama series. The group also produced a tribute to Judson Fountain—the amateur radio actor and director often called the Ed Wood Jr. of radio drama, and the inspiration for the group's name, The Fountaineers. In addition, The Fountaineers produced their own radio adaptation of the cult classic *Santa Claus Conquers the Martians*. The project not only showcased the talents of local actors but also embodied the collaborative spirit of the community, with participants contributing voice performances, sound effects, and production support to bring each story vividly to life.

Serving as a platform for creative expression and community engagement, the series fostered a strong sense of pride and connection among participants. The inclusion of whimsical, old-fashioned fictional sponsorship messages—written and performed by contributors—added a nostalgic and entertaining touch to each broadcast.

KMSU produced 10 radio dramas ranging in length from 20 to 60 minutes during the year-long project in FY25. Thirty-five people participated in the radio dramas, and the segments reached approximately 5,305 listeners.

KMSU achieved the proposed measurable outcomes of helping art and culture to thrive in Minnesota and creating more locally and Minnesota-focused content with its yearlong **Radio Drama** project.



KMSU recruited 35 community members to participate in its Radio Drama project.

SMALL VENUE MUSIC & ARTS PERFORMANCES

KMSU played an important role in promoting and enriching Southern Minnesota's vibrant music and arts scene by actively supporting and publicizing a diverse range of **Small Venue Music and Arts Performances** throughout the Mankato and St. Peter area. In collaboration with local venues, businesses, and nonprofit organizations, the station helped cultivate spaces for artistic expression and community connection.

Among the standout programs was the Music Events at Mankato Makerspace series, hosted at the nonprofit creative studio Mankato Makerspace. These performances provided a platform for local musicians to engage audiences while introducing new visitors to this thriving artistic community. KMSU also produced four Free Form Freakout concerts, showcasing fringe and experimental music that reflected the region's diverse creative energy.

For **Small Venue Music and Arts Performances**, the station partnered with the Arts Center of St. Peter to present Hot Jazz for Decent People, a four-concert series held in July and August at the Pavilion in Minnesota Square Park, as well as an Extreme Metal Show hosted at the Arts Center. Additional collaborations included a partnership with Key City Bike for its WheelWorks event, which promotes biking culture and community engagement in the Mankato area, and with the Living Earth Center, where KMSU helped bring audiences together for an evening of live music in a beautiful garden setting. KMSU also partnered with Patrick's On Third in St. Peter to offer singer/songwriters the opportunity to perform on their patio during the month of May as the weather was warming up and people were beginning to venture outside for to enjoy outdoor music in the spring.



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KMSU produced 14 live events in FY25, featuring artists such as Eric Zimmerman, Ryan Rader, David Kaiser, Peter Jacobson, Evan Biere, Kaleb Braun-Schultz, Cooper Fuller, Beulah Rue, and Academy Order. The station edited the recorded content into three broadcast segments: one 59-minute Hot Jazz Sampler show and one 60-minute, and one 90-minute Free Form Freakout Performances.



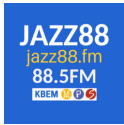
Attendance across all live events totaled 1,845, while KMSU estimates 5,350 people listened to the broadcast version of the project. KMSU achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project. KMSU's **Small Venue Music and Arts Performances** provided Minnesotans with significantly more exposure to professional performing arts and the work of professional artists, and provided more Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, and incomes with more access to Minnesota art and music. KMSU achieved all proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project.



KMSU's Small Venue Music and Arts Performances project helped cultivate spaces for artistic expression and community connection.

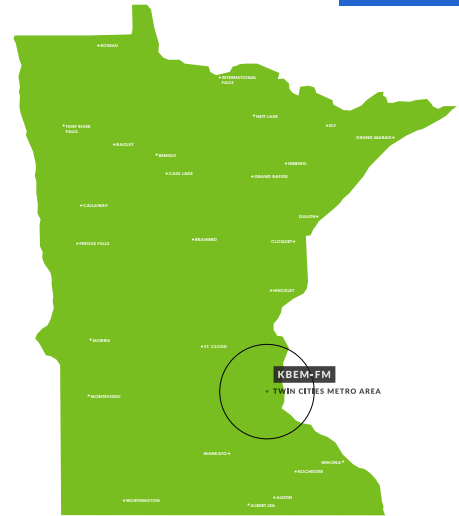
STATION REPORTS

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

JAZZCLECTIC CONCERT SERIES

The **JazzClectic Concert Series** was an outreach project of KBEM/Jazz88, presenting the very best available Minnesota jazz and jazz-adjacent musicians in high-traffic locations and times. The project aimed to present jazz to an audience that may not be aware of the vibrancy of Minnesota’s current crop of live performers. The intent was to introduce people to the jazz scene and to Jazz88 where they already are, versus drawing an existing jazz audience into a cloistered, ticketed event. In FY25, two Legacy-funded **JazzClectic Concert Series** concerts were held during the Taste of Minnesota event. Some of the featured artists included Connie Evingson with Patty & the Buttons; Omar Abdul-Karim with Kavyesh Kaviraj; Lucia Sarmiento Quintet; Roof Access; Room3; Take that Back, and Obi Original and the Black Atlantics. In all, five bands consisting of 26 musicians performed at the first concert, and 27 musicians within five bands at the second were compensated fairly for their work.

JazzClectic Concert Series consisted of two full days of concerts, with an estimated attendance for both days of 34,250. Attendees and listeners expressed positive experiences, with one stating, “This was so fun.” KBEM produced and broadcast a one-hour segment of clips from the concert. The station estimates that approximately 1,900 listeners heard the on-air element of **JazzClectic Concert Series**. KBEM achieved the proposed measurable outcomes of exposing thousands of Minnesotans to Minnesota jazz musicians for this yearlong project.



Rather than bringing people to jazz concerts, Jazz88 brought jazz concerts to where people were already gathered with its JazzClectic Concert Series.

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JAZZ@MPS

Jazz@MPS was a series of programs sourced from jazz concerts, in-studio performances, and interviews with student jazz musicians at the high-school and college level. In FY25, the program featured the South High School jazz band, the Southwest High School band, and bands from five other Minneapolis Public Schools music programs. In all, 75 students from five different Minneapolis Public Schools participated in this yearlong project.

In FY25, **Jazz@MPS** aired 50 shows, each of which was approximately one hour long. KBEM was only able to produce three new original programs due to losing a producer in FY25. The station estimates that approximately 1,600 people heard the program each week. In addition, there were 2,719 unique accesses of the program's online archive in FY25. Listeners expressed a range of positive feedback about the project. One stated, "I just listened to the show that featured the Edison High jazz band in Disneyland. Awesome! My 3 kids were all in band in St. Paul, so I might be biased, but they (Edison) sounded great! Fantastic program ya got there. I'm proud to be a sustaining member of KBEM." Another said, "I really love when students are on air." KBEM achieved some of the proposed measurable outcomes of giving youth musicians and instructors an outlet for their work.

THE JAZZ IMAGE - MINNESOTA EDITION

The Jazz Image - Minnesota Edition was a series of retrospective segments featuring music and interviews with prominent Minnesota jazz musicians, produced using archival material from broadcaster Leigh Kamman's collection. During FY25, **The Jazz Image** spotlighted Prudence Johnson, Papa John Kolstad, Maude Hixson, Maria Schneider, Lila Ammons, Joel Shapira, Jeff Bailey, Jim Anton, Dean Granros, and Brad Bellows. The program broadcast twice each weekday in May and June for a total of 10 segments, which varied in length from about five to six and a half minutes.

The station estimates that approximately 22,000 listeners heard the episodes. One listener expressed, "Absolutely astonishing archive of Leigh Kamman's recordings... Truly one of the most valuable programs supported by the Fund." Another stated, "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 comments support that KBEM achieved its proposed measurable outcomes of giving listeners a sense of the historical depth of jazz talent in the Twin Cities. **The Jazz Image - Minnesota Edition** was a yearlong project culminating with the broadcast of the 10 segments at the end of the fiscal year.

MINNESOTA JAZZ TRACKS

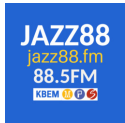
Minnesota Jazz Tracks was an online streaming project featuring jazz music performances by Minnesota artists. In FY25, this content included recordings of live performances at clubs, festivals, and the Jazz88 studios, as well as tracks from studio albums by Minnesota artists. The station also broadcast other Jazz88-produced Legacy-funded content on the stream as part of the project as well. In FY25 **Minnesota Jazz Tracks** showcased musicians such as Andrea Swensson, Solomon Parham, Omar Abdulkarim, Brandon Commodore, L.A. Buckner, and Bryan Nichols.



Jazz88 produced 50 one hour episodes of Jazz@MPS.

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Minnesota Jazz Tracks was a continuous 24/7 stream as well as a weekly two-hour radio show. In FY25, the live stream was accessed approximately 10,000 times, and the archive generated about 6,700 unique streams. The station estimates that approximately 15,000 listeners heard the on-air broadcasts. 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 yearlong project



MPS VOICES

MPS Voices was an audio stream featuring Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) jazz concerts and performances by MPS students. Content, which streamed at MPSVoices.com, went beyond jazz to allow for all MPS students to create content delivered via this platform. Content included student-generated podcasts, music performances, spoken word performances, public service announcements, school news from any schools, and more. The platform was designed to give MPS students, teachers, and faculty a platform to inform, entertain, and share their talents and artistry.

In FY25, **MPS Voices** gave 15 students the opportunity to get hands-on broadcast experience. They produced podcasts, public service announcements, and even learned to edit audio. The station estimates that **MPS voices** reached about 4,100 people. KBEM achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project by giving youth across Minneapolis Public Schools the chance to practice, broadcast, and enhance their craft through the creation of webcast content.



MPS Voices gave 15 students the opportunity to get hands-on broadcast experience.

TWIN CITIES WEEKEND AND TWIN CITIES THIS WEEK

Twin Cities Weekend and Twin Cities

This Week featured two weekly segments combining artist interviews with representative music from the featured performer, timed to coincide with upcoming shows or album releases. Each eight-minute-long segment aired three times. The project also created non-date-specific versions, titled Minnesota Music Profiles, designed to highlight artists and serve as a marketing resource that many shared on their websites.

Twin Cities Weekend and Twin Cities This Week showcased Minnesota musicians across diverse genres, helping them gain greater exposure and new opportunities through this promotional platform. FY25 artists included Global Jazz Collegium, Jennifer Grimm and Joe Cruz, The Latin Soul Vibe Quartet, Erin Livingston, and Katy Tessman. Jazz88 produced 84 total segments and aired 70 in the fiscal year. The segments had 6,533 downloads and online plays. The station estimates that approximately 15,000 people heard the segments on air. Listeners left positive reviews, with one stating, "I've enjoyed Phil Nussbaum's interviews with local artists. Jazz88 achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project.

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MINNESOTA JAZZ LEGENDS

Minnesota Jazz Legends was a celebration concert recorded live before an audience at the Minnesota History Center. A one-hour radio broadcast special of the concert was also played on Jazz88. The event honored the extraordinary contributions of several influential jazz figures connected to Minnesota. The FY25 program consisted of 11 musicians including Jay Epstein, Grant West, Art Katzman, the late Debbie Duncan, and Phil Aaron and his trio featuring Graydon Peterson and Phil Hey.



Preparations and production spanned FY25. Approximately 160 people attended the almost two-hour live concert, and KBEM estimates that 4,000 listeners heard the one-hour radio broadcast. In addition, the station produced two 60-90-second segments featuring each jazz legend. One **Minnesota Jazz Legends** concert attendee remarked, “Thank you for another wonderful event. Fantastic music and amazing stories.” Another stated, “Such a great thing you’re doing. What a beautiful show! What a legacy YOU have made for our legends.” The comments show that KBEM achieved its proposed measurable outcomes of making people more aware of the rich history of Minnesota jazz and honoring the senior musicians of our state. **Minnesota Jazz Legends** was a yearlong project.



More than 150 people attended the Minnesota Jazz Legends concert that paid tribute to 11 of Minnesota's jazz icons.

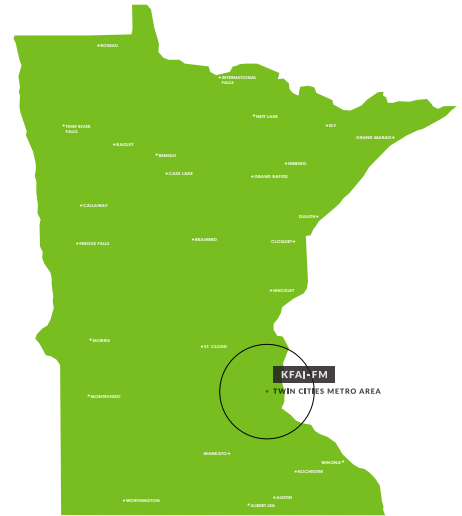
STATION REPORTS

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

MINNECULTURE

MinneCulture, KFAI's award-winning long-form audio storytelling/documentary program focused on Minnesota arts, culture, and history. In FY25, KFAI produced seven **MinneCulture** episodes of two different lengths - 12-20-minute and 30-60-minute episodes. Each episode focused on a different subject. Many included original historical research or a synthesis of research. Particular focus was given to BIPOC, queer, indigenous, and other historically under-told stories.

MinneCulture episodes were pitched and produced by experienced, Minnesota-based producers, working in collaboration with the **MinneCulture** editor. **MinneCulture** was released via KFAI's podcast, website, SoundCloud, Public Radio Exchange, and broadcast on KFAI as part of **MinneCulture** Presents on Mondays. The podcast version is hosted by comedian and storyteller John Gebretatose.

In FY25, **MinneCulture** episodes covered the history of Chinese food in Minnesota, Dr. Kathleen Jordan's work on tuberculosis, and the Meeker Lock and Dam, among other topics. The project also included one in-person event in FY25, a launch party at Cloudland in Minneapolis.



KFAI's MinneCulture earned three more prestigious awards from the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists in FY25.

KFAI tracked 9,018 online listeners and estimates 100,000 on-air listeners during FY25 for **MinneCulture**. Listeners expressed a range of positive engagement with the project. One listener stated, "Great job tackling a tough topic." Another said, "I really enjoyed this podcast - will be looking for more info on boat house communities." The station achieved the proposed outcomes for this nine-month project by giving more Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, abilities, and incomes easier access to artistic, cultural, and historical programming. The project also resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and gave local artists, historians, writers, and others greater opportunities to have their work showcased through public radio.

STATION REPORTS

10,000 FRESH VOICES

10,000 Fresh Voices, the station's award-winning series of short features, highlighted Minnesota arts, culture, and history. The station utilized producers from across the state to produce 24 segments in collaboration with KFAI's MinneCulture editor. Each of the segments was between four and eight minutes long. The year-long project highlighted untold and under-told stories from across the state, with a particular focus on stories from BIPOC, LGBTQIA2S+, immigrant, and low-income communities. Each story focused on a place, an event, a person, or a community. **10,000 Fresh Voices** used storytelling to help listeners better understand the many realities of Minnesota and how residents relate to each other in this place we call home. The voices featured in the stories - as well as the producers who tell the stories - represent the many diverse people who live in Minnesota.



Each **10,000 Fresh Voices** segment was published on Public Radio Exchange, KFAI.org, SoundCloud, and KFAI'S MinneCulture Facebook and Instagram pages. All segments were broadcast at least once during KFAI's MinneCulture Presents on Mondays. Among those featured on **10,000 Fresh Voices** were athlete Matt Krohn, artist Dewey Goodwin, author Cheri Johnson, and musician Jevetta Steele. KFAI estimated 100,000 on-air listeners during FY25 for **10,000 Fresh Voices**. The station achieved the proposed outcomes for this project, giving more Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, abilities, and income more access to artistic, cultural, and historical programming by producing and distributing these segments. The 24 segments also resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and allowed for more local artists, historians, writers, and others to have their work showcased through public media.



