

ampers

Diverse Radio for Minnesota's Communities

Report to the Minnesota State Legislature

• Fiscal Year 2021 •



KBXE-FM,
Bagley / Bemidji



KBFT-FM,
Bois Forte / Nett Lake



KUMD-FM,
Duluth



WGZS-FM,
Fond du Lac / Cloquet



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



KAXE-FM,
Grand Rapids /
Brainerd



KOJB-FM,
Leech Lake / Cass Lake



KMSU-FM,
Mankato / Austin



KBEM-FM,
Minneapolis / St. Paul



KFAI-FM,
Minneapolis / St. Paul



KMOJ-FM,
Minneapolis / St. Paul



KUOM-AM/FM,
Minneapolis / St. Paul



KUMM-FM,
Morris



KRPR-FM,
Rochester



KVSC-FM,
St. Cloud



KSRQ-FM,
Thief River Falls



KKWE-FM,
White Earth /
Callaway



KQAL-FM,
Winona

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

FISCAL YEAR 2021 SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES JANUARY 15, 2022

Submitted To Representative Melissa Hortman, Chair, Legislative Coordinating Commission

Senator Jeremy Miller, Vice Chair, Legislative Coordinating Commission

Senator Carrie Ruud, Chair, Senate Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance Committee

Senator Fong Hawj, Ranking Minority Member, Senate Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance Committee

Members of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance Committee in the Minnesota Senate

Representative Leon Lillie, Chair, House Legacy Finance Division Committee

Representative Steve Green, Ranking Minority Member, House Legacy Finance Division Committee

Members of the Legacy Finance Division Committee in the Minnesota House of Representatives

Cc: Michelle Weber, Director, Legislative Coordinating Commission

Sally Olson, Commission Assistant, Legislative Coordinating Commission

Submitted By: Freddie Bell, Ampers Chair, KMOJ-FM General Manager

Joel Glaser, Ampers Chief Executive Officer
Ampers, 1881 Munster Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55116 – 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 the Board of Directors, as well as the member stations of the Association of Minnesota Public Educational Radio Stations (Ampers), I would like to thank all of the legislators, as well as the citizens of Minnesota, for continuing to support our programming with funding from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF / Legacy).

This was a very big year for Ampers. We created more programming than ever before. Our **Racial Reckoning** project, which included an audio documentary looking at the anniversary of the murder of George Floyd, received international attention. About 1.3 million people heard the 22-minute documentary. Ampers, as well as non-Ampers radio stations around the state and even around the country, aired the program.

FY21 was another award-winning year. Collectively we earned eight state and regional awards. Over the past eight years, Ampers and its member stations have earned 84 awards for programming produced with Legacy funds. In FY21 KFAI earned three and Ampers received two awards from the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists. KQAL earned three Eric Sevareid Awards. KFAI received a first-place award for **10,000 Fresh Voices** and two second-place awards for its **MinneCulture** series. KQAL received Awards of Merit for **Art Beat, Culture Clique,** and **The Sound**. Ampers received a second-place award for its **Veterans' Voices** project and a third-place award for **Minnesota Native News**. And Radio K received a Mark of Excellence Award from the Society of Professional Journalists for an episode of **North Star Stories from Real College Podcast**.

FY21 was also another rough year for artists and arts venues. But, Ampers and our member stations did everything we could to help. Collectively we used Legacy funds to pay 318 artists, 141 contractors, and fund 12.89 FTEs. The money funding the 12.89 FTEs helped to employ 23 part-time and 48 full-time employees across the state.

The continuation of the pandemic meant many entertainment venues remained closed and many Minnesotans found themselves stuck at home. Ampers and its stations provided some relief from cabin fever by producing and distributing more than 27,000 hours of artistic entertainment as well as cultural and historical programming that was educational and fun.

Please accept this as our formal annual report to the Legislature for our FY2021 Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund grants. You will find the required information along with feedback and comments from listeners, artists, and other organizations that benefited from our Legacy programming in FY21. Because the report is so large, we have included an index at the end of the report making it easier for you to find information that is relevant to your district.

We sincerely hope the Legislature will continue to support our efforts. If you do, we will continue to ensure our programming focuses on serving all Minnesotans with a special emphasis on underserved and underrepresented arts, cultures, and communities throughout the state of Minnesota.

Sincerely,



Joel A. Glaser,
Ampers CEO



Joel Glaser, Ampers CEO

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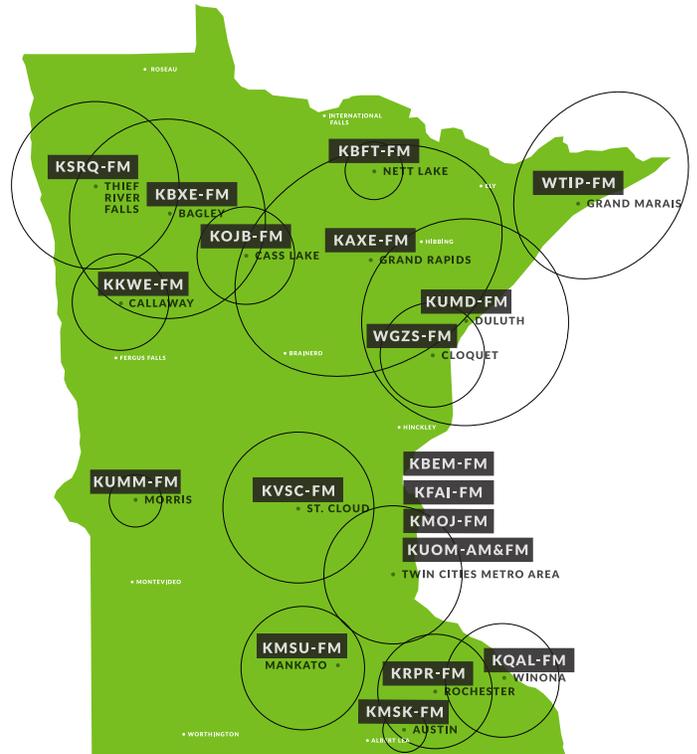
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ABOUT AMPERS

Ampers is a collection of 18 independent community radio stations in Minnesota. Each station is locally managed and programmed by and for the local communities they serve. The Ampers stations reach rural, minority, and student audiences not served through traditional media. Eight of the stations are licensed to educational institutions and 10 are licensed directly to the communities they serve. Of the 10 community licensed stations, four are licensed to or affiliated with Native American communities.

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



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

*KQJB-FM did not spend Legacy funds in FY21.

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



STATION REPORTS

AMPERS – STATEWIDE



Organization Description

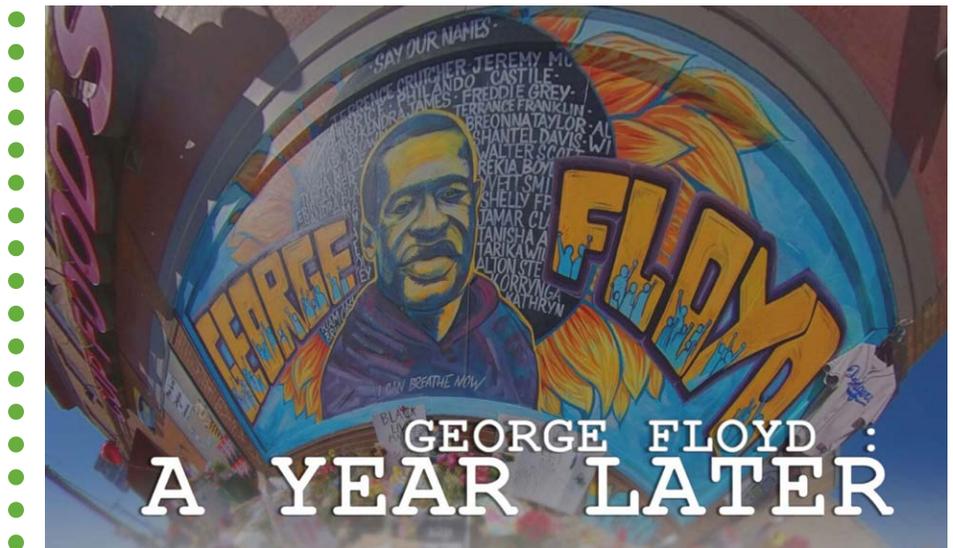
Ampers (Statewide) represents and supports 18 diverse independent community radio stations that primarily serve underserved communities. Created in 1972, Ampers exists to strengthen its member stations and help them to better serve their diverse communities by generating revenue, developing and sharing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

Program Descriptions

RACIAL RECKONING: GROUND ZERO DOCUMENTARY

Ampers began production of audio and video documentaries for its project **Racial Reckoning: Ground Zero Documentary**. The media content aims to chronicle the historic moments in Minnesota as our communities grappled with unfolding events in this season of racial upheaval and change, during and immediately following the trial of Derek Chauvin. In FY20, Ampers began collecting video and audio for the documentaries, with production and post-production continuing into FY22. The programs follow members of a BIPOC reporting team, covering stories from people within Minnesota's diverse communities. Through their eyes, the programs examine and confront many complex and traumatic historical issues regarding our institutions and legal system, as the tense situation unfolded in real-time, and as the world watches.

As part of the **Racial Reckoning: Ground Zero Documentary**, Ampers and KMOJ collaborated to complete a 20-minute audio documentary and podcast looking at the anniversary of George Floyd's murder and the historical events that got us to that point. The program aired on 20 radio stations in Minnesota and around the country. It's estimated that the audio documentary reached about 1.3 million people. A Facebook post about the documentary reached 17,000 people and generated more than 300 comments and 17 shares. The initial 20-minute documentary gave Minnesotans a better understanding of the culture and history of Minnesota's BIPOC communities and gave Minnesotans increased access to Minnesota history. Ampers achieved the proposed outcome for the first element of this project.



The documentary Ampers produced for the anniversary of George Floyd's murder reached an estimated 1.3 million listeners.



MN90: MINNESOTA HISTORY IN 90 SECONDS

Ampers produced 60 episodes of its popular series **MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds**, which explored Minnesota history through short, fun, and engaging audio stories. The MN90 segments covered a wide range of topics including pop culture, sports, politics, business, entertainment, and much more. FY21, listeners of

MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds learned how back in 1965, Minneapolis native Charles Schulz had only six months to adapt his beloved comic strip, *Peanuts*, into a holiday special called *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. Producer Britt Aamodt shared some details of the deadly heat wave of 1936. And listeners learned how Barkhad Abdi, got his big break when he was working as a limo driver in Minneapolis. In FY21 Ampers also finalized production of its compilation CD, *Best of MN90 Volume VI*, which will be distributed free of charge at the Minnesota State Fair in 2022 and other events statewide.

MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds was a yearlong project.



Ampers created 60 episodes of MN90. The estimated 223,300 listeners learned about everything from the heat wave of 1936 to how Charles Schulz adapted the Peanuts into A Charlie Brown Christmas.

MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds aired on 16 Ampers stations statewide either once or twice per day Monday through Friday. Ampers estimates the MN90 broadcast segments reach approximately 223,300 Minnesotans each week. More than 8,400 people follow MN90 on Facebook. The post with the highest reach in FY21 was on July 3, 2020, with a reach of 46,600 people. Posts on MN90's Facebook page received more than 500 comments in FY21. MN90 segments had 83 listens on Public Radio Exchange (PRX). Northern Community Radio asked listeners about MN90 as part of its listener survey. Of the listeners who said they were familiar with the segments, 100% said MN90 gives them more knowledge and information about Minnesota's history. The survey also generated a lot of positive comments that can be found later in this report. Ampers achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

MINNESOTA NATIVE NEWS

Ampers produced 46 episodes of **Minnesota Native News**, its award-winning weekly five-minute radio program exploring economic, cultural, health, government, and public policy issues that impact Indian country in Minnesota. Each week **Minnesota Native News** covers stories and issues in a way that was informative and relevant to both Native and non-Native listeners. Thirteen Ampers stations carried the weekly segment, reaching more than 107,600 listeners each week. Several of the stations air the program more than once. In FY21, **Minnesota Native News** explored new initiatives in education to ensure all students receive an accurate history of Minnesota's Indigenous people, which is lacking in many current curriculums across the

state. Listeners learned about the 2020 Minnesota Task Force on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and heard first-hand how survivors find healing. The project also highlighted new book releases by Indigenous authors, including Diane Wilson talking about her new book *The Seed Keeper*.

In addition to the regular weekly broadcasts, individual stories from the newscast were featured and shared through digital media on Facebook and Twitter. More than 10,000 people “like” **Minnesota Native News** on Facebook, and more than 2,000 people follow Minnesota Native News on Twitter. **Minnesota Native News** also has 1,400 followers on Instagram. Facebook posts from **Minnesota Native News** reached approximately 27,385 people in FY21. The **Minnesota Native News** page attracted 4,141 page views, making it the most viewed page on the Ampers website in FY21. **Minnesota Native News** also has a dedicated website for its content and had 21,149 page views in FY21. The podcast feed of the segments had 2,308 downloads from the time it was created in FY21. Northern Community Radio asked listeners about **Minnesota Native News** as part of its listener survey. Of the listeners who said they were familiar with the newscasts, 100% said **Minnesota Native News** gave them more access, knowledge, and information about Minnesota Native history and/or cultural heritage. **Minnesota Native News** also had 97 listens on PRX. Ampers Achieved the proposed outcomes of this project.



The 46 episodes of the award-winning *Minnesota Native News* segments explored important topics like missing and murdered indigenous women.

DAKOTA VOICES

Ampers commissioned an engineering study for its **Dakota Voices** project. The study began the process of finding a frequency that is available in Southern Minnesota, with the aim of helping to establish a Dakota radio station in the future. The FCC is taking the rare step of opening a window for new applications for non-commercial FM radio stations. The FCC has not done this since 2003. Ampers viewed this as an opportunity to bring the stories and culture of the Dakota people to Minnesotans through a new radio station. Currently, the four Native radio stations that exist in Minnesota are all licensed to Ojibwe communities. **Dakota Voices** was a three-month project.

The **Dakota Voices** project did identify a possible signal. So, Ampers did achieve the proposed outcome of being able to provide the Dakota community with the information needed to apply for a non-commercial radio station. Ampers will continue working the Dakota community to see if a tribe or a partnership of tribes could come together to establish a Dakota non-commercial educational radio station.

“It’s helpful to know that arts and cultural heritage funds increase diversity in our community through shows like this one.”

– KAXE listener, referring to *Minnesota Native News*.

NATIVE LIGHTS PODCAST: WHERE INDIGENOUS VOICES SHINE

Ampers created a weekly podcast, as well as a radio version of each show for its project **Native Lights Podcast: Where Indigenous Voices Shine**, which was produced by the **Minnesota Native News** team. The on-air shows were 28 minutes and the podcasts ranged in length from 28- to 55-minutes. Each episode centered on Native voices, perspectives, and stories, from a foundation of strength, and humor. Hosted by siblings Leah Lemm and Cole Premo, both members of Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, Native Lights focused on people in Native communities around Mni Sota Mkoce— a.k.a. Minnesota—and their stories about finding their gifts and sharing them with the community. In FY21, Native Lights featured conversations with policymakers, healers, language warriors, water protectors, media makers, and more. Featured guests included: Hope Flanagan (Seneca), a Native elder, a storyteller, teacher of plants, and wild plant gathering; Samsosche Sampson (Mvskoke Creek/Seneca), who is an interdisciplinary artist, Powwow and Hoop Dancer, performer; and Jonathan Thunder (Red Lake Nation), a multi-disciplinary artist. All of the programs highlighted stories of joy, strength, history, and change from Native people who are shaping the future and honoring those who came before them. Native Lights Podcast, Where Indigenous Voices Shine was a yearlong project.

● “This show makes
● it possible to
● understand another
● culture a little bit
● better.”
●
● – KAXE listener, commenting
● on *Native Lights Podcast:*
● *Where Indigenous*
● *Voices Shine*

Each episode of Native Lights included conversations with Tribal communities members from across the state. Ampers produced a total of 32 half-hour radio programs which aired on 11 Ampers radio stations. The weekly radio shows reached an estimated broadcast audience of about 92,700 people. The podcast episodes had 16,416 streams. On Apple Podcasts, Native Lights has 34 reviews with a five-star average. The Native Lights web page on the Ampers website had approximately 500 page views. Native Lights also appears on the **Minnesota Native News** website, and that page had 4,400 page views.

The segments were also streamed about 40 times on PRX. Northern Community Radio asked listeners about **Native Lights Podcast: Where Indigenous Voices Shine** as part of its listener survey. Of the listeners who said they were familiar with Native Lights, 100% said the project gave them a better understanding of the culture and history of Minnesota’s native American communities. Ampers achieved the proposed outcomes of this project.

VETERANS’ VOICES: HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED IN THE 20TH CENTURY

Ampers produced three 18-to-26-minute podcast episodes for its project **Veterans’ Voices: Honoring Those Who Served in the 20th Century**. This project was created in response to Minnesotans who said they wanted to hear more from the World War II Veterans featured in previous Veterans’ Voices projects. The podcast episodes, hosted by Kevyn Burger, featured veterans sharing personal stories and memories of World



● Listeners had one complaint about **Veterans’ Voices**: they wanted more.
● **Veterans’ Voices: Honoring Those Who Served in the 20th Century** allowed
● listeners to hear much more from the veterans.

War II in their own voices. The goal of the project was to provide a deeper understanding and appreciation of the character, values, and spirit of the men and women of Minnesota who served our country during World War II. Listeners can hear first-hand accounts of the attack on Pearl Harbor, what it was like to fly bombing missions targeting the Nazis, and the harsh experiences faced while living as a prisoner of war. **Veterans' Voices: Honoring Those Who Served in the 20th Century** was a one-year project.

The **Veterans' Voices: Honoring Those Who Served in the 20th Century** segments were produced and posted towards the end of FY21. As a result, little outcome data is available. During the short time the podcasts were available, they garnered approximately 190 streams on its dedicated podcast feed. One episode was purchased for broadcast on the Public Radio Exchange by a non-Ampers station. Ampers achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

COUNTER STORIES

Ampers collaborated with the **Counter Stories** crew to produce a weekly radio show and podcast for its **Counter Stories** project.

Counter Stories is a show by people of color, for people of color, and everyone else. The four co-hosts are members of Minnesota's Latinx, African American, Native American, and Hmong communities. Co-hosts Luz Maria Frias, Anthony Galloway, Don Eubanks (Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe), and Hlee Lee, discuss race, identity, social justice, and culture, in a region grappling with demographic change. In FY21, the team produced 25 half-hour radio programs and 25 podcasts that were 45-to-60-minutes long. The shows covered a broad range of topics including: change through protest, missing and murdered Indigenous women, Juneteenth, and more. **Counter Stories** was broadcast on eight Ampers' stations across Minnesota and was a 6 month long project.



Counter Stories is a show by people of color, for people of color, and everyone else.

Segments of **Counter Stories** were streamed on-demand 14,000 times in FY21. Ampers estimates that the **Counter Stories** radio shows reached approximately 209,700 people. In addition, **Counter Stories** had 47 listens on PRX and 1,259 followers on Facebook. The pages' top-performing post in FY21 was about the episode "Representation at the Olympics" which reached nearly 1,000 people. Northern Community Radio asked listeners about **Native Lights Podcast: Where Indigenous Voices Shine** as part of its listener survey. Of the listeners who said they were familiar with Native Lights, 100% said **Counter Stories** provided them with a better understanding of the culture and history of Minnesota's Black, Indigenous, and Communities of Color. Ampers achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

RACIAL RECKONING: BEARING WITNESS

For its **Racial Reckoning: Bearing Witness** project, Ampers produced 10 episodes of a radio show and podcast called **Bearing Witness** with Anthony and Georgia, which was created in response to the killing of George Floyd, and the police trials that followed. Each week hosts Anthony Galloway and Georgia Fort compared notes from the week's events, connected the dots from past and present experiences and racial patterns in America, and connected with community members and experts trying to make sense of this moment. The goal of the show was to process what is happening, engage with folks on the ground, and provide reflections and historical context to the events unfolding during this season of racial upheaval and change. Guests on **Bearing Witness** included: Rose McGee, of Sweet Potato Comfort Pie; Kimberly Handy Jones, Founder of Mother's Banquet, serving mothers who have lost sons to violence; Dr. Kim Park Nelson, Ethnic Studies Professor at Winona State University, and many more. **Racial Reckoning: Bearing Witness** was a two-month project.

Bearing Witness was broadcast on 12 Ampers' stations in FY21, and reached an estimated 187,700 listeners. In addition, the segments were broadcast on KZYX in California and **Bearing Witness** had 637 podcast streams and seven listens on PRX. Facebook posts about **Bearing Witness** reached approximately 12,000 users over the two-month project. Ampers achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

MINNESOTA NATIVE NEWS TEACHERS' WORKSHOP

Ampers responded to a request by a local school district and created a presentation for teachers, hosted by members of the **Minnesota Native News** team, for its **Minnesota Native News Teachers' Workshop**. The presentation aimed to help teachers learn what it is like to grow up as a Native American student in Minnesota. The hour-long presentation was hosted by Leah Lemm and included clips from the Native Lights Podcasts. It offered the teachers insights into the diversity of Native people's experiences growing up, and a constructive approach to building a truly respectful inter-cultural classroom. Ampers planned to videotape the in-person presentation, however, due to COVID-19, the program was held via zoom. More than 50 teachers attended the in-service presentation. Comments solicited by a survey the school district conducted suggest the majority of the teachers felt they gained new insights and perspectives from the workshop. Some of the comments can be found later in this report. **Minnesota Native News Teachers' Workshop** was a 3-month project.

ACHF LEGISLATIVE REPORT AND STATION SUPPORT

For its project **ACHF Legislative Report and Station Support**, Ampers provided year-round support to its member stations. Ampers worked with the stations to gather all the information needed and then produced this annual



Racial Reckoning: Bearing Witness explored the historical context of the events unfolding during this time of racial change.

ACHF Legislative report. In FY21, Ampers also co-created and produced Legacy programs for and with KMOJ, KRPR, and WGZS. Additionally, Ampers helped individual stations with grant reporting, invoicing, budgeting, program development and creation, podcast distribution, compliance, and more. **ACHF Legislative Report and Station Support** was a yearlong endeavor.

AMPERS DIGITAL ARCHIVE, WEBSITE, AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Through its project **Ampers Digital Archive, Website, and Social Media**, Ampers made it easier for all Minnesotans to access the artistic, historical, and cultural content created by Ampers and its member stations. The project curates all Legacy programming and makes it all available at ampers.org. The website also ensures Ampers and its member stations are in compliance with Minnesota Statute 129d.19. The statute requires that content produced with Legacy funds be made available to all noncommercial radio stations eligible for state grants and that they be made available online for all Minnesotans now and in the future. The website houses more than 23,548 artistic, cultural, and historical programs. In addition to being able to listen to all Legacy programming on-demand at ampers.org, visitors could also access and listen to most of the stations’ live streams. The project also engaged more Minnesotans by distributing Legacy programming through Facebook and Twitter. **Ampers Digital Archive, Website, and Social Media** project was a yearlong project.

