

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

For the Period: January 1, 2021 to March 31, 2021

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

Pioneering Bassist and Guitarist Carol Kaye Surveys Her Career in Music, Including Her Time in Jazz Clubs (61:07)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-03-18/womens-history-month-interview-pioneering-bassist-and-guitarist-carol-kaye-talks-about-her-amazing-career-in-music-including-her-early-days-in-jazz-clubs>

Legendary composer Quincy Jones is quoted as saying "Carol Kaye is the best bassist I've ever heard" and wrote in his book *Q* that "Some women jazz musicians were so great, they would leave the men in the dust with their playing."

One of those women is bassist and guitarist Carol Kaye who recorded more than 10-thousand record dates and film calls and was the top call on electric bass from 1964 to at least 1973.

Kaye is a pioneer in creating bass style and is recognized and endorsed as a lead in bass teaching for decades. She's still teaching on Skype as well as writing, producing, and publishing educational bass and guitars books and courses.

While there were as many as 400 working studio musicians in LA in the 1960's, Kaye was the only woman that was part of an elite group of 50-60 musicians that played on hit after hit on various music charts.

In interview with WBGO News Director Doug Doyle, Kaye stressed she was never intimidated by the men around her.

Chick Corea's Legacy on WBGO (7:23)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-02-13/chick-coreas-legacy-on-wbgo>

The Jazz and music world continues to mourn the loss of one its most beloved artists. Pianist, keyboardist, composer and Bandleader Chick Corea. Corea died on Wednesday, February 10 from a rare form of cancer that was diagnosed just recently.

Corea is a revered figure in contemporary jazz but is also an artist whose work spanned fusion to classical. He was 79.

[WBGO has many specials planned this month to celebrate Corea's impact of the world and this station.](#)

WBGO Partners with the Jazz Foundation of America to Help Musicians Impacted by COVID-19 (30:49)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-03-20/wbgo-partners-with-the-jazz-foundation-of-america-to-help-musicians-impacted-by-covid-19>

Now in its 32nd year, the **Jazz Foundation of America** is a national non-profit providing compassionate, personalized and discreet support to jazz, blues and roots musicians in need, as a result of age, illness or circumstance. Support includes emergency financial, pro-bono medical, rent and mortgage assistance, disaster relief, counseling, instrument repair and replacement, and much more.

JFA Executive Director **Joe Petrucelli** and co-artistic Director and Grammy award-winning drummer, producer and composer **Steve Jordan** spoke with WBGO News Director Doug Doyle to talk about a special fundraising partnership.

Business and Economy

Curfew Status for Bars and Restaurants in NJ and NYC (2:04)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-02-06/curfew-status-for-bars-and-restaurants-in-nj-and-nyc>

WBGO Journal host Doug Doyle reports on the latest curfew restrictions for NYC and NJ.

Downtown Woodbridge's Special Improvement District Making Big Strides during a Pandemic (25:30)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-01-23/downtown-woodbridges-special-improvement-district-making-big-strides-during-a-pandemic>

Despite facing a coronavirus pandemic and all the tight restrictions in place, two members of the Downtown Woodbridge Special Improvement District say they're extremely excited about what's happening there.

The District's President Vito Mazza, owner of Vito Mazza Salon and Spa, and Woodbridge Councilwoman Nancy Drumm joined WBGO Journal host Doug Doyle to talk about why they are so optimistic about the downtown of Woodbridge.

While Mazza says he's thrilled with recent changes to the downtown area, COVID-19 has been a challenge.

Jazz Clubs Reaching Out for Help during Coronavirus Pandemic (16:33)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-01-07/jazz-clubs-reaching-out-for-help-during-coronavirus-pandemic>

Birdland recently joined the list of endangered jazz venues using a [GoFundMe campaign](#) to try and survive.

WBGO's Director of Editorial Content, author and award-winning jazz writer and columnist Nate Chinen recently [wrote a news story](#) about the club's financial struggles.

Chinen spoke with WBGO News Director Doug Doyle about the future of jazz clubs and the support of the Broadway community, as well as WBGO's newest podcast, Jazz United.

Healthcare

Praise and Concern over COVID-19 Vaccination Plans and Restrictions in New Jersey and NYC (4:12)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-03-13/praise-and-concern-over-covid-19-vaccination-plans-and-restrictions-in-new-jersey-and-nyc>

New York City officials are criticizing new coronavirus quarantine rules that the state has put out. WBGO's Scott Pringle reports.