10,000 Fresh Voices helped to spotlight 24 stories unique to Minnesota that likely would have gone untold without Legacy funds.

LIVE FROM MINNESOTA

Live from Minnesota celebrated local creativity through live performances and original work by Minnesota artists across a variety of ages, genres, cultural identities, and gender expression. For **Live from Minnesota** the station produced on live concert event, recorded the performances, and produced three 15-minute on-air radio shows with the content. **Live from Minnesota** was a six-month project.

The station held the event at The Hook & Ladder Theatre and Lounge and estimates that approximately 300 people attended the concert. The live event featured performances by Minnesota artists, including Tufawon, Tiana Spotted Thunder, and Trish Cook with Deanna StandingCloud. **Live from Minnesota** generated 890 podcast downloads and received 415 YouTube views. The station estimates that approximately 30,000 people heard the on-air segments. The station achieved the proposed outcomes The live event combined with the on-air segments gave more Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, abilities, and income more access to artistic and cultural programming. The project also resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and allowed for more local artists, historians, writers, and others to have their work showcased through public media.

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

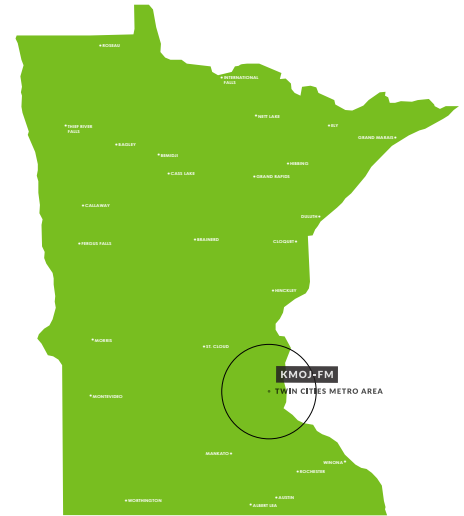
4OPINIONS

4Opinions was a weekly Saturday morning show hosted by Tiffany Washington, Walter “Q-Bear” Banks, Thomas Berry, and LaToya Wilson. The project showcased a powerful mix of perspectives and conversation. Hosts dived into real-world issues affecting the Twin Cities and beyond. The station produced a total of 44 hour-long shows that tackled topics such as systemic racism, health disparities, affordable childcare, youth empowerment, and evolving cultural identity. Guests in FY25 included Crystal Eaton-McGaster, Dr. Rashida, Wellness Coach Edrence Yalley, Halftime Sports Barbershop owner Mitchell Mack, Marquis Armstrong, Adoniyah Israel, Pastor Brian C. Herron, and Andre Corbett.

4Opinions received at least 20 calls per show. KMOJ estimates an average of 80,000 listeners heard **4Opinions** each month. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. KMOJ achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project.

DANCING WITH THE DJs

During the twelve-day run of the Minnesota State Fair, KMOJ transformed its booth at the vibrant intersection of Judson & Clough into a dynamic cultural stage with its signature event, **Dancing with the DJs**. This lively activation brought the heartbeat of the city to the fairgrounds and offered attendees a joyful, music-filled experience that celebrated community and urban culture. In FY25, more than 20 KMOJ-affiliated DJs delivered high-energy live sets that spanned R&B, soul, hip-hop, reggae, house music, and top 40 hits. Each of the 12 days included eight to 10 hours of live cultural entertainment at the Minnesota State Fair. KMOJ also edited and broadcast the DJ sets into 10 30-minute segments, expanding the project's reach to listeners who couldn't attend in person.



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



Dancing with the DJs allowed more than 20 local artists to showcase their work on-air and at the Minnesota State Fair.

STATION REPORTS



Dancing with the DJs increased the number of local artists and musicians who were able to showcase their work through public radio. The station estimates that approximately 250,000 people passed the booth during the 12 days of the Fair. The station estimates that about 30,000 to 40,000 people heard the on-air segments. One standout success story was DJ Dime, who stated, “Getting the chance to DJ at the State Fair gave me exposure I never dreamed of. I booked three gigs just from people hearing me spin that day—and now I’m DJing for the Timberwolves. It all started with KMOJ.” Listeners also shared positive reviews of the project. One attendee said, “Every time I walk past the KMOJ booth at the fair, I feel like I’m home. The DJs bring the energy, the music is always on point, and people are just vibing together. It’s the best part of the fair for me.” Another remarked, “This is what representation looks like. Urban music, Black DJs, and families dancing together in the middle of the State Fair? That’s powerful.” KMOJ achieved the project outcome successfully. **Dancing with the DJs** resulted in increased exposure for local DJs (audio artists), having their work showcased through public broadcasting and more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public broadcasting. KMOJ achieved its proposed measurable outcomes with this four-month project.

DISRUPTIVE NARRATIVES

Disruptive Narratives was a powerful podcast series produced by KMOJ and hosted by scholar and activist Dr. Brittany Lewis. The series centered marginalized voices and perspectives often left out of mainstream media, with a particular focus on the lived experiences of people of color. Each 30-minute episode delved into critical issues such as racism, domestic violence, housing instability, and systemic inequity, and offered listeners both personal stories and expert analysis. With a commitment to truth-telling and community empowerment, **Disruptive Narratives** challenged conventional frameworks and invited listeners to rethink how they understand history and social justice. Through thoughtful interviews and data-informed storytelling, **Disruptive Narratives** not only informed but also sparked dialogue and action.



KMOJ, in partnership with AMPERS, produced 12 half-hour episodes of **Disruptive Narratives** in late FY24 and early FY25. KMOJ then aired the segments in FY25. The station estimates that about 30,000 listeners heard the segments. The shows covered more than 12 different historical and cultural topics. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and gave listeners a better understanding of Minnesota’s African American history and culture and the people who shape it. KMOJ achieved its proposed measurable outcomes with this six-month project.

KMOJ LEGACY SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH

As part of KMOJ’s state-funded initiatives, the station used social media to expand the reach of Legacy programs. Promos were 30 seconds long, and accompanying graphics appeared on KMOJ’s social media platforms. The **KMOJ Legacy and Social Media Outreach** project helped to profile and promote programs like **Someone You Should Know**, which offered 60-second tributes to influential Black Minnesotans ensuring their contributions are recognized and shared widely. The talk show **4Opinions** engaged listeners with weekly



STATION REPORTS

dialogue on social, political, and cultural issues relevant to urban communities. Additionally, **African American History in 90 Seconds** continued to deliver concise, powerful segments that spotlighted key historical moments and figures often left out of traditional narratives. Together, these programs represent KMOJ's commitment to public service broadcasting, using state funding to reach, reflect, and empower underrepresented communities across Minnesota.



KMOJ's Facebook page has about 39,000 followers and 1,150 reviews, with 94% of the reviews being positive. In FY25 the page had 104,000 engagements and 1.5 million views. The **KMOJ Legacy and Social Media Outreach** was a yearlong project that gave Minnesotans easier and more access to content about the state's art, culture, and history. KMOJ achieved its proposed measurable outcomes with this yearlong project.

KMOJ 90: MINNESOTA'S AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY IN 90 SECONDS

Expanding on AMPERS' incredibly popular MN90 franchise, KMOJ produced **KMOJ 90: Minnesota's African American History in 90-Seconds**. The 90-second segments informed listeners about Minnesota's African American history in a fun, entertaining, and informative manner. The project made more Minnesotans aware of the way African American history impacted their lives helped them to make more informed decisions in the future. KMOJ produced 10 90-second segments in FY25 over a course of 10 months. The segments aired monthly and featured historical figures such as Dr. Emmet Carson, formerly of the Minneapolis Foundation; Mayor Melvin Carter of St. Paul, the city's first African American Mayor; and the first Black Minneapolis Police Chief, Former Police Chief Mederia Arradondo.

KMOJ estimates that about 20,000 listeners heard the **KMOJ 90: Minnesota's African American History in 90-Seconds** segments. The segments covered ten different topics. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and gave listeners more and easier access to information about Minnesota's African American history. KMOJ achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

PURPLE LEGACY

Purple Legacy was a radio series and cultural initiative celebrating the life, artistry, and enduring impact of Minnesota music icon Prince. Produced in partnership with AMPERS, the series explored a pivotal era in Prince's career, particularly the influence of the album and movie *Purple Rain*. The program included rare stories from those who knew and worked with Prince—like the legendary pancake and basketball tale involving Eddie Murphy—and dived into the broader cultural conversations he sparked, including the origins of "explicit content" labels on music. It also honored Prince's role as a producer, mentor, and innovator by spotlighting the many artists he inspired. The segments went beyond nostalgia to examine how Prince's legacy continues to shape music, identity, and creative expression. Through this series, KMOJ reaffirmed its mission to elevate local Black culture and history using authentic, community-rooted storytelling. **Purple Legacy** is both a tribute and a teaching tool for new generations to connect with Minnesota's musical royalty.



Purple Legacy aired on eight AMPERS stations around the state recognizing one of Minnesota's most iconic musicians.

STATION REPORTS



KMOJ and AMPERS produced the 40 90-second segments in FY24 in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of Prince's iconic record Purple Rain. Producers started the project in late FY24 and completed the segments in FY25. In addition to airing on KMOJ, the segments aired on eight other AMPERS stations. It's estimated that about 45,000 people heard the segments on-air. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content and gave listeners a better understanding of Minnesota's artistic history. KMOJ achieved its proposed measurable outcomes with this six-month project.

SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW

Someone You Should Know was a compelling radio series produced by KMOJ that highlighted influential Black Minnesotans through brief, yet powerful 60-second segments. Each feature uplifted the voice and story of a community member making a significant impact in areas such as education, activism, the arts, and public service. The goal of the series was to honor contributions that often go unrecognized in mainstream media, while inspiring listeners with authentic, local narratives.

FY25 segment showcased cultural advocate Nikki McComb; youth mentor Dr. Adrian Davis; Union Gospel Twin Cities Former Chief Executive Dr. Charles Morgan US Bank Vice President of Engagement Greg Cunningham; Sounds of Blackness Founder Gary Hines; and Former Minneapolis Mayor Sharon Sayles-Belton. FY25's 10 segments were broadcast over 10 months during regular programming, allowing listeners to discover community champions throughout the day.

Someone You Should Know showcased 10 different members of the community, and the station estimates that approximately 20,000 listeners heard the segments. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and gave listeners a better understanding of Minnesota's African American history and culture and the people who shaped it. KMOJ achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



Legacy funds were used to pay more than 116 contractors to producer artistic, cultural, and historical radio segments and shows in FY25.

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

LOCAL VIBES

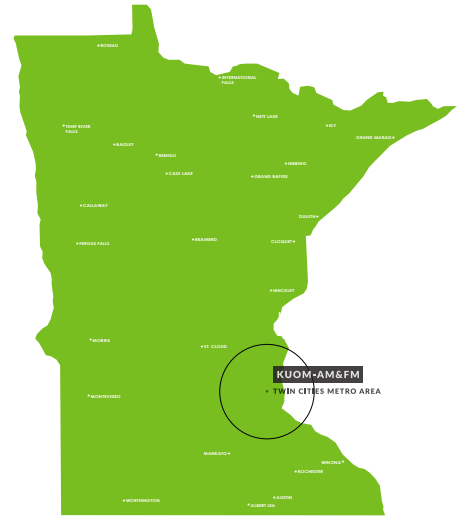
Local Vibes was a Radio K series and the state’s only all-Minnesotan hip-hop show. **Local Vibes** brought hip-hop’s vast cultural legacy and political importance to Minnesotans’ ears, creating an impact across the state. Interviews, performances, and videos of local hip-hop artists created an interactive digital archive of Minnesota’s rich hip-hop history, while also introducing local artists currently making national waves in the genre.

Local Vibes was a yearlong project that provided political and cultural programming, introduced an audience typically underserved by public broadcasting, and produced accessible, high-quality, and culturally reflective programming. In FY25, Radio K/KUOM produced 12 15-minute-long online segments, featuring artists such as Sir Lucius, Madame Blu, and Euphoria’s Room. The series reached approximately 10,300 listeners. As a result of this project, 12 local artists gained additional exposure, and Minnesotans were able to access more local and student-generated and produced music. The project also gave more Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, and abilities easier access to information about Minnesota’s arts, culture, and history. Radio K achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

BTS: BEHIND THE SCENES WITH MINNESOTA’S MUSIC MAKERS

Minnesota has a well-earned place in the Music Hall of Fame. Radio K’s **Behind the Scenes with Minnesota Music Makers** aimed to keep the state there. The project brought musicians from across the state to the airwaves - to play the next national anthem or hit record.

With live performances, interviews, and video, listeners got a front-row picture of what it means to be a part of the current Minnesota music scene. Best of all, **Behind the Scenes with Minnesota Music Makers** was archived and distributed digitally, so listeners were able to celebrate Minnesota’s musical legacy from the comfort of their car radio or



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



Radio K delivered 12 more segments than promised in its workplan for BTS: Behind the Scenes with Minnesota Music Makers.

STATION REPORTS



from the end of a dock in Lake Vermillion. In FY25, KUOM featured 37 musicians on Behind The Scenes with Minnesota Music Makers, including she's green, Malamiko, and Drey DK. KUOM produced 37 **Behind the Scenes with Minnesota Music Makers** segments, comprised of three-minute videos and 10-15-minute interviews with musicians. KUOM exceeded the initial project goal of 25 segments, delivering 37 due to extreme interest and support from the student volunteers. The project garnered 24,000 listeners in FY25. As a result of this project, an increase in local artists having their work broadcast on public radio. The yearlong project also increased the number of Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, and abilities who were exposed to the state's arts and culture.

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

The Land of 10,000 Stories from KUOM's Real College Podcast provided an answer to the question "What culture, art, and history shaped Minnesota and what changes are in store for residents?" Through engaging interviews, profiles, wild tales, historical facts, and plenty of sound, **The Land of 10,000 Stories** delved into the diverse forces that created Minnesota's legacy and continue to shape the state today. KUOM showcased stories from poets to pipe-layers, one voice at a time. In FY25, KUOM produced 20 30-minute **The Land of 10,000 Stories** episodes, including Inside Art, Food for Thought, and All Things Animals: Feral Cats & Service Dogs.



*More than 20 University of Minnesota students got hands-on broadcast experience producing **The Land of 10,000 Stories**.*

The station estimates that 25,000 listeners tuned into **The Land of 10,000 Stories**, making it a clear success for KUOM. In addition, 21 University of Minnesota students gained hands-on training and experience in producing, promoting, and archiving an arts and culture radio program. The project increased the number of local artists, historians, and writers who had their work showcased through public broadcasting. The station used the funds to create more locally-focused and Minnesota-focused content. KUOM achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project.

THE VANGUARD PROJECT

The Vanguard Project explored the various forces shaping the state's culture from a younger generation's perspective. Students delved into what it meant to be a Minnesotan through interviews, music, stories, and sound-rich reporting, with a focus on historically underrepresented residents. By encouraging explorations and challenging stereotypes of all shades, The Vanguard Project celebrated what it meant to be Minnesotan.

For this yearlong project, Radio K/KUOM produced ten five-minute segments that attracted an estimated 24,000 listeners to the series. Segment topics include African American Vernacular English (AAVE), Soul Bowl in the North Loop, and the Annual Black Student Union basketball game at the University of Minnesota. The project resulted in more locally-focused and Minnesota content produced by public radio that increased the number of local artists that had their work showcased. The Vanguard Project also gave more Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, and abilities more exposure to Minnesota's rich arts, culture, and history. Radio K achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

STATION REPORTS

ROCHESTER – KRPR, 89.9 FM



Station Description

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



KRPR-FM (Rochester) coverage area

Program Descriptions

ROCHESTER MN90

Rochester MN90 was a series of twenty 90-second fun and engaging radio stories exploring the history of Rochester and the surrounding area. The series covers a wide range of subjects and topics ranging from sports, politics, agriculture, business, and arts in and around the Rochester area. FY25 segments included Faribault's Minnesota Braille and Sight-Saving School, the Intercultural Mutual Assistance Association, and the Minnesota-based American Wrestling Association, as well as educating and informing listeners about 17 other historical topics. KRPR partnered with AMPERS for about six months to produce the **Rochester MN90** segments

KRPR estimates 6,400 listeners heard the **Rochester MN90** segments in FY25. KRPR achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project by increasing locally-focused content and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and by giving Minnesotans a better understanding of Minnesota history.