The Ampers website had 56,703 page views with more than 47,247 of those being unique. More than 8,200 people “liked” the Ampers Facebook page. Posts on Facebook reached 22,292 people in FY21. Podcasts feeds associated with Ampers’ ACHF projects had more than 25,000 downloads during FY21. **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.



There are now more than 23,500 Legacy segments and programs on the Ampers website.





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. It's a place to dance to good music, share ideas, laugh, meet good people, and become better stewards of the universe.

Program Descriptions

WHAT WE'RE READING

KBXE's **What We're Reading** project was a radio show spotlighting books and their authors. Hosted and produced by Tammy Bobrowsky, **What We're Reading** introduced listeners to authors, poets, and essayists. The station produced 25 segments in FY21, which varied in length, from eight-to-16-minutes, and aired during the Morning Show. Listeners were introduced to authors and an in-depth discussion about their latest novel. Some of the authors and books featured in FY21 were: author Sarah Pinsker, talking about her new novel *We Are Satellites*, which focuses on one family and the technology that divides them; in celebration of National Poetry Month, a show featured Black American poet and artist Jasmine Mans, talking about her collection of poetry *Black Girl Call Home*; essayist John Green introduced his new book *The Anthropocene Reviewed*; author Paula Hawkins shared her latest mystery thriller *Slow Fire Burning*; and there were many more. **What We're Reading** was a yearlong project.

What We're Reading achieved its proposed outcomes of 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 reports that each segment reached an estimated on-air audience of 4,700 people. The Facebook group dedicated to the project in FY21 grew from 465 to 485 members. The top three posts from the group each reached an average of 660 people. In its FY21 survey, 100% of program listeners said **What We're Reading** helped increase the number of local writers and others that have their work showcased through public broadcasting. The survey also found that 97% of those who listened to the segments agreed that **What We're Reading** gave them more knowledge and appreciation for writers and literature. **What We're Reading** also aired on KAXE as well as two community radio stations outside of Minnesota. KBXE produced five more segments of the program than promised in the work plan. KBXE received many positive comments about **What We're Reading** some of which appear in the Listener Comments section of this report. The station achieved the proposed outcomes for **What We're Reading**.

CENTERSTAGE MINNESOTA

KBXE highlighted great Minnesota music through its project **Centerstage Minnesota**, a weekly Friday afternoon radio show hosted by Brett Carter. The station produced and broadcast 49 two-hour episodes of **Centerstage Minnesota** featuring songs profiles of Minnesota musicians or bands. Fifteen



KBXE (Bagley / Bemidji) coverage area

- “This helps build
- community and
- strengthen the arts.
- So important to
- overall wellness
- and community
- engagement.”
- – KBXE listener, commenting
- on *What We're Reading*



those who indicated that they listen to **Area Voices** said they gained more access to Minnesota’s cultural heritage, history, and information through **Area Voices** and the **Area Voices** programming helped increase locally-focused content on public radio. The program also aired on Ampers stations KKWE and KAXE. Facebook posts about **Area Voices** had more than 3,700 impressions combined for its top three posts. Participants and listeners had positive comments about **Area Voices**, some of which appear later in this report. The rest are available upon request. KBXE achieved the proposed outcomes for **Area Voices**.

PANDEMIC VISITS

For its **Pandemic Visits** project, KBXE produced ten radio segments entitled **Visiting During the New Norm**. The series documented and shared the stories of how the pandemic was impacting the people, businesses, and organizations of Northern Minnesota. Hosted and produced by Katie Carter, these nine- to 20-minute segments of **Visiting During the New Norm** connected listeners to others giving them knowledge and perspective about the historical events they were living through. Some of the people interviewed in the **Visiting During the New Norm** program included: Jordan Lindquist and Forrest Ross, with the Chief Theater: Virtual Concert Series; Jake Robinson and Travis Glass, owners of Brigid’s Irish Pub, who talked about the challenges for the restaurant and service industry; and, Alya Nimis-Ibrahimon, shared her perspective of what it was like to be a high school student. **Pandemic Visits** was a six-month project.

KBXE’s project **Pandemic Visits** achieved its goal of increasing understanding of the history of Minnesota and increased access to Minnesota history. Ninety-five percent of listeners of **Pandemic Visits** agreed that the project gave them more knowledge and perspective about the historical events that we are living through today. **Pandemic Visits** also aired on KAXE.

BEMIDJI BLOCK PARTY

KBXE postponed its free outdoor concert that makes up its **Bemidji Block Party** project, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Some preparation work was done by staff members in FY21, but ultimately the event was delayed and the project will happen in FY22. Since KBXE had to postpone the project, the station was unable to meet its proposed measurable outcomes for the project, but it is confident it will meet them by the end of FY22.

STRONG INDIGENOUS WOMEN

KBXE also postponed **Strong Indigenous Women**, due to time restraints for staff caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The radio series **Strong Indigenous Women** will investigate the personal histories, stories, and notable contributions of some of Minnesota’s indigenous women. KBXE staff members did some planning and conducted some research for the **Strong Indigenous Women** during FY21. That work took place over six months. Because KBXE had to postpone the project, the station did not meet the proposed measurable outcomes from the project in FY21, but, the staff is confident that upon completion of their work in FY22, they will have no problem delivering the proposed measurable outcomes.

● “I haven’t been that
 ● interested in the
 ● arts in this area.
 ● However, through
 ● Katie’s interviews
 ● I’ve discovered
 ● art and artists in
 ● northern Minnesota
 ● that I didn’t know
 ● existed and have
 ● even attended and
 ● supported some
 ● arts events and
 ● activities.”

● – KBXE listener, commenting
 ● on *Area Voices*

Station Description

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

Program Descriptions

ANISHINAABE LANGUAGE IMMERSION CAMP

KBFT hosted a live virtual 2-day event highlighting Ojibwe Language and the culture of northern Minnesota, for its **Anishinaabe Language Immersion Camp** project. The camp featured ribbon skirt making, education on the Pow Wow drum, Native Spirituality, and language instruction. Forty people attended the first day, and 30 people attended the second day. In addition to the live virtual event, KBFT produced a 15-minute radio program showcasing some of the presentations, which later aired on the station. **Anishinaabe Language Immersion Camp** was a one-month project.

The camp helped to preserve the Ojibwe language by providing approximately 1,175 people of all ages from the KBFT listening community the opportunity to immerse themselves in the Ojibwe language and culture, as well, as learn various Native American crafts and teachings. The project resulted in an increase in locally focused content on public radio. Broadcast segments for the project were heard by an estimated 1,500 people in FY21. The station received positive comments from event attendees, listeners, and participants. KBFT achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

NATIVE MUSIC FEST SERIES

KBFT's **Native Music Fest Series** project was a series of live virtual events featuring interviews and songs from musicians, writers, storytellers, and songwriters. In FY21, the station hosted 11 virtual events, and used the content to produce 11 five-minute radio programs which aired on the station. Among the artists included in the **Native Music Fest Series** were Brianne Marie, Brothers Burn Mountain, Sihasin, David Huckfelt, Opie Day, and more. Each live event was attended by 20 to 155 people. KBFT worked on **Native Music Fest Series** over four months.

As a result of **Native Music Fest Series**, 32 local musicians had their work showcased through public radio and benefited from the increased exposure and payment for their services. KBFT estimates that the broadcast segments were heard by approximately 3,300 listeners in FY21. Between Public Radio Exchange (PRX), Facebook, and YouTube, **Native Music Fest Series** reached an additional 18,000 viewers and had positive feedback from viewers. KBFT achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.



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

ANISHINAABEMOEN

Anishinaabemoen was a series of one-minute daily radio segments providing the listener with ongoing Ojibwe language learning. Listeners first heard the day’s word in Ojibwe, followed by an English translation. In FY21, KBFT created and broadcast 310 daily segments. **Anishinaabemoen** was a yearlong project.

Anishinaabemoen helped to preserve the Ojibwe & Dakota culture as well as the Ojibwe language. Anton Treuer hosted the segments and shared stories about language and dialect, to help Nett Lake residents learn, use, and preserve the Ojibwe language. KBFT estimates the segments were heard by approximately 10,950 people. The project also had 600 reactions on Facebook and 21 downloads on PRX. **Anishinaabemoen** helped to interweave arts and culture into more facets of community life, with their daily radio segments. KBFT achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.



KBFT teamed up with Anton Treuer to create 310 segments of **Anishinaabemoen** to teach listeners the Ojibwe language.

BOIS FORTE HISTORY IN 90 SECONDS

The **Bois Forte History in 90 Seconds** project featured a collection of 90-second segments, highlighting historical events and achievements of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa tribal community. One segment created and broadcast in FY21 explained the origin of the band’s flag. KBFT created and aired seven of these 90-second segments in FY21, and **Bois Forte History in 90 Seconds** was a two-month project.

KBFT reports about 2,100 people heard the **Bois Forte History in 90 Seconds** segments. Social media posts related to the project had 931 engagements and 43 shares. The segments also had 44 streams on PRX. Because of the pandemic, KBFT was only able to produce seven of the 10 segments proposed in the station’s workplan for the biennium. KBFT achieved most of the proposed outcomes for this project.

BOIS FORTE ARTIST PROFILES

All Minnesotans are struggling as a result of the pandemic. But COVID-19 is hitting Minnesota artists especially hard leaving them with very few venues in which to perform and/or display their work. KBFT’s Bois Forte Artist Profiles project showcased artists in the station’s listening area, significantly increasing exposure of their work which will hopefully increase their opportunity to earn income from the art and music they create. The **Bois Forte Artist Profiles** were five-minute segments, and the station created and aired 13 of them in FY21. Some of the artists featured on **Bois Forte Artist Profiles** series included Rich Mattson, Jonathan Thunder, Michael Lyons, and Delina White. **Bois Forte Artist Profiles** was a two-month project.

Bois Forte Artist Profiles increased the number of local artists, musicians, historians, writers, and others who had their work showcased through public radio and benefited from the income and increased exposure. KBFT estimates that the on-air segments were heard by about 2,100 people. The station aired each segment multiple times. Posts about the project had 624 views on Facebook. Segments posted on PRX were played 81 times. The artists involved were paid for their participation. KBFT achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

BF COMMUNITY POW WOW BROADCAST

KBFT’s project **BF Community Pow Wow Broadcast** consisted of two live radio broadcast events for the two Pow Wows held on the Bois Forte Reservation during FY21. The broadcasts featured special guest commentators known in Indian Communities and the Pow Wow Circles. The **BF Community Pow Wow Broadcast** contained two 10-minute interview segments featuring Rob Fairbanks, Gordon Jourdain, and Rick DeFoe. The live radio broadcasts of the two Pow Wows took place over three weeks. **BF Community Pow Wow Broadcast** was a three-week project.

More community members and listeners were exposed to Ojibwe language and culture through this project. KBFT estimates that live broadcasts were heard by about 600 listeners. The Pow Wow segments posted for PRX were downloaded 50 times. And, the video of the Pow Wow that KBFT posted on Facebook generated 51 views. KBFT achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.



KBFT held four community events for its Native Art Fest project including this painting class with Leah Yellowbird and Nate Leutgers.

VIRTUAL STORYTELLING

KBFT’s project **Virtual Storytelling** featured winter storytelling, which has always been a part of Ojibwe Culture. The two-night event gave Ojibwe people and people from neighboring communities a chance to be a part of Anishinaabe/Ojibwe traditions. KBFT’s **Virtual Storytelling** aired live on KBFT, on Facebook Live, and on KBFT’s YouTube channel. The project welcomed everyone to learn from and enjoy the stories, during COVID times, from the safety of their own homes. Among the storytellers featured in this project were Gordon Jourdain, Dennis White, Karen Drift, and Joseph Sutherland. The station held two **Virtual Storytelling** live events, each lasting about two and a-half-hours. The station also edited the programs down and aired two 30-minute radio programs. **Virtual Storytelling** was a ten-day project.

As a result of **Virtual Storytelling**, more community members and listeners were exposed to Ojibwe language and culture helping to preserve the traditions. Approximately 100 people attended the two-night event. Traditional Ojibwe stories are only to be shared during winter so the broadcast segments are not archived online for this project. KBFT achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

NATIVE ART FEST

The **Native Art Fest** project provided community members with live hands-on artist workshops, where participants enjoyed learning, asking questions, and hearing artists showcase their work. KBFT also aired four five-minute segments, each of which featured one of the artists on the radio station. The station held four community events including painting classes with Leah Yellowbird and Nate Leutgers, birchbark art with Phillip Savage, and a beading class with Ruth Porter. **Native Art Fest** was a five-week project.



Native Art Fest showcased the work of Minnesota artists, giving the artists significantly more exposure than they would've had without the project, especially given the pandemic. The project gave Minnesotans the opportunity to learn how to create and increase their knowledge about Native art. KBFT estimates that the broadcast segments were heard by 9,600 listeners. Between PRX, Facebook, and YouTube, **Native Art Fest** reached an additional 56 viewers and had positive feedback from attendees. KBFT achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

Brought to you by KBFT 89.9FM & The Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. For more info visit www.KBFT.org call 218.757.3261 ext 4.

KBFT 89.9 FM
BOIS FORTÉ TRIBAL COMMUNITY RADIO

Native Art Fest
Tuesday, May 25, 5pm
Lake Vermilion Tribal Center
1610 Farm Rd S Tower, MN 55790

Wednesday, May 26th 5pm
Nett Lake School, Circle Area
13090 Westley Drive Nett Lake, MN 55772

OJIBWE QUILLWORK AND EARRING MAKING CLASS
with Bois Forte Band Member
RUTH PORTER

FREE EVENT! EVERYONE WELCOME! SUPPLIES LIMITED.

CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT

Sponsored by KBFT and the MN Arts and Culture Fund.

KBFT 89.9 FM
BOIS FORTÉ TRIBAL COMMUNITY RADIO

Presents: Native Art Festival

Birchbark Earring & Necklace Workshop
Birchbark Etching & Harvesting Class taught by Birchbark Artist - Phil Savage (FDL)
Social Distance & Masks Required - Supplies available to participants
Wednesday, May 19th - 5pm
at the Nett Lake School - Circle Area
Nett Lake, MN

FREE!

For more info visit www.kbft.org, Facebook @kbft, call 218.757.3261

Brought to you by KBFT 89.9 FM and the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. For more info at www.KBFT.org Call 218.757.3261 ext. 4.

KBFT 89.9 FM
BOIS FORTÉ TRIBAL COMMUNITY RADIO

KBFT Native Art Festival
Ojibwe Painter/Bead Artist

LEAH YELLOWBIRD
PAINTING CLASS AT THE NETT LAKE SCHOOL
CIRCLE AREA
13090 Westley Drive Nett Lake MN 55772

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2ND
AT 4:30PM-8PM

- LEARN HOW TO PAINT -
- LEARN PAINTING TECHNIQUES -
- LEARN ABOUT THE ARTIST -
- ASK QUESTIONS -
- MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIRED -
- SUPPLIES WILL BE LIMITED -

Free Event! Everyone Welcome!

CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT



Station Description

KUMD-FM (Duluth) broadcasts at 103.3 FM. KUMD, Duluth Public Radio, has been the Northland’s source of alternative radio for more than six decades, playing an eclectic mix of jazz, blues, folk, r&b, hip-hop, indie, and more. KUMD 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.

Program Descriptions

MN READS

For its **MN Reads** project, KUMD produced 40 episodes of a weekly program featuring Minnesota authors discussing their new publications and books. KUMD partnered with the Minnesota Historical Society and the University of Minnesota Press to create these seven-to 20-minute segments, which shared the work of Minnesota authors. The books highlighted in **MN Reads** also typically focused on Minnesota-centric topics including culture, history, experiences, and more. **MN Reads** offered state-wide connections with a broad geographical range of authors, topics, and inspirations. Some of the most popular segments included Ojibwe authors, racial justice, and Minnesota culture. **MN Reads** was a yearlong project.

KUMD estimates the **MN Reads** segments reached approximately 1,800 listeners each week. Forty Minnesota authors were highlighted, helping the station to achieve its goal of supporting and increasing awareness of Minnesota authors. The project received listener feedback that underlined the need to support local authors and this type of programming. KUMD achieved the proposed outcomes for **MN Reads**.

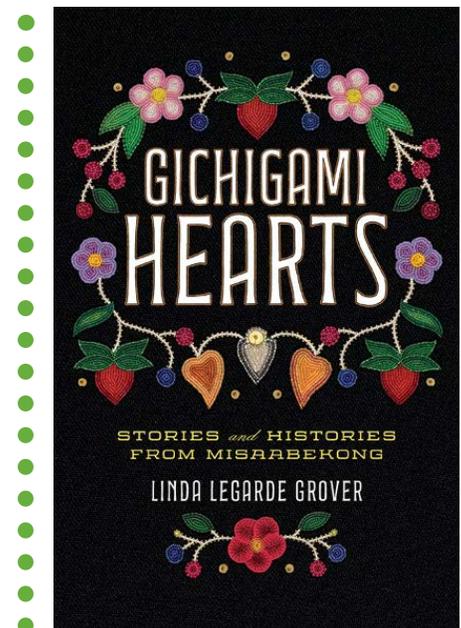
IN THE SPIRIT OF MEDICINE

The project **In the Spirit of Medicine** consisted of five-to 10-minute bi-weekly radio programs showcasing the essays of renowned Native American elder, Dr. Arne Vainio. Dr. Vainio, an enrolled member of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, celebrated both his Ojibwe and Finnish heritage in his essays, as well as his experiences as a family practice doctor on the Fond Du Lac reservation in Cloquet. His writings are moving, true-life stories about growing up in and living in Northern Minnesota. Topics included Ojibwe culture, healthcare, and mental health. The program aired every other week with a total of 25 new episodes produced. **In the Spirit of Medicine** was a yearlong project.

KUMD estimates each segment of **In the Spirit of Medicine** reached about 1,800 listeners. In FY21, **In the Spirit of Medicine** posts received 11,287 unique page views on KUMD’s website. On Facebook, **In the Spirit of Medicine** posts reached 2,642 people with 110 engagements. This project also received positive comments from listeners. KUMD achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.



KUMD-FM (Duluth) coverage area



MN Reads helped to showcase Minnesota authors like Anishinaabe novelist Linda LeGarde Grover.

LIVE FROM STUDIO A

KUMD’s project **Live from Studio A** showcased intimate live in-studio performances from Minnesota musicians and interviews about their work. Some of the artists featured in FY21 included Mary Bue; Superior Siren; and Steve Roehm, of the New Standards. Each of the 20 segments broadcast as part of the **Live from Studio A** project were 20 to 40 minutes in length and aired two times monthly on average. **Live from Studio A** was a yearlong project.

KUMD reports that each episode of **Live from Studio A** reached an estimated 3,100 listeners each week and showcased 20 Minnesota musicians. KUMD is the only local media outlet in the Duluth area that showcases interviews and live performances from local and regional musicians to this degree. In KUMD’s FY21 listener survey, listeners reported feeling informed about Minnesota musicians and music and agreed that the project helps bands, musicians, and the local music scene thrive in Minnesota. KUMD received positive comments for **Live from Studio A**, one listener wrote: “Having a local focus is critical! Not many stations highlight local artists.” KUMD achieved the proposed outcomes of increasing locally focused content and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio with **Live from Studio A**.



KUMD’s Live from Studio A showcased 20 Minnesota musicians.

THE LOCAL

The Local was a two-hour radio program, which showcased Minnesota music with an emphasis on Duluth music. The program featured a weekly events calendar informing listeners about where local bands were playing and also presented occasional interviews with Minnesota musicians. Popular segments included AfroGeode, Gaelynn Lea, Mick Sterling, and Erik Berry of Trampled by Turtles. During FY21, KUMD produced and aired 21 weekly episodes of **The Local**, which was a five-month project.

KUMD featured 24 to 30 Minnesota musicians per episode of **The Local**. The station estimates that about 1,200 people heard the program each week. The program allowed KUMD to double the amount of local music played weekly. In addition, KUMD interviewed 10 Minnesota musicians about their craft and shared those interviews on the web. The project also received positive comments from listeners and appreciation from local artists. Listeners gained more awareness of the local and regional music scene. Listeners said they learned more about artists that they might not hear elsewhere. KUMD met its proposed measurable outcomes for this project.

JOURNEY TO WELLNESS

Journey to Wellness was a bi-weekly radio program covering Native American community concerns in Minnesota including COVID-19, missing and murdered Indigenous women, the legacy of residential schools, treaty rights, and much more. The program featured stories of first-hand experiences of issues and concerns in the local Native American Communities, as well as Indigenous leaders and local organizations working to address issues affecting the lives of Native American people in Minnesota. **Journey to Wellness** aired every other week for 38 weeks, and the segments were four to 24 minutes in length. **Journey to Wellness** was a yearlong project.

By covering topics and concerns in Minnesota’s Native American communities, the project achieved its proposed measurable outcome of giving listeners a better understanding of Native American culture and history. The 19 segments show the project resulted in more Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio than would’ve been produced had the project not happened. The project also provided increased exposure to Minnesota art and culture. In KUMD’s FY21 survey, 80% of respondents said that **Journey to Wellness** made them feel more informed about issues surrounding Native American community health. The station also received positive feedback about the program. KUMD achieved the proposed outcomes for **Journey to Wellness**.



Of the KUMD listeners surveyed, 80% said **Journey to Wellness** helped them to be more informed about health issues in Native American communities.

(poetry)

The project **(poetry)** was featured on KUMD’s Northland Morning show. The program celebrated the multiple languages that make up the rich cultural landscape of our Northland through the medium that communicates it best: poetry. The station invited guests (all Minnesota residents) to share a poem in their native language and discuss what it is about the poem or the poet that speaks to them. A translation was also shared along with details about the author or source of the poem. The goal of the project **(poetry)** was to explore what inspired the reader and give them an opportunity to share it. In addition, **(poetry)** partnered with local group Climate Emergency Poetry to showcase local and regional poets and poetry events meant to inform, inspire, enlighten, and educate audiences about the ongoing climate crisis. A total of nine episodes of the six- to 20-minute **(poetry)** segments were produced in FY21, and 11 were aired (including two repeats) every other week for three months. **(poetry)** was a four-month project.

KUMD estimates that each of the **(poetry)** segments reached an estimated broadcast audience of about 1,800. **(poetry)** helped to raise awareness of poetry and literature from different cultures found within Minnesota. In total, KUMD featured four different languages on the program. The station received positive comments from listeners about **(poetry)**. The comments received emphasized the importance of showcasing local writers. The project resulted in an increase in Minnesota-focused content on public radio and gave more Minnesotans increased access to Minnesota’s culture through diverse poetry. Despite producing one less segment than proposed in its workplan for this project, KUMD was still able to achieve the proposed outcomes for **(poetry)**.

ARTS AND CULTURAL EVENTS

KUMD’s project **Arts and Cultural Events** consisted of programming and coverage dedicated to showcasing, promoting, and driving Minnesotans to local artistic and cultural events in Duluth. **Arts and Cultural Events** included both on-air radio programs and live events. Some of the events and concerts included were a concert by Trampled by Turtles, the John Beargrease Sled Dog Marathon, and a Duluth Does Dylan release party. **Arts and Cultural Events** featured nine on-air segments running four-to 21-minutes in length. **Arts and Cultural Events** featured a total of 13 live events: seven in-person, and six virtual. Ten of these events were connected to the Duluth Dylan Fest. Eight-thousand people participated in the virtual event featuring Trampled by Turtles Live at First Avenue. And while no spectators were allowed to attend the John Beargrease Sled Dog Marathon in person, the event reached more than 30,000 people with videos of the race on Facebook. **Arts and Cultural Events** was a yearlong project.

