

WBGO (88.3 FM) ASCERTAINMENT: ISSUE-RESPONSE PROGRAMMING FROM WBGO

For the Period: January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020

TOPICS ADDRESSED

Arts and Culture

Business and Economy

Health Care

Crime

Education

Environment

Government and State Agencies

Politics

Technology

Race and Ethnicity

Arts and Culture

WBGO Journal: The "New Normal" For Jazz Performance During The Coronavirus Pandemic

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/wbgo-journal-new-normal-jazz-performance-during-coronavirus-pandemic>

With people being filled with anxiety, stress, depression and isolation, jazz musicians have been doing their part to try and bring "live" music to them via digital content and live streaming.

Nate Chinen, WBGO's Director of Editorial Content, chats with News Director Doug

Doyle about why music is so important during difficult times and how WBGO is also responding to the demand for digital content through the [Livestream Hub from WBGO](#).

Broadway Actor and South Orange Resident Dwayne Clark Launches New Children's Book Series

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/broadway-actor-and-south-orange-resident-dwayne-clark-launches-new-childrens-book-series>

Broadway actor Dwayne Clark, who was born in Newark, has been hard at work as he and his wife Janeece are helping their kids, Jana and DJ, deal with on-line school instruction while schools are closed due to the coronavirus pandemic. Clark has also launched a children's book series based on his experiences with his children and family.

Laiona Michelle Revisits Her Acclaimed Nina Simone Tribute, in a One-Night-Only Concert

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/laiona-michelle-revisits-her-acclaimed-nina-simone-tribute-one-night-only-concert>

Laiona Michelle, who dazzled audiences in in last year's George Street Playhouse production of her *Little Girl Blue: The Nina Simone Musical*, returns for a one-night only performance at the New Brunswick Performing Arts Center on March 19 at 7:30pm in the Elizabeth Ross Johnson Theater.

Two River Theater and WBGO Team Up for Live Discussion of August Wilson's 'Radio Golf'

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/two-river-theater-and-wbgo-team-live-discussion-august-wilsons-radio-golf>

Obie Award-winning actor and director Brandon J. Dirden (*King Hedley II*, *Seven Guitars*) returns to Two River Theater in Red Bank, N.J., to direct the theater's sixth production from playwright August Wilson's *The American Century Cycle*.

Radio Golf is the Cycle's 10th and final play, set in 1997 in Pittsburgh's Hill District. It will run from Feb. 29 through March 22 at Two River's Joan and Robert Rechnittz Theater in Red Bank, N.J.

Newark Filmmaker Traces African Roots In Award-Winning Documentary

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/newark-filmmaker-traces-african-roots-award-winning-documentary>

Ang Santos: Joining us on the WBGO Journal we have Nware Rahsaan Burge, he's a Newark based film maker whose documentary *D.N.A.-Using Genealogy To Change My (Slave) Last Name* has been making the rounds at film festivals and screening February 13th at Kean University, thanks for joining us.

Nware Rahsaan Burge: Thank you.

AS: Born in New Jersey raised in Newark to my understanding.

Business and Economy

As the Jazz Industry Takes a Brutal Hit, Artists and Advocates Band Together

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/jazz-industry-takes-brutal-hit-artists-and-advocates-band-together>

Just last week, guitarist Pat Metheny finished the Australia and New Zealand leg of an international concert tour, in support of his new album. Then his band flew on to South America and learned that a remaining slew of dates — in Brazil and Chile, and all over Europe — had been canceled due to the coronavirus.

Urbanational is Creating a Global Network of Changemakers

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/urbanational-creating-global-network-changemakers>

CEO & Founder of [Urbanational](#), Clarissa Cummings hosted the first Bakeran Supper in Newark. Prompted by the [Jeffersonian Dinner](#) concept, a Bakeran Supper honors activist Ella Baker's approach to meaningful community building. A curated, invite-only event hosted by Urbanational, a Bakeran Supper brings together 10 urban changemakers around a dinner table of great food and stimulating conversation.