ROCHESTER ARTS

Rochester Arts was a series of twenty 90-second radio vignettes on notable current and past arts and cultural content, people, and events in and around the Rochester area. The series consisted of highly produced 90-second segments were fun, moving, entertaining, and informative segments looking at the area's rich artistic community. FY25 segments included The Caledonia Post Office, Rochester's Christmas Song, and Nirvana's sessions at Pachyderm Studios. KRPR partnered with AMPERS for six months to produce the **Rochester Arts** segments.

KRPR estimates 6,400 listeners heard the segments in FY25. KRPR achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project by increasing locally-focused and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and allowing more artists and arts organizations have their work showcased through public broadcasting.


ROCHESTER R-TOWN

Rochester R-Town was a project in which KRPR teamed up with KSMQ-TV, to create 20 two-minute segments that explored business, culture, and history, along with current



Rochester MN90 listeners learned how a Rochester doctor's short career in baseball prompted a novel and Hollywood movie.





happenings in the arts community of Rochester and the surrounding area. The **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 did not air the segments until the fall of FY25. KRPR and KSMQ-TV worked for about nine months on this project. Once completed and aired, **Rochester R-Town** resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio than would have without this Legacy funding. In addition, the project gave Minnesotans a better understanding of Minnesota’s arts, culture, and heritage. KRPR estimates that about 6,400 listeners heard the **Rochester R-Town** segments. Once aired in FY25, KRPR achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



The AMPERS website is now home to nearly 31,000 Legacy segments and shows.

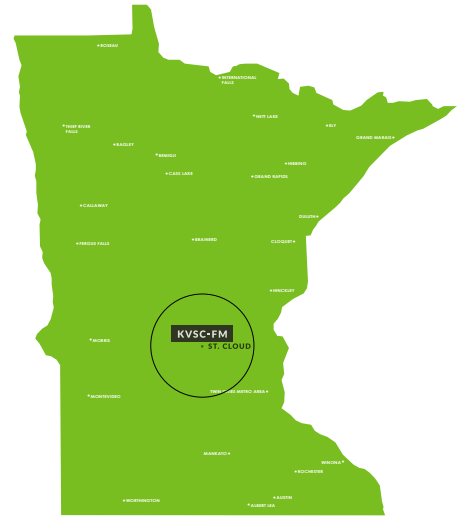
STATION REPORTS

ST. CLOUD – KVSC, 88.1 FM



Station Description

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



KVSC-FM (St. Cloud) coverage area

Program Descriptions

GRANITE CITY RADIO THEATRE

Granite City Radio Theatre was a live radio show staged at Pioneer Place on 5th, a performance venue in St. Cloud. Created in the spirit of variety shows that aired during the Golden Age of Radio, the show featured comedy skits, a quiz segment, radio drama, and live music performances. In addition to a house band comprised of local musicians, the show included a special musical guest with Minnesota roots. In FY25, those musicians were Dessa, Charlie Roth, Emily Haavik, and Dylan Hicks.

KVSC produced four two-hour **Granite City Radio Theatre** live events throughout FY25 and broadcast four corresponding segments. Attendance for all four events totaled 1,050. The four broadcast segments were between one hour and 36 minutes to one hour and 54 minutes in length, garnering a total of 12,000 listeners. The project also generated 278 podcast downloads. St. Cloud venue Pioneer Place on Fifth partnered with KVSC on this eight-month project.

Attendees, listeners, and performers expressed positive engagement with the project. A listener named Dallas said: “Such a great show, as always - but Dessa and Aby!!!” Artist Emily Haavik said, “Thank you so much for having me! I had a blast. The band and the whole crew were just fantastic to work with, and the show is a hoot.” This project exposed 35 artists to new audiences. Artists benefited from the increased exposure and earned income for their work as a part of **Granite City Radio Theatre**. The project gave more Minnesotans the opportunity to participate in and be exposed to more art and culture, more local writers and musicians had their work showcased on public radio and earned income from their work, and 20 students received hands-on instruction and experience in producing and promoting a live artistic and cultural show. KVSC achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



KVSC delivered four episodes of Granite City Radio Theatre, which was a showcase for Minnesota-based performers, including the radio drama troupe Shades Brigade



STATION REPORTS

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



KVSC produced 30-minute-long radio programs comprised of interviews with and profiles of historians, artists, authors, musicians, and other compelling figures for their **Untold Stories of Central Minnesota** project. Interviewees shared stories relevant to Central Minnesota and promoted cultural events. In FY25, segments included Great Theatre, Better Times Theatre Company, Surahoolies, and Pert Near Sandstone. KVSC's Arts Collage Producer and Sketch Writer also produced a daily segment called **Arts and Culture Collage**, which served as a community calendar for arts and culture events in Central Minnesota.



KVSC produced 30 episodes of Untold Stories of Central Minnesota that generated 600 podcasts and showcased 40 artists.

KVSC produced and aired 30 segments of the project, which was broadcast weekly, in FY25. The project reached approximately 20,000 listeners and generated 600 downloads of the podcast version of the segments. The project exposed 40 artists to new and additional audiences that they may not have otherwise reached. The project also resulted in an increase in locally-focused and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. KVSC achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project

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 three-month project resulted in a three different three-hour-long events that attracted about 100 people per event. Some of the key musicians and artists included the Shackletons, Pullstring, Simple Motions, Faith Boblett, and Lisa DeGuseppi.

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 10 students involved in planning, promoting, and producing the events. The station expanded the project in FY25 to include radio programs that brought the musicians' work to a wider audience. The station aired six hour-long radio programs featuring music from the live shows. KVSC achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



KVSC enlisted the help of 10 students to produce its Project 37 Collaboration.

STATION REPORTS

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 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 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.



About 450 people attended KVSC's Central MN Mid-Winter Concert.

CENTRAL MINNESOTA COMMON ROOTS MUSIC FESTIVAL COLLABORATION

KVSC's **Central Minnesota Common Roots Music Festival Collaboration** was a huge success. KVSC collaborated with the Independent Music Collaborators of Central Minnesota to support 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 Oh So Easy, Jon Theis, Demolition Means Progress, and Ted Haj. KVSC's **Central Minnesota 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 artists were paid for their performances. The station expanded the project in FY25 to include radio programs that brought the musicians' work to a wider audience. The station aired four hour-long radio programs featuring music from the live shows. 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

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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 three live events KVSC produced for **MNL On The Road**, artists like Vial, Grayson DeWolfe, and Colin Bracewell gained significantly more exposure for their music. Each show was about 60 minutes long.

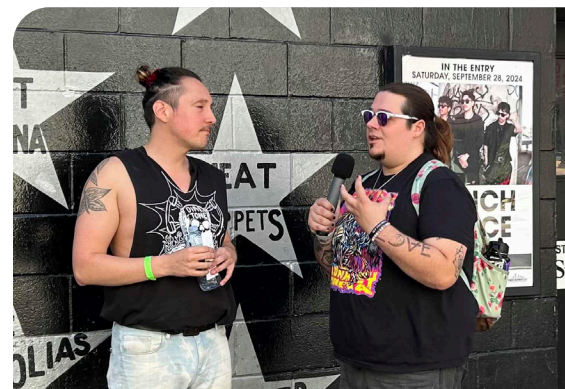
KVSC estimates that about 10,000 people heard the on-air radio shows. Fifteen students were involved in the project. They received hands-on instruction and experience in producing and promoting a live artistic and cultural radio show. Ten local musicians were showcased by the **MNL On The Road** project. 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 15 musicians and stage crew members 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.



The three live events of MNL On The Road showcased the work of about 15 Minnesota musicians.

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 Minneapolis-based zines, slam poetry, Dial Tone, Zaq Baker, Sym1, and Nate Walker. Additional support for this project also came from the SCSU Student Government. The radio programs were one to 30 minutes long for this yearlong project and included ten episodes of the wide-ranging, culturally focused program **Backstages**.



A KVSC student staffer interviews a First Avenue employee about a labor dispute

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.

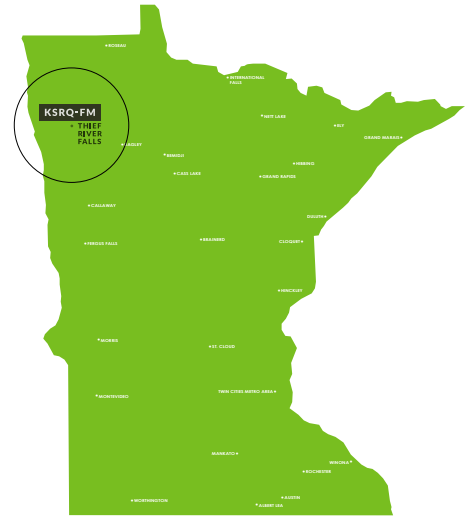
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THIEF RIVER FALLS – KSRQ, 90.1 FM



Station Description

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



KSRQ-FM (Thief River Falls) coverage area

Program Descriptions

HOMETOWN HISTORY

KSRQ’s **Hometown History** radio series celebrated the people and stories that define Northwest Minnesota. The popular program featured local historian Donna Myhrer sharing stories from her years of research, including memories of famous Nashville entertainers who visited the small town of Middle River to play the now-closed Meadowbrook Ballroom; descriptions of downtown Thief River Falls lunch destinations frequented by Lincoln High School students in the 1950s and 1960s; the origins of newspapers and local radio stations in Northwest Minnesota; and the many lasting infrastructure improvements created through the Works Progress Administration in the 1930s.

Community engagement was evident through positive audience feedback about **Hometown History**. After hearing the segment about students taking their lunch breaks at the old Woolworth’s lunch counter, listener Bonnie Lee commented on Facebook, “The smell of fresh burgers frying, hot coffee, freshly made and the cigarette smoke greeting you at the door when you entered Woolworth, honestly is the single best memory I have. I am so thankful to have lived during that time.” Listener Diann Anderson reminisced on Facebook, “Love this! Been at Meadowbrook Ballroom so much, that place was so much fun, miss that place. Meadowbrook Ballroom was sure the good ole days. Loved going out there every weekend, even had my wedding dance out there in 1980.” - Diann Anderson, via Facebook.

In FY25, KSRQ produced 13 original **Hometown History** segments, resulting in more Minnesota-focused programming for public radio audiences. Each episode ran about eight minutes in length, totaling almost two hours of historical content that was both broadcast and archived for future use. The series aired weekly, reaching an estimated 300 listeners per episode. The series also enhanced public awareness of the Pennington County Historical Society’s Peder Engelstad Pioneer Village in Thief River Falls and contributed to the preservation of northwest Minnesota’s



KSRQ’s Hometown History took listeners back in time to explore the region’s rich history and the people who created it.



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culture and history. KSRQ successfully achieved its proposed measurable outcomes, producing and distributing locally relevant, historically rich programming that deepened community connection and understanding. **Hometown History** was a five-month project.

KEZAR MUSIC SHOWROOM PRESENTS

Kezar Music Showroom Presents was an hour-long weekly broadcast that showcased a variety of vintage and new audio recordings by local musical acts. In FY25, KSRQ produced and aired 27 episodes, hosted by Thief River Falls music store owner and musician Joe Kezar. As part of the project, KSRQ partnered with the city of Thief River Falls to present a series of 10 free community concerts that were recorded for broadcast on **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**. The concerts were heavily promoted on-air, on social media, and in print media. Each live show was attended by between 100-300 people. A total of 43 musicians and one non-profit organization were paid for their work as part of the project. One of the live shows, from the Thief River Falls Area Community Theater, featured a cast of 45 performers, including 22 middle and high school students. Live performances averaged 90 minutes each. The broadcasts were an hour long and each reached about 800 listeners each week. In addition to the concert series at the Floyd B. Olson Park gazebo, other live music events recorded throughout the year at the Pennington County Fair and the Thief River Falls Eagles Club were broadcast as part of the series.

KSRQ received positive feedback from listeners, concertgoers, and performers. Listener Barb Jensen said, “So appreciate these concerts. Thanks to our community and those who take part.” Listener Sheryl Whyte Porter, reacting to a concert by John Vincent of Bemidji said, “What an awesome evening of music and fellowship.” Concertgoer Jon Vik said, “Beautiful setting for outdoor music in the park. Always a good time!! Thank you, 90.1 FM.”

One **Kezar Music Showroom Presents** episode featured an interview with Oklee, Minnesota native Jack Sundrud. The songwriter and vocalist has been based in Nashville for many years, where he was a longtime member of the band Poco. He talked about his early days as a touring musician in northwest Minnesota, sharing the bill with Winnipeg rockers The Guess Who. Another episode featured selections from a 1986 cassette compilation titled “Northern Stars,” highlighting musicians from the Bemidji area.

The 12-month project resulted in increased 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.

LET'S TALK ART (FORMERLY ARTIST SPOTLIGHT)

KSRQ's **Let's Talk Art** was an eight-month radio series designed to inform and engage the community around local arts projects, events, and creators throughout northwest Minnesota. Many featured guests were Legacy grantees, making **Let's Talk Art** an important vehicle for demonstrating how Legacy funds enhance cultural



KSRQ's Kezar Music Showroom Presents showcased the work of 45 Minnesota musicians including 22 middle and high school students.

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life across the region. The series highlighted themes such as arts education, social change through the arts, arts careers, and community building, among others.



In collaboration with the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council in Warren, KSRQ produced and aired 32 episodes of **Let's Talk Art**. Each weekly program was approximately 15 minutes in length and reached an estimated 225 listeners per episode. The series featured interviews with photographers, painters, podcasters, authors, vocalists, musicians, actors, directors, arts advocates and educators, representing Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, and Roseau Counties. The series was hosted by Minnesota State Arts Board member Philip McKenzie.

In total, **Let's Talk Art** generated over eight hours of original Minnesota arts programming, significantly increasing the amount of locally produced arts content available to public radio listeners. The Northwest Minnesota Arts Council also archived the interviews on its website as a podcast series, further extending its accessibility and long-term impact.

KSRQ met the proposed measurable outcomes for this project, successfully advancing public awareness of Minnesota's vibrant arts community and the positive role of Legacy funding in supporting creativity, inclusion, and cultural vitality throughout the region. **Let's Talk Art** gave more Minnesota artists and arts organizations the opportunity to have their work showcased through public broadcasting, resulting in an increase in locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio, and gave more Minnesotans the opportunity to participate in and be exposed to art and culture.

PIONEER POLKACAST KSRQ HD-2

KSRQ's **Pioneer PolkaCast**, broadcast on KSRQ HD-2, was a yearlong HD Radio and streaming project dedicated to preserving, curating, and sharing the vibrant tradition of polka and old-time music. The initiative highlighted both legendary and contemporary performers, including Adam & The Jolly Jammers of South Haven, The Bob Brenny Band of Albany, The Nite Owls of Sauk Centre, Craig Ebel & DyVersaCo of Minneapolis, and many more.

Available 24 hours a day on one of KSRQ's digital (HD) terrestrial channels and through an online stream, **Pioneer PolkaCast** is one of the station's most successful and recognizable endeavors. The channel featured a rich mix of Minnesota-made polka and old-time music, connecting generations of listeners through familiar melodies and regional heritage.

More than a continuous music playlist, **Pioneer PolkaCast** presented nearly 300 original programs hosted by KSRQ contractors and volunteers who shared their expertise and enthusiasm for this deeply rooted cultural genre. Through their storytelling and music selections, they helped preserve an important part of Minnesota's musical identity.