KUMD directly covered or sponsored 13 events. In addition, they provided coverage on social media of several more events including fundraisers for local music venues including Sacred Heart Music Center and the Big Top Chautauqua, who were negatively affected by the pandemic. KUMD also produced seven additional web posts related to the featured events. While the pandemic limited the number of events scheduled, KUMD made an effort to support the events that did happen. The station also used social media to promote local artists’ live streams. This provided increased exposure for local artists, musicians, and others at a time that it was especially important compared to the exposure they would’ve received if this project didn’t exist. KUMD achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

DULUTH HOMEGROWN MUSIC FESTIVAL COVERAGE

The **Duluth Homegrown Music Festival Coverage** project featured coverage of Duluth’s eight-day Homegrown Music Festival, which has been showcasing and celebrating Duluth-area music for over 20 years. Normally held at venues all over the Twin Ports, the festival held in FY21, was primarily virtual, with live events held in conjunction with the official festival at Earth Rider Brewery. Among the popular performers were Black-eyed Snakes, Superior Siren, Charlie Parr, and Lanue. KUMD spent five weeks planning for the **Duluth Homegrown Music Festival Coverage** project, which was a one-time festival that lasted eight days. In addition to on-air coverage and announcements, KUMD also shared information on social media for Homegrown-related events throughout the year. Eight segments were produced and broadcast, and each was 16-to 28-minutes

- “KUMD is the best
- local news/blog
- source for reviewing
- and reporting on the
- nightly happenings
- of Homegrown
- Music Festival.
- Their contribution
- to this aspect of the
- festival is vital to
- the community.”
- – KUMD listener, commenting
- on *Duluth Homegrown Music*
- *Festival Coverage*

in length. KUMD also made daily blog posts on its website recapping the previous day's festival and previewing upcoming events. For the live events that were part of **Duluth Homegrown Music Festival Coverage**, there were 16 events in total: 12 were virtual and four were in-person.

KUMD showcased eight musicians either performing or through an on-air interview. The station's coverage of the festival generated 1,643 unique views on its website, reached 11,661 people on Facebook, and 4,418 people on Instagram. **Duluth Homegrown Music Festival Coverage** reached over 17,000 people over the internet and connected anyone with access to a computer or smartphone to Duluth's biggest event showcasing the local music community. The station estimates that approximately 8,800 people heard their on-air segments. The project helped to showcase the work of Minnesota musicians, gave Minnesotans easier access to art and culture, and resulted in more Minnesota-focused content on public radio. KUMD achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.



KUMD's on-air and online elements of the Duluth Homegrown Music Festival Project helped showcase eight musicians to more than 25,000 people.

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.

Program Descriptions

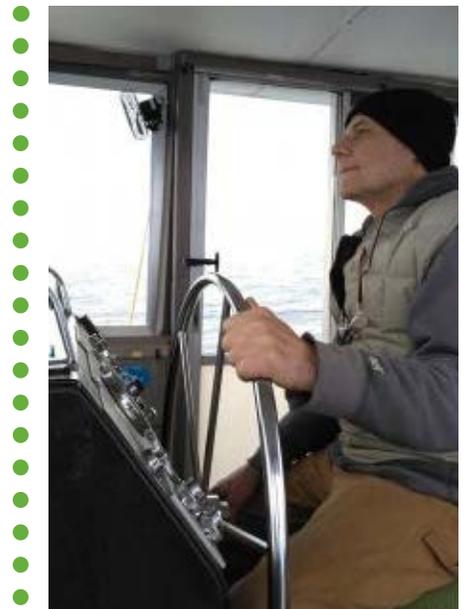
COMMUNITY VOICES ON NORTH SHORE MORNING AND NORTH SHORE WEEKEND

For its **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend** project, WTIP produced and contributed content relevant to daily life on the North Shore, for the station's two-hour, weekday variety show, North Shore Morning. The project also provided programming content to its companion show, North Shore Weekend, a three-hour recap of North Shore Morning that airs on Saturday mornings. Community voices and stories are the cornerstone of each show on WTIP, including the unique voices of regional writers, naturalists, bird experts, astronomers, artists, performers, community organizations, and updates from public officials. Popular topics on this daily segment featured stories about the Superior National Forest, the Gunflint Trail, and Grand Portage. **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend** was a yearlong project.

The project significantly increased access to locally-focused artistic and cultural content giving residents of the area easier access to the arts. The station reports that **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend** broadcast audience was approximately 13,000 people. WTIP had more than 1,000 community voices on the air in FY21 as part of the project. On-air guests included local naturalists, bird experts, outdoor explorers, and commentators from Grand Portage, the Gunflint Trail, Hovland, and Colville. Features and interviews from North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend received 3,419 SoundCloud listens during the project period and 47 listens on PRX. North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend featured interviews with over 600 local artists, musicians, historians, writers, scientists, and storytellers. Select segments of **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend** were aired on Prairie Public Radio and KUFR in Montana. An increased number of Minnesota artists, historians, writers, scientists, storytellers, and others were able to showcase their work through the project. WTIP achieved the proposed outcomes of this project.



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



Community Voices showcased more than 1,000 featured guests including Captain Matthew Thomas who talked about taking passengers to Isle Royale.



RADIO WAVES MUSIC FESTIVAL

WTIP was still able to host their **Radio Waves Music Festival**, they just did so virtually in FY21. The station held a one-day virtual event that showcased 13 different acts. The **Radio Waves Music Festival** was a family-friendly event that featured Minnesota musicians from a variety of different musical genres including rock, jazz, folk, Americana, and more. Some of the bands showcased during the **Radio Waves Music Festival** included Rich Mattson and the Northstars and Lady Spruce. **Radio Waves Music Festival** was a yearlong project.

A survey conducted by WTIP showed that 85% felt the **Radio Waves Music Festival** helped to enrich art and culture in Northeast Minnesota indicating the project met the station’s proposed outcome of exposing more Minnesotans to arts and culture. By including and paying 13 different artistic acts, the station met its proposed outcome of showcasing more Minnesota musicians and artists through public broadcasting as well as helping the artists to earn more income for their work. The station estimates that through its various distribution methods, including on-air and online, that approximately 1,300 heard some or all of the **Radio Waves Music Festival**. WTIP met its proposed outcomes for this project.



Masks didn’t stop the music at WTIP’s Radio Waves Music Festival which included live outdoor as well as virtual online performances.

LAKE SUPERIOR PROJECT

WTIP’s **Lake Superior Project** was a locally produced audio feature that explored the culture and environmental history of Lake Superior and how the Lake affects people’s lives and culture along Minnesota’s North Shore. The project utilized new and existing partnerships, interviews from organizations and individuals, members of tribal governments, and band members, to take a deep dive into stories about Lake Superior and the places and people it impacts. WTIP produced two segments of the **Lake Superior Project** that were seven minutes in length and the station worked on this project over three months.

WTIP increased the amount of its locally-focused content with this project. The segments, each of which aired multiple times, explored cultural and environmental interests. WTIP estimates that through the various distribution methods that approximately 1,000 people heard the segments. The two segments of the **Lake Superior Project** that aired in FY21 created increased awareness about the deep cultural history of the Anishinaabe people at Isle Royale and the border country. The project page on WTIP’s website generated 752 visits and there were 52 listens on SoundCloud. WTIP achieved the proposed outcomes for The **Lake Superior Project**.





NORTHERN MUSIC HOUR

WTIP’s program, **Northern Music Hour**, was a one-hour program that explored music relevant to the heritage of Northeast Minnesota’s European settlers (circa 1880-1915). The show host shared a narrative history interwoven with curated musical selections and interviews, bringing listeners an in-depth exploration of the cultural heritage of Northeast Minnesota’s European settlers. **Northern Music Hour** was a one-time show created over a one-month period in FY21.

The project increased the locally focused content and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio. WTIP estimates the on-air audience for the programs was approximately 900 people. Posts about WTIP’s **Northern Music Hour** reached 2,500 via WTIP’s Facebook page. WTIP achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

IT HAPPENS HERE

For its project **It Happens Here**, WTIP began work on **It Happens Here**: The Roots of Racial Inequity on the North Shore, a series that will explore the history of racial inequality in Northeastern Minnesota. The series will take a broad look at the history of the North Shore as it relates to the experiences of Black, Indigenous, and other people of color in Cook County. WTIP started the process of exploring the roots of racism and how institutional forms of racism have manifested over time – from the arrival of the first white settlers to the present day. The station spent the last three months of the year working on **It Happens Here**. As laid out in WTIP’s workplan, the station started working on **It Happens Here** in FY21, but, the segments will not be produced or air until FY22. Because no segments have aired yet, outcomes data is not available yet.

LEGACY OF HUNTING AND TRAPPING ON THE NORTH SHORE

WTIP’s **Legacy of Hunting and Trapping on the North Shore** showcased a local trapping family. Listeners learned about intergenerational methods of hunting and trapping, how hunters and trappers utilize the pelts and meat they get from the animals they catch, and how one family is keeping this cultural tradition alive by ensuring their children learn how to do it. WTIP produced and aired one 10-minute segment for this project. **Legacy of Hunting and Trapping on the North Shore** was a three-month project.

Instead of producing two five-minute segments of **Legacy of Hunting and Trapping on the North Shore**, WTIP produced one segment that was approximately 11 minutes and aired it several times. The station estimates that approximately 900 people heard the **Legacy of Hunting and Trapping on the North Shore** on the air. In addition, the segment was downloaded or streamed 90 times collectively on SoundCloud and PRX. The project helped to preserve the stories of local hunters and trappers for future generations. The funds for the **Legacy of Hunting and Trapping on the North Shore** project also helped WTIP to produce more locally and Minnesota-focused content. As a result of producing and then airing the segment several times and archiving it online, the project gave Minnesotans of all ages better access to cultural and historical programming. WTIP achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.



WTIP’s *The Roadhouse* featured in-depth interviews along with virtual and in-studio concerts as well as performances on their porch.





THE ROADHOUSE

For **The Roadhouse**, WTIP produced a two-hour weekly arts and culture magazine program, which featured in-depth interviews and in-studio or virtual musical performances with regional musicians. Guests on the program ranged from well-known to newly published Minnesota authors, visual artists, and musicians, to Minnesota-based scientists, meteorologists, and explorers, who are doing extraordinary work in their fields. Interviews and musical performances were archived on the WTIP website. Popular segments in FY21 included singer-songwriter Eliza Gilkyson, musician Michael Lipton, and Minnesota meteorologist Mark Seeley. **The Roadhouse** was a yearlong project.

The project significantly increased the locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio and was broadcast to an estimated audience of 13,000 people. **The Roadhouse** conducted interviews with over 100 notable people in FY21, including adventurers, environmental experts, fishing experts, Minnesota authors, sports commentators, photographers, and more. **The Roadhouse** features received 2,727 listens on SoundCloud and 36 streams on PRX. Selected segments from **The Roadhouse** also aired on KRZA in Colorado. This weekly program often featured live musicians via Cleanfeed technology, or in warm weather, from WTIP's back porch. WTIP was able to support these local artists and musical acts through the power and technical ingenuity of radio broadcasting. WTIP achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

WHAT MATTERS TO US: GROWING UP NEAR LAKE SUPERIOR

WTIP researched and produced **What Matters to Us: Growing up Near Lake Superior** in FY20 but aired the segment in FY21. The project explored the many reasons people choose to live on the North Shore. **What Matters to Us: Growing up Near Lake Superior** looked at what it's like for Ellen Callender, a senior at Cook County High School, to grow up in a small town. She shares the pros and the cons of living in Cook County as well as her opinion about what the community can do to get youth more involved and create a culture that invites youth to truly take advantage of everything the North Shore has to offer.

WTIP's workplan called for one episode of **What Matters to Us: Growing up Near Lake Superior**, which was expected to be five to eight minutes long. The segment that WTIP produced for the project was a little longer than 10 minutes and aired several times. **What Matters to Us: Growing up Near Lake Superior** generated 375 SoundCloud listens. The station estimates about 900 people heard the segment. **What Matters to Us: Growing up Near Lake Superior** resulted in more locally-focused and Minnesota-focused content than would have been produced without the project. The on-air segment combined with the online elements gave Minnesotans better access to cultural and historical programming through public broadcasting. WTIP achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

SCENIC ROUTE

The **Scenic Route** was a weekly, one-hour show on Friday afternoons dedicated to the music and songwriting of local and regional artists, along with interviews and event announcements for the coming weekend. In FY21,



North shore weaver Emily Wick was one of more than 100 artists, environmental experts, and explorers WTIP interviewed for **The Roadhouse**.





Scenic Route conducted over 40 virtual interviews and performances with Minnesota-based musicians including Dan Israel, Kevin Buck, Morningbird, and many more. **Scenic Route** was a yearlong project. Will Moore, host of **Scenic Route**, made an extraordinary effort to keep WTIP’s connection with regional musicians strong, during the many months of shutdown due to COVID-19. He interviewed over 40 area musicians about their recent recordings and new releases, with many guests performing live, via Cleanfeed technology. In addition to the live connection with musicians, the program also featured one hour per week of Minnesota-focused musical recordings.

The project increased the number of local musicians who had their work showcased through public radio and benefited from the increased exposure. WTIP estimates that throughout the year **Scenic Route** reached a total estimated audience of about 13,000 people. **Scenic Route** performances received 806 listens on SoundCloud. WTIP produced 60 minutes of programming each week that specifically focused on Minnesota musicians. WTIP achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

BOUNDARY WATERS PODCAST

WTIP’s **Boundary Waters Podcast** project was a monthly podcast featuring stories and adventures from visitors (both past and present) to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW). The longer podcast format allowed the station to create in-depth interviews with people who enjoy adventure, work, and play in the BWCAW. **Boundary Waters Podcast** is also a venue to learn more about cutting-edge equipment and gear that facilitates adventure and exploration in this unique wilderness setting. **Boundary Waters Podcast** was an Edward R. Murrow award recipient in 2020 for Best Podcast in a small market. The podcast continued to reach over 35,000 listeners a year, through on-demand listening. WTIP also aired “short tracks” of the **Boundary Waters Podcast** on the air to direct listeners to the podcast. The **Boundary Waters Podcast** episodes were one-hour programs, and it was a yearlong project.

The project created increased awareness about the cultural and environmental issues and topics relevant to Minnesota. Rooted in stories and travel experiences from the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, the **Boundary Waters Podcast** audience learned about wilderness protection, resource conservation, as well as introductions to some of the many people who traverse the wilderness. WTIP achieved the proposed outcomes for the project **Boundary Waters Podcast**.



WTIP’s award-winning **Boundary Waters Podcast** reached more than 35,000 listeners. That’s 26 times the population of Grand Marais! And that’s no fish story!



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

DIG DEEP

Dig Deep was KAXE’s bi-monthly radio and podcast series, centered on conversations between conservative commentator Chuck Marohn and liberal commentator Aaron Brown. The station produced and broadcast a series of 12 segments for **Dig Deep**, each consisting of two radio segments and a podcast, which explored Minnesota’s culture by comparing and contrasting the hosts’ ideas and opinions. The colleagues engaged in deep conversations on topics that included a liberal and conservative, listening and talking together about the 2020 election, Minnesota moving forward in 2021, and more. Each **Dig Deep** segment was 14 to 35 minutes in length. **Dig Deep** was an 8-month project.

The project **Dig Deep** achieved its proposed outcome of giving Minnesotans increased access to Minnesota’s history and a better appreciation for its relevance today. KAXE estimates that approximately 4,700 people listened to **Dig Deep**. The success of this outcome was measured by listener feedback and a listener survey. For **Dig Deep**, through its FY21 survey, KAXE received positive comments from listeners about their appreciation for **Dig Deep** and the value they find in the project. KAXE produced three segments more than promised in the outputs section of its workplan for this project, further helping to ensure that the project achieved the proposed outcomes. In KAXE’s FY21 listener survey, 100% of surveyed listeners that remember hearing **Dig Deep** agreed indicated the program increased their access and appreciation for Minnesota history and its relevance today. **Dig Deep** also aired on KBXE and one other public radio station.

NORTHERN VOICES

KAXE produced eight episodes of **Northern Voices: Celebrating Ties to Minnesota’s Northland**, for its **Northern Voices** project. In these 10-minute segments, host Leah Lemm connected with community members sharing sustainable practices, traditions, as well as ancestral ways of life in Northern Minnesota. Through these conversations, **Northern Voices** celebrated the richness of individual, organizational, and communal ways of life within the region. Some of the folks featured in FY21 included: visual story-teller Vern Northrup; farmer Britt Johnson, who runs her own one-woman operation; Jesse Dermody, a sculptor, poet, and musician, who shared his relationship with the land; Cherylin Spears, project coordinator for Red Lake Economic Development, who is part of the Red Lake Buffalo Project; and many more. **Northern Voices** was a 6-month project.



KAXE-FM (Grand Rapids / Brainerd) coverage area

- “Northern Voices
- is another great
- example of how
- a small-town
- radio station
- can have a big
- impact on arts and
- cultural heritage
- in the area.”
- – KAXE listener, commenting
- on Northern Voices

The **Northern Voices** project provided KAXE listeners with historic and cultural information about the sustainable practices, traditions, as well as indigenous and ancestral ways of life in Northern Minnesota. KAXE estimates 4,700 people heard the segments. **Northern Voices** achieved the proposed outcome of enriching listeners’ cultural and historical knowledge. The success was measured by a listener survey that included comments and feedback. In KAXE’s FY21 listener survey, 100% of **Northern Voices** listeners indicated the project increased awareness about the cultural and environmental issues and topics relevant to Minnesota. KAXE achieved the proposed outcomes for **Northern Voices**. **Northern Voices** also aired on KBXE.

AUDIO ESSAYS BY STEVE DOWNING

KAXE produced 14 episodes of its program **Audio Essays by Steve Downing** which featured topics related to Minnesota arts, culture, and history recorded in the writer’s own voice. Among the essays broadcast in FY21, Steve Downing shared his thoughts on the pandemic, the many roles that women played during the pandemic, the requirement for wearing a face mask, and more. These four- to six-minute musings aired monthly in FY21. **Audio Essays by Steve Downing** was a yearlong project.

The station produced two more segments than promised in its workplan. KAXE estimates that the **Audio Essays by Steve Downing** segments reached approximately 4,700 people. The program’s goal was to have Steve Downing highlight and increase awareness of the arts and culture of Northern Minnesota by pondering and explaining poetry, language, art, and food. KAXE demonstrated the success of this program in its FY21 survey. For those surveyed who said they have listened to **Audio Essays**, 95% said the project increased their appreciation for the writer’s art and the arts in Minnesota. KAXE achieved the proposed outcomes for this project. **Audio Essays by Steve Downing** also aired on KBXE.

STAY HUMAN

For its **Stay Human** project, KAXE created 48 one-hour programs featuring 199 essays, stories, and poems for the station’s weekly program. The project showcased guest essays, poems, and stories from local writers, poets, and essayists, read by the writer. In FY21 the **Stay Human** shows explored words and music for spirit and courage with topics on laughter, summer foods, virtual hugs for teachers, the perfect day, dreams come true, and many other thought-filled subjects. **Stay Human** was a yearlong project.

KAXE’s **Stay Human** segments increased the audience’s appreciation for spoken word and storytelling. This was demonstrated with positive comments from listeners, some of which appear in the Listener Comments section of this report. KAXE’s FY21 survey found that of the respondents who said they have listened to the program, 97% agreed that **Stay Human** helped them gain more knowledge, information, and access to the arts, particularly to writers and storytellers. KAXE reports that an estimated 4,700 people heard the **Stay Human** segments. The estimate does not include the listeners reached outside of Minnesota. The station produced two more segments than promised in its workplan for this project. KAXE achieved the outcomes of this project. **Stay Human** also aired on KBXE as well as four public radio stations outside of Minnesota.

● “Thank you to all
 ● at KAXE for all the
 ● good work that you
 ● do. During this time
 ● of pandemic and
 ● during the political
 ● upheaval, your
 ● voices have brought
 ● facts and a kindly
 ● attitude. You are
 ● appreciated!”

● – Sandy, KAXE listener from
 ● McGregor

STRONG WOMEN

KAXE revealed the impact of women and their stories, especially women in Northern Minnesota, with its **Strong Women** project. The project included a virtual presentation via Zoom, and, radio segments broadcast on the air. The virtual women’s group session was 20-minutes in length, and the 10 monthly radio segments were 10-to 19-minutes long. The **Strong Women** focus group gathered via Zoom to discuss 2020 and talk about their challenges with additional work in care-giving, homeschooling, life during the pandemic, as well as other topics impacting the culture of Northern Minnesota. The **Strong Women** radio segments featured interviews with women from a variety of roles and experiences, speaking about their views, their lives, their stories, and what they have learned along the way. Some of the women featured in the **Strong Women** project included: DNR Commissioner Sarah Strommen; Lauren Nickish, from the organization Legendary Women of Brainerd Public Schools; water protectors Tania Aubid and Shanai Matteson; author Anita Diamant and producer Melissa Berton, speaking about menstrual injustice; and many more. **Strong Women** was an eight-month project.

KAXE’s program **Strong Women** increased the appreciation and access to the history and experiences of Minnesota women. The station estimates that approximately 4,700 people heard the **Strong Women** segments. The success of the program was demonstrated by positive feedback from women that were featured on the program and positive comments from KAXE’s listeners who felt empowered by the program. Some of these comments can be found later in this report. The KAXE annual survey also helped show that **Strong Women** achieved the outcome of making listeners more aware of Minnesota women and the role they have played in our state’s history. Of KAXE listeners who say they heard **Strong Women**, 100% agreed that the segments helped increase the knowledge of women’s history and cultural contributions in Minnesota. In addition, 94% who heard **Strong Women** also agreed that the program reflected the priorities of the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund for public broadcasting by increasing their access to knowledge and information about Minnesota’s cultural heritage. KAXE achieved the proposed outcomes for **Strong Women**. **Strong Women** also aired on KBXE.

VICTOR POWER SERIAL (PODCAST AND BROADCAST)

For its project **Victor Power Serial (Podcast and Broadcast)**, KAXE produced eight hour-long episodes of its dramatized serial about Iron Range historical figure Victor Power. Referred to as **Power in the Wilderness**, the segments were broadcast on the radio and made available for on-demand podcast listening. In the program, filmmaker Karl Jacob and author Aaron Brown teamed up to take a road-trip-movie style journey through time to unlock the mystery of their hometown of Hibbing. Through these audio-rich programs, the duo examined and explored the storied life of a dynamic mayor named Victor Power, a first-generation Irish American, who left few traces after his mysterious death almost a century ago. The hosts contextualized and unfolded the content through discussions, personal recollections, and by bringing in the voices of contemporary residents, scholars, and historians. Some of the stories featured in **Power in the Wilderness** during the FY21 project included: Victor Powers gets elected mayor; Victor works on the will of the people over the will of US Steel; Vic

-
- “This is an amazing
- local arts and
- legacy project. We
- hear the best essays
- and stories from
- our local human
- treasures.”