New York City officials are criticizing new coronavirus quarantine guidelines put out by the state. State guidelines now say starting April 1st domestic travelers will no longer be required to quarantine when coming to New York State. Mayor de Blasio says he was shocked when he got word of that.

"I don't know if that's the state's idea of an April fool's joke but it's absolutely the wrong thing to do. It's reckless. It doesn't help us with our recovery."

NYC Health Officials Dispute Report of New Variant Spread (0:36)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-02-25/nyc-health-officials-dispute-report-of-new-variant-spread>

New York City health officials are pushing back against a report showing a new coronavirus variant is rapidly spreading there.

The New York Times cited research suggesting this new variant is quickly spreading and vaccines may be less effective against it. But New York City Health Commissioner Dr. Dave Chokshi said he disagreed because, he said, not enough is known about what he called the New York variant.

"We don't have any evidence at this point that this New York variant, the B.1.526 is what is contributing to the trajectory of cases," he said. Chokshi went on to say that there are no indications so far that this strain spreads more easily, causes more severe illness or reduces vaccine effectiveness.

Dr. Jay Varma, the mayor's top advisor for public health, called this a variant of interest that the city is tracking, saying more data and studies are needed. He said it doesn't change anything about the city's public health concern.

WBGO's Alexandra Hill Documents Vaccine Journey (1:48)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-02-11/wbgos-alexandra-hill-documents-vaccine-journey>

After covering the pandemic for more than a year WBGO's Alexandra Hill is one of the first on our staff to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Alexandra documented the experience as she received the second and final dose of the Moderna shot at the former Kmart location in West Orange New Jersey.

Crime

Newark Mayor Ras Baraka and L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti Help Launch the Community Based Public Safety Association (4:57)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-03-27/newark-mayor-ras-baraka-and-la-mayor-eric-garcetti-help-launch-the-community-based-public-safety-association>

A big announcement this week regarding a new first-of-its-kind association of community-based public safety and violence prevention programs. Newark Mayor Ras Baraka and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti joined key leaders and organizations representing major U.S. cities on a Zoom chat to announce the formation of the Community Based Public Safety Association.

The goal is to connect efforts from across the country to help advance pathways to safety that complement policing and reform the criminal justice system at a national scale. Mayor Baraka says community-based public safety efforts in his city have made a difference.

Introduction to WBGO Resident Reporter Tia Ryans' New Series "Hiding in Plain Sight: Neighbors You Never Hear From" (12:53)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-03-13/introduction-into-wbgo-resident-reporter-tia-ryans-new-series-hiding-in-plain-sight-neighbors-you-never-hear-from>

WBGO resident reporter Tia Ryans is the Founding Executive Director of F.O.R.T.E. (Forcing Out Recidivism Through Education) House.

Ryans says she is not the only neighbor you have passed that has re-entry experience. In her role at F.O.R.T.E. House, Ryans provides a healthy and stable living environment for formerly incarcerated students transitioning from incarceration through post-secondary education. Ryans got her bachelor's degree in Political Science from Rutgers University-Newark.

Her new series is called "**Hiding in Plain Sight: The Neighbors You Never Hear From**". The series will take you on the journey of re-entry through first-hand experiences.

Tia sat down recently with **Nelson Gonzalez**, who served a 17-year prison sentence and was released in November of last year. In this in-depth interview, we hear about Gonzalez's journey of what he described as "becoming a man." From childhood sexual abuse, gang involvement and his love for God....Gonzalez reveals in this interview... how he weaved through all of that as an impressionable young man.

Three corrections officers charged in January attack at N.J. women's prison (1:00)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-02-05/three-corrections-officers-charged-in-january-attack-at-n-j-womens-prison>

New Jersey prosecutors have filed charges against three correctional police officers for beating female prisoners the night of Jan. 11 at Edna Mahan Correctional Facility for Women.

Officials said the late-night attacks at the prison in Hunterdon County left the victims with scratches, concussions, and at least one orbital fracture.

According to Attorney General Gurbir Grewal, corrections officers had organized into "extraction teams" to remove prisoners from their cells.

Per state policy, prisoners are supposed to be given the chance to leave their cells freely, and if they don't, corrections officers are only permitted to use as much force as is necessary to remove them. That was not what happened, Grewal said during a Thursday afternoon virtual press conference to announce the charges.