Jodi Peterson-Stigers Escalates Her Passion for Helping the Homeless During the Coronavirus Pandemic

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/jodi-peterson-stigers-escalates-her-passion-helping-homeless-during-coronavirus-pandemic>

While jazz singer, songwriter and saxophonist Curtis Stigers' touring schedule is on hold because of the coronavirus pandemic, his wife Jodi Peterson-Stigers continues to go to work in Boise, Idaho.

Jodi is the Executive Director of Interfaith Sanctuary. The shelter serves people of all genders, races, religions, and sexual orientation, as well as families with children, by providing a safe overnight emergency bed and practical services to transition out of homelessness.

Health Care

NYC Reporter Alice Stockton-Rossini says "We Should Be Testing Everybody" for Coronavirus

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/nyc-reporter-alice-stockton-rossini-says-we-should-be-testing-everybody-coronavirus>

As veteran New York City radio reporter Alice Stockton-Rossini is dealing with her parents testing positive for the coronavirus, she says people should be demanding that everyone be tested.

Stockton-Rossini's mother was the first in the family to be diagnosed with the coronavirus. While Alice has not been tested, she has experienced nearly all of the symptoms.

Stockton-Rossini spoke to WBGO's News Director Doug Doyle and talked about how the coronavirus has impacted nearly her entire family in Ocean County.

Bridges is Continuing to Serve Newark's Homeless During the Coronavirus Pandemic

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/bridges-continuing-serve-newarks-homeless-during-coronavirus-pandemic>

The non-profit organization Bridges was founded in 1988 with its mission to end homelessness through volunteer-driven outreach and individual case management focusing on health, housing and independence.

Bridges Executive Director Rich Uniacke spoke with WBGO News Director Doug Doyle about how the organization is handling the coronavirus pandemic and the need for donations.

The Coronavirus Pandemic's Impact on the Healthcare Community and its Workers

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/coronavirus-pandemics-impact-healthcare-community-and-its-workers>

Throughout the nation local and state governments are working around the clock to come up with ways to continue delivering vital services while they slow the advance of the coronavirus and tend to the rapidly growing cases of the virus. Currently our region is the leading national hotspot for this unprecedented outbreak.

Backpacks For Life Co-Founders Sgt. Brett D'Alessandro and Alexa Modero

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/backpacks-life-co-founders-sgt-brett-dalessandro-and-alexa-modero>

Marine Sgt. Brett D'Alessandro and his partner Alexa Modero started the non-profit Backpacks For Life in 2014. The couple wanted to work with homeless veterans who are struggling and don't have any knowledge of the resources available to them.

D'Alessandro and Modero came into the studios of WBGO to speak with News Director Doug Doyle about Backpacks For Life and why they've been able to help so many veterans over the years.

Crime

January Edition of "Ask Governor Murphy" Addresses U-S vs. Iran Relations and State Matters

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/january-edition-ask-governor-murphy-addresses-u-s-vs-iran-relations-and-state-matters>

The latest edition of Ask Governor Murphy, hosted by WNYC's Nancy Solomon, focused on several key topics including how Governor Murphy feels about the U.S. airstrike that killed an Iranian General, increased reports of sexual assaults in state government and the recent increase in hate crimes.

Ask Governor Murphy is a WBGO News production in collaboration with WHYY and WNYC. The monthly show originates from the WBGO studios in Newark.

During the show, the number to call is 844-677-9283, or on social media with #askgovmurphy.

Commentator Mildred Antenor: "What about the Opioid Epidemic in Black Communities?"

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/commentator-mildred-antenor-what-about-opioid-epidemic-black-communities>

WBGO commentator Mildred Antenor is tired of hearing only about the opioid epidemic destroying those who live in wealthy white rural communities. Antenor says although the numbers show that opioid victims in the black community tend to be fewer than that of white

communities, minorities who are addicted to opioids tend to get little or no help in comparison to caucasians with the same drug addiction.

Click above to hear her commentary.

Education

Recent Study Shows Some Newark Charter Schools Bring Big Gains To Test Scores

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/recent-study-shows-some-newark-charter-schools-bring-big-gains-test-scores>

Ang Santos: Your study looks at data from the years 2014 to 2018 and shows students who enrolled at schools run by Newark's two largest charter operators saw improved and lasting gains in test scores, what was the process for coming to that conclusion?