In addition to airing on KSRQ, the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council archived the station's Let's Talk Art segments.



Pioneer PolkaCast generated nearly 300 original programs that garnered international attention and comments.



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Over the course of the project, **Pioneer PolkaCast** related webpages received over 17,000 visits, resulting in over 128,000 total listening hours. Its reach extended far beyond northwest Minnesota, drawing audiences from across the Midwest and beyond. Listeners expressed positive engagement with **Pioneer PolkaCast**. One listener, Harold Dey of Alabama, stated, “About eight years ago now I had the good fortune of discovering KSRQ. You’ve provided hundreds of hours of wonderful music and some new friends in the state of Minnesota. I thank you folks for being very important in my senior years. Thanks a lot for being there.” Another, Calen Rude, said, “On behalf of my longtime listener grandparents and polka enthusiasts, the late Andrew & Junice Berg, I would like to thank this station, it’s on-air personalities, and most importantly, the musicians that have and are actively playing to promote the values and enjoyment of olde time music. You are faithfully preserving a treasured heritage.”

The **Pioneer PolkaCast** KSRQ HD-2 project successfully showcased more Minnesotans on public radio, expanded exposure to local art and culture, and increased the amount of Minnesota-focused content produced and broadcast by public radio. KSRQ met or exceeded all proposed outcomes for this initiative, strengthening community connection through music and heritage.

READERS THEATER PROJECT

KSRQ partnered with the Thief River Falls Area Community Theater to record and broadcast five **Readers Theater Project** radio plays, complete with music and sound effects. KSRQ aired three of the segments in FY25, and two in early FY26. 25 local actors were involved in the six-month-long project. Participants ranged in age from elementary school students to retirees. KSRQ estimates that about 450 people heard each of the broadcasts, which were 28 to 41 minutes in length.

Actor and host Teresa McGriff said, “I’ve loved working for the Thief River Falls Area Community Theater on their weekly radio program on Pioneer 90.1. It’s been one of the coolest things I’ve ever done.” Because of copyright restrictions, the broadcasts were not posted online, but KSRQ will re-broadcast them in the future as part of the TRFACT’s weekly radio series. Over 2.7 hours of voice acting from local performers was showcased on public radio as a result of this project.

Listeners expressed positive engagement with the project. Lori Duggan stated, “Love radio theater” and Krist Olson said, “Awesome! I’ve been missing radio serials since they cancelled A Prairie Home Companion.” KSRQ met its proposed outcomes of exposing more Minnesotans to arts and culture, showcasing the work of more Minnesota artists on public broadcasting, and creating more locally and Minnesota-focused content on public radio. KSRQ worked on the **Readers Theater Project** for five months. The station is not permitted to post the segments on Public Radio Exchange (PRX) or any online platform due to copyright issues. The station only had the rights to broadcast, not to archive the segments.



KSRQ recruited and showcased the talent of 25 local actors for its Readers Theater Project.



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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.

Program Descriptions

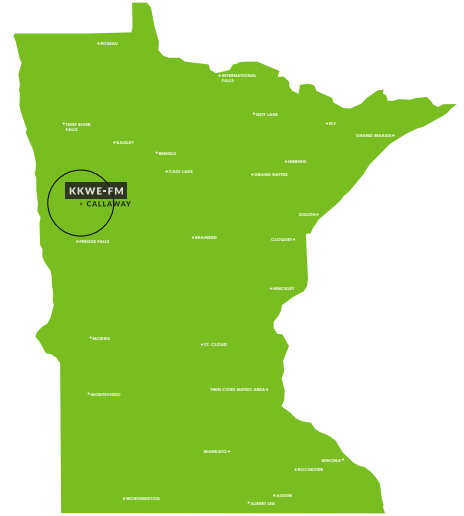
CULTURAL EXCHANGE

KKWE hosted four community events in FY25 to help more Minnesotans connect with the Anishinaabe culture and other cultures shaping the region. KKWE worked closely with local schools, elders, artists, and community organizations to implement the **Cultural Exchange** events. The events were envisioned as true small-town celebrations, bringing people together to learn, share, and build relationships. Activities included Ojibwe drum and band demonstrations, storytelling, and cultural teachings, along with presentations and discussions highlighting other cultural traditions rooted in the area. By creating welcoming, hands-on experiences, KKWE worked to strengthen community pride and understanding while honoring the diverse voices that make the region unique. In FY25, the four **Cultural Exchange** events were: Celebrating Cultures, a partnership with The New York Mills Arts Retreat and Regional Cultural Center, the International Friendship Festival in Pelican Rapids, the Nevis Muskie Days Music Festival, and the Greak Lakes Indigenous Farming Conference, a partnership with White Earth Land Recovery Project. Attendance for all events totaled 3,050.

KKWE incorporated more Dakota and Ojibwe language into the events in FY25, helping to bridge the gap in language preservation. Several attendees of **Cultural Exchange** events expressed gratitude and appreciation for increased insight into Ojibwe/Anishinaabe culture. KKWE produced two 30-minute broadcast segments from recorded content at the events. The station estimates that approximately 300 people heard the on-air elements of this project. **Cultural Exchange** resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and gave Minnesotans a better understanding of Native American culture and history. KKWE achieved the proposed measurable outcomes for this four-month project.

MINNESOTA ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

This **Minnesota Artist Spotlight** project brought meaningful art and cultural storytelling to rural communities across KKWE's listening region. By featuring Minnesota artists—especially Indigenous creators whose traditions are central to the area—KKWE increased the exposure of voices and artwork that are rarely highlighted in mainstream media. By adding these artist spotlights to KKWE's programming, the station strengthened its mission to uplifting local culture, supporting regional creators, and providing content that truly reflects listeners. This



KKWE-FM (White Earth / Callaway) coverage area

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project not only enriched listeners' understanding of the diverse artistic traditions in Minnesota, but also reinforced KKWE's role as a trusted, culturally grounded community broadcaster.



In FY25, **Minnesota Artist Spotlights** included 12 in-person workshop events centered on traditional clothing, beadwork, art made from natural resources, and language. About 10-15 people attended each event. KKWE produced six 15- to 30-minute segments for the project and broadcast one of them in FY25. The station wasn't able to air all of the audio segments in the timeframe originally intended. The remaining segments will air in FY26. **Minnesota Artist Spotlights** was a yearlong project that resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and gave Minnesotans a better understanding of Native American culture and history. KKWE achieved most of its proposed measurable outcomes for this project. The remaining outcomes will be achieved once the station airs the remaining shows.

NIJII'S MINNESOTA MIXDOWN SERIES

Nijii's Minnesota Mixdown Series offered listeners and attendees a rare opportunity to hear Minnesota artists and community voices in a setting both creative and deeply rooted in place. The program highlighted musicians shaping the region's cultural landscape, thereby giving audiences access to performances and conversations they may not have encountered in mainstream media. In FY25, the project included a live broadcast of performances at Roots Within in Callaway, and live broadcasts of bands Saltydog and Troubadour at Muskie Days in Nevens. Each artist performed 55-minute sets. Muskie Days hosted 10 musicians with approximately 250 people total attending each performance. Attendance at Roots Within totaled approximately 300.

Muskie Days was two days with approximately five hours of live broadcast each day. Roots Within was live broadcast for two and a half hours. KKWE produced and aired 10 segments from content recorded at each event. The station estimates that about 300 people heard the on-air segments. Attendees expressed positive engagement with the live broadcasts. One Muskie Days attendee remarked, "I am appreciative of the opportunity to connect and listen to Native musicians." Another stated, "Nijii Radio brings a great lineup of Minnesota artists to our small town, it has been a highlight for Muskie Days." The band Rootz Within shared that performing at the Roots Within event "opened the door to performing at a wedding dance later that fall." A Nevens resident said about the Muskie Days partnership: "Since the collaboration began with Nijii Radio, we have seen more people show up specifically for the artists your station selects."

Community members benefited from the project's showcase of Indigenous and local perspectives, the diversity of Minnesota's creative community, and cultural pride. This project offered meaningful insight into artists' lived experiences, traditions, and creative journeys—providing a richer understanding of the social, cultural, and environmental issues that influenced their work. The project also grew and strengthened Nijii Radio's partnership with the City of Nevis.

Nijii's Minnesota Mixdown Series resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and gave Minnesotans a better understanding of Native American culture and history. KKWE achieved its proposed measurable outcomes with this yearlong project.

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OJIBWE ARTS RISING

Ojibwe Arts Rising was a year-long project comprised of free community workshops on traditional arts and crafts that supported artists and the dissemination of cultural knowledge. The project helped expand cultural knowledge, pass on tradition, and foster intercultural understanding. Some of the workshops included hand drum making, ribbon shirt and skirt making, earring making, and birch bark arts. In FY25, **Ojibwe Arts Rising** included 12 events, with 10-13 people in attendance at each. Waubun Community Center partnered with KKWE on this project. KKWE produced five 10-15-minute segments from content recorded at the events; two of these were broadcast on air in FY25. The station estimates that approximately 300 people heard the on-air segments for this yearlong project.

Attendees expressed positive engagement with **Ojibwe Arts Rising**. One relayed her appreciation for the opportunity to partake in more than one project and said that the offering “helps with revitalization of culture and allows for growth and better insight to cultural awareness and understanding.” Artists involved in the project expressed gratitude for the opportunity to showcase their talents and help with keeping these arts alive within the community. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio that gave Minneostans a better understanding of Native American culture and history. KKWE achieved its proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

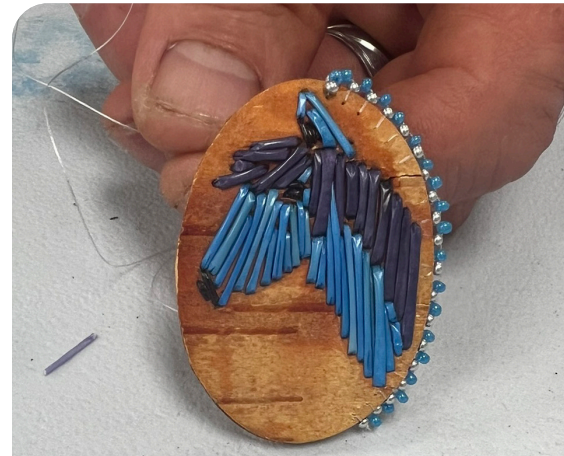
WILD FOODS

Wild Foods introduced more Minnesotans to the variety of wild foods that grow naturally throughout the state through accessible and engaging audio programming. Through interviews, storytelling, and expert discussions, listeners could learn about where to find wild foods, how to identify them safely, and ways they can be used in everyday cooking or traditional practices. The audio format allowed listeners—including rural communities—to learn at their own pace, whether at home, in the car, or out on the land.

Wild Foods also explored the nutritional, cultural, and ecological benefits of wild foods. Featured guests included nutrition experts, community members, and Indigenous knowledge keepers who shared historical and cultural significance of wild foods. By highlighting both practical information and cultural perspectives, the project fostered a deeper connection to the land, encouraged healthier eating habits, and built pride in the diverse natural offerings that are part of everyday life in Minnesota. KKWE produced 13, 30-minute Wild Foods segments, significantly overdelivering what the station promised in its workplan. The station estimates that about 300 people heard the on-air shows. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio that gave Minneostans a better understanding of Native American culture and history. KKWE achieved its proposed measurable outcomes for this six-month project.



KKWE's Ojibwe Arts Rising helped inspire younger generations to preserve Native American culture and history.



For Ojibwe Arts Rising, KKWE helped host 12 community informational events that resulted in approximately an hour of educational radio segments.

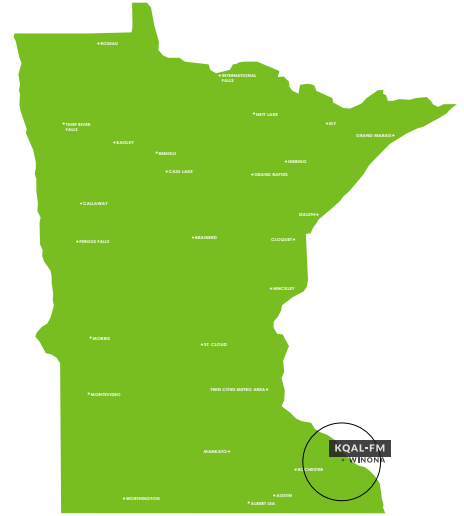
STATION REPORTS

WINONA – KQAL, 89.5 FM



Station Description

KQAL-FM (Winona) broadcasts at 89.5 FM. KQAL is owned and operated by Winona State University and is staffed primarily by student volunteers. Celebrating 50 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

ART BEAT

Art Beat was a weekly show that featured in-depth interviews with artists from Winona and the surrounding Southeastern Minnesota region, giving listeners a closer look at local creativity and the independent art community. Each episode explored a variety of media—from painting and sculpture to digital media and local festivals—through conversations highlighting both process and personal story. **Art Beat** provided a platform for lesser-known regional artists and arts events, fostering greater visibility for the local creative scene.

In FY25, KQAL produced 22 **Art Beat** segments, each of which was 15-30 minutes long. The segments featured professor emeritus Dan Eastman, Dougie Padilla, Julia Kuperud, and the producers and actors from Church Basement Ladies in Rushford. The station estimates that each of the **Art Beat** segments reached roughly 265 on-air listeners. Additionally, the project generated 733 digital downloads. KQAL produced four more segments than proposed in its workplan, overdelivering on the outputs for this project. The project showcased the work of more than 20 Minnesota artists. **Art Beat**, a yearlong project, resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio that was designed to increase access to arts and culture, and More Minnesota artists had their work showcased on public radio as a result of the project KQAL achieved its proposed measurable outcomes for this project.



KSRQ's Art Beat provided a platform and significantly more exposure for lesser-known regional artists and arts events.

CULTURE CLIQUE

Culture Clique was a weekly series that took listeners on a meaningful journey into the cultural fabric of Winona, Minnesota. Each episode focused on themes of diversity, history, and emerging new populations in the region, with the aim of creating awareness and fostering understanding

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across different communities. The show was also released in podcast format. FY25 segments covered topics such as the Winona County History Center’s Halloween Cemetery Walk, the legalization of recreational cannabis in Minnesota, and the community event, “Nerd Nite” in Winona, demonstrating a mix of cultural, social, and civic subject matter. Through thoughtful production and storytelling, **Culture Clique** invited listeners to “walk in someone else’s shoes”—and in doing so, deepen their connection to the cultural mosaic of their own community.

KQAL produced 13 segments of **Culture Clique**, each of which was 15-45 minutes long. The station estimates that about 280 listeners heard the on-air listeners and the project generated an additional 527 digital streams and downloads. While KQAL produced two segments fewer than projected in its workplan, with its 13 segments, the station still generated more locally and Minnesota-focused content and allowed more Minnesota writers, artists, historians, and storytellers to have their work showcased through public broadcasting. It should also be noted that the station overdelivered in its outputs for **The Live Feed**, **Art Beat**, and **Winona Rewind**. By producing and airing the 13 segments of **Culture Clique**, the station was still able to achieve its proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project.

DON'T CHA KNOW & ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT DOWNLOAD

Don't Cha Know was a weekly 30-45 minute radio show that gave listeners an audible look at the week ahead in music, theater, and dance, with occasional guest speakers and authors who were presenting or performing in town. The project featured conversations with local theater casts and the President of Winona State. The Arts & Entertainment Download version of the project was a 60-90-second daily update on arts, cultural, and historical events taking place in and around Winona. Music venues, theaters, and a myriad of activities were the core of Arts & Entertainment Download.

In FY25, KQAL produced 48 broadcast episodes of **Don't Cha Know** and 240 **Arts & Entertainment Download** segments. The station estimates that about 280 listeners tuned into **Don't Cha Know**, while **Arts & Entertainment Download** accrued approximately 480 downloads. The project helped to showcase significantly more than 300 artistic, cultural, and historical events in the area. The project resulted in more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and increased the number of local artistic, cultural, and historical individuals and organizations that had their work showcased through public radio. KQAL achieved its proposed measurable outcomes for this yearlong project.