-
- – KAXE listener, commenting
- on *Stay Human*
-



and the grinding of the gears of war; and many more historical episodes. **Victor Power Serial (Podcast and Broadcast)** was a yearlong project.

The **Victor Power Serial (Podcast and Broadcast)** project received positive comments, some of which appear in the Listener Comment section of this report. In the station’s FY21 survey, of those who indicated they remember hearing these segments, 95% agreed that the Victor Power Serial project provided them with more knowledge, information, and access to Minnesota’s history and cultural heritage. The station estimates that roughly 4,700 people heard the segments. KAXE achieved the proposed outcomes of this project. **Victor Power Serial (Podcast and Broadcast)** project also aired on KBXE.

BOOZHOO NANABOOZHOO

KAXE broadcast 48 episodes of its **Boozhoo NanaBoozhoo** radio show for its project by the same name. The radio programs were three- to nine-minute radio segments featuring puppets teaching Ojibwe language and culture. The puppets NanaBoozhoo and Natasha shared stories, poetry, prayers, singing, and music, drawn from Ojibwe culture, traditions, and language. Some words and topics covered in FY21 included: learning the Ojibwe word for beaver and sharing the story of how he got his tail; learning the Ojibwe word for each month; a special song to learn how to say the days of the week in Ojibwe; and many more. **Boozhoo NanaBoozhoo** was a yearlong project.

Boozhoo NanaBoozhoo received positive comments from listeners, some of which appear in the Listener Comment section of this report. The station estimates that 4,700 people heard the **Boozhoo NanaBoozhoo** segments. KAXE’s FY21 listener survey found that of those who listened to the **Boozhoo NanaBoozhoo** on-air segments, 95% agreed that the project helped make Ojibwemowin and Anishinaabe culture more accessible. KAXE achieved the proposed outcomes of this project. **Boozhoo NanaBoozhoo** also aired on KBXE.



KAXE’s **Boozhoo NanaBoozhoo** project taught listeners about the Ojibwe language and culture.

RAPIDS RIVER FEST

In FY21, KAXE had to cancel its annual Mississippi River Fest due to the pandemic. The majority of funds for this event (also referred to as **Rapids River Fest**) were carried over to FY22 and will be used to enhance the Grand Rapids Riverfest, a two-day outdoor music festival that will be presented in collaboration with the Reif Performing Arts Center, Visit Grand Rapids, and the City of Grand Rapids. The Legacy money spent in FY21 was used to fund preparation and planning for the next festival. Anticipating the ability to have the event outside and socially distant, the station spent about six months working on the Mississippi River Fest/**Rapids River Fest** before having to cancel it. Because the event did not happen, outcome and assessment data is not available yet.

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 their programming is like Minnesota weather. If you don't like what you're hearing, come back in five minutes. KMSU and its Listeners: Together They Make Great Radio!

Program Descriptions

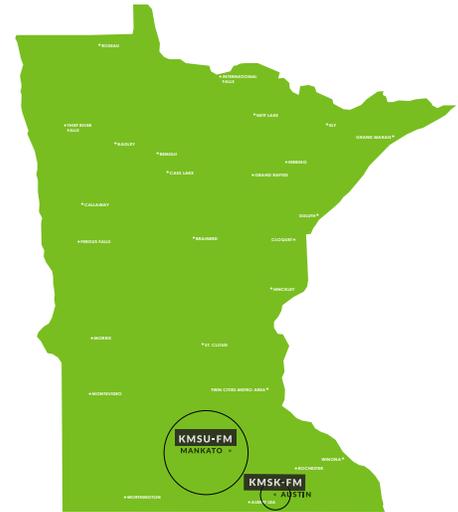
SONGS ON THE LAWN

KMSU partnered with Greater Mankato Growth and the City Center Partnership to present live music events for its **Songs on the Lawn** project. The live outdoor events were held each Thursday in June in downtown Mankato. The lunchtime concerts took place in Civic Center Plaza and included performances by local and regional acts. The station presented four events in FY21, which were attended by approximately 1,200 people. Lingering concerns about COVID reduced the number of attendees from previous years. Bands who performed included: Irie Minds, Chemistry Set, Jeremy Poland Band, and American Soul. **Songs on the Lawn** also had a radio component. KMSU produced four segments that included ten-minute interviews with each band along with one of the band's songs. KMSU aired the segments the week prior to the live event. **Songs on the Lawn** was a four-month project.

The project helped give Minnesotans of all ages easier access to art and music, increased locally-produced content on public radio, and helped art and culture thrive in our state. The project's events were attended by approximately 1,200 people and the broadcast segments from the project had an estimated 5,000 listeners. **Songs on the Lawn** received positive comments and feedback from participants and listeners. Sixteen artists and one sound technician were paid for their work. KMSU achieved the proposed outcomes of **Songs on the Lawn**.

MANKATO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA RECORDINGS

KMSU produced, recorded, and edited for later broadcast three high-quality stereo recordings of the Mankato Symphony Orchestra (MSO) concerts, for its **Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings** project. The project aimed to increase accessibility to local classical music by offering southern Minnesota residents the opportunity to hear orchestra concerts broadcast on KMSU. The live performances were professionally recorded using multiple microphones and digital equipment, then edited to fit the broadcast length. The **Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings** concerts typically aired at 4:00 p.m. on the Sunday following the live performance. Performances included works by Beethoven, Mozart, Haydn, Vivaldi, and more. **Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings** was a nine-month project, resulting in six 30- to 90-minute recordings which were later broadcast on the station.



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

Each of KMSU's **Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings** exposed an estimated 5,000 listeners to the MSO. The project was uploaded to Public Radio Exchange (PRX), and extra effort was made to share the recordings with other broadcast partners. **Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings** also received positive feedback from the MSO. Dr. Bethel Balge, MSO Executive Director, said the project had "extended our audience reach exponentially." The project was especially important this year with the pandemic still impacting our state. It allowed safe easier access to the concerts. Excerpts of the recordings were broadcast by Minnesota Public Radio's Classical music service. **Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings** achieved the proposed outcomes of the project.

KMSU LIVE EVENTS

KMSU supported multiple bands and artists as part of its **KMSU Live Events** project, which showcased five unique performances that were 45 minutes to two hours long. The free public live music events happened in large and small venues in Mankato and St. Peter. Due to the pandemic, most were held outdoors. The station also featured music, some live in-studio performances, and information on-air in the days leading up to each event. The number of events for **KMSU Live Events** was severely reduced due to the pandemic and the attendance was small due to the public's uncertainty of attending in-person events. In FY21, **KMSU Live Events** consisted of three jazz performances at St. Peter Pavilion, with about 100 people attending each event. Fifty people attended the performance of Good Night Gold Dust at Wine Café, in the fall. Four bands performed at Bluesfest and attracted about 2,500 people. In addition to the live events, the station aired 10-minute segments that included interviews with the artists and an opportunity to hear their music. KMSU aired these segments in the days leading up to the performances. The station also produced and aired a one-hour compilation of recordings from the jazz performances at St. Peter Pavilion. **KMSU Live Events** was a yearlong project.



Despite the pandemic forcing the cancellation of many concerts and events, KMSU and the rest of the Ampers stations combined to pay 318 artists to perform or teach in FY21.

KMSU Live Events brought Minnesota musicians to a less-traveled region of the state and the station estimates the events attracted a combined audience of approximately 2,800 people. For the project, KMSU paid 31 Minnesota musicians for their performances. They musicians also had their art exposed to a wider audience by having some of their performances recorded and played on the radio and made available for on-demand listening on SoundCloud. The station estimates the on-air segments for **KMSU Live Events** reached approximately 5,000 listeners. The station achieved the proposed outcomes of giving Minnesotans more access to art and music, increasing Minnesota-focused content on public radio, helping art to thrive, and helping Minnesota artists get their work exposed to more Minnesotans.



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.

Program Descriptions

TWIN CITIES WEEKEND / TWIN CITIES THIS WEEK

Twin Cities Weekend / Twin Cities This Week showcased Minnesota-based creatives, mostly musical artists, with new projects or performances about to be staged or made available in the coming week. The program offered listeners a mix of the artist’s music and insightful conversation about how the music was made. Each show explored the work of a select Minnesota artist, and many musical traditions were represented. Each eight-minute segment consisted of an edited interview with a musician who described such things as musical inspiration, the intent for specific works, and musical development. Each segment aired three times and was available online. KBEM also edited out the dated content and used the rest of the content to create a program called Minnesota Music Profiles, which they archived online for on-demand listening now and in the future. Some of the artists featured on **Twin Cities Weekend / Twin Cities This Week** included Charlie Parr, Maud Hixson, Happy Apple, and Robert Robinson. KBEM created a total of 106 segments of **Twin Cities Weekend / Twin Cities This Week** in FY21. **Twin Cities Weekend / Twin Cities This Week** was a yearlong project.

KBEM broadcast **Twin Cities Weekend / Twin Cities This Week** six times a week and estimates the segments were heard live by about 21,270 people each week. Select segments of the project also aired on non-commercial radio stations in Alaska and New York. Listeners accessed on-demand streaming of the content 802 times on Public Radio Exchange (PRX) in FY21. The station received positive comments from artist participants. KBEM achieved the measurable outcomes for this project by providing Minnesota musicians with significantly more exposure by exposing the public to more art and culture than they would have been exposed to had KBEM not done this Legacy project.

THE JAZZ IMAGE – MINNESOTA EDITION

For its project **The Jazz Image – Minnesota Edition**, KBEM produced and broadcast 10 of its five- to nine-minute episodes profiling key Minnesota jazz musicians and sharing the artist’s music. In addition, the segments shared archival audio of interviews between the artist and longtime Minnesota jazz broadcaster Leigh Kamman. The segments aired twice a day on weekdays, beginning June, 2021. Featured jazz artists included Charmin Michelle, Chris



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



Bates, Bruce Henry, and Lucia Newell. This project allows KBEM to preserve and continue sharing rare and valuable audio from the archives of legendary jazz broadcaster Leigh Kamman for listeners to appreciate and learn from long into the future. **The Jazz Image – Minnesota Edition** was a yearlong project.

KBEM estimates that approximately 35,500 people heard **The Jazz Image – Minnesota Edition** each week. KBEM partnered with the Leigh Kamman Legacy Project for this production. **The Jazz Image – Minnesota Edition** received positive listener feedback. The programs were not archived online until late in June; online streaming statistics and downloads are not available. By producing and airing these segments, Jazz88 achieved its outcome of helping listeners gain an awareness of the depth of jazz talent in the Twin Cities.

MINNESOTA JAZZ LEGENDS

KBEM’s project **Minnesota Jazz Legends** drew on the talents and experiences of Minnesota musical artists who have played the jazz art form since its early years. Some of those artists are still playing well into their 80s and 90s. Now in its sixth year, **Minnesota Jazz Legends: The Elders** featured artists in a live concert and prerecorded interviews. Audiences could hear their stories of what it was like when they first joined the Twin Cities jazz scene, along with hearing what it is like for them now. The intention of the **Minnesota Jazz Legends** project was to preserve the art form of jazz in Minnesota through concerts and interviews, and to make the content available through a radio documentary broadcast including an online presence via PRX, YouTube, and on KBEM’s

website, Jazz88.fm. **Minnesota Jazz Legends** provided audiences young and old with the opportunity to learn about the hot spots in the 1930s through the 1950s, and learn where jazz legends are still performing today. Jazz artists featured in this year’s project included Art Resnick, Donald Washington, Kenny Horst, Carole Martin, Ron Seaman, Dick Peterson, Ruth Johnson, and Maurice Jacox. In FY21, KBEM hosted a **Minnesota Jazz Legends** live concert at Crooners, an award-winning jazz club. More than 200 people attended the two-hour live performance with 3,100 more viewing the simultaneous live stream. A two-hour recording of the program also aired on KBEM, along with eight five-minute short segments. **Minnesota Jazz Legends** was an eight-month project.



Jazz88 and the rest of the Ampers stations combined to provide about 60 students with hands-on experience researching, producing, and providing technical support for Legacy programming.

KBEM estimates that approximately 1,000 people heard the broadcast segments of **Minnesota Jazz Legends**. The live stream had 81 positive reactions on Facebook and 62 comments. The project gave listeners a sense of the historical depth of the jazz talent in the Twin Cities. More than 10 legendary and current Minnesota jazz musicians were highlighted. KBEM achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

JAZZ AT MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

For **Jazz at Minneapolis Public Schools**, KBEM produced a series of radio programs that showcased live in-studio performances with students in the MPS music programs. The shows featured bands and ensembles from different area schools. It also featured groups of students from different schools. In FY21, the station created two one-hour radio shows featuring students, instructors, and ensembles from North High School, Southwest High School, Washburn High School, and Roosevelt High School. COVID-19 had a significant impact on **Jazz at Minneapolis Public Schools**. Restrictions and quarantines limited the number of recordings Jazz88 could create because students were not performing together or working with their instructors much of the year. **Jazz at Minneapolis Public Schools** was a three-month project.

KBEM estimates that 22,760 radio listeners heard the **Jazz at Minneapolis Public Schools** shows that Jazz88 was able to produce and air. Dozens of students from various MPS participated in this project. Because of the pandemic, KBEM was only able to achieve some of the proposed outcomes for **Jazz at Minneapolis Public Schools**.

KBEM 50TH ANNIVERSARY DOCUMENTATION PROJECT

In celebration of KBEM's 50th anniversary of broadcasting, the station planned a series of vignettes showcasing Minnesota's most powerful and longest-lasting K-12 radio station for its **KBEM 50th Anniversary Documentation Project**. The series showcases archival recordings along with interviews of current and past KBEM staff. The station is producing and airing two- to five-minute segments featuring stories about past shows, events, and programming, involvement of students from MPS, as well as other KBEM station history and anecdotes. **KBEM 50th Anniversary Documentation Project** began as a five-month project in FY21 and was extended into FY22 due to COVID-19 restrictions. The pandemic prevented KBEM from meeting the proposed outcomes for this project but is confident that it will be able to deliver the proposed outcomes in FY22.

MPS VOICES

For **MPS Voices**, KBEM created content for and maintained an audio stream for Minnesota jazz, youth expression, and cultural programming, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days of the year. The continuous publicly streaming audio channel featured the best jazz by Minnesota resident artists, student content generated by MPS students, and cultural content created by Jazz88. In addition to showcasing jazz artists like Butch Thompson and Debbie Duncan, **MPS Voices** also included high school athletics play-by-play in association with the Minneapolis North High School Athletics Department. Community members can access the **MPS Voices** stream via the station's website. **MPS Voices** was a yearlong project.

MPS Voices increased the number of local artists and musicians who had their work showcased through public radio, making their work more accessible to Minnesotans and benefited from the increased exposure. The stream was also an outlet for the Minneapolis North High Polar sports broadcasts, benefiting the community since COVID-19 restrictions prevented fans, parents, and students from attending these events. In FY21, the **MPS Voices** stream was accessed 14,716 times. KBEM achieved the proposed outcomes.



● “I wanted to
● commend the young
● ladies that were
● announcing the
● game over your
● live feed. They did
● a fantastic job and
● were extremely
● fun to listen to! If
● either you or Ms.
● Friestleben could
● pass on these kudos
● to these young
● ladies, I'd greatly
● appreciate it!”

● – Andrea Michels commenting
● on MPS Voices Student
● Sportscast.

Station Description

KFAI-FM (Minneapolis / St. Paul) broadcasts at 90.3 FM. Each week the station produces more than 90 different current events and music programs in 11 different languages. Since its inception in 1978, immigrant and refugee communities, African American, LGBTQIA, and members of Indigenous communities have long found a home at KFAI where volunteer programming bridges diverse cultures with the realities of life in Minnesota.

Program Descriptions

10,000 FRESH VOICES

10,000 Fresh Voices was KFAI’s audio storytelling series that featured four-to 10-minute radio segments about Minnesota art, culture, and history. **10,000 Fresh Voices** producers amplified the voices and stories of musicians, visual artists, historians, chefs, teachers, writers, and more. The stories took the form of audio portraits, diligent journalism, sonic postcards, historical essays, and more. Some of the creators, artists, and organizations showcased in **10,000 Fresh Voices** in FY21 included pioneering sound artist Leif Brush, poet Heid Erdrich, film director Gordon Parks, singer-songwriter Annie Mack, the music venue First Avenue, dance company Ballet Co. Laboratory, and the biking and art experience called Art In Motion. KFAI’s **10,000 Fresh Voices** project earned a first-place award from the Society of Professional Journalists for a segment about how the pandemic is impacting Minnesota artists. For its **10,000 Fresh Voices** project, KFAI produced 35 segments and aired 30 of them in FY21. **10,000 Fresh Voices** was an 11-month project.



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

The station estimates the **10,000 Fresh Voices** segments, in total, reached a broadcast audience of 100,000 people. Select segments were also aired on other stations including KBXE, KAXE, KKWE and WAMC in Albany, New York. KFAI achieved its objective of exposing more people to Minnesota artists, by featuring a wide variety of artists in the series. **10,000 Fresh Voices** segments were downloaded 37 times on Public Radio Exchange (PRX). More than 12,700 people like KFAI’s Facebook page, which is where the station posts segments of **10,000 Fresh Voices**. The posts related to the project garnered 62 comments in FY21 consisting of memories, experiences, and opinions of the arts and history covered in this project. Overall, the project had 1,515 page Views and 6,428 social media engagements. KFAI achieved the proposed



KFAI’s 10,000 Fresh Voices helped showcase local artists like Reggie LeFlore and his first gallery exhibition.

outcomes of giving more Minnesotans access to art and culture by providing more locally-focused content on public radio with **10,000 Fresh Voices**.



MINNECULTURE

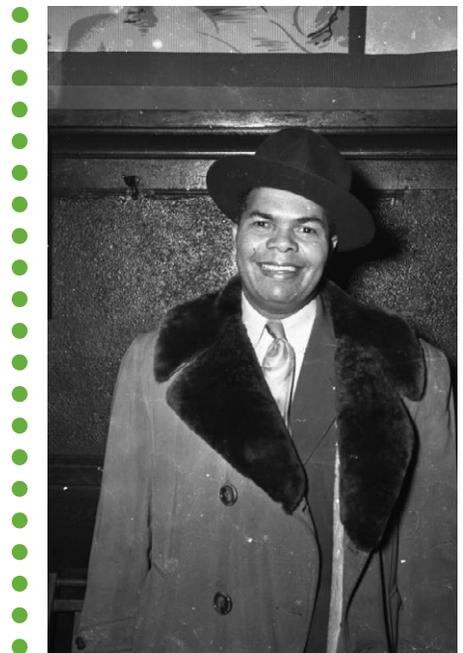
KFAI’s award-winning audio documentary series, **MinneCulture**, provided long-form content for Minnesotans seeking a deeper dive into very specific stories from the Minnesota arts, cultural, and historic landscape. The **MinneCulture** programs were produced by experienced radio and print journalists and often required rigorous reporting and research. Using sound-rich scene tape, archival audio, oral history collections, and thoughtful interviews, the polished sound of **MinneCulture** documentaries garnered several awards from the Minnesota chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. In FY21, KFAI’s project **MinneCulture** explored topics including the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, The Gay 90’s iconic bar, and performance artist Patrick Scully. The two **MinneCulture** shows ran 28-to 30-minutes long and were broadcast on the radio and made available for on-demand podcast listening as well. KFAI’s **MinneCulture** earned two second-place awards from the Society of Professional Journalists. **MinneCulture** was a nine-month project.

KFAI estimates that the total broadcast audience for the project was about 10,000 listeners. In addition, select segments were aired on Ampers station WTIP. The **MinneCulture** documentaries were streamed 2,960 times via SoundCloud and were downloaded through PRX 1 once. More than 1,800 people like KFAI’s **MinneCulture** page on Facebook, which is where the station posts segments of **MinneCulture**. More than 700 people followed **MinneCulture** on Twitter. KFAI achieved the proposed outcomes of giving more Minnesotans access to art and culture, increasing the amount of locally-focused content on public radio, and increasing awareness of how history has affected our lives with **MinneCulture**.

MINNECULTURE PODCAST

Hosted by local actor and musician Ahanti Young, the **MinneCulture Podcast** shared under-reported stories and lessons from Minnesota history. Pairing original podcast productions with KFAI’s **MinneCulture** in-depth documentaries, the **MinneCulture Podcast** shared history stories about Black architecture, the BWCA, cartoons, murder, Black food and restaurants, gay bars, and more, all rooted in the state of Minnesota. The podcast used oral histories, archival audio, fresh interviews, music, thoroughly researched essays, and more, to illuminate and amplify Minnesota’s arts and cultural heritage through historically accurate storytelling. Among the topics explored in FY21 were architect James Garret, restaurateur and civil rights leader AB Cassius, cartoon historian Dave Mruz, Charles Schulz, Hubert Humphrey, Black food, Black architecture, and more. KFAI produced four episodes of **MinneCulture Podcast** which were 18-to 57-minutes in length. **MinneCulture Podcast** were produced in FY21 but published in FY22. **MinneCulture Podcast** was a yearlong project.

KFAI’s **MinneCulture Podcast** succeeded in exposing more Minnesotans to the arts. Each segment of **MinneCulture Podcast** aired once on KFAI, reaching an estimated radio audience of 10,000 listeners, and was also aired on Minnesota Public Radio and WGZS. The podcasts had 3,382 streams/downloads. Through targeted social media promotion of the **MinneCulture Podcast** to Minnesotan audiences, the level of



MinneCulture Podcast listeners learned about Anthony Brutus Cassius, the first Black Minnesotan to receive a liquor license.



social media engagement shows that more Minnesotans across a diverse array of demographics accessed historical programming than had this program not otherwise existed. Two episodes were purchased on PRX, and Facebook posts related to this project had positive comments and 463 social media engagements. People also shared positive comments about the project in its FY21 listener survey. KFAI achieved the proposed outcomes of giving more Minnesotans access to art, culture, and history, creating an increased focus on Minnesota artists, and, increasing locally-focused content on public radio with KFAI's **MinneCulture Podcast**.

LIVE FROM MINNESOTA

Live from Minnesota was a concert recording series, bringing Minnesota musicians from a diverse array of genres and cultural backgrounds to perform throughout the Twin Cities. The **Live from Minnesota** project included three performances in FY21, which were recorded for audio and video broadcast at the St. Paul Neighborhood Network offering a pandemic-safe opportunity for artists to score a paid gig. The concert events allowed more Minnesotans to connect with the local music scene by listening to 30-to 60-minute audio recordings of the concert broadcast on KFAI 90.3, and by watching the video of the concerts on Facebook and YouTube. In FY21, 10 musicians were paid for their performances as part of **Live from Minnesota**, along with eight camera operators, producers, and audio engineers who supported the concerts. The **Live from Minnesota** concerts featured Tejano, jazzy-punk, and Native hip-hop music. **Live from Minnesota** was a ten-month project.