Education

Challenging Times for Online Learning in Newark (5:50)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-03-06/challenging-times-for-online-learning-in-newark>

One year after the coronavirus pandemic shuttered classrooms around the country and the world, a new NPR/Ipsos poll find U.S. parents are guardedly optimistic about the academic and social development of their children.

62% of parents say their child's education has been disrupted. And, more than 4 out of 5 would like to see schools provide targeted extra services to help their kids catch up. This includes just over half of parents who support the idea of summer school. **WBGO resident reporter and dad James Frazier** has more on what parents and students having been facing during remote learning.

This feature is part of Newark News and Story Collaborative made possible by grants from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation and the Victoria Foundation.

Camden's 'Hoodbrarian' brings love of books to her community (3:24)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-02-28/camdens-hoodbrarian-brings-love-of-books-to-her-community>

Danielle Jackson credits her grandmother for helping to instill a love of reading in her.

"It's something that my grandmother kind of gifted to the family," said Jackson.

"My grandmother has a Black history collection. They are hard copy books, but it's everyone from Maya Angelou to ... Eartha Kitt to Lena Horne. It is everybody that you could think of in this collection that I've been looking at since I was a little girl."

Her grandmother's collection is now among the hundreds of books the lifelong Camden resident shares with her community as "[The Hoodbrarian](#)."

Cicely Tyson and Rosa Parks: Their Special Day Together in East Orange (10:43)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-01-29/cicely-tyson-and-rosa-parks-their-special-day-together-in-east-orange>

I can still feel the incredible and infectious spirit that pioneering actress Cicely Tyson displayed during a visit to the school named in her honor. Word of Tyson's death this week brought back powerful memories of the best event I covered in my 37 years of reporting in New Jersey.

The special day was June 11, 1999 at the Cicely Tyson School of Performing and Fine Arts in East Orange, New Jersey. The event was created to honor civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks.

Teen Auditions Sought for Tiny Shakes: Romeo and Juliet at Two River Theater (27:49)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-02-06/teen-auditions-sought-for-tiny-shakes-romeo-and-juliet-at-two-river-theater>

Two River Theater's most popular education program in Red Bank, New Jersey is creating something entirely new with *Tiny Shakes: Romeo and Juliet*, adapted and directed by Em Weinstein (A Little Shakespeare: *Twelfth Night*).

Weinstein and Two River's Education Director Kate Cordaro joined WBGO Journal host Doug Doyle to talk about the exciting and creative break from the theater's A Little Shakespeare productions.

Because of the limitations of 2021 and coronavirus pandemic, *Tiny Shakes* brings high school students (audition submissions due March 1) from all over the country together with a professional design team, with students performing and supporting the production behind the scenes.

Environment

Newark To Create Housing Out Of Shipping Containers As Homelessness Worsens Amid Pandemic (7:09)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-01-22/newark-to-create-housing-out-of-shipping-containers-as-homelessness-worsens-amid-pandemic>

The city of Newark, in partnership with its homeless coalition, led by community organizer/activist Kym Gilchrist and Central Ward Councilwoman LaMonica McIver, held a day of service event to mark the MLK holiday, providing hot meals, COVID and HIV testing, as well as other wraparound services. Its all part of the city's ongoing efforts to address homelessness.

WBGO's [Alexandra Hill](#) reports on the city's ongoing efforts to provide services as well as new and innovative alternatives to the traditional shelter system, through recently announced plans to create temporary housing out of shipping containers.

Cleaning Effort Being Ramped Up In New York City (0:36)

<https://www.wbgo.org/news/2021-03-30/cleaning-effort-being-ramped-up-in-new-york-city>

There's a big effort underway to clean up New York City.

Assemblywoman Latoya Joiner of the Bronx says there are areas in her district that look unrecognizable throughout the pandemic. She's gotten a lot of complaints but is relieved to hear about the cleanup effort.

"These critical services are deeply needed and deeply welcomed. We saw illegal dumping, overflowing trash bins and many felt left behind and ignored."

Mayor de Blasio says resources have been tight but says significant funding is being restored. That will mean an additional 100 sanitation trucks. Crews will be resuming Sunday pickups and going after illegal dumpers and cleaning areas that have been trashed.

Pallone Outlines Congress' Environmental Goals Under Biden (0:44)

<https://www.wbgo.org/news/2021-01-25/pallone-outlines-congress-environmental-goals-under-biden>

Congress is looking at a more ambitious environmental agenda with the Biden Administration.