THE LIVE FEED

The Live Feed was a live concert series produced by Winona State University students. The project showcased local and regional musicians from Minnesota. Each episode captured the energy of a live performance — from festivals and breweries to backyard stages. The 30-60-minute weekly show featured artists such as Radium Girls, Sheep for Wheat, Mike Munson, and Taylor Hernley. Several episodes were recorded on location at events like Mid West Music Fest, Boast & Bluegrass, and Sleepy Weekend, giving audiences a front-row seat to Winona’s



KQAL's Culture Clique segments taught listeners about the cultural fabric that connects the community.



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vibrant music scene. With its mix of professional production and local passion, **The Live Feed** celebrated the sound and spirit of Winona and the larger southeastern Minnesota music scene.



KQAL produced 39 segments of **The Live Feed** in FY25, which was 19 more than the station proposed in its workplan, significantly overdelivering in its outputs. The station estimates that about 375 listeners tuned into the on-air version of **The Live Feed**. Digital analytics show significantly additional exposure with 1,158 downloads, which were higher than in the previous year. These assessments show that KQAL achieved its proposed outcomes of increasing locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio with the goal of increasing access to arts and culture as well as allowing more artists, bands, and singer-songwriters to have their work featured on public radio with this yearlong project.

REWIND WINONA

Rewind Winona was a year-long series that took listeners on a journey through the city's past, exploring the people, places, and events that shaped the community. Each weekly 90-second segment delved into the past in an accessible and entertaining way. The series highlighted the depth of Winona's heritage while uncovering lesser-known stories.

In FY25, **Rewind Winona** covered Round Barns, an ice rink turned opera hall, the history of brewing in Winona, and one of Minnesota's first sports icons, Paul Giel. The station estimates that about 287 listeners heard each of the 52 segments of **Rewind Winona** in FY25. KQAL partnered with the Winona County Historical Society for the project. The station overdelivered with its outputs for this project, producing seven more segments than promised in its workplan. **Rewind Winona** resulted in an increase in awareness of local history, personalities, past and present, as well as Winona-focused content unique to public radio. The project also resulted in more local content produced by public radio. KQAL achieved its proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

THE SOUND

The Sound was a music-focused series that dove into the creative process behind local and regional artists' work through in-studio interviews and full-album spotlights. Each episode explored songwriting, recording, and the stories that shape the music. FY25 featured performers included Charlie Parr, Sister Species, Mae Simpson, Barbaro, and Loud Mouth Brass. Episode highlights included Charlie Parr's reflections on his self-titled album and Sister Species discussing their lush, layered record, "Light Exchanges."

The Sound provided a platform for both emerging and established musicians to connect with new audiences. The project captured the depth, diversity, and creativity of Minnesota's thriving music scene. KQAL produced 32 45-60-minute segments of **The Sound** in FY25. The station estimates that approximately 410 on-air listeners heard each segment, and the project generated an additional 980 downloads online. The assessments show the project generated more locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio with the goal of increasing access to arts and culture and increasing the number of Minnesota artists, producers, writers, and others who had their work showcased through public media. KQAL achieved its proposed measurable outcomes with this yearlong project.



KQAL's Rewind Winona segments explored the people, places, and events that shaped the community.

AWARDS RECEIVED FOR ACHF PROGRAMMING

AMPERS (statewide) The Minnesota Society of Professional Journalism awarded AMPERS two Page One Awards in 2025. AMPERS received Third Place, News Feature Reporting for the **Minnesota Native News** segment, *Anangong Miigaading-Star Wars: A New Hope Released in Ojibwe Language* and Third Place, Podcast for the 2024 season of **Native Lights: Where Indigenous Voices Shine**.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul) earned three Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists Page One Awards for their **MinneCulture** project. James Napoli and Britta Greene won First Place in Feature Reporting for the **MinneCulture** segment, *Saving Minnesotan Old Time Music*; Michelle Bruch won Second Place in Enterprise/In-depth Reporting for the **MinneCulture** segment, *Minnesota vs. Big Tobacco*; and *Season 8* of **MinneCulture** won Second Place for Best Podcast.

KQAL (Winona) received two awards from the Midwest Broadcast Journalists Association. The station earned the Staff/Small Market Radio Award. KQAL's project, **The Sound**, was awarded the Eric Sevareid Award of Merit in the Documentary-Special category of the Small Market Radio Division for Bill Stoneberg's episode featuring *Ghostland Radio*.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage) received a Regional Edward R. Murrow award in Writing for Broadcast for Chel Anderson's *Owls' Silent Flight* on **North Shore Morning** during the *North Woods Naturalist* feature.

WTIP also earned three 2025 Midwest Broadcast Journalists Association Eric Sevareid awards. Staci Drouillard received First Place Podcast for the **Boundary Waters Podcast** segment, *Keep it Wild - BWCAW Dark Sky Sanctuary and Protecting Dark Skies*. Martha Marnocha earned First Place Soft Feature for *The Pincushion Dump* episode of **Traveling the Old North Shore**. Staci Drouillard earned First Place for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion for the **It Happens Here: The Roots of Racial Inequity on the North Shore** episode, *Internalized*.










Staci Drouillard earned two of WTIP's four prestigious awards for its Legacy work.




AMPERS and its member stations received 11 awards for Legacy programming in FY25 bringing the twelve-year total to 119 awards!

FUNDING SOURCES

Station	Expense Type	Funding Source	FY25
 AMPERS* Statewide	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$267,982.81
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$553,000.00
	Station Distribution	Dept. of Administration	\$121,825.00
	Postage	Dept. of Administration	\$200.00
 KBXE Bagley / Bemidji	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$61,865.63
	Travel	Dept. of Administration	\$1,500.00
	Stage	Dept. of Administration	\$750.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$50,650.00
 WDSE-FM Duluth	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$38,165.29
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$6,014.40
 WTIP Grand Marais / Gunflint Trail / Grand Portage	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$89,331.45
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$25,434.18
 KQXE Grand Rapids / Brainerd	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$80,765.63
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$3,100.00
	Travel	Dept. of Administration	\$1,000.00
 KMSU Mankato / Austin	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$68,562.50
	Photographer	Dept. of Administration	\$2,000.00
	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$32,500.00
	Advertising	Dept. of Administration	\$500.00
 KBEM Minneapolis / St. Paul	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$109,965.63
	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$4,800.00
 KUOM Minneapolis / St. Paul	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$114,765.63
	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$41,502.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$67,180.63
	Advertising	Dept. of Administration	\$3,371.00
 KVSC St. Cloud	Equipment/Supplies	Dept. of Administration	\$1,712.00
	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$41,196.00
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$53,569.63
 KSRQ Thief River Falls	Equipment	Dept. of Administration	\$15,000.00
	Advertising	Dept. of Administration	\$5,000.00
	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$41,196.00

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FUNDING SOURCES

Station	Expense Type	Funding Source	FY25
 KQAL Winona <small>The Winona Music Experience</small>	Salaries/Benefits	Dept. of Administration	\$74,293.56
	Contracted Services	Dept. of Administration	\$1,200.00
	Student Help	Dept. of Administration	\$7,000.00
	Programming Sponsorship	Dept. of Administration	\$12,000.00
	Marketing	Dept. of Administration	\$8,000.00
	Rewind Winona Talent	Dept. of Administration	\$3,000.00
	Equipment	Dept. of Administration	\$1,147.07

* 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 FY25: 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 FY25 funding and does not include any carryover funding from previous fiscal years because carryover funds were already included in previous Legislative Reports.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR ACHF PROJECTS

Station	Project	Funding Source	Amount
WTIP Grand Marais / Gunflint Trail / Grand Portage	Radio Waves Music Festival	Visit Cook County Grant	\$15,000.00
	Granite City Radio Theater	Ticket Sales	\$5,586.72
KVSC St. Cloud	KVSC News Department Staff Coverage of Arts and Culture	Underwriting	\$14,000,000
	PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2	Listener Contributions	\$1,205.00
KSRQ Thief River Falls	Kezar Music Showroom Presents	Donations	\$565.00
	Homegrown Music Festival	Music Go Round	\$1,000.00
	Native Elder History Project	Arrowhead Regional Arts Council Maada'ooking	\$5,500.00
WDSE-FM Duluth	Lake Superior Radio Theater Variety Show and Dramatic Productions	Duluth Coffee Company	\$1,805.00



AMPERS stations were able to leverage ACHF programs to secure nearly \$40,000.00 in additional funding.

PROGRAM SHARING

AMPERS (Statewide) shared 186 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji) shared 293 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake) shared 5 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

WDSE-FM (Duluth) shared 93 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

WGZS-FM (Fond du Lac / Cloquet) shared 40 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage) shared 166 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd) shared 293 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KMSU (Mankato) Shared 24 ACHF Programs with all AMPERS stations

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul) shared 95 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul) shared 33 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul) shared 69 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KRPR (Rochester) shared 90 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KVSC (St. Cloud) shared 34 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KSRQ (Thief River Falls) shared 72 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway) shared 13 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KQAL (Winona) shared 138 ACHF programs with all AMPERS stations

KMOJ- FM (Minneapolis) shared 55 programs with all AMPERS stations



COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

AMPERS (Statewide): “I learn something new about our state every time.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds.***

AMPERS (Statewide): “What a short and sweet message to hear on our stations!” – KAXE listener commenting on ***MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds.***

AMPERS (Statewide): “Preserving our local history is vital.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds.***

AMPERS (Statewide): “Love history stories & lessons. Quirky stories from yesteryear make me think. We learn how to go forward when we know where we came from.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds.***

AMPERS (Statewide): “Love these Minnesota bite-sized history lessons!” – KAXE listener commenting on ***MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds.***

AMPERS (Statewide): “It’s important to have a program like this.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds.***

AMPERS (Statewide): “I learn history that I have never heard before.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds.***

AMPERS (Statewide): “Always interesting to hear segments highlighting our state’s history.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds.***

AMPERS (Statewide): “90 seconds well spent.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds.***

AMPERS (Statewide): “Short and sweet but always loaded with great historical information.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds.***

AMPERS (Statewide): “Great show. Very interesting and informative.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds.***

AMPERS (Statewide): “I think it’s important that we learn our history. This program does that in a fun and easy to grasp way.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds.***

AMPERS (Statewide): “I think it’s important that we learn our history. This program does that in a fun and easy to grasp way.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds.***



“I learn something new about our state every time.”

– KAXE listener, commenting on ***MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds***



“I learn history that I have never heard before.”

– KAXE listener, commenting on ***MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds***

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

AMPERS (Statewide): “I love hearing the indigenous voices and perspectives that have so often been neglected.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***.

AMPERS (Statewide): “I appreciate this knowledge on current events I couldn’t get anywhere else.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***.

AMPERS (Statewide): “It answers many questions that I have before asking them.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***.

AMPERS (Statewide): “I enjoy hearing native news from a native perspective. Helps me think about things in a different way.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***.

AMPERS (Statewide): “I think it is news everyone should hear.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***.

AMPERS (Statewide): “It is the only program that informs me about what is happening in the world of Native Americans.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***.

AMPERS (Statewide): “I value hearing ***Minnesota Native News***. These stories are important, and I look forward to continuing to be informed.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***.

AMPERS (Statewide): “There’s no place else to get news about Minnesota’s native populations. There needs to be more of this.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***.

AMPERS (Statewide): “This provides an important perspective that is missing in mainstream programming.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***.

AMPERS (Statewide): “I’ve learned shocking statistics of the missing and murdered, the abuse and betrayal of our native peoples. I’ve also learned of their resilience and positivity in their stories and interviews.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***.

AMPERS (Statewide): “This is such a great show! I love hearing indigenous voices and perspectives.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***Native Lights***.

AMPERS (Statewide): “Lemm & Premo [last name of hosts] do a wonderful job of engaging the audience!” – KAXE listener commenting on ***Native Lights***.

AMPERS (Statewide): “Informative interviews with Native Americans in our state.” – KAXE listener commenting on ***Native Lights***.



“There’s no place else to get news about Minnesota’s native populations. There needs to be more of this.”

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



“This provides an important perspective that is missing in mainstream programming.”

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

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

AMPERS (Statewide): “I really enjoy learning about Native culture.”
– KAXE listener commenting on **Native Lights**.

AMPERS (Statewide): “Love listening to **Native Lights**! Love Leah’s voice, always interesting dialogue with her brother and their guests.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Native Lights**.

AMPERS (Statewide): “The more information I have on our Native American values and customs the more admiration I have for these neighbors.”
– KAXE listener commenting on **Native Lights**.

AMPERS (Statewide): “I live on one of the reservations and feel the information is important.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Native Lights**.

AMPERS (Statewide): “I think it’s important that we all get more exposure to our First Nations people. There’s much to learn from their culture, history and experience.”
– KAXE listener commenting on **Native Lights**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “These are great interesting pieces.” – Pamela Jean commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Bought my ticket right after the interview this morning!!!” – Carolyn King commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Absolutely beautiful work” – Michelle Bedford commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “This show happening right now about Room 203 is fabulous!!! So informative, exciting, and beautiful! We live out in Aurora and look forward to going to Grand Rapids more often now! Thank you!” – Daria from Aurora commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Andrew does a great job interviewing various people from all of our communities!”
– KBXE listener commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Having a venue for local voices like this encourages even more people to speak up and share their stories...It is vitally important that local historians report and preserve the truth for future generations.” – KBXE listener commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I attended some events I wouldn’t have without this program.” – KBXE listener commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Well done. Covers the working artist and their stories.” – KBXE listener commenting on **Area Voices**.



“It is vitally important that local historians report and preserve the truth for future generations.”

– KBXE listener, commenting on *Area Voices*



“I always learn so much about people and events and artists and how artists got started.”

– KBXE listener, commenting on *Area Voices*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Andrew provides such valuable interviews and does such a great job highlighting all the local talent in our part of the state.” – KBXE listener commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I always learn so much about people and events and artists and how artists got started.” – KBXE listener commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Through this program I have been exposed to authors, artists and historians I had never heard about before. So much amazing talent and interesting work being done.” – KBXE listener commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “This never fails to be interesting and informative.” – KBXE listener commenting on **Area Voices**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “This was such a fantastic event. A great night of super talented MN musicians and community connection. Events like this are so important and create space for people to come together.” – KBXE listener commenting on **Get Downtown With KBXE**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “What a great free concert.” – KBXE listener commenting on **Get Downtown With KBXE**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Would like to see more of these concerts.” – KBXE listener commenting on **Get Downtown With KBXE**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Stunning designs ! I love how Delina White’s collection, “The Flow,” focuses on sustainability and upcycling. It’s amazing to see fashion being used as a way to document the climate of the times and create heirloom items. [heart icon].” – Bernice Belgrade commenting on **Anishinaabe Fashion Showa**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “The fashions were amazing and the models so beautiful. The theme of this year’s event was Water, encouraging us to think about how important it is to protect our waters, the lifeblood of Mother Earth. Thank you to KBXE for bringing my attention to this incredible event!” – KBXE listener commenting on **Anishinaabe Fashion Showa**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “It was both fun and meaningful to know more about the traditions behind some of the beautiful clothes that were shown. ” – KBXE listener commenting on **Anishinaabe Fashion Showa**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Absolutely LOVED this show!!! Cannot wait for future seasons.” – KBXE listener commenting on **Ham Radio**.



“Through this program I have been exposed to authors, artists and historians I had never heard about before. So much amazing talent and interesting work being done.”

– KBXE listener, commenting on *Area Voices*



“This never fails to be interesting and informative.”

