

A Farewell from Leonard Oakland

I was recruited to KPBX in 1985 by Mike Grabicki and began my first shift on Sunday, October 6th. I was initially engaged as a host for Sunday evening jazz programming. Mike suggested me because I already had a weekly jazz show on Whitworth's 10 watt station, KWRS.

While at KPBX, I had the good fortune to be trained in the intricacies of public radio by the great and much-missed Joe Zupan, who did news and jazz with perhaps the richest voice we have ever had.

Though I was initially hired to present jazz, it was soon evident to Verne Windham that my knowledge of classical music was richer than my jazz background. So I added classical shifts, including an evening chamber music hour, until, with my teaching at Whitworth, my schedule became overwhelming. In 1994, the Sunday morning classical shift opened and Verne invited me to take over that slot. I began this shift on August 18th of that year. I have continued hosting and producing Sunday Morning Classical to the present day.

I come to the end of my formal relationship with SPR with a mixture of nostalgia, regret, and deep appreciation for my colleagues. I want to take this moment to give recognition to the person who has gone out of his way many times to come to my assistance, Brian Lindsey. I also want to recognize the significance of the contributions to me personally and to the station of the great Verne Windham.

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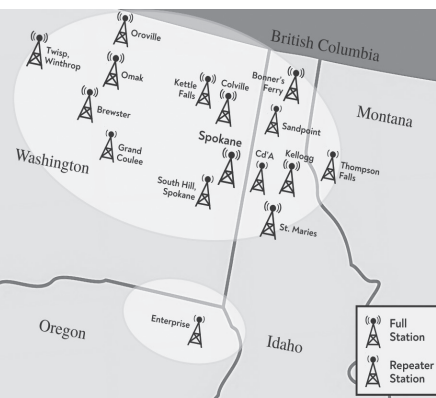
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The Guide

Your Connection to Spokane Public Radio
Volume 46 / No. 3 July to September 2026
Creating Connections

Summer is in full swing, and exciting things are happening at Spokane Public Radio! From community celebrations to expanding access to your favorite programs, we're finding new ways to connect with listeners throughout the Inland Northwest.

One of the projects we're most excited about is the final phase of beta testing for our very first SPR App. As listening habits continue to evolve, we recognize the importance of making SPR available whenever and wherever you want to listen. The new app will offer on-demand access to SPR News, SPR Jazz, and SPR Classical, making it easier than ever to stay connected. We can't wait to share it with you—stay tuned for updates and a launch announcement.



Summer also means farmers markets, art shows, and music festivals, and we're looking forward to being part of the first-ever West Central Rock the Block on Saturday, July 18. In partnership with The Listening Room at Hamilton Studio, this all-day celebration will feature live local music on two stages, delicious local food, art, and community. SPR will be there with a special pop-up Record Sale sneak peek booth from 1-9 p.m. We hope you'll stop by, say hello, and browse some great finds.

August marks one year since the launch of SPR Reimagined. Your response to our refreshed programming has been incredibly encouraging. Over the past year, our audience has grown by more than 12%, and your generous support—especially in response to recent federal funding cuts—has helped put Spokane Public Radio on a positive and sustainable path. Every gift, every hour spent listening, and every word of encouragement strengthens this essential public service. Thank you for being part of our community.

As we celebrate new milestones, we also pause to honor an extraordinary chapter in SPR's history. This summer, longtime Sunday Morning Classical host Leonard Oakland is retiring after more than four decades behind the microphone. Leonard's passion for classical music, jazz, and film has inspired generations of listeners and helped shape the sound of Spokane Public Radio. We are deeply grateful for his years of dedication and the warmth he brought to Sunday mornings. Please join us in wishing Leonard all the best in his well-earned retirement.

Thank you for listening, for supporting Spokane Public Radio, and for being part of this community. We hope to see many of you this summer.

-John M. Decker, President and General Manager

Program Highlights



Carnegie Hall Live

Saturdays at Noon on SPR Classical

Airing during *Concert of the Week's* summer hiatus, *Carnegie Hall Live* features selected radio broadcasts of live concerts from some of the world's greatest ensembles presented at the Hall throughout the 2025-2026 season.



Public Radio Showcase

Sundays at 4 pm on SPR News

Every week, you'll discover interesting programs on *Public Radio Showcase*. You'll hear documentaries, one-off programs, limited-run series, and other great programming you might not otherwise hear!



Jazz with Jan Munstedt

Thursdays at 2 pm on SPR Jazz and Sundays at 8 pm on SPR News

Muti-genre host Jan Munstedt is a third-generation musician with great jazz appreciation and an eclectic touch. Her show often features a long look at a theme or a favorite performer.

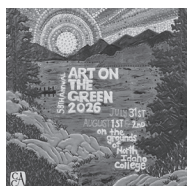
Coming Up with SPR



SPR Media Partnership: Rock the Block

July 18th from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. in West Central

Get ready for a full day of live music, local food, art, and community celebrations in the heart of West Central! Stop By SPR's Pop-Up Record Sale Booth between 1 and 9 p.m. to get a special sneak peek of some of our 2027 Record Sale inventory!



