



# WYOMING PUBLIC MEDIA

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## General Manager's Newsletter | February 2024

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Ouch! We missed opening night! In our haste to publish January's newsletter we failed to mention the [Grand Teton Music Festival](#) heard on radio at 8 pm on Wednesdays. Looking across Wyoming, the [Cheyenne Symphony Orchestra](#) season continues as well, heard on WPR Thursday nights at 8 pm. And don't miss the features with [Wyoming Symphony Orchestra's](#) Music Director, Christopher Dragon ([listen](#)), the [Fremont Symphony Orchestra's](#) Rebecca Murdock ([listen](#)), and [UW Symphony Orchestra's](#) Music Director Dr. Michael Griffith ([listen](#)). If we missed your ensemble, let us know.

Wyoming's Legislature is about to go into action. This year again, WPM is partnering with *WyoFile* to bring you the weekly [Cheyenne Roundup](#). In addition, you'll be hearing reports from *Wyoming State Government Collaboration* reporters funded by the *Corporation for Public Broadcasting State Government Coverage* initiative. WPM is partnering with *Jackson Hole Community Radio* in this initiative that will report on Wyoming's state government and how it affects the citizens of Wyoming.

Governor Mark Gordon's State of the State address will be heard on Wyoming Public Radio February 12, 2024. President Biden's State of the Union address is scheduled for March 7, 2024. Both will also be available online at [wyomingpublicmedia.org](http://wyomingpublicmedia.org). National election reporting is alive and kicking and absorbing large swatches of media time and energy. Yet in all the hubbub, the world continues to function, and we miss much of what is going on globally. You can catch up with these stories at the [State of the World](#) site.

February is *Black History Month*. Check out WPM programs [here](#). Also, check out [Jeff Victor's story about Afrofuturist Lego sculptor, Ekow Nimako](#). Warning: It may urge you to head to your closets to pull out those precious plastic Lego bricks lurking in storage boxes.

Valentine's Day is around the corner, and in keeping with our "*I Love WPR*" tradition, our public advisory council members recorded messages of appreciation for public radio. You can hear our former UW Outreach School Dean [Maggi Murdock](#) and [Roz Schliske](#) author of the Cheyenne League of Women Voters messages about Wyoming's influential women. You too can record a testimonial and share your thoughts about the value of public radio. It's easy! [Find more information on the I Love WPR page](#).

Our quest for a student representative on our Public Advisory Council is ongoing. If you know a college student who loves public radio and would enjoy serving on our Public Advisory Council, let us know. The Council serves as advisor and advocate for WPM in our statewide communities. Qualifications include an appreciation of public radio and its mission of serving the public. For applications and more information, contact Eric Zafft at [ezafft1@uwyo.edu](mailto:ezafft1@uwyo.edu).

Katherine Maher will be NPR's next President and Chief Executive Officer. She served seven years at Wikipedia, five as CEO and most recently as CEO of Web Summit. Katherine will be the second woman to lead NPR. She is a lifelong listener and credits NPR's coverage with influencing some of her most important

life decisions. Katherine starts at NPR at the end of March and will be based in DC. NPR President and CEO John Lansing has extended his tenure to ensure a smooth transition. (*NPR names Katherine Maher President and CEO*).

Journalism can be exciting and challenging, but it's a difficult profession to maintain in today's environment. Aspiring journalists work hard to get into the business, only to encounter shrinkage or closure in newsrooms and digital startups. Networks like WPM constantly fundraise to pay salaries of our journalists, and we are indebted to our members and donors who support WPM's news operation. Check out this article: *Ten young journalists open up about their struggles to break into the news industry* | *Nieman Journalism Lab* (*niemanlab.org*).

A journalist who transcended media and spoke to all Americans passed away. Charles Osgood was the host of *CBS Sunday Morning* for two decades and heard on *CBS Radio*. He followed in the legacy of another much-loved journalist – Charles Kuralt. They both created a brand of journalism that was reflective and uplifting. Check out *Saturday Weekend Edition Scott Simon's commentary heard Saturday, January 27th*. Had you been listening on that Saturday morning, you would have heard a delightful piece about *Frederika Von Stade*, who was recently inducted to the *Opera Hall of Fame*.