Live from Minnesota had 13,235 video views on YouTube and Facebook. The station estimates each segment reached an estimated audience of 10,000 people. Given the data from Facebook and YouTube, this project exposed thousands of members of the public to more art by Minnesota musicians and producers than had this project not otherwise existed. KFAI achieved the proposed outcomes of giving more Minnesotans access to art and music, helping the arts to thrive in Minnesota and increasing locally-focused content on public radio with **Live from Minnesota**.



Video recordings of KFAI's Live from Minnesota concerts were viewed more than 13,000 times on YouTube and Facebook.



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

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

For its project **The Ice: Expanding the Reach of Minnesota's 1st Urban Hip-Hop Format** KMOJ worked to attract more Minnesotans to the culturally specific programming only found on The Ice. The project focused on enhancing the reach and impact of the station by improving the website and the social media for The Ice. Like its sister station KMOJ, The Ice focuses on the Twin Cities' African American culture, but, The Ice is geared more towards 18-to 24-year-olds. The Ice, which is found on-air on KMOJ's digital high definition channel 89.9 HD2, is the only station in the Twin Cities providing urban hip-hop music along with culturally specific community affairs programming exploring issues relevant to and impacting the young adults living in the Twin Cities' African American community. **The Ice: Expanding the Reach of Minnesota's 1st Urban Hip-Hop Format** was a yearlong project.

The Ice was streamed on average 5,500 times per month during FY21 and had more than 66,200 total streams for the year. Five community DJs also participated in the project. About 1,300 people like The Ice on Facebook. Six Facebook users have reviewed The Ice and give it 4.3 stars out of five. KMOJ achieved the proposed outcomes for **The Ice: Expanding the Reach of Minnesota's 1st Urban Hip-Hop Format**.

COMMUNITY VIEWPOINT

For its **Community Viewpoint** project, KMOJ, in partnership with Ampers, recorded four long-form conversations focused on housing issues in the Twin Cities. The goal of this project is to reach deep into the community, to raise voices from across neighborhoods and generations, and to bring forth stories, experiences, and perspectives, that have previously been marginalized. Work on this project was delayed by the pandemic. KMOJ will edit the **Community Viewpoint** recordings into 30-minute programs for broadcast and podcast distribution in FY22. **Community Viewpoint** was a yearlong project. Because the **Community Viewpoints** segments haven't aired yet, outcome and assessment data is not available yet.



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



The Ice provides urban hip-hop music and culturally specific programming for young African American adults in the Twin Cities.



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

NORTH STAR STORIES FROM REAL COLLEGE PODCAST

For **North Star Stories from Real College Podcast**, Radio K aired a weekly 30-minute show, produced entirely by University of Minnesota Twin Cities students and broadcast over-the-air weekly. **North Star Stories from Real College Podcast** stories introduced listeners to home-grown innovators, artists, entrepreneurs, teachers, historians, comics, poets, and big thinkers. It was aimed at fostering a lifetime of engagement and connection with Minnesota arts and culture through fresh, sound-rich, narrative storytelling and reporting. **North Star Stories from Real College Podcast** harnessed the power of digital distribution and social media to cross economic, physical, and cultural barriers to encourage participation and conversation. Radio K created 25 episodes in FY21; topics included where land for the U of M came from and how buildings got their names; local food culture and quarantine cooking; additional disparities created by the pandemic; domestic violence and eating disorders; and diverse music. **North Star Stories from Real College Podcast** was a yearlong project. According to the station, each episode reached an estimated audience of 24,000 people. Students received valuable learning experiences that would not have happened without the support of the ACHF grant. The podcast episodes received 197,008 listens online. Radio K reports there were approximately 1,300 active users each week on web pages dedicated to **Real College Podcast**. KUOM achieved the proposed outcomes for **North Star Stories from Real College Podcast** of giving more Minnesotans access to art and culture and giving students hands-on instruction and experience in producing, promoting, and archiving artistic and cultural programming.

THE LOCAL VIBE

For its project **The Local Vibe**, Radio K created a 10- to 15-minute show broadcast on Instagram called *The Local Beat*, featuring local hip-hop music. This content, streamed via social media, was curated by University of Minnesota students. Radio K produced 12 programs, which consisted of a conversation and an in-studio performance by some of the best of Minnesota hip-hop artists, including Huhroon, Ricki Monique, and Riotgrrrrldarko. **The Local Vibe** was a four-month project. **The Local Vibe** was broadcast to Radio K’s Instagram audience of 4,369 followers. The student-produced program gave hands-on instruction and experience in producing, promoting, and archiving artistic and cultural programming and gave more Minnesotans access to art and culture. Radio K achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.



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



Students from Radio K produced 25 episodes of North Star Stories from Real College Podcast, which were downloaded nearly 200,000 times in FY21!



Station Description

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

Program Descriptions

MN90: ROCHESTER HISTORY IN 90-SECONDS

KRPR collaborated with Ampers to produce and broadcast **MN90: Rochester History in 90-Seconds**, a series of short, fun, and engaging stories exploring the history of Rochester and the surrounding area. The highly produced 90-second segments covered a wide range of topics including sports, politics, agriculture, business, pop culture, entertainment, and more. KRPR broadcast the segments, which are also available online for on-demand listening. KRPR and Ampers created 22 of these 90-second segments. Some of the specific subjects included stories about Wong's Café, a Rochester mainstay that was opened by brothers Neil and Ben Wong in 1952; former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt's visit to Rochester in 1961; and how the Mayo Brothers ended up in the script of the classic Marilyn Monroe film *Some Like it Hot*.

MN90: Rochester History in 90-Seconds was a yearlong project.

The station estimates that the on-air segments reached approximately 1,300 people and that an additional 500 people heard them online. The series taught listeners about the heritage of Rochester and how some of the historical events and individuals helped to shape the current Rochester culture. The project gave listeners more access to history, created more locally-focused content, and showcased Minnesota historians and history makers. KRPR achieved the proposed outcomes of MN90: Rochester History in 90 Seconds.

ROCHESTER MUSIC NOTES

For its project **Rochester Music Notes**, KRPR teamed up with Ampers to create 22 segments of **Rochester Music Notes**. Each segment celebrated noteworthy songs, artists, and musical performances. This series consisted of highly produced 90-second segments, exploring fun, moving, and delightful, musical moments in the history of Rochester and the surrounding region, and offered listeners a glimpse of the incredible stories behind the music. KRPR broadcast the segments, which are also available online for on-demand listening. Some of the topics covered in FY21 included stories about a fire that burned the new pipe organ at the First Baptist Church in 1912; Rochester native Jeff Kryka's journey to composing music for the Disney series *The Imagineering Story*; how Rochester student 13-year-old Olivia Gorden ended up singing the anthem at the Twins' Prince Night, and more. **Rochester Music Notes** was a yearlong project.



KRPR-FM (Rochester) coverage area



MN90: Rochester History in 90-Seconds listeners learned things like what brought Eleanor Roosevelt to town in 1961. And it wasn't the Mayo Clinic.





The program gave listeners a broader knowledge of the local music scene, including several historical music events. KRPR aired the segments twice a day, Monday through Friday, starting in May. The station estimates that approximately 1,300 people heard the segments on-air and another 500 heard them online. KRPR achieved its proposed outcomes of exposing more Minnesotans to the music created by musicians from the Rochester area, creating more locally-focused content for public radio, and showcasing Minnesota musicians through public broadcasting.

R-TOWN SEASON THREE

For its project **R-Town Season Three**, KRPR collaborated with KSMQ-TV to produce and broadcast 24 episodes of R-Town. This weekly two-minute program explored business, culture, and history, along with current happenings in the arts community of Rochester and the surrounding area. These fun and engaging audio stories were edited versions of longer stories that appeared on KSMQ-TV. The short segments featured various people, events, and activities in and around Rochester, intending to enhance community awareness and increase participation in artistic and cultural events. Some of the events and places showcased in the **R-Town Season Three** in FY21 included stories about backyard hockey rinks, food trucks, and the Victorian House. **R-Town Season Three** was a yearlong project.

The station estimates the on-air radio segments reached approximately 1,300 people, and, approximately another 500 people through the online stream. This project resulted in an increase in locally-focused content on public radio and helped more Minnesota artists, historians, writers, and history makers to have their work showcased through public broadcasting. KRPR achieved the proposed outcomes for **R-Town Season Three**.



Ampers and its member stations produced more than 27,000 hours of artistic, cultural, and historical programming in FY21.





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 50 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

UNTOLD STORIES OF CENTRAL MINNESOTA

KVSC’s project, **Untold Stories of Central Minnesota**, was an in-depth, often multiple sourced, program of radio interviews and podcasts, featuring Central Minnesota historians, artists, authors, musicians, and other compelling sources of regional news-makers. Host Jeff Carmack researched and uncovered stories relevant to Central Minnesota. The program put a spotlight on the community with longer-form interviews to help convey the story, events, and historical noteworthiness from guests. Some of the topics covered in FY21 on **Untold Stories of Central Minnesota** included looking at the St. Cloud Hospital during the 1918 pandemic, with CentraCare archivist Brendon Duffy; Saint Cloud State University’s (SCSU) Letters from Sinclair Lewis, and a new partnership with the Minnesota Historical Society; and SCSU’s connection to Bugs Bunny. KVSC produced 30 **Untold Stories of Central Minnesota** which were 30-minute programs and ran two to three times per month. **Untold Stories of Central Minnesota** was a yearlong project.

KVSC estimates the segments were broadcast to an audience of approximately 4,000 people. The station received positive feedback for this project. According to data from Google Analytics 4,334 unique users accessed the **Untold Stories of Central Minnesota** podcasts. The project featured more than 42 guests hailing from Central Minnesota and garnered positive feedback from listeners and participants. Select segments of the project also aired on Ampers stations KBEM and KBFT. KVSC achieved its proposed measurable outcomes of increasing locally-focused and Minnesota-focused content on public radio and giving more local artists, historians, authors, and musicians the opportunity to have their work showcased through public broadcasting.



More than 20 students and community members worked on KVSC and GREAT Theatre’s radio production of *SasparellaTrauffea is Dancing*.



KVSC AND GREAT THEATRE'S RADIO PRODUCTION OF SASPARELLA TRAUFFEA IS DANCING



For its project ***KVSC and GREAT Theatre's radio production of Sasparella Trauffea is Dancing***, KVSC partnered with GREAT Theatre in St. Cloud to produce, broadcast and podcast a locally written original production radio drama. The radio drama was the winning entry from eight complete scripts submitted and blindly reviewed by a panel. The winning script was *Sasparella Trauffea is Dancing*. The story was a loose adaptation of the somewhat historical events of the Dancing Plague of 1518, where residents of a small town must deal with the consequences of a runaway father, an ostentatious mayor, and the brazen dancing of the Trauffea girl. Added to the mix was a lovesick confectioner, a hasty engagement, and you've got the recipe for a rollicking adventure of a radio show for the whole family to enjoy. The ***KVSC and GREAT Theatre's radio production of Sasparella Trauffea is Dancing*** project showcased radio theatre, acting, writing, directing, performance, and sound engineering. From concept development and promotion of the scriptwriting contest to panel review followed by the successful production, ***KVSC and GREAT Theatre's radio production of Sasparella Trauffea is Dancing*** was a yearlong project. The one-time performance resulted in a one-hour premiere and one encore broadcast. It was also made available for on-demand podcast listening.

The project ***KVSC and GREAT Theatre's radio production of Sasparella Trauffea is Dancing*** was a community partnership. A total of 22 people, including students, worked on the project in some capacity. They were a part of the cast or helped with the writing, production, script review, directing, and stage management. The station estimates the on-air broadcast reached between 4,000 to 7,000 people. In addition, 398 unique listeners visited the podcast download page of this radio theatre production. The project received high praise from the audience and participants. KVSC achieved the proposed outcomes of increasing locally and Minnesota-focused content produced by public radio, helping to showcase more artists through public radio, and giving students the opportunity to have hands-on experience producing a live radio drama.



● *St. Cloud State University student Lindsey Lounsbury was one of about 60 high school and college students who got hands-on experience creating Ampers' Legacy programming.*

GRANITE CITY RADIO THEATRE

KVSC's ***Granite City Radio Theatre*** project was a two-hour radio show performed in front of a live audience at the Pioneer Place Theatre in St. Cloud, while also broadcasting live on the air. The show included locally written comedy skits, a house band, guest musicians, radio serial drama, trivia



challenges, and other segments. There were more than 24 people involved in each production, ranging from writers, musicians, actors, lighting, sound engineering, and in FY21, a video crew. The **Granite City Radio Theatre** show is a beloved part of the Central Minnesota arts scene, showcasing radio theatre, radio drama, and writing. Guest musicians included Davina Sowers of Davina and the Vagabonds, Jeff Engholm, and the great Keith Secola.

In FY21, the **Granite City Radio Theatre** project consisted of three live events, each of which resulted in a two-hour radio program and podcast. Typically, the station aims for live events to happen four times a year, but the pandemic prevented the station from producing the fourth show. Two of the live events for **Granite City Radio Theatre** were virtual, and one of the productions was able to be held live. The first production was streamed by 144 audience members. The second performance was streamed by 56 audience members. The live show attracted 88 people in-person and 48 online. A total of 328 people attended the **Granite City Radio Theatre** performances, as part of this yearlong project.

KVSC estimates the live broadcasts combined with the encore presentations reached between 4,000 to 7,000 people. Ampers station KOJB also aired select episodes of the program. KVSC received positive feedback and comments from listeners and participants. In addition to the live and broadcast audiences, Google Analytics indicate the podcast pages of the three shows attracted 1,380 unique visitors. A total of 10 students worked on the project. KVSC achieved the proposed outcomes for **Granite City Radio Theatre**.



KVSC's Granite City Radio Theatre blended Native American art and culture into the variety show by including Native American icon Keith Secola as a musical guest.

Station Description

KSRQ-FM (Thief River Falls) broadcast 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 conversation that has 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

PIONEER POLKACAST KSRQ HD-2

KSRQ’s **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2** helped to preserve, curate, and share music and interviews of polka performers of the past, along with contemporary polka musicians. The station made the programming available on one of the station’s digital (HD) terrestrial radio channels, as well as a 24/7 web stream. The **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2** project attracted listeners statewide. The station created 550 hours of PolkaCast programming in FY21, which featured vintage rare recordings from more than 100 Minnesota polka bands, past and present. Many of the songs heard on PolkaCast were digitized by KSRQ staff from the original vinyl records and have not been heard since they were released in the 1950s, 60s, and 70s. Along with classics from bands like Whoopee John and the Six Fat Dutchmen, current polka bands from across the state are heard daily on PolkaCast. With support from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage fund, PolkaCast is much more than a computerized playlist of music. Lively hosted shows bring listeners historical information about this traditional form of music, along with interviews, community events, and conversation. In FY21, more than 15,000 people listened to PolkaCast online. Some of the bands and musicians featured on PolkaCast included Adam & The Jolly Jammers (South Haven), Nathan Neuman (Stearns County), DyVersaCo (Minneapolis), Chmielewski Funtime Band (Apple Valley), and Riverbend Dutchmen (Mankato). **Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2** was a yearlong project, where listeners were able to access programs on a daily basis.

- “We listen
- (and dance)
- to *PolkaCast*...
- Absolutely love the
- *PolkaCast* station!”

– Sherry Page, Thief River Falls, commenting on *Pioneer PolkaCast*

PolkaCast’s 24/7 broadcast generated 8,760 hours of content in FY21. Minnesota-based performers make up the majority of each hour of music on **PolkaCast**. The **Pioneer PolkaCast** web pages accounted for a quarter of all page views on KSRQ’s website. **PolkaCast** home page views increased almost 32% from FY20. In FY1, the online **PolkaCast** listening audience increased nearly 10% from FY20. The Facebook page for the project has 692 likes and the **PolkaCast** TuneIn Radio page has more than 2,900 followers. KSRQ achieved the proposed outcomes for The Pioneer PolkaCast.

VOICES OF THE THEATER

When the pandemic forced the Thief River Falls Area Community Theater to cancel its schedule of live shows, the community theater joined with KSRQ to create a weekly radio broadcast that included radio dramas, virtual community concerts, and locally hosted programs focused on the cultural significance of Broadway musicals. All of these efforts were part of and supported by KSRQ's **Voices of the Theater** project, which consisted of 40 episodes of a weekly 30-to 50-minute radio program. Over the course of the year, more than 60 local performers and crew members (including 26 students) got involved in this ambitious project. **Voices of the Theater** was a yearlong project.

Voices of the Theater had an estimated broadcast audience of 300 people per week. The project also produced seven more Community Concerts and five more radio plays than promised in the workplan. The project had positive feedback from listeners and participants. In total, 13 hours of radio plays and community concerts consisting exclusively of performances by local actors and singers were broadcast as part of the project. Most of the musical performances were also videotaped and posted individually on Facebook. Social media posts related to the project had 6,177 reactions on Facebook. The cultural and historical significance of 17 Broadway musicals was analyzed by local members of the Thief River Falls Area Community Theater on the **Voices of the Theater** episodes of this project, bringing a deeper understanding of this art form to those in our community. KSRQ achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

KSRQ's **Artist Spotlight** project was a radio series aimed at informing the community about art projects and events that have received funding from the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council. Many of the projects discussed on **Artist Spotlight** were funded by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. In a series of personal conversations, artists and event organizers shared the inspiration for their projects, talked about the process of creating their work, and the impact their projects had on their communities. In FY21, the station produced and aired 41 episodes of the 10-to 20minute **Artist Spotlight** segments. Some of the topics covered on **Artist Spotlight** included the world's largest sugar beet" in Halstad, an eight-year-old's painting representing her feelings about Black Lives Matter, and a new interactive veteran's memorial in Warren. Among the 41 segments, artists from 13 of northwest Minnesota's rural towns and cities were represented. **Artist Spotlight** was a yearlong project.

KSRQ's project **Artist Spotlight** highlighted the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council (NWMAC) four times, area arts leaders seven times, state arts leaders twice, and local artists 28 times. KSRQ estimates that the segments produced were broadcast to an estimated audience of 250 people per week. The program was a partnership between KSRQ and the NWMAC. The NWMAC also shared the produced pieces on Facebook and published a podcast feed of the episodes. Due to the pandemic, KSRQ was only able to produce 41 of the promised 45 segments. Despite being unable to produce four of the segments, with the 41 segments KSRQ was still able to achieve the proposed outcomes for this project.



KSRQ's **Artist Spotlight** showcased more than 28 local artists like woodcarver Rick Jensen of Crookston.

NORDIC FEST RADIO

KSRQ teamed up with the Sons of Norway Snorre Lodge to produce a series of broadcasts to replace the in-person events normally held in Thief River Falls to commemorate Syttende Mai, Norway’s Constitution Day, for its project **Nordic Fest Radio**. Though the week-long schedule of in-person events was canceled due to the pandemic, KSRQ listeners heard detailed stories of the Norwegian immigrants who settled in northwest Minnesota. In addition, the series also presented an account of the 99th Infantry Battalion, made up of Norwegian Americans who trained to liberate Norway from the Nazis in World War II. **Nordic Fest Radio** consisted of eight programs which were 10-to 18 minutes in length, with each airing two to three times. **Nordic Fest Radio** was a two-month project.

KSRQ estimates 250 people heard each broadcast of the segments produced for **Nordic Fest Radio**. In addition, the project received positive feedback from listeners and participants. Ten community members were involved in the project and helped tell the Nordic history of Thief River Falls. KSRQ produced four more segments than promised in the workplan for this project. KSRQ achieved the proposed outcomes for the project.

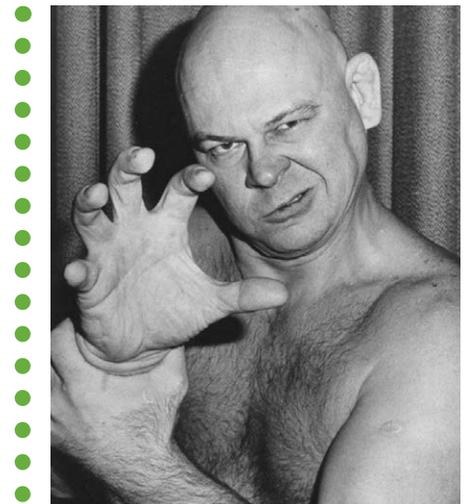
MINNESOTA MUSIC ODDITIES

KSRQ’s **Minnesota Music Oddities** project examined four vintage entertainment industry stories that were “Made in Minnesota,” dealing with music, film, and even professional wrestling. The long-form interviews incorporated historical sound clips to bring listeners closer to the stories. Over the course of three broadcasts, listeners heard about the 1960’s Twin Cities garage rock band The Litter, who released a new album in 2020. In another three-part series, the last remaining original member of another 1960s musical group, Badfinger, talked about how he came to live in Minneapolis after being signed to the Beatles’ record label in England. Minneapolis author Todd Melby discussed his book, *A Lot Can Happen in the Middle of Nowhere*, about the Coen brothers’ film *Fargo*, which celebrated its 25th anniversary this year. And Minnesota was on the big screen again in 2021, when the life of wrestler Baron von Raschke was made into a documentary. James Donald Raschke, age 81, now makes his home in Hastings. His son, Karl, appeared on KSRQ to talk about the movie, *The Claw*. **Minnesota Music Oddities** was a four-month project and consisted of eight 30-to 60-minute programs, which aired on KSRQ throughout the year.

KSRQ estimates that the **Minnesota Music Oddities** segments were broadcast to an estimated audience of 400 listeners. The segments in the series were streamed 78 times on SoundCloud. The project captured and shared in-depth stories about Minnesotans that had an impact on the state’s popular culture and history that will be preserved online for future generations. KSRQ achieved the proposed outcomes of preserving Minnesota art and history and increasing the amount of locally-focused content on public radio.

COMMUNITY VOICES

For its **Community Voices** project, KSRQ opened its airwaves to northwest Minnesota elementary schools, a regional healthcare provider, a public library, and a regional art museum. KSRQ integrated local arts and culture into its broadcast schedule while increasing awareness and participation in community



With *The Claw* hitting the big screen in 2021, KSRQ talked with Baron von Raschke’s son Karl about his father’s fame.

events. **Community Voices** was a weekly program running seven-to 15-minutes per segment. In FY21, listeners heard about an airplane hangar dance sponsored by the North Dakota Museum of Art; the new materials available each week at the Campbell Library in East Grand Forks; the ways small businesses were creatively adapting to the pandemic; and a variety of other topics happening in the listening area. The project featured the voices of preschool and elementary students talking about their favorite holiday traditions. During the isolation of the pandemic, the station also provided a two-hour locally-hosted radio soundtrack to a holiday light tour that was viewed (and heard) by an estimated 600 participants in the socially-distanced safe spaces of their vehicles. **Community Voices** was a yearlong project.

Each segment of **Community Voices** was heard by an estimated 250 people on KSRQ’s airwaves. In addition, Facebook posts related to **Community Voices** topics received 624 views. The Campbell Library in East Grand Forks posted the audio weekly on their website. The page received 110 views in FY21. KSRQ achieved the proposed outcomes for this project by increasing the amount of locally-focused content, showcasing the work of more Minnesota artists, and exposing more Minnesotans to art and culture.



When the pandemic forced the Thief River Falls Area Community Theater to cancel its live shows, KSRQ partnered with the theater to create weekly radio dramas, concerts, and more. Karena Bakken is seen here performing “I’ve Gotta Crow” from Peter Pan, one of the many collaborative performances the two organizations created.