If Youth Ran The City of Newark

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/if-youth-ran-city-newark>

If the youth ran the city of Newark, what would they change? Students of Great Oaks Legacy Charter High School are answering this question. Sophia Domeville is educating the youth in Newark on how they can create the world the way they would like to see it and using art as the gateway to realize what is possible.

World War Two Veteran Bob Max's Long March Home

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/world-war-two-veteran-bob-maxs-long-march-home>

An impressive military uniform displaying a Purple Heart and other medals of valor, dog tags with the Star of David on them, war-time letters to his parents and pictures chronicling the life of an American hero...it's all part of the new exhibit at the New Jersey Historical Society in Newark titled *The Long March Home: A World War II Story*.

40th Annual Marion Thompson Wright Lecture Set For Feb. 15 at Rutgers-Newark

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/40th-annual-marion-thompson-wright-lecture-set-feb-15-rutgers-newark>

"Black Futures: What Seems to Be, Need Not Be" is the theme of the [40th annual Marion Thompson Wright \(MTW\) Lecture Series](#). The Clement A. Price Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience is presenting the scholarly day-long event on Feb. 15 in the Paul Robeson Campus Center at Rutgers University-Newark.

Environment

As Newark Replaces Lead Service Lines, Advocates Say Residents Are Still At Risk

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/newark-replaces-lead-service-lines-advocates-say-residents-are-still-risk>

These advocates say they dedicate a lot of their time towards improving water quality in Newark. Between full time jobs, parenting, the struggle is...

"O wow, the struggle is real," says Newark activist, parent and social worker Shakima Thomas. "Keeping people involved is a difficult task because people are concerned with what is going on now in their lives. What they can see or actively change in the moment."

Thomas explains that the difficulty with treating lead in drinking water and its negative effects on health takes time.

Addressing Combined Sewer Overflow in Newark

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/addressing-combined-sewer-overflow-newark>

It's after dark on a school night, and families gather in the Hawkins Elementary School cafeteria for a pasta dinner hosted by Ironbound Community Corporation. But they're not just here to eat.

"Tonight we're going to talk about our sewer system and specifically what combined sewer overflow is. Then we're going to talk about what the city is doing to solve this problem and get your feedback on it."

That's Drew Curtis of ICC is standing in front of a projector displaying statistics about the City of Newark's Sewer System. Heads nod and comments flow as Drew speaks.

Newark Meetings Give Wards Lead Service Line Replacement Updates

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/newark-meetings-give-wards-lead-service-line-replacement-updates>

It's a weeknight in Newark's West Ward. Roughly two dozen residents sit patiently waiting for city Department of Water and Sewer Utilities officials to start a presentation.

"About the water updates and the lead service line replacement discussion," announces a city official, asking residents to take their seats.

"My home has been tested," said Daniel Gibson, a retired West Ward resident. "I do have a lead service line and I'm awaiting the city coming in to take it out."

Government and State Agencies

Governor Cuomo Orders 100% of Non-Essential Workers Home

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/governor-cuomo-orders-100-non-essential-workers-home>

There are more than seven thousand coronavirus cases in New York State as of Friday. More than half of them are in New York City.

With the numbers increasing, Governor Cuomo is ordering all employees to work from home. The governor says only essential businesses will be able to have workers in the office or on the job site.

"There will be a civil fine and mandatory closure for any business not in compliance."

Coronavirus Pandemic Concerns Grow For Government Employees

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/coronavirus-pandemic-concerns-grow-government-employees>

A WBGO Conversation with News Director Doug Doyle and Bob Hennelly.

Doyle: Here in the United States local and state public health officials were scrambling this week in their efforts to get ahead of the coronavirus pandemic which has already killed over 1,000 people in Italy and over 4,000 in the rest of the world with close to 50 here in the U.S. After weeks of messaging from the Trump administrations that the coronavirus was like the flu, Dr. Anthony Fauci, the nation's top epidemiologist, shared some sobering news when he testified before Congress this week.