Each year WPM invites listeners to submit their photographs to our contest and choose the winning submissions (Browse through the *WPM 2023 Photo Contest winners' page*.) This leaves many truly inspiring photographs to use in cards, calendars, and community displays throughout the year. So why not include a photo in this newsletter? We leave you with one of these photographs at the bottom of this page along with a few words about the photographer.

Thank you for your loyalty and dedication to public radio. Enjoy February festivities, and stay warm!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments at [ckuzmych@uwyo.edu](mailto:ckuzmych@uwyo.edu).

Christina Kuzmych,  
WPM General Manager

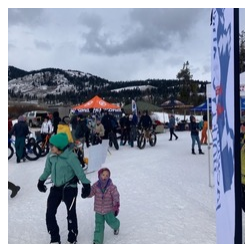


## BEHIND THE SCENES



### **NPR's Tiny Desk contest is back!**

Unsigned musicians are invited to produce and submit a music video. The winner will play a *Tiny Desk* concert at NPR in Washington D.C., be featured on *All Things Considered*, and headline the *Tiny Desk Contest On the Road Tour*. For rules and entry, go to the *tiny desk contest webpage*. The deadline for entry is *February 21st*.



### **Wyoming Public Media took part in Jackson Hole Nordic Alliance's Event**

The 6th Annual JHNA Ski, Fat Bike, and Snowshoe Day at Turpin Meadow Ranch was a community event that included trail passes, nordic ski demos and lessons, ski and snowshoe tours and more. Wyoming Public Media's Ry Woody volunteered at the event. *Sunday, January 7, 2024*.



### **Wyoming Public Media Welcomes University of Wyoming Student, Jose Atilano**

Jose Atilano is a student at UW studying Finance and Management. Originally from Greybull, WY, Jose enjoys hanging out with friends and family, having late-night bonfires, driving around, volunteering in his community, and listening to music. Before transferring to UW, he attended Northwest College where he enjoyed multiple activities.

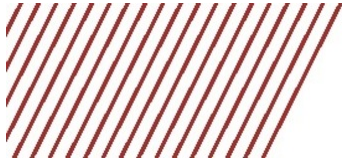
travel.

One of his favorites was Speech and Debate because he got to meet great people and



### **Wyoming Public Media Underwriter Spotlight Series**

Are you an underwriter and would like to be highlighted on our social media? Check out our new *Underwriter Spotlight* series. This is a free add-on to current underwriters for Wyoming Public Media to diversify our social media and to show that WPM partners with a variety of businesses. If you are interested in having your business filmed, please email [wpmcorporate@uwyo.edu](mailto:wpmcorporate@uwyo.edu) for more information.

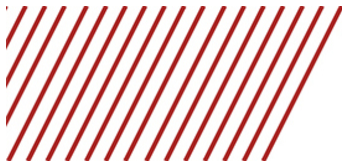


## **BEYOND WYOMING**



### **A week-long dog sled race in Wyoming drew a French team to move there**

Caitlin Tan's French sled dog story aired on NPR's *Weekend Edition*. A French dogsledding team is so committed to competing in an annual week long race in Wyoming and Idaho that they moved to the Cowboy state to train. [Listen to the story.](#) *January 28, 2024.*



## **MUST LISTEN**



### **HumaNature Podcast Episode 112: Buckaroo and The Blues**

Gayle Woodsum loves llamas. And her work with them would lead her to help evacuate hundreds of them from a Montana animal sanctuary in 2011. It is still one of the largest rescue operations ever documented in U.S. history. Llama photo by Gayle Woodsum. [Listen to the 2024 HumaNature podcast season.](#) *January 11, 2024.*



## **PHOTO OF THE MONTH**



### ***"Boop" by Kathleen Milks***

Kathleen (Kathy) Milks is a self-employed massage therapist and photographer. A couple of years ago she took her hobby of many years, photography, and created Dynamic Endeavors Photography. Kathy spends most of her free time wandering and exploring our many incredible public lands, capturing those things that catch her eye. *2023 WPM Photo Contest - 2nd Place Wyoming's Nature Category*





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