– KBXE listener, commenting on *Area Voices*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I’m really loving Ham Radio! I’m originally from northwestern Minnesota and now live in Winnipeg. I followed along this past December when Amy made lutefisk. After listening to your conversation with Wally, I plan to give it a shot this coming winter. My grandparents would’ve been thrilled at the idea that lutefisk could live on. Thanks for making the show. I look forward to each new episode.” – KBXE listener commenting on **Ham Radio**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Amy and Heidi were a great team presenting a fun and informative podcast. I really hope Ham Radio will have another season.” – KBXE listener commenting on **Ham Radio**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “**What We’re Reading** is a very good collection of Minnesota authors. Tammy does a great job with the interviews!” – KBXE listener commenting on **What We’re Reading**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I love this segment! It has helped me discover new authors!” – KBXE listener commenting on **What We’re Reading**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I love the author interviews, and I often search out those authors for new books to read, and possibly invite to speak at our Brown Bag author series at the Brainerd Public Library!” – KBXE listener commenting on **What We’re Reading**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “A fun way to learn about local and regional authors and their latest books.” – KBXE listener commenting on **What We’re Reading**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Great programming that connects local authors with the community. This is a very valuable program for both authors and people in the community.” – KBXE listener commenting on **What We’re Reading**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “While listening to **What We’re Reading**, I have learned of books and authors that I would not anywhere else in my sphere of influence. This is a worthwhile program.” – KBXE listener commenting on **What We’re Reading**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I love to hear what local Minnesota authors are writing.” – KBXE listener commenting on **What We’re Reading**.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I hope that the community and the legislature will continue to support programs like this and many others provided by KBXE.” – KBXE listener commenting on **What We’re Reading**.

WDSE-FM (Duluth): “The podcast is sounding great!” – WDSE-FM listener commenting on **Native Elder History Project**.



“Absolutely
LOVED
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Cannot wait for
future seasons.”

– KBXE listener, commenting
on *Ham Radio*



“I hope
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– KBXE listener, commenting
on *What We’re Reading*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

WDSE-FM (Duluth): “Fabulous job on this podcast, Ivy and Jill! I loved it--informative, warm, funny, everything I had hoped for and more! (I especially liked the fact that I could go back and listen to it on the North’s website, as I was in the shop with dad when it aired this morning.)” – WDSE-FM listener commenting on ***Native Elder History Project***.

WDSE-FM (Duluth): “I just finished listening to this podcast and I highly recommend it! This podcast features artists Wendy Savage and Carl Gawboy speaking about their beginnings and subsequent podcasts will delve deeper into their careers and the beginnings of the Ojibwe Art Expo. My dear friend Ivy Vainio produced this project and White Earth member Jill Doerfler is the interviewer. This is a must-listen to for all artists and Native Artists alike. ” – WDSE-FM listener commenting on ***Native Elder History Project***.

WDSE-FM (Duluth): “Excellent that you’re documenting these events! They had a big influence on the region” – WDSE-FM listener commenting on ***Native Elder History Project***.

WDSE-FM (Duluth): “Check out the first segment of Ivy’s fantastic project!” – WDSE-FM listener commenting on ***Native Elder History Project***.

WDSE-FM (Duluth): “Check out the first segment of Ivy’s fantastic project!” – WDSE-FM listener commenting on ***Native Elder History Project***.

WDSE-FM (Duluth): “I was bummed I had to get out of my car” – Mimmu Salmela commenting on ***Live from Studio A***.

WDSE-FM (Duluth): “I’m loving the new Studio A segments at noon, thank you ” – David Haaversen commenting on ***Live from Studio A***.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “We really enjoy Mark’s morning show and “Speaking for the Birds” and all the public service announcements – thank you!” – Nancy and Dan of Grand Marais commenting on ***Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend***.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “I tune in for the local arts and Native news, and I stay for the music. Miigwech!” – Andrea Carlson of Grand Marais, commenting on ***Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend***.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Love your station. I stream from Omaha, NE. Our great friends visited your neck of the woods years ago and recommended WTIP. I listen every morning to Swing Session and our Saturday mornings begin with North Shore Weekend on WTIP. Thank you for your wonderful programming.” – Les of Omaha, Nebraska, commenting on ***Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend***.



“This is a must-listen to for all artists and Native Artists alike.”

– WDSE-FM listener, commenting on *Native Elder History Project*



“I tune in for the local arts and Native news, and I stay for the music. Miigwech.”

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

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “I think it’s a great community connector – especially North Shore Morning!” – Mary of Lutsen, commenting on **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend**.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “I love listening to CJ on North Shore Morning. WTIP was transformational in my transition to living in Cook County five years ago.” – WTIP listener commenting on **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend**.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “After moving up here last year and not really knowing anyone, the voices of Mark and CJ on North Shore Morning, Sterling on the News Hour, Dr Oz, etc. are now my daily companions and best friends throughout the day and evening! Love you guys and everything you do for our community!” – WTIP listener commenting on **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend**.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “I love listening when I’m in the area and I can find out what’s happening in the County. I also enjoy the nature programming, morning shows, and music shows—especially **Scenic Route** on Fridays.” – Craig Bigsby Lake of Lutsen, commenting on **Scenic Route**.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Nice party this week-end. I can’t imagine the work that goes into organizing Radio Waves, but I spent the afternoon and evening of Saturday there and had a blast. Good way to hang out with friends, dance and enjoy some fun and new music. Even the power outage added a pretty cool touch... being up close without the loud speakers was a great touch, especially for Keith Secola. He just went with it and it was intimate and special in a super cool way. Kudos to you and all the staff.” – Kim of Grand Marais, commenting on **Radio Waves Music Festival**.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “I love your outdoor concert.” – Marie of Ontonagon, Michigan, commenting on **Radio Waves Music Festival**.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “We came from California to enjoy the festival with our Minnesota family! Such a fun experience.” – Resident of California commenting on **Radio Waves Music Festival**.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “As a first-time attendee, we enjoyed how easy everything was. From parking to food and all the good music in between. I’m sure we will be back.” – WTIP listener commenting on **Radio Waves Music Festival**.



“I’m loving the new Studio A segments at noon, thank you.”

– David Haaversen, commenting on *Live from Studio A*.



“I often search out those authors for new books to read, and possibly invite to speak at our Brown Bag author series at the Brainerd Public Library!”

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

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “The setting can’t be beat! Such beauty with the background of Lake Superior and music in the air.” – WTIP listener commenting on **Radio Waves Music Festival**.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Emma Tweten was an AWESOME singer. Thoroughly enjoyed the Splints. Their music is so lively and happy. Also really enjoyed Annie Humphrey. And I must say that Keith Secola and friends had to be the best performance of the day.” – WTIP listener commenting on **Radio Waves Music Festival**.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Nice friendly atmosphere. Well organized. Quality of music and variety is very good. Nice to support non-commercial radio and event. Happy Minnesota helps fund this and am happy some of my tax money goes to events such as this.” – WTIP listener commenting on **Radio Waves Music Festival**.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “My husband & I live in Brooklyn, NY. We’re native mid-westerners, though. (He’s from Wisconsin, I’m from Iowa.) We love the Boundary Waters and try to get there as often as possible. (Especially in winter.) We always listen to WTIP when there, and sometimes tune in to the Boundary Waters Podcast when we’re home and need a dose of the north woods.” – Sandra of Brooklyn, New York, commenting on **WTIP Boundary Waters Podcast**.

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 of Stillwater, commenting on **WTIP Boundary Waters Podcast**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Centerstage Minnesota has introduced me to so many Minnesota musicians!” – KAXE listener commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I love to hear the local music. Encouraging local musicians helps them find to an audience and actually make some money off of their work, perhaps propel them to a wider audience and it enriches the whole community.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Excellent show. New music every Friday!” – KAXE listener commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I enjoy being able to listen to the show interviews posted online when I can’t listen live.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I love this program dedicated to all the great music that comes out of our state.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.



“Centerstage
Minnesota
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– KAXE listener, commenting
on *Centerstage Minnesota*



“Love
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on *Centerstage Minnesota*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Love hearing all of the talented musicians from my state!!”

– KAXE listener commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Being exposed to local and regional area talent is what sets NCR [Northern Community Radio: KAXE/KBXE] aside from all other commercial radio.” –

KAXE listener commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Excellent show to keep an ear on the music being made in our neck of the woods.” –

KAXE listener commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I like to keep up to date on MN music scene, and enjoy Malachy’s shows. I like hearing about opportunities to hear these musicians live in our neighborhood (North Central MN).” – KAXE listener commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I have learned of so many artists through Centerstage. Artists that aren’t normally highlighted, and deserve to be.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I learn a lot about the local music scene, past and present.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “This is a great way for Minnesotans to become aware of talent that comes directly from our own state. Please continue to support this Minnesota-focused programming.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Great program. It’s critical for musicians to have an outlet for people to hear them. How else can they get statewide visibility?” – KAXE listener commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I love hearing and learning about Minnesota musicians. These programs showcase the talent we have right here in all musical styles. I have no doubt programs such as these help to propel the careers of our homegrown talented performers.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “This is a great way to get informed about events.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Events Up North**.



“I have learned of so many artists through Centerstage. Artists that aren’t normally highlighted, and deserve to be.”

– KAXE listener, commenting on *Centerstage Minnesota*.



“This is a great way for Minnesotans to become aware of talent that comes directly from our own state. Please continue to support this Minnesota-focused programming.”

– KAXE listener, commenting on *Centerstage Minnesota*.

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I enjoy attending live concerts and other events. This keeps me informed of what’s happening in our region.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Events Up North**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “We like to stay abreast of music, art, and theater events in northern MN, in the Brainerd area where we live, Grand Rapids area where we have a cabin, and Walker area where we have our sailboat on beautiful Leech Lake!” – KAXE listener commenting on **Events Up North**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “It’s important information that I rely on to know what’s happening in the area...a great resource.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Events Up North**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “It’s great to find out about what’s happening locally!” – KAXE listener commenting on **Events Up North**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Supporting local artists and musicians is crucial to building community and encouraging individual artistic endeavors.” – KAXE listener commenting on **MN Music Placemaking**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Since I am a newcomer to Minnesota, the Setlist helps me learn more about local musicians.” – KAXE listener commenting on **MN Music Placemaking**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “We’re very fortunate to have The Setlist tell us about all the great shows around our area. I wouldn’t know where else to find them without it.” – KAXE listener commenting on **MN Music Placemaking**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Love to get out and hear our MN homegrown music! Often plan trips to cabin around local music offerings.” – KAXE listener commenting on **MN Music Placemaking**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “From The Setlist I have learned about events and music happening in our area that I wouldn’t have heard about otherwise.” – KAXE listener commenting on **MN Music Placemaking**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “A great show highlighting many local people!” – KAXE listener commenting on **Bright Spots**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Love positive community stories. So needed today.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Bright Spots**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Great stuff. I love starting my day listening to this. Very Minnesotan. Well done.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Bright Spots**.



“Since I am a newcomer to Minnesota, the Setlist helps me learn more about local musicians.”

– KAXE listener, commenting on *MN Music Placemaking*



“Love to get out and hear our MN homegrown music! Often plan trips to cabin around local music offerings.”

– KAXE listener, commenting on *MN Music Placemaking*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “It’s just really nice to hear a positive story in these negative times. Our brains, our hearts need a break from all the horrible incidents in the news highlighting man’s inhumanity to man.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Bright Spots**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “If ever there was a time to embrace human stories, tales of decency and care for humanity, illuminating these stories with music and writing it is now! This program helps bind together like minded artists in the northern half of the state that care about human rights, and the human condition. Whatever I can do to help impress upon funders the importance of this show, please let me know.” – Sam Miltich commenting on **Stay Human**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Sharing local stories in this way helps build community. This is always important but even more so now.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Stay Human**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “This show is an award winner. The story’s told by the Storytellers are often mesmerizing.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Stay Human**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “It’s a unique and wonderful program which always manages to make me laugh or touch my heart.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Stay Human**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “This is one of the best uses of radio waves on the air (or online) anywhere.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Stay Human**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “A wonderful collection of voices of all ages and walks of life from our northwoods! Plus, the selection of music is tailored to the particular spoken pieces.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Stay Human**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “It’s an amazing program! Funny, erudite, interesting, real people with real stories, interesting topics to which we can all relate, it develops community connections, and sometimes very funny! Love it!” – KAXE listener commenting on **Stay Human**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Love the **Stay Human** program, look forward to hearing weekly. Always interesting, intriguing to hear the stories of our neighbors, and Michael is a master at pulling together topics and storytellers to help us all **Stay Human**.” – KAXE listener commenting on **Stay Human**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Storytelling is a lost art. This program is entertaining and educational. Keep storytelling alive!” – KAXE listener commenting on **Stay Human**.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Stories told on **Stay Human** have brought me to laughter, tears and groans in nearly equal measure. The program makes me feel connected on a human level to my broader community. ” – KAXE listener commenting on **Stay Human**.



“This show is an award winner. The story’s told by the Storytellers are often mesmerizing.”

– KAXE listener, commenting on *Stay Human*



“This is one of the best uses of radio waves on the air (or online) anywhere.”

– KAXE listener, commenting on *Stay Human*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I’ve enjoyed Phil Nussbaum’s interviews with local artists.” – Tom Yuska of St. Paul commenting on *Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I’ve enjoyed Phil Nussbaum’s interviews with local artists.” – Tom Yuska of St. Paul commenting on *Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Leigh Kaman is/was quite the local talent and interviewed many...heard one episode and liked it.” – Steve of St. Paul commenting on *The Jazz Image*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Absolutely astonishing archive of Leigh Kamman’s recordings... Truly one of the most valuable programs supported by the Fund.” – Anthony of Plymouth commenting on *The Jazz Image*.

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 of Minneapolis commenting on *The Jazz Image*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Had a chance to attend. Way cool Patty. Thanks for preserving jazz history.” – Ginger Commodore commenting on *Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Had a chance to attend. Way cool Patty. Thanks for preserving jazz history.” – Ginger Commodore commenting on *Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “We need crusaders for the Art. Preservation is everything. Thank you Patty.” – Suzanne Paris commenting on *Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thank you for another wonderful event. Fantastic music and amazing stories.” – Tim Pratt commenting on *Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Such a great thing you’re doing . What a beautiful show! What a legacy YOU have made for our legends.” – Paul P. commenting on *Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thank you for another wonderful event. Fantastic music and amazing stories.” – Tim P. commenting on *Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders*.



“Truly one of the most valuable programs supported by the Fund.”

– Anthony of Plymouth, commenting on *The Jazz Image*



“Short and sweet but always loaded with great historical information.”

– KAXE listener, commenting on *MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Congrats to Patty, her crew on stage and off, and of course the celebrated legends!” – Tim P. commenting on *Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Congratulations to all involved and especially to the wonderful Miss Patty!!!” – Steve B. commenting on *Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Important work. Bravo to Patty and crew!!” – Paul M. commenting on *Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “One of my favorite shows.” – Dan J. commenting on *Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I just listened to the show that featured the Edison High jazz band in Disneyland. Awesome! My 3 kids were all in band in St. Paul, so I might be biased, but they (Edison) sounded great! Fantastic program ya got there. I’m proud to be a sustaining member of KBEM.” – Tim Leach of St. Paul commenting on *Jazz@MPS*.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I really love when students are on air.” – Anne Quincy of Minneapolis commenting on *Jazz@MPS*.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Great job tackling a tough topic.” – Kathy Chinn commenting on *MinneCulture*.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I really enjoyed this podcast – will be looking for more info on boat house communities.” – Bette Jafek Rose, of Minneapolis, commenting on *MinneCulture*.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Awesome [clapping hands icon] Minnesota history thank ya for sharing” – Curtis West commenting on *MinneCulture*.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Wow. I never heard of this before.” – Jill Krimmel-Connelly commenting on *MinneCulture*.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Lovely, just amazingly lovely and sweet.” – Roberto Henderson commenting on *Live From Minnesota*.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I love love all of your music. Please never stop singing ” – KFAI listener commenting on *Live From Minnesota*.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Amazing outstanding performance!! Full of sentimientos ” – KFAI listener commenting on *Live From Minnesota*.