WHITE EARTH / CALLAWAY – KKWE, 89.9 FM



Station Description

KKWE-FM (White Earth / Callaway) broadcasts at 89.9 FM. KKWE, Nijii Radio, serves the Tribal community of the White Earth Indian Reservation and surrounding areas. Nijii, the Ojibwe word for friend, represents the relationship the station continues to cultivate with communities within and outside the exterior boundaries of White Earth Reservation while abating old racial stereotypes. As you listen you will find a large variety of music genres, local, state, national, and international news, and other educational programming that revitalizes Anishinaabe traditions and exemplifies cultural values.

Program Descriptions

NIJII'S MINNESOTA MIXDOWN SERIES

For its ***Nijii's Minnesota Mixdown Series*** project, KKWE brought art and culture into rural communities in and around the White Earth Reservation listening area. The project consisted of live events, where audio was recorded for later broadcast on the station. Nijii Radio invited Minnesota musicians and visual artists from Minnesota to share their talents and stories. KKWE had two live events in Nevis for its ***Nijii's Minnesota Mixdown Series*** that featured artists including Corey Medina & Brothers, War Bonnet, Little Bobby, and Annie Humphrey. The station also aired five one-hour programs, recorded at the live events. ***Nijii's Minnesota Mixdown Series*** was a yearlong project.

Nijii's Minnesota Mixdown Series events were attended by approximately 450 people. The station estimates that approximately 100 people heard each broadcast. The series of live events brought art and culture to rural communities across KKWE's listening region. The station received positive comments from listeners and participants, who appreciated the local focus of the project. The events attracted a diverse audience helping the station achieve its goal of giving more Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, and income greater access to Minnesota art and music. The on-air shows increased locally-focused content on public radio. KKWE achieved the proposed outcomes of this project.

OJIBWE ARTS RISING

KKWE's ***Ojibwe Arts Rising*** consisted of live event workshops aimed at teaching and preserving the knowledge of Anishinaabe culture for future generations. The station held four classes throughout FY21, three were in-person, and one was a virtual event. More than 160 people attended the classes. Workshop participants learned how to make pucker toe moccasins, hand drums, medicine bags, herbal salves, and other Ojibwe artwork. They also learned about the traditional teachings of each item. Community members and elders taught the ***Ojibwe Arts Rising*** workshops Jim Uran taught participants how to make a hand drum, Nicole Dewy shared moccasin making skills, and Tanya Strom demonstrated how to make herbal salves. ***Ojibwe Arts Rising*** was a yearlong project.

The ***Ojibwe Arts Rising*** classes helped to interweave art, culture, and history into people's lives and helped to increase the number of



KKWE-FM (White Earth / Callaway)
coverage area



Minnesotans of all ages, ethnicities, and incomes who participated in the arts, culture, and history. Approximately 50 people were taught an Ojibwe art as well as the history that goes with them. The classes received positive feedback from the participants. As a result of the pandemic, KKWE extended this project into FY22 because the station was only able to hold four of the six classes they had planned for the year. As a result, KKWE achieved most of the proposed outcomes of this project.

TASTE OF TALENT ON THE ROAD

For **Taste of Talent on the Road**, host Jacob Woody interviewed musicians of different ages, ethnic backgrounds, and musical styles, from different locations around Minnesota. The programs showcased the music as well as the stories and memories of Minnesota musicians and featured Lewy Ronken, Katie Baker, Mr. Jack, and more. **Taste of Talent on the Road** was a weekly radio show that was 45- to 58-minutes long. The station produced and aired 10 episodes of the program. **Taste of Talent on the Road** was a yearlong project.

KKWE estimates that 100 listeners heard each broadcast of **Taste of Talent on the Road**. Livestream videos of the shows had an additional 25 to 85 views each. The project increased the number of local artists, musicians, historians, writers, and others who had their work showcased through public radio and benefited from the increased exposure. KKWE reports that the artists featured were asked to appear in other programs because of this project. KKWE achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Nijiji Radio's **Cultural Exchange** project consisted of two live events which took place in surrounding communities to expose more Minnesotans to the Anishinaabe culture, and other prevalent cultures in the area. More than 500 people attended the **Cultural Exchange** event in Pelican Rapids, and more than 200 people attended the event held in New York Mills. **Cultural Exchange** was a one-month project.

KKWE's **Cultural Exchange** project helped expose more Minnesotans to the Anishinaabe culture. The station estimates that more than 700 people attended the events, exposing significantly more people to Anishinaabe culture and history than would have been had the event not taken place. KKWE achieved the proposed outcomes for this project.

● “Grateful that this
 ● class was available
 ● to the community
 ● to learn not only
 ● how to make the
 ● moccasin, but
 ● having the teaching
 ● with them for some
 ● of us that don’t
 ● know them.”

● – Gina, commenting on
 ● *Ojibwe Arts Rising*





Station Description

KQAL-FM (Winona) broadcasts at 89.5 FM. KQAL is owned and operated by Winona State University and is staffed primarily by student volunteers. For more than 45 years, KQAL has served a dual role in the communities in and around Winona. It presents unique programming to its listeners, in the form of several musical genres, plus local arts, historical and cultural programs that are unduplicated and exclusive to KQAL. The station is also a training ground for Winona State 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

KQAL showcased local artists and their crafts through its project **Art Beat**. The program added insight and provided listeners with a closer look at Minnesota artists by allowing them to share their expertise in painting, woodworking, glass, metal, beadwork, and more. **Art Beat** aired weekly on the station and featured interviews with artists residing in Winona and around Southeastern Minnesota. The station produced and aired 18 new 20-to 30-minute segments in FY21 that aired in rotation with existing **Art Beat** segments from previous years. The new segments looked at the hurdles needed to overcome COVID-19's effect on the performing arts in and around Winona. Listeners also got to hear from filmmakers Mary Farrell and Fran Edstrom, talking about their film, John Latch: The Man and His River. **Art Beat** also featured videographer Tyler Aug, who talked about creating the first-ever outdoor music video festival, a drive-inn style event, which brought the art of film and music video to a larger audience during COVID. Art Beat earned an Eric Sevareid Award of Merit for its segment *Visible/ Invisible: Life with Mental Illness*.

Art Beat was a yearlong project.

Despite COVID, KQAL was able to introduce the talents of 18 artists and/or craftspeople, and area arts organizations whose work was enhanced by their appearance on public radio. The station estimates that 425 people heard the program each week. In addition, the **Art Beat** podcast was played on-demand an additional 30 times. The best-performing social media posts about **Art Beat** reached 98 people. KQAL used the Legacy funds to increase the amount of locally-focused and Minnesota-focused content on public radio. KQAL achieved the proposed outcomes for **Art Beat**.



KQAL's Art Beat received an Eric Sevareid Award of Merit for its segment on *Visible/ Invisible: Life with Mental Illness*.



CULTURE CLIQUE

For its project **Culture Clique**, KQAL produced a radio series exploring and celebrating the many different cultures among residents who call the Winona area home. Through a 20-to 30-minute weekly program **Culture Clique** explored heritage, hobbyist culture, and more, all with a focus on different ways of life. Given Winona’s proximity to the Mississippi River, the **Culture Clique** programs also explored trends and activities, embraced by outdoor enthusiasts in the region. Popular segments in FY21 included Inga Witscher, host of PBS cooking show *Around the Farm Table*, discussing farming, cooking, and her cooking demonstration at the Winona Public Library. And after performing on the Winona State campus, comedian and actor Lavell Crawford discussed his comedic style, how he got his start in acting and comedy and talked about some of his upcoming projects. KQAL also made the 16 new episodes of **Culture Clique** available as podcasts for Minnesota residents to enjoy now and in the future. **Culture Clique** earned an Eric Sevareid Award of Merit for its show *50 Years of In Black America* with John L. Hanson Jr. **Culture Clique** was a yearlong project.

The funding for **Culture Clique** helped KQAL to produce significantly more locally-focused and Minnesota-focused content than they would have been able to do had they not had these funds. The project helped to increase the number of Minnesota artists, historians, writers, and storytellers who had their work showcased through public radio and also made the residents of Southeastern Minnesota more aware of artistic and cultural events in their area. The station estimates that approximately 385 people heard each segment. In addition, the podcast feed for the project had 50 on-demand listens. Two radio stations outside of Minnesota broadcast select segments of the show. KQAL achieved the proposed outcomes for **Culture Clique**.



There’s not much that’s more Minnesota than ice fishing. **Culture Clique** introduced listeners to members of the Winona State University Fishing Club.

THE LIVE FEED

The project **The Live Feed** was KQAL’s live concert series, that featured local and regional artists and bands. **The Live Feed** program was recorded on location at local venues and delivered a ‘live’ concert experience. From time to time, an artist performed acoustically in the KQAL studios. The station produced and aired 28 episodes of **The Live Feed** in FY21, which consisted of 30-to 60-minute programs. These programs showcased well-known artists, local favorites and up-and-coming artists. Favorite programs in FY21 included Dave Simonett of *Trampled by Turtles*, singer-songwriter Erik Koskinen from Minneapolis, *Karate Chop Silence*, and

Winona’s own Mike Munson. All of **The Live Feed** programs were also available for podcast listening. **The Live Feed** was a yearlong project.



With **The Live Feed**, KQAL provided their audience the opportunity to hear nearly 100 local and regional artists and bands that they might otherwise not have been exposed to. The station estimates that approximately 485 listeners heard each of the segments. Through podcast downloads, **The Live Feed** also provides an easy and accessible way for our audience members to learn about new local and regional artists along with local favorites. The podcast feed for the project had an additional 94 on-demand listens in FY21. KQAL partnered with several venues and promoters to highlight local musicians. The station achieved the proposed outcomes by creating more locally-focused content on public radio and by significantly increasing the number of Minnesota musicians and artists who had their work showcased through public broadcasting.

THE SOUND

The KQAL project **The Sound** was an in-studio interview show centered around local and regional music releases. The show included music from the featured album and discussions with the artists about how their work was written, recorded, and distributed. At times **The Sound** also included producers and engineers involved with producing the featured album. Through this weekly 30-to 60-minute program, **The Sound** covered topics including, lyrics and theme, inspiration, gear, process, and whatever it takes to create a music album. **The Sound** featured Minneapolis Hip-Hop artist Nur-D, shortly after the release of his album 38th. He talked about the murder of George Floyd and the unrest that followed. The segment with Nur-D earned an Eric Sevareid Award of Merit. Another featured artist was Kind Country, a band from Minneapolis, whose members discussed the work that went into their albums, Hard Times and Mountains. Minnesota music legend Charlie Parr was also featured. He talked about what went into his self-titled LP and how COVID affected performing and sharing his music. **The Sound** was a yearlong project and all 32 programs created in FY21 were also available for podcast listening.

KQAL showcased 32 Minnesota artists for **The Sound**. The station estimates 465 broadcast listeners for each of the segments. By making **The Sound** segments available for download as podcasts, KQAL also provided an easy and accessible way for Minnesotans to learn about new artists and their music. The podcast feed for the project had 78 on-demand listens in FY21. One segment, Gregg Hall & The Wrecking Ball, aired on KKRN in California. The station achieved the proposed outcomes by creating more locally-focused content on public radio and by significantly increasing the number of Minnesota musicians and artists who had their work showcased through public broadcasting.



*Nur-D performing at the Mid West Music Fest. KQAL interviewed him while in Winona for **The Sound**. The segment earned KQAL its third Eric Sevareid Award of Merit in FY21.*





DON'T CHA KNOW & ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT DOWNLOAD

The KQAL project **Don't Cha Know & Arts and Entertainment Download** consisted of a weekly 30-minute radio show called Don't Cha Know that previewed events with an emphasis on cultural, historical, and artistic aspects, as well as community health, advocacy, and issues impacting communities. KQAL produced and aired 48 episodes of **Don't Cha Know** in FY21. The **Arts & Entertainment Download**, a 90-second segment airing twice a day, Monday through Friday, was also part of the project. The station produced 240 of these daily updates about music, theater, and various community activities and events. Some of the events covered and organizations showcased on both programs were The Great River Shakespeare Festival, The Frozen River Film Festival, Habitat for Humanity, the Winona Country Humane Society, Engage Winona, and interviews with government and community leaders. **Don't Cha Know & Arts and Entertainment Download** was a yearlong project.

KQAL estimates that each of the on-air elements for **Don't Cha Know & Arts and Entertainment Download** reached approximately 375 people. The project increased awareness for approximately more than 150 exhibits, activities, learning opportunities, and live events in the area. Both programs delivered information about a myriad of events, ideas, and activities geared towards creating awareness of the many artistic, cultural, and historical events. Plus, KQAL elevated the consciousness of community outreach organizations like Winona Volunteer Services, Habitat for Humanity & The American Red Cross. It helped to interweave art and culture into the community and increased the number of local artists, historians, and writers who had their work showcased through public broadcasting. KQAL achieved the proposed outcomes for **Arts & Entertainment Download**.



Ampers and its member stations have received more than 80 awards for Legacy programming in the past eight years.



AWARDS RECEIVED FOR ACHF PROGRAMMING

Ampers (Statewide) received two *Page One Awards* from the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists (MNSPJ). **Minnesota Native News** received a second-place award in the Newscast Category for **Minnesota Native News: Line 3 Construction Stops in Aitkin County**. The newscast reported on an Ojibwe ceremonial lodge that forced Enbridge Energy to pause construction of its new controversial Line 3 oil pipeline. This is the second time **Minnesota Native News** has earned an SPJ award. Ampers' incredibly popular **Veterans' Voices** project received a third place SPJ *Page One Award* in the Radio Feature Category. The award-winning **Veterans' Voices: Korea** segment featured Minnesota veterans talking about what it was like to return more than 50 years later to see a free and thriving Korea.

KFAI-FM (Minneapolis / St. Paul) earned top honors from the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists for its **MinneCulture** project. KFAI took first place in the Special Project/In-Depth Series Category for **MinneCulture's Gig Loss Pandemic** segment. The piece looked at how artists responded to widespread venue closures because of the pandemic. KFAI also received two second-place awards for **MinneCulture** segments. *Stay Young Go Dancing* showcased the Gibbon Ballroom in Sibley County, once considered to be the polka capital of the world. *Stay Young Go Dancing* received a second-place award in the Radio Feature Category. *A Brief History of Women in Bars: A Minnesota Story in Three Rounds* earned second place in the Special Project/In-Depth Series Category. *A Brief History of Women in Bars* looked at how the state's temperance movement set the stage for the women's suffrage movement.

KUOM-AM/FM "Radio K" (Minneapolis / St. Paul) was recognized as having the best podcast in the region. Radio K received the award as part of the Society of Professional Journalists' collegiate journalism Mark of Excellence Awards. An episode of **North Star Stories from Real College Podcast** entitled *Protest Special Episode* earned the top honor. The award-winning podcast reported on the murder of George Floyd, the resulting protests, and students' efforts to enact change. The hosts took listeners on a journey down Lake Street and gave listeners a first-hand account of the events that transpired outside the home of former officer Derek Chauvin.

KQAL-FM (Winona) earned three Eric Sevareid Awards. **Art Beat's** segment *Visible/Invisible: Life with Mental Illness* received an *Award of Merit* in the Student Market Documentary/Special Category. The piece showcased Winona photographer Joy Davis Ripley's exhibit that sought to dispel the stigmas around mental illness by making what is often invisible visible. **Culture Clique** earned an *Award of Merit* in the Series Category for Student Market Radio for *50 Years of In Black America with John L. Hanson Jr.* The piece looked at how the radio show has given voice to people of color and the fact that KQAL was one of the first stations to carry the show. **The Sound** received an *Award of Merit* in the Student Market Radio Documentary/Special Category for *Nur-D: 38th*. The award-winning piece looked at how the Minneapolis hip-hop artist departed from his typical work in response to the murder of George Floyd.



FUNDING SOURCES

| Station | Expense Type | Funding Source | FY21 |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
|  Ampers* Diverse Radio for Minnesota's Communities Statewide | Salaries/Benefits | Dept. of Administration | \$148,541.00 |
| | Contracted Services | Dept. of Administration | \$479,234.00 |
| | Station Distribution | Dept. of Administration | \$86,025.00 |
| | Postage | Dept. of Administration | \$200.00 |
|  KBXE Bagley / Bemidji | Salaries/Benefits | Dept. of Administration | \$75,897.00 |
| | Contracted Services | Dept. of Administration | \$9,103.00 |
|  KUMD Duluth | Salaries/Benefits | Dept. of Administration | \$84,530.35 |
| | Advertising | Dept. of Administration | \$435.15 |
|  WTIP Grand Marais / Gunflint Trail / Grand Portage | Salaries/Benefits | Dept. of Administration | \$48,042.00 |
| | Contracted Services | Dept. of Administration | \$36,958.00 |
|  KQXE Grand Rapids / Brainerd | Salaries/Benefits | Dept. of Administration | \$20,296.00 |
| | Contracted Services | Dept. of Administration | \$64,074.00 |
|  KMSU Mankato / Austin | Contracted Services | Dept. of Administration | \$82,000.00 |
| | Supplies | Dept. of Administration | \$3,000.00 |
|  JAZZ88 jazz88.fm 88.5FM KBEM | Salaries/Benefits | Dept. of Administration | \$27,450.00 |
| | Contracted Services | Dept. of Administration | \$47,440.00 |
| | Supplies | Dept. of Administration | \$3,270.00 |
| | Advertising | Dept. of Administration | \$7,340.00 |
| | Equipment | Dept. of Administration | \$1,300.00 |
|  RADIO K 770.am 100.7 & 104.5 FM Real College Radio | Salaries/Benefits | Dept. of Administration | \$79,593.04 |
| | Supplies | Dept. of Administration | \$406.96 |
| | Equipment | Dept. of Administration | \$5,000.00 |
|  KVSC St. Cloud | Salaries/Benefits | Dept. of Administration | \$55,440.00 |
| | Contracted Services | Dept. of Administration | \$29,000.00 |
| | Advertising | Dept. of Administration | \$560.00 |
|  PIONEER 90.1 RADIO Thief River Falls | Salaries/Benefits | Dept. of Administration | \$70,000.00 |
| | Contracted Services | Dept. of Administration | \$15,000.00 |
| | Equipment | Dept. of Administration | \$3,268.04 |
|  KQAL Winona | Salaries/Benefits | Dept. of Administration | \$48,393.04 |

* Ampers funding supports Ampers' statewide ACHF programs as well as the Ampers Group Project. The Ampers Group Project funded ACHF programs for the following stations in FY21: KBFT (Bois Forte/ Nett Lake), KFAI (Minneapolis / St. Paul) KMOJ (Minneapolis / St. Paul), KRPR (Rochester), and KKWE (White Earth / Callaway).

** Please note funding listed above reports FY21 funding and does not include any carryover funding from previous fiscal years because carryover funds were already included in previous Legislative Reports.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR ACHF PROJECTS

| <i>Station</i> | <i>Project</i> | <i>Funding Source</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|--|---|------------------------|---------------|
| Ampers Statewide | <i>Counter Stories</i> | Underwriting | \$5,800.00 |
| KUMD Duluth | <i>Journey to Wellness; In the Spirit of Medicine</i> | Underwriting | \$936.00 |
| WTIP Grand Marais / Gunflint Trail / Grand Portage | <i>Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend</i> | Underwriting | \$6,300.00 |
| WTIP Grand Marais / Gunflint Trail / Grand Portage | <i>Boundary Waters Podcast</i> | Underwriting | \$2,590.00 |
| KFAI Minneapolis / St. Paul | <i>MinneCulture Podcasts</i> | Underwriting | \$250.00 |
| KVSC St. Cloud | <i>Granite City Radio Theatre</i> | Ticket Sales | \$420.00 |
| KSRQ Thief River Falls | <i>Pioneer PolkaCast HD-2</i> | Listener Contributions | \$4,315.00 |

PROGRAM SHARING



Ampers (Statewide) shared 319 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji) shared 176 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake) shared 50 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KUMD (Duluth) shared 125 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

WGZS (Fond du Lac/Cloquet) shared one ACHF program with all Ampers stations

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage) shared 308 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd) shared 157 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul) shared 115 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul) shared 43 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KMOJ (Minneapolis/St. Paul) shared 2 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul) shared 37 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KRPR (Rochester) shared 59 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KVSC (St. Cloud) shared 28 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KSRQ (Thief River Falls) shared 163 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway) shared 54 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

KQAL (Winona) shared 66 ACHF programs with all Ampers stations

Note: Information above is reported by Public Radio Exchange (PRX) and reflects programs and segments uploaded to PRX between 7/1/20 and 6/30/21.

