FLORIDA MATTERS – FOURTH QUARTER, 2023
Florida Matters Quarterly report Oct. 1- Dec. 31, 2023
Time aired: Tuesdays at 6:30 – 7 p.m. on WUSF 89.7 FM; Monday at 10 – 10:30 p.m.
on WSMR 89.1 FM

The best Florida Matters episodes of 2023
Dec 26, 2023
Florida Matters revisits some favorite episodes from 2023, including conversations
about hurricanes and political storms, education, population growth and baseball.
(Politics, government, education, growth, extreme weather, sports)

How presidential politics could shape Florida’s legislative session
Dec 19, 2023
State lawmakers start the legislative session soon. They will be working alongside Ron
DeSantis, the governor and presidential candidate, crafting new laws on education, the
environment, business and much more. (Government, politics, education, environment,
business, transportation)

Combating the surge in youth gun violence in Florida
Dec 12, 2023
Youth advocates are working hard to defuse the trauma of gun violence in Florida, even
as more kids are caught with guns. (Law and order, gun control, minorities, government,
politics)

Florida Humanities celebrates 50 years sharing stories of our state
Dec 5, 2023
The mission of Florida Humanities is to help Floridians make sense of this complex,
dynamic state by elevating stories about its culture, history and literature. A new book,
"Once Upon a Time in Florida," celebrates the organization's golden anniversary.
(History, education, cultural issues, minority rights)
How journalists can rebuild trust in the media and fight misinformation
Nov 28, 2023
The public’s trust in the news media is slipping. It’s not just a problem for newsrooms: researchers say trust is also dropping for science, higher education and government as well. (Public information, media, education, government, science)

How consumer confidence could affect holiday shopping
Nov 21, 2023
Black Friday, the traditional start of the holiday shopping season, is just days away. (Business, cultural issues)

How Floridians can unwind Medicaid and untangle Medicare
Nov 14, 2023
Florida Matters looks at how to navigate open enrollment for Medicare. And we explore what Medicaid ‘unwinding’ means for hundreds of thousands of Floridians. (Health care, government, politics, income disparity)

Southwest Florida’s Babcock Ranch offers lessons in resilience and sustainability
Nov 7, 2023
Babcock Ranch in Southwest Florida offers a vision for resilient, sustainable design, even in the face of climate change, a booming population and a precarious insurance market. (Business, growth, extreme weather, climate change, environment, property insurance)

A look at Ybor City’s history in the midst of urban renewal
Oct 31, 2023
While a recent shooting in Ybor City may put the Tampa neighborhood in the spotlight, Ybor has a long and rich history and was instrumental in shaping the city of Tampa. The cigar industry was lured from revolutionary Cuba and became home to the city’s economic and power base. (History, minority issues, culture, Hispanic heritage)

Why Halloween has been scaring up some serious business
Oct 24, 2023
Halloween has become one of the biggest single-day holidays of the year. Amid other festive fall celebrations, Halloween is a chance to get spooky, scary, and maybe a little weird. (Business, cultural issues)

Changes are swirling around Florida’s public schools
Oct 17, 2023
Debates over parental rights, school choice and what should be taught in public schools have embroiled state lawmakers and local school districts. (Education, parental rights, school boards, politics)

Tampa Bay region’s Hispanic-owned businesses face challenges - and opportunities
Oct 10, 2023
Florida’s economy is booming, and Hispanic-owned businesses are contributing to that growth. (Hispanic issues, business, economics)

The race to protect Florida’s Wildlife Corridor
Oct 3, 2023
More than half of the Florida Wildlife Corridor’s 18 million acres is protected conservation land. But that leaves a lot of land vulnerable to development. (Environment, government, politics, growth)