“*What We’re Reading* is a very good collection of Minnesota authors. Tammy does a great job with the interviews!”

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



“My grandparents would’ve been thrilled at the idea that lutefisk could live on. Thanks for making the show. I look forward to each new episode.”

– KBXE listener, commenting on *Ham Radio*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KMOJ (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Every time I walk past the KMOJ booth at the fair, I feel like I’m home. The DJs bring the energy, the music is always on point, and people are just vibing together. It’s the best part of the fair for me.” – Fairgoer commenting on ***Dancing with the DJs***.

KMOJ (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “This is what representation looks like. Urban music, Black DJs, and families dancing together in the middle of the State Fair? That’s powerful.” – Minneapolis parent and educator commenting on ***Dancing with the DJs***.

KMOJ (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I love that KMOJ plays the DJ sets on the radio too. I can’t always get to the fair, but I still feel like I’m part of the action.” – Brooklyn Park listener commenting on ***Dancing with the DJs***.

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Music is one of the most enriching and beautiful parts of life. It should be supported so that artists can continue to do what they love and share what they love.” – Nora commenting on ***MN Music-Makers, Behind the Scenes***.

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “A thriving arts and music scene is something that sets Minnesota apart, gives people a reason to be interested in and visit Minnesota, and is a huge part of quality of life here.” – Toby commenting on ***MN Music-Makers, Behind the Scenes***.

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “It’s fun to share with the community and Radio K is a historic institution!” – Nicky commenting on ***MN Music-Makers, Behind the Scenes***.

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “This year it has been the most amazing podcast – love hearing a student’s perspective – so proud that the State supports this programming!” – Radio K listener commenting on ***The Land of 10,000 Stories from Real College Podcast***.

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I enjoy the variety of subjects covered by the podcast.” – Radio K listener commenting on ***The Land of 10,000 Stories from Real College Podcast***.

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Featuring local hip hop is what our community needs – nobody else gives this type of exposure to our local community of hip hop artists – makes me a proud supporter of Radio K and citizen of the state of Minnesota.” – Radio K listener commenting on ***Local Vibes!***

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I’ve watched almost all the in studio performances, love the YouTube channel. Just keep it up!” – Radio K listener commenting on ***Local Vibes!***



“A thriving arts and music scene is something that sets Minnesota apart, gives people a reason to be interested in and visit Minnesota, and is a huge part of quality of life here.”

– Toby, commenting on *MN Music-Makers, Behind the Scenes*



“I love this segment! It has helped me discover new authors!”

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

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “On behalf of my longtime listener grandparents and polka enthusiasts, the late Andrew & Junice Berg, I would like to thank this station, it’s on-air personalities, and most importantly, the musicians that have and are actively playing to promote the values and enjoyment of olde time music. You are faithfully preserving a treasured heritage of the folks that settled this land and keeping their spirit alive for generations to come. So for all that you do, THANK YOU again. Your efforts & passion do not go unnoticed.” – Calen Rude commenting on **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “About eight years ago now I had the good fortune of discovering KSRQ. You’ve provided hundreds of hours of wonderful music and some new friends in the state of Minnesota. I thank you folks for being very important in my senior years. Thanks a lot for being there.” – Harold Dey of Spanish Fort, Alabama, commenting on **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Enjoyed the Ballroom interview with Vernon Peterson..” – Darrell Taie commenting on **Hometown History**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Love this! Been at Meadowbrook Ballroom so much, that place was so much fun, miss that place. Meadowbrooke Ballroom was sure the good Ole days, loved going out there every weekend, even had my wedding dance out there in 1980”. – Diann Anderson commenting on **Hometown History**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Enjoying entertainment. Relaxing evening”. – Shurleen Adams commenting on **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Great music and my grandkids loved it. Thank you.” – Tom Kalinoski commenting on **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Great music and even a little dancing!!! Thanks for the t-shirt.” – Sherry Page commenting on **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “It was a fabulous evening.” – Rhonda Laferriere commenting on **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “It was a great time. Good music!!” – Peggy Clow commenting on **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “A wonderful evening.” – Shurleen Adams commenting on **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Listening at work, and I just have to say – if you can listen to Gracie Crocker sing without getting goosebumps, you need to check your pulse.” – Leah Wattenphul commenting on **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**.



“This year it has been the most amazing podcast – love hearing a student’s perspective – so proud that the State supports this programming!”

– Radio K listener, commenting on *The Land of 10,000 Stories from Real College Podcast*

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Much appreciated and thoroughly enjoyed by the seniors who made the trip to see him! Many thanks all around!” –Darcy Hestekind commenting on ***Kezar Music Showroom Presents.***

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Love radio theater.” – Lori Duggan commenting on ***Readers Theater Project.***

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Awesome! I’ve been missing radio serials since they cancelled A Prairie Home Companion.” – Krist Olson commenting on ***Readers Theater Project.***

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “I listened. It was funny!! Good job!” – Beth Zerr commenting on ***Readers Theater Project.***

KVSC (St. Cloud): “Such a great show as always.” – KVSC listener commenting on ***Granite City Radio Theatre.***



“It was both fun and meaningful to know more about the traditions behind some of the beautiful clothes that were shown.”

– KBXE listener,
commenting on *Anishinaabe Fashion Showa*

COMMENTS FROM MINNESOTA ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I listened to it while I sat with Mom (a friend sent me the link late this afternoon), and you did a fantastic job! I truly appreciate all your work and will share it like crazy once I can. Thank you SO much! :)” – Jill Hannah Anderson, author of *Closer to Home*, commenting on **What We’re Reading**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Thank you! I think it turned out great and would love to chat with you again when I have another book.” – Jennifer Schultz, author, commenting on **What We’re Reading**

WDSE-FM (Duluth): “Just a quick note to say that I was able to listen to the podcast and I think the first episode is excellent! It was fun to listen and relive what was such a fun day. The addition of Briand’s music is fantastic as is the introduction that Ivy recorded. I’m sure the editing was a challenge and I think it came together nicely. Miigwech to everyone who has played a role in bringing this amazing project to fruition!” – Jill Doerfler, commenting on **Native Elder History Project**

WDSE-FM (Duluth): “Thanks Christine for being so professional and doing your homework on my music. It is so great Thank you so much!” – Ian Alexy, commenting on **Live From Studio A**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Thanks for the opportunity to share about our show! We are so proud of our participants and know it will be a bright spot for all who attend!” – Sonia Lindgaard commenting on **Bright Spot**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I think Michael and his show are absolutely brilliant. If ever there was a time to embrace human stories, tales of decency and care for humanity, illuminating these stories with music and writing it is now!” – Sam Miltich commenting on **Stay Human**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Thank you for including Northern Waters Land Trust in the **Stay Human** show on protectors! I was able to listen to it on Sunday evening while driving back up north from the cities. Nothing like appreciating the north woods as you drive back into our forests and reflecting on the ‘next generation’ as a toddler scatters Cheerios around the car & a newborn sings along to Gillian Welch!” – Annie Knight commenting on **Stay Human**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “As a contributor to Stay Human, this program is extremely important to me. I am very sorry to hear this funding has been cut.” – KAXE listener/program participant commenting on **Stay Human**



“I’m sure the editing was a challenge and I think it came together nicely. Miigwech to everyone who has played a role in bringing this amazing project to fruition!”

– Jill Doerfler, commenting on *Native Elder History Project*



“As a contributor to Stay Human, this program is extremely important to me. I am very sorry to hear this funding has been cut.”

– KAXE listener, commenting on *Stay Human*

COMMENTS FROM MINNESOTA ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

KMSU (Mankato): “This partnership with KMSU is so important for the continued success of Blues On Belgrade. It helps us be able to feature wonderful local and statewide musicians.” – Jake Downs, music organizer for Blues on Belgrade, commenting on ***Large Outdoor Music and Arts Performances***

KMSU (Mankato): “We have a really strong music community, not only in our area, but in the state of Minnesota. To be able to collaborate, to allow younger musicians who are just in the early stages of their journey, to be able to collaborate with people who have been around for a long time, I think is invaluable. They can watch how professional musicians go about their work. So there’s a lot of peer-to-peer learning that’s going on.” – Eli Hoehn, event creator and accomplished musician, commenting on ***Large Outdoor Music and Arts Performances***

KMSU (Mankato): “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 with Greater Mankato Growth, commenting on ***Large Outdoor Music and Arts Performances***

KMSU (Mankato): “*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 which entertained the audience and really engaged the kids learning new dances, the Radzoo who brought various reptiles including an alligator which the kids were invited to touch and Them Coulee boys who really brought the crowd to their feet. We also had old favorites 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, ***Rock Bend Folk Festival*** Treasurer, commenting on ***Large Outdoor Music and Arts Performances***

KMSU (Mankato): “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. I am also amazed at the dedication of the team of volunteers. 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 pull this off 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 Performances***

KMSU (Mankato): “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 of Mankato Makerspace, commenting on ***Small Venue Music & Arts Performances***



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

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

COMMENTS FROM MINNESOTA ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

KMSU (Mankato): “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 of the *Free Form Freakout Concerts*, commenting on ***Small Venue Music & Arts Performances***

KMSU (Mankato): “KMSU’s partnership is the lifeblood of the Arts Center of Saint Peter’s Hot Jazz for Decent People summer concert series, now entering its 13th year as a free, family-friendly live music event. “Lifeblood” because the partnership helps with the costs of the program itself, including paying artists a rate competitive with local live music establishments. And for supporting the live sound mixing and recording the performances for later broadcasts. The Arts Center is enormously grateful to KMSU for the partnership and for the quality artistic output and community relations it makes possible.” – Ann Rosenquist Fee, Executive Director of Arts Center of St. Peter, commenting on ***Small Venue Music & Arts Performances***

KMSU (Mankato): “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 of the Mankato Symphony Orchestra, commenting on ***Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings***

KMSU (Mankato): “Recording and broadcasting the Grand Entry is a great way to share the spirit of reconciliation that is core to the Pow Wow, We really value KMSU’s support of the Wacipi” – Daniel Zielske, Chairman of Mahkato Mdewakanton Association, commenting on ***Mahkato Wacipi (Pow Wow)***

KMSU (Mankato): “Shelley Pierce, I love what you did with the editing. You never really know what these will sound like until you put all that work in on sound and background. Just awesome.” – Karl Larson, member of KMSU’s Fountaineers Radio Drama Troupe, commenting on ***Radio Drama***

KMSU (Mankato): “So cool to hear my music being played on the radio. We are so lucky to have KMSU playing local music. It’s an awesome opportunity for us to share our music and help build community.” – Terry Stark, local musician, commenting on ***Minnesota Music Channel***

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Wow, Phil, you’re a master at what you do! I had no idea this piece would sound so good! Thanks again Phil—I’m so pleased and grateful to have been interviewed by you and to have the recordings you sent. Dale and I very much appreciate having this promo piece air on Jazz88 before our gig...” – Vicki Victoria, Twin Cities musician, commenting on ***Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week***



“KMSU’s partnership is the lifeblood of the Arts Center of Saint Peter’s Hot Jazz for Decent People summer concert series, now entering its 13th year as a free, family-friendly live music event.”

– Ann Rosenquist Fee,
Executive Director of
Arts Center of St. Peter,
commenting on *Small Venue
Music & Arts Performances*

COMMENTS FROM MINNESOTA ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Phil, I received both downloads. Again, We so appreciate you doing this for us with 0 notice. It sounds great. As does all your work.” – Bobby Schnitzer, Twin Cities musician, commenting on *Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week*

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I can’t thank you enough or the radio interview! It was not only fun but people loved it! My show on Saturday night went great and a lot of people at the show had heard the interview and decided to come based off of that. Thank you Phil, for being supportive of musicians and what we are trying to do. It helps, of course, that you are a musician too. I just wanted to reach out and say thank you!” – Erin Livingston, Twin Cities vocalist, commenting on *Twin Cities Weekend/Twin Cities This Week*

KMOJ (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Getting the chance to DJ at the State Fair gave me exposure I never dreamed of. I booked three gigs just from people hearing me spin that day—and now I’m DJing for the Timberwolves. It all started with KMOJ” – DJ Dime commenting on *Dancing with the DJs*

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “As a young artist it is so invaluable to both discover new music being created by your peers, internationally and especially locally, and hearing your own music on the radio is something so much more tangible than streams. When you’re first starting out, it can be the most validating feeling to have the moment you’re introduced and your song begins to play. This doesn’t even touch on how important it is to the students to be able to explore and express themselves in curating their day to day playlists and sharing the music that means something to them to the public.” – Products Band commenting on *MN Music-Makers, Behind the Scenes*

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Because [arts and music] are a huge cultural part of the state, and the ACHF arts funding is one of the best reasons for artists to stay in MN .” – Waterline commenting on *MN Music-Makers, Behind the Scenes*

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Music and art go hand and hand. Most major cities don’t have a community of people who enjoy music and art. Having a solid platform to share, communicate and inspire goes a long way. Local businesses and neighborhoods benefit from artist engaging and having a support from their state to do so. Huge impact.” – Pinched commenting on *MN Music-Makers, Behind the Scenes*

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Minnesota is an important bastion of culture and art in the Midwest- cultural and artistic development and expression doesn’t happen in a vacuum and I feel it is the responsibility of the state to allot public funds towards that development and creation.” – Jenny Matrix commenting on *MN Music-Makers, Behind the Scenes*

KVSC (St. Cloud): “Thank you so much for having me! I had a blast. The band and the whole crew were just fantastic to work with, and the show is a hoot” – Artist Emily Haavik commenting on *Granite City Radio Theatre*



“Getting the chance to DJ at the State Fair gave me exposure I never dreamed of. I booked three gigs just from people hearing me spin that day—and now I’m DJing for the Timberwolves.”

– DJ Dime, commenting on *Dancing with the DJs*

COMMENTS FROM MINNESOTA ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Thanks to Pioneer 90.1 for such a cool event! Check it out! It’s a great setting for music, and what a fun time!” – John Vincent, Bemidji musician commenting on **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “This was super fun. Would surely do it again! Thanks 90.1 fm and all who do this for our community.” – Shelly Guzek, Thief River Falls musician, commenting on **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Thank you for sponsoring this incredible event!” – Thief River Falls Area Community Theater representative, commenting on **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**

KQAL (Winona): “Thanks Bill! Super fun interview, thanks again for having us on the show and showcasing the album and for being a fan of the music. We really are heartened by it, it was a good time!” Ruben the Band, commenting on **The Sound**



“Recording and broadcasting the Grand Entry is a great way to share the spirit of reconciliation that is core to the Pow Wow, We really value KMSU’s support of the Wacipi.”

– Daniel Zielske, Chairman of Mahkato Mdewakanton Association, commenting on *Mahkato Wacipi (Pow Wow)*

PROGRAM COSTS / PRODUCTION COSTS

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): *What We're Reading*: Program Costs: \$12,817.48, Administrative Costs: \$69.87; ***Area Voices*:** Program Costs: \$41,791.33, Administrative Costs: \$145.11; ***Anishinaabe Fashion Show*:** Program Costs: \$16,608.53, Administrative Costs: \$53.32; ***Get Downtown with KBXE*:** Program Costs: \$27,104.84, Administrative Costs: \$145.11; ***Ham Radio*:** Program Costs: \$15,242.64, Administrative Costs: \$145.11.

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake):
***Anishinaabemoen*:** Program Costs: \$384.49, Administrative Costs: \$57.67;
***Native Music Fest Series*:** Program Costs: \$39,270.86, Administrative Costs: \$5,890.63.

