



Diverse Radio for Minnesota's Communities

October 22, 2018

Commissioner Matt Massman, Chair Carrie Ruud, Chair Bob Gunther
Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund
75 Dr. Reverend Martin Luther King Junior Boulevard
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Commissioner Massman, Chair Ruud, and Chair Gunther,

After an internal review of Legacy programming we have identified some minor corrections that need to be made to past Legislative Reports. While the corrections are minor, we feel it is important that you have the correct information.

For FY17, there were three projects produced by KSRQ-FM (Thief River Falls) that appeared throughout the report. Unfortunately the project descriptions did not appear in the report. For the record, here are the missing project descriptions:

KSRQ (Thief River Falls) served the community's strong demand for Polka music with the station's around the clock web stream and HD radio streaming. "Pioneer PolkaCast HD-2" was a yearlong project which delivered music from more than 125 Minnesota polka, old-time, classic country and bluegrass acts. PolkaCast also rebroadcasts KSRQ's popular Variety Show with Cathy Erickson. This 24/7 program aired on both on-air, as a web stream and on the TuneIn app for mobile phones. PolkaCast was also picked up for distribution on iTunes in FY17.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls) aired segments produced in FY16 and produced 6 new episodes of its program "Polka Profiles," a project originally called "Polka Notes." The station broadcast a total of 6 episodes of the show, focusing on conversations with musicians Richie Yurkovich, Chuck Thiel, Becky Livermore and Matt Hodek. Elwood Oschner and Hank Thunander were interviewed live from the Ampers booth at the Minnesota State Fair. The musicians talked about how they became involved in polka music, the unique history and culture of polka music and dancing, and new generations getting interested in the music. The on-going series is featured on the PolkaCast mobile website recently developed by KSRQ.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls) created a new program called "Times Past," an interview program, where speakers share the history of northwest Minnesota landmarks, personalities, traditions, and organizations. In FY17, the station produced its inaugural episode of "Times Past", a ten-minute segment, which explored Charles Lindbergh's 1927 transatlantic flight, with Author Dan Hampton. Charles Lindbergh graduated from Little Falls High School in central Minnesota in 1918. Less than ten years later, he had cemented his place in history as the first person to fly non-stop across the Atlantic Ocean at the age of 25. To mark the 90th anniversary of Lindbergh's flight, author Dan Hampton wrote *The Flight, Charles Lindbergh's Daring and Immortal 1927 Transatlantic Crossing*. KSRQ's partnership with the Sons of Norway Snorre Lodge was the basis for other historical programs. "Times Past" is a yearlong project.



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In addition, it has come to our attention that some of the numbers KKWE-FM (White Earth/Cloquet) reported in their past Legislative Reports were incorrect. In most cases KKWE-FM under-reported the number programs they produced with Legacy funds. For the record, on behalf of KKWE-FM we would like to submit the following corrections for total programs produced between FY13 and FY17:

KKWE produced five not four segments for their Anishinaabe Debwe project
KKWE produced 36 not 43 segments for Coming Home from the Historic Holmes Theatre
KKWE produced 58 not 48 segments of Gichi Aya'aag Blizindaw ya (Elders Speak Listen to Them)
KKWE produced 97 not 99 segments of Nijii Powwow Trail
KKWE produced 108 not 52 segments of Ojibwemotadidaa: Let's Speak Ojibwe Together
KKWE produced 88 not 73 segments of Tamarac Whispers
KKWE produced 55 not 16 segments of The Glass Lady Project
KKWE produced 32 not 44 segments of Wijiigindwag (Be the Same Age)

It should be noted that in most cases KKWE produced significantly more programs than promised in their workplan. It should also be noted that cultural beliefs prohibit KKWE from posting some of their Legacy segments online because some cultural teachings can only be shared when there is snow on the ground. In those cases the station airs the segments live. Or, if the segments are recorded, they re-air the segments while the snow is on the ground since they are not able to archive them online.

If you should have any questions about these corrections please feel free to contact Joel Glaser, our CEO at (651) 587-5550 or by email at jglaser@ampers.org.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Johnson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mark Johnson
President, Ampers

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joel A. Glaser', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joel A. Glaser
Chief Executive Officer, Ampers

Cc: Legislative Reference Library
Laurie Beyer-Kropuenske, Acting Assistant Commissioner