SPR Media Partnership: Art on the Green

July 31st - August 2nd at North Idaho College

Enjoy three full days of live performers, handcrafted works of art for purchase, an outdoor juried art show, and a children's art garden! Make sure to visit SPR's booth to meet staff and hosts and pick up stickers, fans, and program guides.



SPR Media Partnership: Blue Waters Bluegrass Festival

August 7th - 9th at Waterfront Park in Medical Lake

Since 2002, Blue Waters Bluegrass Festival has brought some of the biggest names in bluegrass music to the Inland Northwest. This year's lineup includes Vickie Vaughn, the Shiloh Mountain Band, and more!



Meet Us at the Market!

June - September at farmers' markets across the region

Meet SPR at a farmers' market near you this summer! SPR staff and volunteers can be found at various regional markets through September. Visit SpokanePublicRadio.org for more details and to see where we'll be.

SPR Classical / July - September 2026

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Mid							
1a	Classical 24 w/ Melanie Renate		Classical 24 w/ Jillene Khan				Classical 24 w/ Melanie Renate
2a							
3a							
4a							
5a							Classical 24 w/ Kevin O'Connor
6a	Classical 24 w/ Kevin O'Connor		Classical 24 w/ Vernon Neal				
7a							
8a						Performance Today	Sunday Baroque w/ Suzanne Bona
9a	Morning Classical w/ Jim Tevenan						
10a						Morning Classical Jan Munstedt	Morning Classical
11a	Classical 24	Piano Bench	Classical 24	Guitar Hour	Classical 24		
12p	Classical 24 w/ Melissa Ousley		Classical 24 w/ Lynne Warfel		Carnegie Hall Live	Guitar Hour	
1p							Piano Bench
2p	Performance Today					Classical 24	Sunday Baroque w/ Suzanne Bona
3p						CMS Lincoln Center	
4p	Afternoon Classical w/ Henry McNulty					Concierto w/ Frank Dominguez	Early Music Now
5p							Fiesta w/ Elbio Barilari
6p	Exploring Music w/ Bill McGlaughlin					Symphony-Cast w/ Steve Seel	The Third Floor Presents
7p							
8p	Classical 24 w/ Steve Seal		Classical 24 w/ Jake Amerding				
9p							WFMT Orchestra Series
10p							Pipedreams w/ Michael Barone
11p	Classical 24 w/ Melanie Renate		Classical 24 w/ Jillene Khan				Classical 24 w/ Melanie Renate

SPR Jazz / July - September 2026

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Mid							
1a	WFMT Jazz Network						
2a							
3a							
4a	WFMT Jazz Network						
5a							
6a	WFMT Jazz Network						
7a							
8a							
9a			WFMT Jazz Network				
10a			WFMT Jazz Network				
11a			WFMT Jazz Network				
12p			WFMT Jazz Network				
1p			WFMT Jazz Network				
2p			Jazz w/ Jan Munstedt			Dimensions in Jazz w/ Rachel Bade-McMurphy	
3p							
4p						The Music Cafe w/ Mike Grabicki	
5p							
6p						Atomic Age Cocktail Party	
7p						Brazilian Hour	
8p						Blue Dimensions	
9p						Beale St. Caravan	
10p						WFMT Jazz Network	
11p							

SPR News / July - September 2026

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Mid							
1a							
2a	*BBC World Service					*BBC World Service	
3a							
4a							
5a						Inside Olympia	*Climate One
6a							
7a	*Morning Edition					*Weekend Edition	
8a							
9a							
10a	*Here & Now					*Wait Wait Don't Tell Me	*Throughline
11a	*On Point				*Science Friday	Planet Money	RadioLab
12p	*BBC Newshour			Inland Journal		*Hidden Brain	*Wait Wait Don't Tell Me
1p	*Fresh Air					*BBC Newshour	
2p	*The World					*Movies 101 Inland Journal	*On the Media
3p	Marketplace					*TED Radio	This American Life
4p	*All Things Considered					*Freakonomics	Pub Radio Showcase
5p	*All Things Considered						
6p	Marketplace					All Songs	Live Wire
7p	^Today, Explained				Movies 101	Alt. Latino	
8p	*As It Happens					Johnson's IHOP	Front Porch Bluegrass
9p	*Fresh Air					Music Cafe w/ Mike Grabicki	Jazz w/ Jan Munstedt
10p	*Hidden Brain	*TED Radio	*Freakonomics	*Throughline	This American Life		
11p	*Think				RadioLab	Dimensions in Jazz w/ Rachel Bade-McMurphy	SoundSpace w/ Zan Agzigian
	*BBC World Service					Soul Express	

*Newscast at top of the hour.

^Newscast at bottom of the hour.