COMMENTS FROM LISTENERS

Ampers (Statewide): “*Minnesota Native News* is not what is offered on other stations with the same consistency and depth that KFAI airs. It’s so valuable to know all our history and crime.” – KFAI listener, commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***

Ampers (Statewide): “It’s news I hear nowhere else.” – KFAI listener, commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***

Ampers (Statewide): “*Minnesota History in 90 Seconds* shows how amazing it can be to learn a bit of history in such a short time. It’s a great way for people to learn more about our state.” – KFAI listener, commenting on ***MN90***

Ampers (Statewide): “Very interesting. Great for those with little time.” – KFAI listener, commenting on ***MN90***

Ampers (Statewide): “The presenters were so insightful, and I appreciated their strength-based approach to teaching and sharing stories about the Native community.” – Teacher, Southwest Metro Intermediate District 288, referring to the ***Minnesota Native News Teachers’ Workshop***

Ampers (Statewide): “It is important to acknowledge the need for different cultures to embrace and share their stories.” – Teacher, Southwest Metro Intermediate District 288, referring to the ***Minnesota Native News Teachers’ Workshop***

Ampers (Statewide): “I learned how important it is for minorities to hear/see themselves in mainstream media.” – Teacher, Southwest Metro Intermediate District 288, referring to the ***Minnesota Native News Teachers’ Workshop***

Ampers (Statewide): “Verbal Storytelling is just as important as book storytelling. Intentionally sharing and creating a safe place for others to tell us who they are.” – Teacher, Southwest Metro Intermediate District 288, referring to the ***Minnesota Native News Teachers’ Workshop***

Ampers (Statewide): “I learned the importance of uplifting native voices and expanding their storytelling platform.” – Teacher, Southwest Metro Intermediate District 288, referring to the ***Minnesota Native News Teachers’ Workshop***

Ampers (Statewide): “I need to avoid the trap of mythifying native cultures and to seek out opportunities to learn about modern native culture.” – Teacher, Southwest Metro Intermediate District 288, referring to the ***Minnesota Native News Teachers’ Workshop***

Ampers (Statewide): “I always look forward to hearing ***MN 90***. I know I’m going to learn something interesting about our state.” – KAXE listener, commenting on ***MN History in 90 Seconds***

Ampers (Statewide): “Great little tidbits of Minnesota history that we wouldn’t ordinarily know about. A quick digestible bite.” – KAXE listener, commenting on ***MN History in 90 Seconds***

- “It’s helpful to
- know that arts and
- cultural heritage
- funds increase
- diversity in our
- community through
- shows like this
- one.”
- – KAXE listener, commenting
- on *Minnesota Native News*

Ampers (Statewide): “Attractive and interesting tidbits of knowledge aired in a concise, descriptive manner.” – KAXE listener, commenting on ***MN History in 90 Seconds***

Ampers (Statewide): “Always good. Lots of nuggets about our history in Minnesota in an easily digestible form!” – KAXE listener, commenting on ***MN History in 90 Seconds***

Ampers (Statewide): “We need more native voices to be heard. Minnesota native news is one of those sources that I depend on.” – KAXE listener, commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***

Ampers (Statewide): “It’s helpful to know that arts and cultural heritage funds increase diversity in our community through shows like this one.” – KAXE listener, commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***

Ampers (Statewide): “Solid news for all with very little editorial spin. Love it!” – KAXE listener, commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***

Ampers (Statewide): “I’m glad to learn of the segment of the news that is ignored by regular news sources, it’s important for Native people but even more for those of us who need to increase our understanding.” – KAXE listener, commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***

Ampers (Statewide): “I become a more empathetic citizen upon hearing of others’ trials.” – KAXE listener, commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***

Ampers (Statewide): “Knowledge is power, and learning is the key to understanding our neighbors.” KAXE listener, commenting on ***Minnesota Native News***

Ampers (Statewide): “This show makes it possible to understand another culture a little bit better.” – KAXE listener, commenting on ***Native Lights***

Ampers (Statewide): “I think we all should find time to listen to these, at least from time to time.” – KFAI listener, commenting on ***MN Native News***

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Remarkable radio. Thank you all. It’s a joy being enlightened as uniquely and subtly powerful as Michael Lyons can enlighten.” – Pete Pierson, commenting on ***Area Voices***, “Indian Boarding School” segment

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I have listened to several Area Voices episodes and have truly enjoyed each interview and found great inspiration in them.” – KBXE listener, commenting on ***Area Voices***

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I haven’t been that interested in the arts in this area. However, through Katie’s interviews I’ve discovered art and artists in northern Minnesota that I didn’t know existed and have even attended and supported some arts events and activities.” – KBXE listener, commenting on ***Area Voices***

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I learn more about the people in our region and feel connected to my community. I appreciate the

● “This show makes
● it possible to
● understand another
● culture a little bit
● better.”
●
● – KAXE listener, commenting
● on *Native Lights*

wide array of area voices in a longer form narrated interview format.” – KBXE listener, commenting on **Area Voices**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Sharing the work of area musicians strengthens our ties to the community and encourages others to participate in music and the arts.” – KBXE listener, commenting on **Center Stage Minnesota**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “I feel like I’ve been able to keep more in touch and current with MN music, which would otherwise fly under my radar.” – KBXE listener, commenting on **Center Stage Minnesota**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Giving local musicians radio exposure is important to the artist and the listeners. Money well spent.” – KBXE listener, commenting on **Center Stage Minnesota**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “This show has kept me up to date on local vaccine updates and where we stand compared to the rest of the State.” – KBXE listener, commenting on **Pandemic Visits, Visiting During the New Norm**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Programs like *Visiting During the New Norm* show how radio stations are critical during the pandemic.” – KBXE listener, commenting on **Pandemic Visits, Visiting During the New Norm**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “This helps build community and strengthen the arts. So important to overall wellness and community engagement.” – KBXE listener, commenting on **What We’re Reading**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Please continue to fund the programs like this that do exactly what they are asked to do and do it in a way that should make Minnesotans proud.” – KBXE listener, commenting on **What We’re Reading**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “This is one of my favorite shows. Tammy is an absolute pleasure to listen to. She represents the purpose of the Arts and Cultural Funds exactly. – KBXE listener, commenting on **What We’re Reading**

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake): “You are keeping me connected to Bois Forte, I like to watch the 89.9 thread!” – Cherry Wars, Facebook comment on **Virtual Anishinaabe Storytelling**

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake): “Wow! Incredible stories! Learning so much! Very glad to hear stories from you and see you’re well.” – Nicholas Surfista DeShaw, Facebook comment on **Virtual Anishinaabe Storytelling**

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake): “Listening from Toronto, Canada.” Barb Nahwegahbow, Facebook comment on **Virtual Anishinaabe Storytelling**

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake): “Miigwech to both speakers. Makes me feel like a kid again, and I learned so much.” – Tara Geshick, Facebook comment on **Virtual Anishinaabe Storytelling**

KUMD (Duluth): “Local authors do their work for the love of writing and deserve more recognition. This show allows listeners to get interested in

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● kept me up to date
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● updates and where
● we stand compared
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● State.”

● – KBXE listener, commenting
● on *Pandemic Visits, Visiting*
● *During the New Norm*

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

books they might not be aware of. Supporting local writers is important for our community now and in the future. Who will otherwise tell the stories of our time?” – KUMD listener, commenting on **Minnesota Reads**

KUMD (Duluth): “The program is informative and entertaining at the same time as Arne Vainio discusses interesting everyday medical topics, we all encounter in our lives. He pours his heart and soul into his work which resonates in the program. Amazing heartfelt content we are lucky to have on KUMD!” – KUMD listener, commenting on In the **Spirit of Medicine**

KUMD (Duluth): “Miigwech for hosting this series with Dr. Arne Vainio. His words, perspectives, and knowledge inspire me EVERY time and give me hope. Anishinaabe representation and voice is so important to have for your listening audience. My family and I are so grateful. Beyond grateful. Also, we have many Native friends and family who tune in and love the show.” – KUMD listener, commenting on In the **Spirit of Medicine**

KUMD (Duluth): “**Live from Studio A** is an important part of Duluth’s entertainment industry. Not only does it showcase local bands, it promotes bands playing shows in Duluth.” – KUMD listener, commenting on **Live from Studio A**

KUMD (Duluth): “**Live from Studio A** is such a great program highlighting local musicians. Christine always asks great questions. This show lets us get to know our talented artists better.” – KUMD listener, commenting on **Live from Studio A**

KUMD (Duluth): “We love this program. We love hearing from Native health leaders share information about how the pandemic is impacting Native and diverse communities and how to stay safe from COVID. Thanks for being a leader among leaders in bringing these important messages forward to our community! Mary Owen, MD is truly an inspiration. We would love to hear her on KUMD every day.” – KUMD listener, commenting on **Journey to Wellness**

KUMD (Duluth): “The *Duluth Homegrown Music Festival* is such a cultural touchstone for the Twin Ports, and KUMD’s coverage helps festivalgoers appreciate it even more deeply.” – KUMD listener, commenting on **Duluth Homegrown Music Festival Coverage**

KUMD (Duluth): “KUMD is the best local news/blog source for reviewing and reporting on the nightly happenings of Homegrown Music Festival. Their contribution to this aspect of the festival is vital to the community.” – KUMD listener, commenting on **Duluth Homegrown Music Festival Coverage**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “We are streaming *North Shore Morning*, loving the moon songs and wanted to let Mark know that it is so nice to hear his voice! Thanks for what you are all doing, WTIP!” Scott and Mary Beattie, Steamboat Springs, CO, commenting on **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “We always listen to WTIP when visiting family on the North Shore. The quality and diversity of

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● – KUMD listener, commenting
● on *Duluth Homegrown Music*
● *Festival Coverage*

programming and music blows us away!” – WTIP listener, commenting on **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “We listen and enjoy *Day Break* with Joe Friedrichs and especially like Mark Abrahamson with *North Shore Morning*. Mark so much reminds us of the late, great Charlie Boone of WCCO Radio.” – WTIP listener, commenting on **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “I appreciate that you don’t have non-stop politics. It’s my only refuge. I love Mark Abrahamson – he’s so cheerful in the morning!” – Emily, commenting on **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “We stream you guys every single day. Best station anywhere! We especially enjoy listening to Larry Weber every Saturday morning on *North Shore Weekend*.” – Renewing members from Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, commenting on **Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “For the excellent musical choices of Will Moore on *Scenic Route*. I’m blown away by his musical direction.” – Kimberly Ziegler, Grand Marais, commenting on **Scenic Route**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Hi, we have family in Minnesota and after our last visit there I was looking for a radio station in their area to feel a bit more in their world and luckily found your station. We really enjoy listening to your *Northern Music* programs, the music is very special and different from our programs over here, it opens a wide range of new sounds, we love that. Due to the different time zone, we listen mostly to your night programs, they are just great. So, as ABBA sings: thank you for the music (and all else) and stay safe in these difficult times.” – Sabine, Hamburg, Germany, commenting on **Northern Music Hour**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “This is a creative way to share and teach the Ojibway culture and language. By giving little language lessons. Clever! Creative! Who would think puppets on radio would be so effective ...but it is!” – KAXE listener, commenting on **Boozhoo NanaBoozhoo**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I think that Downing’s writings are very insightful and I’m glad that I get a chance to hear them.” – KAXE listener, commenting on the program **Audio Essays by Steve Downing**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “He is an artist who reflects who we are in northern Minnesota while asking us to stretch in our world to universal themes.” – KAXE listener, commenting on the program **Audio Essays by Steve Downing**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Boozhoo! My tribute to you, Mr. Lyons for all your work of culture and beautiful music. Keep doing what you do!” – James Anderson, KAXE listener, commenting on **Boozhoo NanaBoozhoo**

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- on *Boozhoo NanaBoozhoo*
-

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “This show (**Boozhoo NanaBoozhoo**) is creative, funny, and educational – all wrapped up with the coolest puppetry. Thanks for this chance to learn Ojibwe language and culture in such a friendly way.” – KAXE listener, commenting on **Boozhoo NanaBoozhoo**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Yet another program exploring the history of our area and increasing our connection to our communities. This is so important for overall community connection, health, and wellness. When we are more connected to our community and each other we are more invested in caring for each other and ourselves.” – KAXE listener, commenting on **Dig Deep**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Dig Deep should be a model for how to have discussions for all Minnesotans.” – KAXE listener, commenting on **Dig Deep**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “The commentators in Dig Deep present thoughtful, divergent information and opinions. Such balanced commentary is rare, but so necessary.” – KAXE listener, commenting on **Dig Deep**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Really enjoy this program. Appreciate the way Aaron and Chuck can have different opinions and have an informative and civil discussion.” – KAXE listener, commenting on **Dig Deep**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Leah is a wonderful interviewer!”
– David Manuel, Red Lake, commenting on **Northern Voices**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “We need more local reporting and story sharing of our indigenous community by indigenous people themselves. I love listening to Leah Lemm.” – KAXE listener, commenting on **Northern Voices**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Northern Voices is another great example of how a small-town radio station can have a big impact on arts and cultural heritage in the area.” – KAXE listener, commenting on **Northern Voices**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “This is a program that gives voice to traditionally marginalized persons and communities. To grow and be connected as communities we need to involve everyone, their perspectives, histories, viewpoints, etc....and northern voices does an excellent job of this.” – KAXE listener, commenting on **Northern Voices**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “I love this show. Interesting knowledge sharing and Indigenous perspectives on current and historic issues in our neck of the woods called Northern MN.” – KAXE listener, commenting on **Northern Voices**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Northern Voices feature voices that I never hear elsewhere and I love that!” – KAXE listener, commenting on **Northern Voices**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “What a great program! I’m totally envious of those of you who grew up visiting a cabin during your summers. I can only imagine what a difference that would have made in my life. Michael’s

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● on *Northern Voices*

program provided images for me that were almost like I'd experienced these places myself." – Jack Shelton, Bemidji, commenting on **Stay Human**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): "We are loving **Stay Human** – everything from how people are connecting and staying sane through food, music to other innovative ways people are reaching out etc. Under normal circumstances your work hits home with us, however, during this pandemic it has expanded meaning – it truly does help us feel human during these difficult times." – Kevin Anderson, listener, commenting on **Stay Human**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): "I love the variety of topics, the insights provided by the essayists and the way Michael includes such appropriate music. I'm very glad it is now in the 5:00 Sunday slot so I get to listen to it!" – KAXE listener, commenting on **Stay Human**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): "This is an amazing local arts and legacy project. We hear the best essays and stories from our local human treasures." – KAXE listener, commenting on **Stay Human**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): "Listening to this piece this morning – I'm touched, inspired and proud to be a supporting member of KAXE." – Peter Pierson, commenting on **Strong Women**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): "Heidi Holtan is brilliant in finding depth and breadth in featuring rural women. Doing great work with minimal resources." – KAXE listener, commenting on **Strong Women**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): "If giving voice to the voiceless is part of the arts and cultural heritage fund, this program is doing a great job." – KAXE listener, commenting on **Strong Women**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): "This is the kind of local programming that deserves the support of Arts funding." – KAXE listener, commenting on **Victor Power**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): "Thank you for the great job you continue to do, for educating us and entertaining us. I have appreciated all the extra time and effort you have all put in since this pandemic reared its ugly head. I know it hasn't been easy to remain upbeat and entertaining, but you're doing a great job. I am so excited for the Powers in the Wilderness podcast. Thank you for your part in helping make it happen. This kind of programming, along with phenology really makes me proud to support this station and the people that run it. Thanks again." – Laura, Grand Rapids, commenting on **Victor Power**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): "Thank you to all at KAXE for all the good work that you do. During this time of pandemic and during the political upheaval, your voices have brought facts and a kindly attitude. You are appreciated!" – Sandy, KAXE listener from McGregor

KMSU (Mankato): "We love it when the whole office can get away and have lunch together at *Songs on the Lawn*." – Event attendee, commenting on **Songs on the Lawn**

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● local programming
● that deserves the
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● funding."

● – KAXE listener, commenting
● on *Victor Power*

KMSU (Mankato): “Jeremy Poland is awesome and it’s so great finally be able to get together and see live music with friends.” – Lisa Wood, Mankato, commenting on **Songs on the Lawn**

KMSU (Mankato): “I love listening to the Mankato Symphony on KMSU, especially when it follows my favorite program *Best of Broadway*.” – Deloris Warren, Mankato, commenting on **Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings**

KMSU (Mankato): “It’s great that we can finally get together and enjoy some live music, albeit socially distanced, and there’s nothing better than some hot jazz music outdoors on a hot summer’s evening.” – Gary Campbell, commenting on Jazz Concert, part of **KMSU Live Events**

KBEM (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Kraimer – your leadership around broadcasting the games, and empowering students to use their voices in doing so has left an indelible impression on our own fans, but just as importantly, our opponent’s fans. You, too, are a blessing. And Taylor and Jenelle – your ability to call a game that does not deny your loyalty to North High but also respectfully represent our opponents, all while giving viewers a sense of being as close to sitting in the stands as possible, has been a gift. You, two are also such blessings to us.” – Mauri Friestleben, commenting on **MPS Voices/MN Jazz Tracks** (carriage of basketball games on the stream)

KBEM (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I’m a parent of a Washburn girls basketball player and I just want to send along a thank you to your two student broadcasters from the 3/11/21 game between North and Washburn. It was the only game we watched online this season with a broadcast, and it was such a joy to have. Your broadcasters were energetic and did not favor one team over another with their comments. And what an opportunity for your students to have broadcasting a game. With all that the world has thrown at us this past year I just had to reach out to you to let your students know that their work was appreciated. All the best to you and your broadcasting students.” – Cindy Russell-Twomey, commenting on **MSP Voices/MN Jazz Tracks** (carriage of basketball games on the stream)

KBEM (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Just heard the Levi (Schwartzberg) interview. Beautiful! How cool that you got into the music and had Levi play. Exceptional!” – Mac Santiago, Minneapolis, commenting on **Twin Cities Weekend / Twin Cities This Week**

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Loved it all! All Elders & Patty P. did a great job very enjoyable! I have now seen it two and a half times.” – Nancy Pestello, commenting on **Minnesota Jazz Legends**

KBEM (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “This was such a great afternoon of music! Wonderful to see Art Resnick and the other legends perform!” – Paula Weakly, commenting on **Minnesota Jazz Legends**

KBEM (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thank you, Crooners for being. Ms. Patty – amazing songstress & heart. Thank you all for keeping the history present!” – Edward Summers, commenting on **Minnesota Jazz Legends**

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● our state.”

● – KFAI listener,
● commenting on *MN90*

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “The stories we have in this town. This is incredible.” – Jana Metge, Minneapolis, commenting on “Driven by Hope: Paul Deng Ker and the Story of a Lost Boy” from **10,000 Fresh Voices**

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “My knowledge of Minnesota arts and history has been made so much richer by listening to KFAI. Thank you!” – KFAI listener, commenting on **10,000 Fresh Voices**

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “10,000 Fresh Voices digs out the unknown stories and the quirky details of more well-known stories, bringing them to our attention in an easy to listen to medium. I also love that I can listen via ampers.org and SoundCloud.”
– KFAI listener, commenting on **10,000 Fresh Voices**

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I love the coverage of music and history offered on KFAI.” – KFAI listener, commenting on **10,000 Fresh Voices**

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I’ve listened to some of these documentaries and am blown away with the thoroughness and professionalism in both content and production.” – KFAI listener, commenting on **10,000 Fresh Voices**

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “My family and I LOVED it! Thank you so much. Super fun!” – Susan Ayers, Minnetonka, MN, commenting on **MinneCulture**

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I value the quiet story. The unexamined life is not worth living according to Socrates. Thank you, *MinneCulture* for making everyone’s life worth living.” – KFAI listener, commenting on **MinneCulture**

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I hope this show continues forever.” – KFAI listener, commenting on **MinneCulture**

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “You’re all so brave and so genius. Thank you for making this music.” Charlotte Tauer, Minneapolis, commenting on **Live from Minnesota: Taylor Seaberg**

KVSC (St. Cloud): “Excellent work everyone! I was so entertained, and I laughed and I clapped and jumped up and down! Thank you!”
– Jodel Leigh, commenting on **Granite City Radio Theatre**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Since Mom passed away in 2007, Cathy (Erickson) and her show have been a lifeline for dad, and he had so much fun listening! I live in New Mexico and my sisters live in Minnesota, California, and Florida. We have enjoyed listening to Cathy’s show online, making requests and sending messages to Dad. It has been a great way to stay connected and share the experience of listening with him.” – Angela Martin, Albuquerque, NM, commenting on **Pioneer PolkaCast**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “As an online listener from Austin, Texas, I discovered *Pioneer PolkaCast* by accident last year. I can safely say that it helped me get through much of the pandemic and, through its programming, have learned there is no way you can be sad when listening to a polka! I’ve also shared the station with my Austin-based parents. We

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● that I can listen via
● ampers.org and
● SoundCloud.”

● – KFAI listener, commenting
● on *10,000 Fresh Voices*

often listen to the station together and plan to visit Minnesota soon!” – Christopher Ruggeri, Austin, TX, commenting on **Pioneer PolkaCast**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “We listen (and dance) to *PolkaCast* and Cathy Erickson’s radio shows on Sunday morning, Sunday night, and Monday night variety music show! Those are our favorites, but we also listen to other shows on *PolkaCast* as well!! In fact, listening to the rebroadcast of Monday night’s music variety show RIGHT NOW! Absolutely love the *PolkaCast* station! Thank you!!” – Sherry Page, Thief River Falls, commenting on **Pioneer PolkaCast**

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “Thank you to Jane and all of TRFACT for the time and effort that went into making this happen over the summer!” – Ryan Poissant, commenting on **Voices of the Theater**

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “I love that Nijjii gives the community family friendly events to go to and promotes local artists.” – Ashley, White Earth, commenting on **Nijjii’s Minnesota Mixdown Series**

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “I appreciate being able to learn about the herbs, respect of harvesting them and all the benefits of the medicine that surround us.” – Teres, commenting on **Ojibwe Arts Rising**

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “Grateful that this class was available to the community to learn not only how to make the moccasin, but having the teaching with them for some of us that don’t know them.” – Gina, commenting on **Ojibwe Arts Rising**

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “It was great to learn about the 2 cultures together.” – Cindy, commenting on Cultural Exchange

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “I love attending events that bring cultures together.” – Matt, commenting on Cultural Exchange

KQAL (Winona): “Love the station & *The Live Feed* rocks.” – Julie Jackson, Winona, commenting on **Live Feed**

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● – Ashley, White Earth,
● commenting on *Nijjii’s*
● *Minnesota Mixdown Series*

COMMENTS FROM MN ARTISTS & EVENT ORGANIZERS

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “This show is absolutely critical to help us know what local writers are producing as well as exposing us to larger works around the nation. As a writer and playwright in northern Minnesota, we must get past the idea that creativity resides only on the coasts or in our case the Twin Cities metro. We have a distinctive voice as rural people, and this show helps to give us voice. Love it!” – Artist featured on **What We’re Reading**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Thank you for having me on and thank you so much for the lovely interview! I really dig ya Northern Community Radio KAXE/KBXE.” – Diamond Knispel, Bemidji, artist featured on **Area Voices**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “As one of the artists who has been interviewed on **Area Voices**, I am so grateful for the opportunity that the Region 2 Arts Board gave me with a grant to do my stained-glass work in 2019 as well as the opportunity to be one of the musicians on John Henningsgaard’s CD produced in 2018 with another Region 2 Arts Grant. John was also featured on one of the **Area Voices** interviews. Not many other opportunities to display your life as an artist exist in Northern Minnesota.” – Musician featured on **Area Voices**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Rural! Rural! Rural! We are here and we have rich culture and story as we create with less resources.” – Artist featured on **Area Voices**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “It’s reassuring to know people like you, Katie Carter and Leah Lemm et cetera are on the airwaves. KAXE is my go-to station while driving between Cotton and Akeley every week, and the only one where I get full reception the whole drive. I feel very lucky about that!” – Jesse, The Brothers Burn Mountain, commenting on **Area Voices**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Katie gives the folks she is interviewing plenty of time to speak about their art. Love this about the show.” – Artist featured on **Area Voices**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Greetings! My name is Jay Walter Wilkins. I front The Rectifiers. A friend of mine who lives in Brainerd texted me on Thursday to let me know you were playing my song “The Legend” from the album “Rectification!” Just wanted to drop a line to say, “thank you.” – Jay Walter Wilkins, The Rectifiers, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “Thanks for the great Minnesota Music Note, y’all (especially Brett)! I appreciate it very much. It captures the album perfectly. Tells the story of the album (and little old me, such as I am) perfectly. I am forever indebted.” – John Magnuson, singer/songwriter, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): “This show is a fantastic resource for our own State’s music. We support local music. This show provides a great audio stage for this to happen. There’s nothing like hearing your own music or bands you’ve seen on the radio. It’s priceless.” – Musician, commenting on **Centerstage Minnesota**

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● great Minnesota
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● – John Magnuson, singer/
● songwriter, commenting on
● *Centerstage Minnesota*

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake): “Great working with Darren and Chaz, Thanks KBFT” – Callie Bennett, musician, commenting on **Native Music Fest Series**

KBFT (Bois Forte/ Nett Lake): “That turned out great – so awesome that you’re doing these” – Rich Mattson, musician, commenting on **Bois Forte Artist Profiles**

KBFT (Bois Forte/ Nett Lake): “Thank you KBFT 89.9FM for having me.” – Rob Fairbanks, comedian, commenting on **Bois Forte Community Pow Wow Broadcast**

KUMD (Duluth): “Poetry from Canada on KUMD! Thanks, Northland Morning.” – Jamie Harvie, commenting on **(poetry)**