WDSE-FM (Duluth): *MN Reads and MN Reads Summer Solstice Celebration Block Party Concert*: Program Costs: \$9,997, Administrative costs: \$481; ***The Local Radio Show and Minnesota Music Archive*:** Program Costs: \$29,371, Administrative costs: \$1,414; ***Live from Studio A*:** Program Costs: \$24,288, Administrative Costs: \$1,169; ***Community Festival Coverage*:** Program Costs: \$4,622, Administrative costs: \$222; ***Duluth Homegrown Music Festival Coverage*:** Program Costs: \$676, Administrative costs: \$14,037; ***Native Elder History Project*:** Program Costs: \$2,494, Administrative costs: \$120; ***Lake Superior Radio Theater Variety Show and Dramatic Productions*:** Program Costs: \$23,654, Administrative costs: \$1,138.

WGZS (Fond du Lac/Cloquet):
***Fond du Lac Arts in 90 seconds*:** Program Costs: \$1,429.60; ***Fond du Lac Anishinaabemowin*:** Program Costs: \$3,800.00.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): *Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend*: Program Costs: \$47,320, Administrative Costs: \$5,000; ***Harvest North*:**

Program Costs: \$4,307, Administrative Costs: \$0; ***Music in the Weeds*:** Program Costs: \$4,616, Administrative Costs: \$0; ***Lake Superior Project*:** Program Costs: \$1,458, Administrative Costs: \$800; ***Scenic Route*:** Program Costs: \$3,549, Administrative Costs: \$1,200; ***The Boundary Waters Podcast*:** Program Costs: \$4,290, Administrative Costs: \$1,000; ***Radio Waves Music Festival*:** Program Costs: \$28,436, Administrative Costs: \$25,122; ***Traveling the Old North Shore*:** Program Costs: \$2,200, Administrative Costs: \$800; ***Live at WTIP Video Series*:** Program Costs: \$1,046, Administrative Costs: \$0; ***It Happens Here: The Roots of Racial Inequity on the North Shore*:** Program Costs: \$715, Administrative Costs: \$0.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): *Stay Human*: Program Costs: \$25,905.70, Administrative Costs: \$274.44; ***Bright Spots*:** Program Costs: \$4,825.09, Administrative Costs: \$130.97; ***Events Up North*:** Program Costs: \$14,247.55, Administrative Costs: \$130.97; ***MN Music Placemaking*:** Program Costs: \$34,288.02, Administrative Costs: \$187.93; ***Centerstage MN*:** Program Costs: \$34,587.88, Administrative Costs: \$187.08.

KOJB (Cass Lake): *Anishinaabe Language Preservation Project/Our Elders Speak*: Program Costs: \$5,480.98; ***KOJB Anishinaabe Music & Arts Festival*:** Program Costs: \$19,222.25.

KMSU (Mankato): *Large Outdoor Music and Arts Festival Performances*: Program Costs: \$31,472; ***Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings*:** Program Costs: \$8,200; ***Small Venue Music & Art Performances*:** Program Costs: \$19,572; ***Mankato Wacipi (Pow Wow)*:** Program Costs: \$3,500; ***Collaboration with the Department of Music at Minnesota State, Mankato*:** Program Costs: \$18,535; ***Minnesota Music Channel (HD and Steaming)*:** Program Costs: \$13,869; ***Radio Drama*:** \$2,774;

PROGRAM COSTS / PRODUCTION COSTS

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul):
Twin Cities Weekend / Twin Cities
This Week: Program Costs: \$37,485;
The Jazz Image—Minnesota Edition:
Program Costs: \$5,000; **Minnesota Jazz**
Tracks: Program Costs: \$27,761.53

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 10,000
Fresh Voices: Program Costs: \$37,262.78;
MinneCulture: Program Costs:
\$33,252.30; **Live from Minnesota:**
Program Costs: \$12,636.08.

KMOJ (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 4 Opinions:
Program Costs: \$13,090.00; **Dancing**
with the DJs: Program Costs: \$4,447.66;
Disruptive Narratives: Program Costs:
\$15,400.00; **Purple Legacy:** \$18,265.46,
Admin: \$750.00; **Someone You Should**
Know: Program Costs: \$2,000; **MN90:**
African American History: Program Costs:
\$2,000; **KMOJ Legacy Social Media**
Outreach: Program Costs: \$14,020.

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul):
Local Vibes: Program Costs: \$12,919.00;
BTS: Behind the Scenes: Program Costs:
\$54,712.34; **The Vanguard Project:**
Program Costs: \$4,990; **The Land of**
10,000 Stories from Real College
Podcast: Program Costs: \$42,144.29.

KRPR (Rochester): MN90:
Rochester History in 90-Seconds:
Program Costs: \$4,500; **Rochester**
Arts: Program Costs: \$4,500.

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:
\$9,451.81; **Let's Talk Art:** Program Costs:
\$9,288.81; **Hometown History:** Program
Costs: \$6,738.81; **Kezar Music Showroom:**
Program Costs: \$36,083.34; **Readers**
Theater: Program Costs: \$4,938.81.

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): Nijiji's
Minnesota Mixdown Series: Program
Costs: \$26,075.80; **Ojibwe Arts Rising:**
Program Costs: \$22,017.73; **Cultural**
Exchange: Program Costs: \$10,606.67;
Wild Foods: Program Costs: \$7,650.00; **MN**
Artist Spotlight: Program Costs: \$1,815.40.

KQAL (Winona): Art Beat: Program
Costs: \$13,810; **Culture Clique:** Program
Costs: \$13,810; **The Sound:** Program
Costs: \$14,635; **The Live Feed:** Program
Costs: \$14,635; **Don't Cha Know &**
Arts and Entertainment Download:
Program Costs: \$12,194; **Rewind**
Winona: Program Costs: \$12,194.

AMPERS (Statewide): MN90: Minnesota
History in 90 Seconds: Program Costs:
\$79,616.59, Administrative Costs: \$6,700.00;
Minnesota Native News: Program Costs:
\$66,266.79, Administrative Costs: \$5,500.00;
Native Lights: Where Indigenous Voices
Shine: Program Costs: \$131,455.17,
Administrative Costs: \$5,500.00; **Gulf War**
I: Program: \$20,911.15, Admin: \$1,300;
AMPERS Digital Archive, Website, Social
Media, and Station Support: Program
Costs: \$115,447.27, Administrative Costs:
\$10,422.00 **Minnesota Legacy:** Program
Costs: \$27,061.50, Admin: \$1,300.00.

INVESTMENTS IN OUR STUDENTS

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): With **Jazz@MPS**, 75 students from five schools came together in a live concert and in studio. Another 15 students learned the skills of podcasting, producing **MPS Voices**. The **JazzClectic Concert Series** featured 15 student performers.

KKWE/Niiiji Radio (White Earth/Callaway): Six student performers were featured in **Cultural Exchange**. **Ojibwe Arts Rising** welcomed 15 students into its programming, while **Niiiji's Minnesota Mixdown** featured a performance by a local student performer.

KOJB/The Eagle (Leech Lake/Cass Lake): **The Anishinaabe Music & Arts Festival** enlisted five students to help plan the day-long celebration of music, art, and culture.

KQAL (Winona): Three student production assistants earned valuable radio experience, while also getting paid, working on an array of programs—**The Live Feed**, **The Sound**, **Art Beat** and **Culture Clique**. Along with a student intern, they learned how to record music, interview guests, and then write, edit, and voice finished stories.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): **Radio Readers Theater** gave one student the opportunity to act in a scripted audio drama. And 22 students had their choral performance broadcast on **Kezar Music Showroom Presents**.

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): **Minnesota Music-Makes** gave students hands-on experience booking musical acts, recording studio sessions and mixing audio. **Local Vibes** provided a platform for them to interview and produce a music performance series. Students collected and produced the segments aired as part of **The Land of 10,000 Stories** podcast, and **The Vanguard Project** allowed students to explore multimedia storytelling to support Twin Cities artists. A total of five students worked on Radio K projects.

KVSC (St. Cloud): Five students brought radio drama to the airwaves with their production for **Granite City Radio Theatre**. **MNL on the Road** brought together 10 students to book bands, create marketing, and host. Five student producers delved into audio storytelling with **Untold Stories of Central MN**, and another five developed the skills of radio journalists working for the **KVSC News Department**. Two students edited live concerts for **Central MN Common Roots Music Festival Collaboration**. And the **Mid-Winter Concert** got a marketing push from three student promotional arts creators. A total of 30 students worked on KVSC projects.



Jazz88 alone had more than 100 students work on Legacy projects in FY25.

INVESTMENTS IN JOBS FOR MINNESOTANS

AMPERS (Statewide): 2.16 FTEs (5 full-time), 17 contractors, and 13 artists/performers/musicians /cultural experts.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): 1.26 FTEs (9 full-time employees), 1 contract employee and 111 artists/performers/musicians.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 0.08 FTEs (1 part-time employee), 7 contract employees and 64 artists/performers/musicians.

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake): 0.75 FTEs (1 full-time employee), 2 contract employees and 22 artists/performers/musicians.

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): 0.99 FTEs (8 full-time employees), 3 contract employees and 43 artists/performers/musicians.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 1 FTEs (1 full-time employee), 35 contract employees and 17 artists/performers/musicians.

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): 0.15 FTEs (1 full-time employee and 2 part-time employees), 2 contract employees and 52 performers/artists/musicians.

KMOJ (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 3 contract employees.

KMSU (Mankato): 0.37 FTEs (1 full-time employee), 30 contract employees and 244 artists/performers/musicians.

KOJB (Leech Lake/Cass Lake): 2 contract employees and 10 artists/performers/musicians.

KQAL (Winona): 1.375 FTEs (1 full-time employee and 3 part-time employees).

KRPR (Rochester): 2 contract employees.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): 0.15 FTEs (1 full-time employee), 4 contract employees and 43 artists/performers/musicians.

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 3.925 FTEs (3 full-time employees and 13 part-time employees).

KVSC (St. Cloud): 2.25 FTEs (1 full-time and 1.25 part-time employees), 6 contract employees and 60 artists/performers/musicians.

WDSE-FM (Duluth): 1.41 FTEs (8 full-time employees), 3 contract employees.

WGZS (Fond du Lac/Cloquet): 2 contract employees.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): 1.76 FTEs (5 full-time employees and 1 part-time employee), 2 contract employees and 90 artists/performers/musicians.



Legacy funds were used to support 43 full-time, 24 part-time, 116 contract employees, and 769 artists.

PRESS COVERAGE



KSRQ (Thief River Falls): The publication featured a photo and coverage of the KSRQ Concert in the Park series. Accompanied by a band made up of her cousin (on drums), dad and uncle (not pictured), Lydia Rose performed Tuesday, June 10 as part of the Pioneer 90.1 Concerts in the Park. The free concert series features performers Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at Floyd B. Olson Park in Thief River Falls. *The Crookston Watch, June 14, 2025.*



WTIP (Grand Marais): The article, “WTIP wins two regional Edward R. Murrow awards” covered the journalism awards the station received. *Cook County News Herald, May 28, 2024.*



WTIP (Grand Marais): The article, “Get your tickets now for the 2024 WTIP Radio Waves Musical Festival” covered the station’s original music event. *Cook County News Herald, August 9, 2024.*



KAXE (Grand Rapids): The article, “Amy Thielen goes back to her roots for new radio show debuting May 23” spotlights KAXE/KBXE’s “Ham Radio” call-in radio show and podcast. *The Bemidji Pioneer, May 20, 2025.*



KAXE (Grand Rapids): The article, “Chef Amy Thielen hamming it up with new radio show, podcast” spotlights KAXE/KBXE’s “Ham Radio” show. *InForum, May 20, 2025.*



KMSU (Mankato): The article, “KMSU brings Halloween radio dramas to the air Thursday” spotlights the Fountaineer Radio Drama Troupe on the station’s Minnesota Music Channel. *Mankato Free Press, October 30, 2024.*



KMSU (Mankato): The article, “Blues on Belgrade brings mix of bands to Saturday celebration” featured one of KMSU’s Legacy projects, the Blues on Belgrade festival. *Mankato Free Press, October 30, 2024.*



KMSU (Mankato): The article “Rock Bend 33: Founder Ross Gersten returns after 20-year hiatus” spotlit the KMSU-supported St. Peter’s Rock Bend Folk Festival. *Mankato Free Press, September 9, 2024.*



PRESS COVERAGE

The Free Press KMSU (Mankato): The article “Wacipi honors Dave Brave Heart, Nytalia Ashes and Dakota history” centers on the KMSU-supported Mahkato Wacipi. *Mankato Free Press, September 9, 2024.*

The Free Press KMSU (Mankato): The article, “Locally grown: Minnesota Original Music Festival features the best of local music talent” covered the local music festival supported and aired in part by KMSU on the station’s Minnesota Music Channel. *Mankato Free Press, July 17, 2024.*

The Free Press KMSU (Mankato): The article, “Festival bringing national, regional, local acts to St. Peter” spotlighted the KMSU-supported St. Peter’s Rock Bend Folk Festival. *Mankato Free Press, August 29, 2024.*



KBEM (Minneapolis): The article, “It’s not just music. It’s preservation. It’s heart” covered the 11th year of the Minnesota Jazz Legends event, a partnership between KBEM, the Minnesota History Center, and the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. *Minnesota Spokesman Recorder, April 10, 2025.*



KMSU (Mankato): The segment, “Minnesota Original Music Festival launches its third year in St. Peter” highlights the local music festival supported and aired in part by KMSU on the station’s Minnesota Music Channel. *MPR News, July 16, 2024.*



KSRQ (Thief River Falls): The publication covered KSRQ’s Concert in the Park series. *Northern Watch, June 7, 2025.*

SOUTHERNMINN.com
See it LOCAL like you **KMSU (Mankato):**
The article, “Minnesota Original Music Festival - St. Peter” covered the local music festival supported and aired in part by KMSU on the station’s Minnesota Music Channel. *SouthernMinn.com, July 20, 2024.*



PRESS COVERAGE

★ **StarTribune KAXE (Grand Rapids):** The article, “Minnesota’s Amy Thielen launches old-fashioned radio show for food lovers” highlighted KAXE/KBXE’s “Ham Radio” call-in radio show and podcast. *Star Tribune, June 6, 2025.*



KSRQ (Thief River Falls): The publication covered Lydia Rose’s performance at KSRQ’s Concert in the Park series. *Thief River Falls Times, June 10, 2025.*



KSRQ (Thief River Falls): The publication covered John Vincent’s performance at KSRQ’s Concert in the Park series. *Thief River Falls Times, June 11, 2025.*



KSRQ (Thief River Falls): The publication covered the Thief River Falls Area Community Theater performance at KSRQ’s Concert in the Park series. *Thief River Falls Times, June 17, 2025.*



KSRQ (Thief River Falls): The publication covered Robby Vee’s performance at KSRQ’s Concert in the Park series. *Thief River Falls Times, June 24, 2025.*



KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): The article, “Reflections on Five Years Since the Pandemic,” highlighted the KAXE series, Stay Human. *Minnesota’s Women’s Press, March 17, 2025.*



AMPERS (Statewide): The article, “Recording the Stories of veterans,” highlighted AMPERS Veteran Voices series. Over the past 10 years, they recorded audio interviews with veterans for a series of first-person narratives. Here are some of the women featured, including additional details offered by Verna Littlewolf. *Minnesota’s Women’s Press, October 30, 2024.*



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NOTE: WDSE-FM, being part
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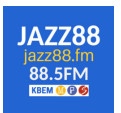
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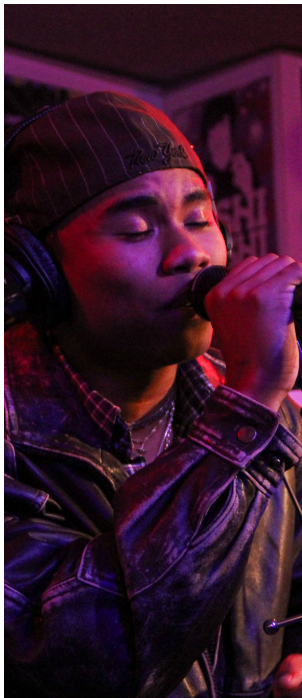
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