New Jersey's Frank Pallone, whose district includes New Brunswick, Edison and Piscataway and is chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, held an online event with environmental

activists to discuss environmental legislation passed at year-end and to talk about Congress' goals for the environment going forward.

Pallone said that legislation passed at the end of 2020 calls for phasing out potent greenhouse gases that lead to global warming. "The Biden Administration is now going to implement this phasedown that basically positions American industry to lead a global transition to cleaner alternatives and creates at the same time thousands of new manufacturing jobs," said Pallone, who called this one of the most significant actions Congress has taken to combat global warming.

Government and State Agencies

Recreational marijuana is legal in N.J. What happens now? (3:44)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-03-05/recreational-marijuana-is-legal-in-n-j-what-happens-now>

Recreational marijuana is finally legal in the Garden State.

After a failed bid to pass recreational marijuana in the state legislature, a statewide ballot question overwhelmingly approved by voters, and then disputes over how the new system would look, Gov. Phil Murphy signed three new laws last month effectively legalizing weed for personal use.

But what does that mean?

Many aspects of this new paradigm — from the legal marketplace to the implications for policing to the expungement of past convictions — remain hazy.

New Jersey Lt. Gov Sheila Oliver Joins Newark Today Broadcast (59:00)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-02-17/new-jersey-lt-gov-sheila-oliver-joins-newark-today-broadcast>

On this month's Newark Today, host Michael Hill is joined by New Jersey's Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver, President and CEO of University Hospital Dr. Shereef Elnahal, and Pastor of Newark's Metropolitan Baptist Church Dr. David Jefferson, to talk about efforts to boost trust, information, and access to the COVID vaccine in communities of color.

Newark Mayor Ras Baraka and L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti Help Launch the Community Based Public Safety Association(4:57)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-03-27/newark-mayor-ras-baraka-and-la-mayor-eric-garcetti-help-launch-the-community-based-public-safety-association>

A big announcement this week regarding a new first-of-its-kind association of community-based public safety and violence prevention programs. Newark Mayor Ras Baraka and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti joined key leaders and organizations representing major U.S. cities on a Zoom chat to announce the formation of the Community Based Public Safety Association.

The goal is to connect efforts from across the country to help advance pathways to safety that complement policing and reform the criminal justice system at a national scale. Mayor Baraka says community-based public safety efforts in his city have made a difference.

Politics

"Ask Governor Murphy" addresses COVID, Unemployment Claims and Indoor Sports (56:46)

<https://www.wbgo.org/news/2020-12-04/ask-governor-murphy-addresses-covid-unemployment-claims-and-indoor-sports>

The most recent edition of *Ask Governor Murphy* on WBGO covered a variety of topics and host Nancy Solomon and New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy took a barrage of phone calls and social media questions.

Ask Governor Murphy is a WBGO News production in collaboration with WNYC and WHYI.

'A Big Day for Democracy': Murphy Signs N.J. In-Person Early Voting into Law (0:50)

<https://www.wbgo.org/news/2021-03-30/a-big-day-for-democracy-murphy-signs-n-j-in-person-early-voting-into-law>

Amid criticism that some states are clamping down on voters' access to the polls, New Jersey on Tuesday expanded the ability of residents to cast their ballots.

During an event broadcast on Facebook Live, Gov. Phil Murphy signed a law requiring counties to establish early, in-person voting for all statewide elections in the Garden State beginning with the upcoming June primary.

The [New Jersey law](#) now requires counties to hold nine days of early, in-person machine voting ending the Sunday before Election Day in November. There are fewer days of in-person voting for primaries: three for a non-presidential primary and five in a presidential election year.

During N.J. Stop, Jill Biden Touts Stimulus as a Chance for Families to 'Breathe Again' (0:59)

<https://www.wbgo.org/news/2021-03-15/during-n-j-stop-jill-biden-touts-stimulus-as-a-chance-for-families-to-breathe-again>

First lady Jill Biden visited an elementary school in South Jersey on Monday to tout the American Rescue Plan, the \$1.9 trillion stimulus package President Joe Biden signed last week.

She visited Samuel Smith Elementary School in Burlington City as part of the administration's "Help Is Here" tour to sell the new law, which will send [more than \\$25 billion in federal aid to the Garden State](#) and residents. President Biden was scheduled to make a stop in Delaware County on Tuesday.