KUMD (Duluth): “Always remember you are loved. Thanks, Lisa Johnson and KUMD 103.3 FM for airing these stories.” – Ivy Vainio, commenting on **In the Spirit of Medicine**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Thankful every day for your programming. I love hearing all the different community voices, opinions and musical tastes. Also, a shout out to Mike McHugh’s sports play-by-play!” – Karen Blackburn, Director, Cook County Higher Education, commenting on **Community Voices** on **North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Thanks, Annie, you radio folks are always so nice. Kind of feel like I get a little bit being up in Grand Marais when I’m on the air. Of all the places we’ve been and lived (China, India, South Africa, Canyonlands...), Grand Marais and the woods by the lake are always our favorite.” – Douglas P. Kennedy, PhD, Assistant Professor, Mindfulness in Education Initiative, commenting on **The Roadhouse**

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): “Annie, After the **Roadhouse** aired, I received a number of text messages from friends on the North Shore – yet another delightful benefit of working with WTIP. Best Wishes.” – Mariann Johnson, Mindfulness and Wellbeing Instructor, Earl E. Bakken Center for Spirituality & Healing, University of Minnesota, commenting on **The Roadhouse**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Thanks to Michael Goldberg for his incredible insights and the creativity he puts into producing **Stay Human**.” – Carolyn King, Grand Rapids, commenting on **Stay Human**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Michael, I wanted to say thank you for your great job of editing the segment you did about our farm. Also, I thought your program was very enjoyable. Thanks for taking the time to showcase local farmers.” – Stuart Lavailer, **Stay Human** participant, commenting on **Stay Human**

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): “Being new to the community, **Strong Women** events have helped me feel a part of the community and make connections. These are beautiful events and I often share the recordings of the stories to follow with friends and family around the state. I only wish there were

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● participant, commenting on
● *Stay Human*

more **Strong Women** events, they are so impactful, and I am forever grateful for them!” – **Strong Women** participant, commenting on **Strong Women**

KMSU (Mankato): “**Songs on the Lawn** gives people from all around the region an opportunity to take a break and enjoy lunch, tunes, and togetherness in the City Center.” – Liz Sharp, Greater Mankato Growth, commenting on **Songs on the Lawn**

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.” – Dr. Bethel Balge, Mankato Symphony Executive Director, commenting on **Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings**

KMSU (Mankato): “It was incredible, in part because it was the first year we were in the pavilion and also because it was the first time many of us had attended any sort of live music event since the pandemic started.” – Ann Rosenquist Fee, Art Center of St. Peter Executive Director, commenting on **KMSU Live Events**

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “A very thoughtful piece and thank you, Phil, not just for this one, but all you generously add to our musical world.” – Maurice Jacox, Musician, commenting on **Twin Cities Weekend / Twin Cities This Week**

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thanks Phil, it was good talking with you, and I appreciate you putting this together! I’ll make sure to put an announcement on social media about the radio show. Take care, C.” – Charlie Parr, Musician, commenting on **Twin Cities Weekend / Twin Cities This Week**

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Hey Phil, thank you for being patient with me. I just had an opportunity to listen to the interview that you put together and it sounds really good. Thanks again for your patience and I look forward to next time.” – Robert Robinson, Musician, commenting on **Twin Cities Weekend / Twin Cities This Week**

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thanks for continuing to air the Kamman segments. I think it’s nice to hear his voice and keep his name alive.” – Brad Bellows, commenting on **The Jazz Image – Minnesota Edition, Leigh Kamman Legacy Project**

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I am so grateful to finally be acknowledged for my musicianship in the Twin Cities.” – Ron Seaman, Musician, commenting on **Minnesota Jazz Legends**

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thank you for letting me tell you the story of the Barbary Coast Dixieland Band. This truly was a band of brothers, sharing both music and faith.” – Dick Petersen, Musician, commenting on **Minnesota Jazz Legends**

● “Thanks Phil, it
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● you putting this
● together! I’ll make
● sure to put an
● announcement on
● social media about
● the radio show.
● Take care, C.”

● – Charlie Parr, Musician,
● commenting on *Twin Cities*
● *Weekend / Twin Cities*
● *This Week*

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “I am so pleased to be a part of the history of jazz in Minnesota. I think it is important for me to tell my story.”

– Carole Martin, Musician, commenting on **Minnesota Jazz Legends**

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “Thank you for presenting the **Minnesota Jazz Legends** at our venue. We love helping to preserve the history of jazz.” – Andrew Walesch, Crooners Supper Club, commenting on **Minnesota Jazz Legends**

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “We certainly enjoyed working with all the wonderful staff and appreciate the unique opportunity.” – Jerry Costilla, Grupo Mio, commenting on **Live from Minnesota**

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “KFAI and their staff did an amazing job, and we appreciate it.” – Rudy Rodriguez, Grupo Mio, commenting on **Live from Minnesota**

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): “That performance went awesome, I’m grateful for all your help putting that together. I’m appreciative of the opportunity.” – Rueben “KITTO” Stately, commenting on **Live from Minnesota**

KVSC (St. Cloud): “I think the program really sheds a light on some of those ‘hidden gems’ in central Minnesota. It’s great that we have radio segment dedicated to the lesser-known programs/initiatives and other community stories within the St. Cloud metro. We have a diverse community and it’s wonderful to hear so many stories from different cultures and perspectives. These stories help connect us and build social capital in our community.” – Chrissy Gaetke, Central Minnesota Community Foundation, commenting on **Untold Stories of Central Minnesota**

KVSC (St. Cloud): “I think the program is fantastic, and I am thankful for it! I did share the interview with the MLK Community Celebration Facebook group. I may have also shared it on my personal page as well. The interview provided a space to share information about our upcoming event, the MLK Community Celebration. Broadcasting over the KVSC airwaves gives us access to a unique audience that we hope would participate in our local event.” – Desiree Clark, Martin Luther King Breakfast event coordinator, commenting on **Untold Stories of Central Minnesota**

KVSC (St. Cloud): “Marketing and public relations are critical components to the success of Pathways 4 Youth. As a start-up nonprofit in our community, we had to start with no brand awareness or brand image to our stakeholders. The youth experiencing homelessness did not know about us. Neither did the human service organizations, donors, volunteers, faith-based organizations, politicians, businesses, and the general public. Jeffery provided a vehicle for public exposure in a well-crafted story that we could share across our community. The broadcast was shared with our 1,000 plus individual contacts, our 200 plus Rotarians in the community, Facebook, and Instagram.” – Tim Wensman, Pathways 4 Youth, commenting on **Untold Stories of Central Minnesota**

● “I am so pleased
● to be a part of the
● history of jazz in
● Minnesota. I think it
● is important for me
● to tell my story.”

● – Carole Martin, Musician,
● commenting on *Minnesota*
● *Jazz Legends*

KVSC (St. Cloud): “Congrats, team! Well done!!! A delightful radio show – strong storytelling, characters, and SFX. Thank you all for your hard work and commitment to this project. From Meg, the playwright: ‘That was lovely – send the cast and team my truest thank you and congratulations.’” – Kendra Norton Dando, GREAT Theater, commenting on ***KVSC and GREAT Theatre’s radio production of Sasparella Trauffea is Dancing***

KVSC (St. Cloud): “What a fun show to be part of, thank you. It was great to be back in front of a live audience again!” – Keith Secola, Musician, commenting on ***Granite City Radio Theatre***

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “GREAT show last night from start to finish. I was so pleased with the whole thing. Thank you for your brilliant editing. I loved the intro/outro music. So fun!” – Jane Anderson, Executive Director, Thief River Falls Area Community Theater, commenting on ***Voices of the Theater***

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “I want to thank you so much for giving us airtime to host radio shows on Pioneer 90.1 FM as a Nordic Fest event for our Sons of Norway lodge. We normally have a full week to 10 days of activities in the community in the days surrounding Syttende Mai (May 17) to celebrate our Norwegian heritage. With COVID running rampant and restrictions on all gatherings, this all had to be cancelled – but RADIO works out very well. Our members could record their shows individually in a private room, and everything was done safely. Thank you for providing that safety. I received many compliments for our efforts on these days of radio shows, aired three times daily. People are at home so much now and appreciate hearing personal narratives from people they know in the local community. Thank you for all you do for the listening area!” – Jan Strandlie, Thief River Falls, Nordic Fest Committee, commenting on ***Nordic Fest Radio***

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): “The music was great last night, thank you for working with us on that. We underestimated the number of people who would come out for it, but we had lots of smiles!” – Lisa Hinrichs, Thief River Falls, ECFE Teacher and Program Coordinator, commenting on ***Community Voices***

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “Niijii mixdown is such a great opportunity for local artist to get a chance to play for the community and get our music out. Annie Humphrey, I love that Niijii provides local artist a chance to play for people and get the music out.” – Darren Quam, Artist, commenting on ***Niijii’s Minnesota Mixdown Series***

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “I am honored to be given the opportunity to share my knowledge with others and look forward to be able to continue to pass down traditions.” – Tonya, Artist, commenting on ***Ojibwe Arts Rising***

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): “Always happy to be a part of these events that show our culture.” – Jon, Artist, commenting on ***Cultural Exchange***

KQAL (Winona): “***Art Beat*** was very smooth and relaxed experience, and the questions that were asked allowed my co-director and I get to the heart of why we created our film (for the Frozen River Film Festival).” – Dakota Maertz, Winona State Film Studies Student, commenting on ***Art Beat***

● “What a fun show
● to be part of, thank
● you. It was great
● to be back in front
● of a live audience
● again!”

● – Keith Secola, Musician,
● commenting on *Granite City*
● *Radio Theatre*

KQAL (Winona): “All of the questions were engaging and relevant, which made discussing my project (FRFF) feel smooth. I had a real nice time being interviewed by KQAL.” – Joseph Eichele, Winona State Film Studies Student, commenting on **Art Beat**

KQAL (Winona): “The Program sounded great; I always appreciate what you guys do for the local music scene.” – Mike Munson, Musician, Winona, commenting on **The Live Feed**

KQAL (Winona): “Thanks again for having us in studio. It was finally fun to make it into the studio and hang out for a while.” – Siri Undlin (Humbird), commenting on **The Live Feed**

KQAL (Winona): “We appreciate your help with our Macbeth podcast project. And, as you know, we are always very appreciative of your partnership with KQAL.” – Eileen Moeller, Great River Shakespeare Festival, commenting on **Don’t Cha Know & Arts and Entertainment Download**

KQAL (Winona): “I did have fun yesterday, so thank you. You two were so funny that I was able to stay in that banter-type mode and did better than I had thought. I feel like I was able to help people keep their minds on amazing things in our world during this unbelievable time.” – Jennifer Anderson, WSU Geo Science Department, commenting on **Don’t Cha Know & Arts and Entertainment Download**

● “Thanks again for
● having us in studio.
● It was finally fun
● to make it into the
● studio and hang out
● for a while.”
●
● – Siri Undlin (Humbird),
● commenting on *The Live Feed*

PROGRAM COSTS / PRODUCTION COSTS

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): *What We're Reading*: Program Costs: \$7,138.75, Administrative Costs: \$282.98; ***Centerstage Minnesota*:** Program Costs: \$24,721.50, Administrative Costs: \$159.43; ***Area Voices*:** Program Costs: \$23,373.17, Administrative Costs: \$161.52; ***Pandemic Visits*:** Program Costs: \$1,673.43, Administrative Costs: \$35.70; ***Bemidji Block Party*:** Program Costs: \$103.25, Administrative Costs: \$35.70; ***Strong Indigenous Women*:** Program Costs: \$352.71, Administrative Costs: \$35.70; ***Minnesota Sessions*:** Program Costs: \$216.58, Administrative Costs: \$33.60*.

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake): *Anishinaabe Language Immersion Camp*: Program Costs: \$2,880.50, Administrative Costs: \$432.08; ***Native Music Fest Series*:** Program Costs: \$23,979.81, Administrative Costs: \$3,596.96; ***Anishinaabemoen*:** Program Costs: \$4,973.65, Administrative Costs: \$746.05; ***Bois Fort History in 90 Seconds*:** Program Costs: \$3,341.02, Administrative Costs: \$501.15; ***Bois Fort Artist Profiles*:** Program Costs: \$11,352.80, Administrative Costs: \$1,702.92; ***BF Community Pow Wow Broadcast*:** Program Costs: \$4,340.27, Administrative Costs: \$651.04; Virtual Storytelling: Program Costs: \$2,496.71, Administrative Costs: \$374.51, Native Art Fest: Program Costs: \$1,768.36, Administrative Costs: \$265.25.

KUMD (Duluth): *MN Reads*: Program Costs: \$11,064.28, Administrative costs: \$814.67; ***In the Spirit of Medicine*:** Program Costs: \$11,946.5, Administrative costs: 814.67; ***Live from Studio***

***A*:** Program Costs: \$10,211.18, Administrative costs: \$814.67; ***The Local*:** Program Costs: \$3,682.27, Administrative costs: \$814.67; ***Journey to Wellness*:** Program Costs: \$8,364.00, Administrative costs: \$814.67; ***(poetry)*:** Program Costs: \$6,598.00, Administrative costs: \$814.67; ***Arts and Cultural Events*:** Program Costs: \$1,0661.00, Administrative costs: \$814.67; ***Duluth Homegrown Music Festival Coverage*:** Program Costs: \$5,661.8, Administrative costs: \$814.67.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): *Community Voices on North Shore Morning and North Shore Weekend*: Program Costs: \$31472.40; ***Lake Superior Project*:** Program Costs: \$800.00; ***Northern Music Hour*:** Program Costs: \$800.00; ***It Happens Here*:** Program Costs: \$599.00; ***The Roadhouse*:** Program Costs: \$5,810.00; ***Scenic Route*:** Program Costs: \$1,610.50; ***The Boundary Waters Podcast*:** Program Costs: \$6,584.00; ***What Matters to Us: Growing up Near Lake Superior*:** Program Costs: \$160; ***Legacy of Hunting and Trapping on the North Shore*:** \$240; ***Radio Waves Music Festival*:** \$11,110.92, Administrative Costs: \$216.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): *Dig Deep*: Program Costs: \$3,046.83, Administrative Costs: \$180.84; ***Northern Voices*:** Program Costs: \$5,820.57, Administrative Costs: \$100.80; ***Audio Essays by Steve Downing*:** Program Costs: \$4,669.17, Administrative Costs: \$195.71; ***Stay Human*:** Program Costs: \$14,181.72, Administrative Costs: \$470.65;

***Strong Women*:** Program Costs: \$5,481.31, Administrative Costs: \$153.72; ***Victor Power Serial (Podcast and Broadcast)*:** Program Costs: \$16,688.19, Administrative Costs: \$178.91; ***Boozhoo NanaBoozhoo*:** Program Costs: \$13,882.43, Administrative Costs: \$498.12; ***Rapids River Fest*:** Program Costs: \$5,155.3, Administrative Costs: \$33.60.

KMSU (Mankato): *Songs on the Lawn*: Program Costs: \$3,000; ***Mankato Symphony Orchestra Recordings*:** Program Costs: \$7,800; ***KMSU Live Events*:** \$4,800.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): *Twin Cities Weekend / Twin Cities This Week*: Program Costs: \$29,000; ***The Jazz Image – Minnesota Edition*:** Program Costs: \$2,200; ***Minnesota Jazz Legends*:** Program Costs: \$1,1736.50; ***Jazz at Minneapolis Public Schools*:** Program Costs: \$5,316.16; ***KBEM 50th Anniversary Documentation Project*:** Program Costs: \$5,250.00; ***MPS Voices*:** Program Costs: \$4,536.60.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): *10,000 Fresh Voices*: Program Costs: \$40,727.72, Administrative Costs: \$1,956.47; ***MinneCulture*:** Program Costs: \$15,097.00, Administrative Costs: \$752.49; ***MinneCulture Podcasts*:** Program Costs: \$17,419.20, Administrative Costs: \$60.20; ***Live from Minnesota*:** Program Costs: \$11,122.62, Administrative Costs: \$240.80.

*KBXE spent a small amount of time planning ***Minnesota Sessions*** before having to cancel it because of the pandemic.

PROGRAM COSTS / PRODUCTION COSTS (CONTINUED)

KMOJ (Minneapolis/St. Paul):
The Ice: Expanding the Reach of Minnesota's 1st Urban Hip-Hop Format: Program Costs: \$7,459.59; **Community Viewpoint:** Program Costs: \$1,950.

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): **North Star Stories from Real College Podcast:** Program Costs: \$53,633.43; **The Local Vibe:** Program Costs: \$19,098.53.

KRPR (Rochester): MN90: Rochester History in 90-Seconds: Program Costs: \$1,400, Administrative Costs: \$1,400; **Rochester Music Notes:** Program Costs: \$1,190; **R-Town Season Three:** Program Costs: \$4,800.

KVSC (St. Cloud): Untold Stories of Central Minnesota: Program Costs: \$37,824.62; **KVSC and GREAT Theatre's radio production of Sasparella Trauffea is Dancing:** Program Costs: \$3,073.96; **Granite City Radio Theatre:** Program Costs: \$29,700.92.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): Pioneer PolkaCast KSRQ HD-2: Program Costs: \$34,810.00; **Voices of the Theater:** Program Costs: \$9,194.00; **Artist Spotlight:** Program Costs: \$9,268.00; **Nordic Fest Radio:** Program Costs: \$2,574.00; **Minnesota Music Oddities:** Program Costs: \$2,500.00; **Community Voices:** Program Costs: \$13,459.00.

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): Nijii's Minnesota Mixdown Series: Program Costs: \$11,372.90, Administrative Costs: \$351.72; **Ojibwe Arts Rising:** Program Costs: \$8,571.91, Administrative Costs: \$225.00; **Taste of Talent on the Road:** Program Costs: \$3,795.09; **Cultural Exchange:** Program Costs: \$2,386.17, Administrative Costs: \$65.00.

KQAL (Winona): Art Beat: Program Costs: \$15,300.00; **Culture Clique:** Program Costs: \$15,300.00; **The Live Feed:** Program Costs: \$28,050.00; **The Sound:** Program Costs: \$17,000.00; **Don't Cha Know & Arts and Entertainment Download:** Program Costs: \$9,350.00.

Ampers (Statewide): MN90: Minnesota History in 90 Seconds: Program Costs: \$69,954.45, Administrative Costs: \$336.45; **Minnesota Native News:** Program Costs: \$78,652.95, Administrative Costs: \$395.24; **Native Lights Podcast, Where Indigenous Voices Shine:** Program Costs: \$57,248.47, Administrative Costs: \$287.68; **Ampers Digital Archive, Website, and Social Media:** Program Costs: \$19,826.31, Administrative Costs: \$99.63; **ACHF Legislative Report and Station Support:** Program Costs: \$51,502.31 Administrative Costs: \$252,366.81; **Veterans' Voices: Honoring Those Who Served in the 20th Century:** Program Costs: \$837.85; **Minnesota Native News Teachers' Workshop:** Program Costs: \$2,948.21; **Counter Stories:** Program Costs: \$47,132.52, Administrative Costs: \$236.85; **Dakota Voices:** Program Costs: \$1,790; **Racial Reckoning: Bearing Witness:** Program Costs: \$33,810.22, Administrative Costs: \$169.90; **Racial Reckoning: Ground Zero Documentary:** Program Costs: \$23,318.34, Administrative Costs: \$117.18.

INVESTMENTS IN OUR STUDENTS

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): interviewed one student about her Growing Our Future initiative on **Area Voices**. Another student created a Change.org petition regarding the school schedule changes during the pandemic on **Visiting During the New Norm**.

KUMD (Duluth): had one student who assisted with posting web content for all projects. One student helped with the production of **In the Spirit of Medicine**. Another student helped schedule guests for **Minnesota Reads**.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): Engaged eight students to work on **MPS Voices**.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): Two high school students produced stories as paid contractors for their **10,000 Fresh Voices** project.

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): paid nine University of Minnesota students for **North Star Stories** throughout the course of the yearlong project. Work done included: Managing Editor and Host, Associate Reporters, and Beat Reporters. These student positions interviewed various individuals and edited their audio into a package that was aired over-the-air and made available as a podcast on PRX and iTunes. Project work also included web engineer for digital uploads and storage.

KVSC (St. Cloud): 13 students worked with sound engineer, studio host, on-stage emcee, promotional production, stage crew, lighting technicians, social media/event design elements and fill crew for the three episodes of **Granite City Radio Theatre** produced.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): engaged 23 students that acted or sang in different productions of **Reader's Theater**.

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): had 12 students assist in the hand drum making for **Ojibwe Arts Rising**.

KQAL (Winona): three students worked with KQAL's program coordinator during the **Live Feed** events. Students would divide and conquer the larger music fests in Winona (Mid-West Music Fest, Karate Camp, or Boats & Bluegrass). Students would be assigned a certain band(s) or artist to interview, record their set, and then edit for air. As a part of their production, the students would produce their open and close, re-introductory bridges, and the show's promotional announcement.



Phil Savage shows Nett Lake elementary students how to etch birchbark



More than 60 students across the state helped to produce or participated in ACHF programming

INVESTMENTS IN JOBS FOR MINNESOTANS

Ampers (Statewide): 2.70 FTEs (four full-time) and 27 contract employees

KBXE (Bagley/Bemidji): 0.8 FTEs (ten full-time employees and one part-time employee) and one contract employee.

KBFT (Bois Forte/Nett Lake): 0.75 FTEs (two full-time employee), 38 contract employees and 63 artists/performers/musicians.

KUMD (Duluth): 1.12 FTEs (four full-time employees and one part-time employee) and one contract employee.

WTIP (Grand Marais/Gunflint Trail/Grand Portage): 1.31 FTEs (six full-time employees and one part-time employee), five contract employees and 40 artists/performers/musicians.

KAXE (Grand Rapids/Brainerd): 0.37 FTEs (ten full-time employees and one part-time), eight contract employees and 72 artists/performers/musicians.

KMSU (Mankato): 0 FTEs (no full-time employee and no part-time employees), five contract employees and 47 artists/performers/musicians.

KBEM/Jazz88 (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 0.06 FTEs (one part-time employee), 12 contract employees and 9 artists/performers/musicians.

KFAI (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 0.04 FTEs (three full-time employee), 27 contract employees and 26 artists/performers/musicians.

KMOJ (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 0.88 FTEs (1 full-time employee) and five contract employees and seven artists/performers/musicians

KUOM/Radio K (Minneapolis/St. Paul): 1.83 FTEs (three full-time employees and 14 part-time employees).

KVSC (St. Cloud): 0.5 FTEs (one full-time employee), 23 contract employees and 15 artists/performers/musicians.

KSRQ (Thief River Falls): .92 FTEs (two full-time employees and one part-time employees), one contract employees and four artists/performers/musicians.

KKWE (White Earth/Callaway): 0.26 FTEs (one full-time employees and three part-time employees) four contract employees and 35 performers/artists/musicians.

KQAL (Winona): 1.45 FTEs (one full-time employee and two part-time employee)



Ampers and the stations used Legacy funds to pay 318 artists, 141 contractors, and at least partially supporting 23 part-time and 48 full-time employees.

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NOTE: KUMD, being part of the University of Minnesota, also has the University of Minnesota Board of Regents as its governing body.

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