Coronavirus Update: New Jersey and New York Cases Grow as Health Officials say "Don't Panic"

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/coronavirus-update-new-jersey-and-new-york-cases-grow-health-officials-say-dont-panic>

There are at least 33 coronavirus cases in New York State. Governor Cuomo says that number is expected to rise but he's urging people not to panic.

Meanwhile, New Jersey has at least its third case of coronavirus ... the first in South Jersey. The patient is a Camden County resident. Officials say the man in his 60s is currently hospitalized in stable condition.

Two other people who tested positive for coronavirus are quarantined in hospitals in Bergen County. Acting Governor Sheila Oliver says the state was ready.

Politics

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WBGO News Voices Fellow Brit Harley to Facilitate MSU's "Voting Block" Dinners In Newark

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/wbgo-news-voices-fellow-brit-harley-facilitate-msus-voting-block-dinners-newark>

The Center For Cooperative Media at Montclair State University is in the midst of its latest Voting Block initiative which is designed to amplify the voices of people who live in various cities. This time Voting Block is focusing on Paterson, Newark and Camden.

Voting Block's Manya Brachear Pashman came into the WBGO studios to talk to WBGO News Director Doug Doyle about the project and WBGO's News Voices Fellow Brit Harley's role as a facilitator in the Newark part of the grant-funded initiative.

Technology

Elevate Ski Exoskeleton Helping People with Bad Knees to Ski Pain Free

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/elevate-ski-exoskeleton-helping-people-bad-knees-ski-pain-free>

Time now for a winter sports story with a high-tech twist. This winter ski resorts in the western U.S. are renting a lightweight exoskeleton that enables skiers with bad knees to shred the slopes pain-free.

Roam Robotics has designed a new suit that is more cost affordable and not as heavy as earlier models.

WBGO's Jon Kalish brings us encouraging news for those who miss the slopes on the East Coast.

Click above to hear Jon's feature.

New Homes for the ARChive of Contemporary Music in Manhattan

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/new-homes-archive-contemporary-music-manhattan>

The ARChive of Contemporary Music in Manhattan has a collection of popular music that rivals that of the Library of Congress: more than three million recordings.

The archive is independent and gets no money from state or local governments. Because of rising rents, the archive is being forced to vacate its headquarters. But news of its predicament brought offers from all over the country and the archive has just announced that it will be moving to two different locations outside of the city.

Click above to hear Jon Kalish's feature.

Race and Ethnicity

"The Last Negroes at Harvard" Chronicles the Class of 1963

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/last-negroes-harvard-chronicles-class-1963>

A new book titled *The Last Negroes At Harvard* chronicles the lives of 18 African-Americans who were part of Harvard University's Class of 1963.

Kent Garrett, the book's co-author, was one of them. WBGO's Jon Kalish caught up with Garrett and one of his classmates from Harvard.

Click above to hear the story.

'Songs From A Dream: The Music of Adar Broshi' Honors a Talent Gone Far Too Soon

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/songs-dream-music-adar-broshi-honors-talent-gone-far-too-soon>

Pianist Adar Broshi died at 19 on April 5, 2019, after two and a half years of fighting a rare childhood cancer. During that heroic battle, Broshi wrote and recorded music.

Some of those songs — combining feelings of joy, uncertainty and the will to fight on — appear on a new album by the Avi Adrian Trio, [Songs From A Dream: The Music of Adar Broshi](#).

SportsJam with Doug Doyle: "Willie" Documentary Director Laurence Mathieu-Leger

<https://www.wbgo.org/post/sportsjam-doug-doyle-willie-documentary-director-laurence-mathieu-leger>

Laurence Mathieu-Leger and Bryant McBride's critically acclaimed documentary [Willie](#) is now airing on *ESPN* in celebration of Black History Month. It's the incredible story of trailblazer and Hockey Hall of Famer Willie O'Ree.

Mathieu-Leger's first feature length documentary about the NHL's first black player has already won several awards during its festival run, including the Hot Docs Film Festival's Top 5 Audience Favorite and the Downtown LA Film Festival's Best Sports Documentary.

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