Technology

Heat Sensor Technology Provides Hopes for NYC Tenants (4:54)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-02-06/heat-sensor-technology-provides-hopes-for-nyc-tenants>

The number one housing complaint in New York City during the winter months is a lack of heat. Tenants who want to force their landlords to provide adequate heat can call the city's 311 line and request that an inspector from the city's Department of Housing Preservation and Development visit their home but there are a limited number of inspectors and home visits may occur when a tenant is at work.

Tenants can now use a tech tool to get action: a web-enabled thermometer that documents conditions inside their homes.

WBGO's Jon Kalish fills us in on the Heat Seek device.

NJ Transit Tries to Get Riders Back With Flexpass (0:39)

<https://www.wbgo.org/news/2021-02-08/nj-transit-tries-to-get-riders-back-with-flexpass>

There's a new way to travel on New Jersey Transit, which is trying to get customers lost to the pandemic back on board.

It's called Flexpass -- 20 one-way tickets between two stations or stops, with a 20% discount off the one-way fare. It's good for 30 days. Lisa Torbic of NJ Transit said it's a response to the pandemic as people may not be going in to the office every day.

"We recognize that customers are adjusting their commuting habits due to the pandemic," she said, "and this is something that we've come up with in a pilot program that will better accommodate their current travel needs as the pandemic is going on."

You can buy Flexpass for buses, trains and light rail, needing a separate one for each mode of transportation, and only by using the NJ Transit mobile app during the testing phase, which started Monday and will go on for a while.

Birdland Saved By GoFundMe Campaign to Tune of \$400,000 (0:47)

<https://www.wbgo.org/news/2021-01-27/birdland-saved-by-gofundme-campaign-to-tune-of-400-000>

Birdland will fly.

It is off the endangered jazz club list which included Jazz Standard in Manhattan, and in Los Angeles, Blue Whale. Those clubs have closed. But after a GoFundMe campaign that shattered its \$250,000 goal, with \$100,000 more raised from a virtual benefit concert on Jan. 24 featuring Wynton Marsalis, John Pizzarelli, Ron Carter, and Chita Rivera, things are looking good for Birdland.

The concert was introduced by that old saxophonist Bill Clinton. "It was so exquisite and classy and elegant and smart and so Bill Clinton," said Tom D'Angora, the theatre producer who organized the campaign. "He went into the history of Birdland and the history of Charlie Parker and why supporting venues like Birdland and live entertainment is so important."

You can see the benefit until Feb. 3 at savebirdland.com.

Race and Ethnicity

Newark Museum of Art's Women's Forum Centers on Racism, and Struggles of Doing Business in a Man's World (1:50)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-03-27/newark-museum-of-arts-womens-forum-centers-on-racism-and-struggles-of-doing-business-in-a-mans-world>

The Newark Museum of Art may be closed, but that didn't stop it from hosting a virtual Women's Leadership Forum during Women's History Month.

The keynote speaker, Bobbi Brown, creator of one of the top cosmetics brands. She was asked about some of the obstacles she ran into as a woman in an industry run by men.

"Probably the hardest thing that I faced was going into these board meetings that were really full of men in suits and I was not someone even though I was all of a sudden in corporate America I was not someone that was really comfortable being in this situation."

Other women entrepreneurs said they had to overcome systemic racism and lack of access to capital.

Commentary: Eric V. Tait, Jr. "Dark History Repeats Itself (4:54)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-03-06/commentary-eric-v-tait-jr-dark-history-repeats-itself>

Longtime WBGO collaborative, award-winning documentarian and U.S. Air Force veteran Eric V. Tait, Jr. expresses his thoughts on the raid on the U.S. Capitol building on January 6, 2021.

Tait reminds us in his commentary that this wasn't the first time such an incident happened.

The Black Church, a WBGO Panel Discussion (95:00)

<https://www.wbgo.org/show/wbgo-journal/2021-02-08/the-black-church-a-wbgo-panel-discussion>

On Friday, Feb. 12, WBGO News Director Doug Doyle moderated a virtual panel discussion around [*The Black Church*](#), a documentary on PBS, airing locally on THIRTEEN. The discussion focused on the documentary, the role of music in the church, and the importance of the Black church on our local community.

Doug was joined by Producer/Director Shayla Harris, who produced two episodes of the four part *The Black Church* series on PBS; singer Lizz Wright, who grew up singing in her father's church; the Reverend Dr. M. William Howard, known for his involvement in ecumenical organizations domestically and internationally, and in internal affairs, especially within the Middle East and Southern Africa; and NEA Jazz Master Dorthaan Kirk, producer of Jazz Vespers at Bethany Baptist Church in Newark.

