



2022 LOCAL CONTENT AND SERVICE REPORT IN THE COMMUNITY

The mission of WLRN Public Media is to provide information, entertainment, and learning services with a commitment to excellence in serving local, national, and international communities.



WLRN Public Media is the premier choice for trusted, quality programming that reflects the diversity of thought and expression of the community we serve.

We are “South Florida’s storyteller” — providing content in ways that no other media outlet does.

We operate as a public trust and exercise the highest ethical and professional standards.

We respect our audience’s intelligence and have a deep appreciation for public media’s role in shaping society.

WLRN-TV is the public television station with the reputation of being South Florida’s storyteller. We have been producing and presenting local stories that showcase the people, places and events that make our community special and unique.

Additionally, WLRN is the PBS Learning Media provider for Miami-Dade and Broward counties. This online, digital library has thousands of classroom-ready resources that transform learning by providing the innovative tools needed to succeed in the 21st century classroom.

WLRN Public Media is South Florida’s largest public media conglomerate reaching almost 1-million people each week from Palm Beach to Key West.

WLRN consistently produces award-winning content recognized on national, regional and statewide levels in both digital and broadcast categories. WLRN rose to the top in a variety of areas including politics, arts, sports, investigations, public affairs, continuing coverage, newscasts and breaking news.

**PODCAST SERIES:
DETENTION BY DESIGN**

Detention By Design is a six-episode series that is equal parts domestic and international in scope. In it, we meet dictators of all stripes; people who risked lives trying to find freedom; politicians confronted with difficult realities; and attorneys and activists who fought for the Land of the Free to be worthy of its name.

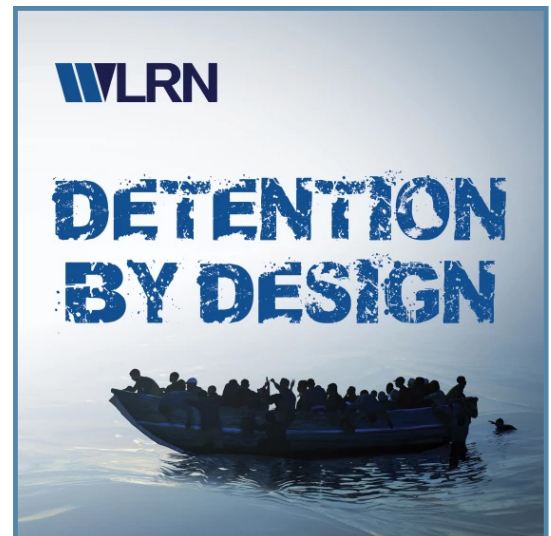
As recently as 1955 there were virtually no immigrants held in detention in the U.S. Today, the federal government holds tens of thousands each day, in 130 facilities across the country. But the story of how we got here did not start at the U.S.-Mexico border - it started on Florida's shores, 50 years ago.

Through personal histories and meticulously compiled archival materials, Detention By Design will tell how the arrival of Haitian and Cuban migrants by boat in the 1970s and 1980s - and the crude experiments in small Florida jails that followed - shaped the immigration and detention system that we have in this country today.

The podcast series has received positive impact and acknowledgment in both our South Florida community, as well as, nationally through NPR:

- Featured in the Miami New Times and on NPR's Here and Now with a 9-minute interview
- Featured as a full episode in NPR Latino USA's podcast stream
- Integrated as curriculum support by a Miami-Dade College professor into his History classroom.
- Apple Podcasts received 25 reviews with five stars registered on all of them

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/detentionpod>



***Those fleeing
Communist
regimes being
granted asylum,
while Haitians
were being
thrown in jail.***

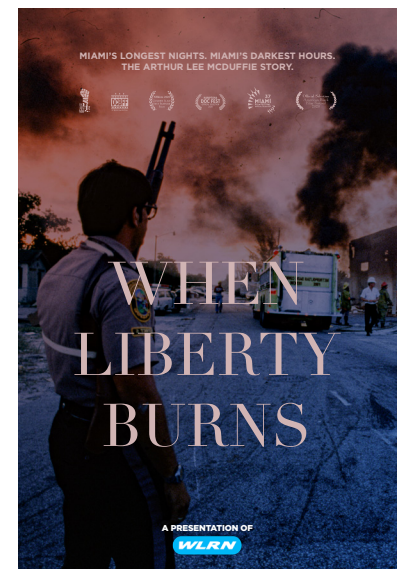
***"It's a fascinating history and it's a very local history, which I think people might not suspect," said WLRN reporter Danny Rivero, who tells that story in the new podcast Detention By Design.
"This first happened in Miami. This is a Florida story."***

WLRN-TV Channel 17 is a PBS (Public Broadcasting Service) member station licensed to the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida. During an average month, Channel 17 reaches a monthly audience of approximately 232,555 TV households in the Miami-Ft. Lauderdale area with a viewing audience in four South Florida counties from Palm Beach to Key West.

WLRN is South Florida's PBS Ready-to-Learn station airing 45 hours of award-winning children's programming weekly. National distributors PBS, American Public Television, ACORN, and BBC provide the television primetime schedule featuring an eclectic array of programming to suit our diverse South Florida community. WLRN-TV plays an active role in producing and presenting local stories that showcase the people, places, and events that make our community special and unique.

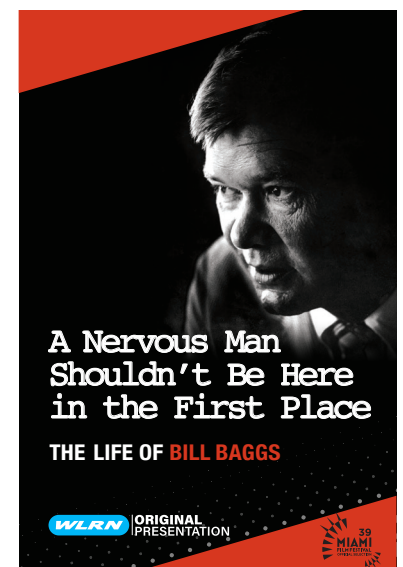
WLRN Presents Documentary: *When Liberty Burns*

This film provides an in-depth analysis of Miami's 1980 race riots in Liberty City. Remembered as the McDuffie riots, this two-hour film highlights the life and untimely death of Arthur Lee McDuffie at the hands of Miami Dade police officers. The documentary engages family members and friends of Arthur McDuffie, lead detectives, eyewitnesses, historians and contemporary community activists in interviews and it chronicles McDuffie's life and his rich relationships with his family and his community. *When Liberty Burns* also examines the context in which Miami developed during this country's Jim Crow era and traces the dynamics of race relations in the City while also managing increasingly diverse ethnic populations, growth and change. WLRN-TV premiered *When Liberty Burns* on Wednesday, February 2, 2022, at 9:00 pm for Black History Month programming.



WLRN Presents Documentary: *The Life of Bill Baggs*

Awarded with two Suncoast Regional Emmys, WLRN's original presentation of *The Life of Bill Baggs* traces writer Amy Paige Condon's 13-year journey to tell the story of one of the most influential newspaper editors of the mid-20th century. Bill Baggs, the late editor of the late Miami News, was a white editor of a prominent southern newspaper. He championed unpopular ideas in his front-page columns, such as protecting the environment, desegregating public schools, and peace in Vietnam. Under his leadership, the Miami News earned three Pulitzer Prizes. Despite his causes and accomplishments, when Baggs died of pneumonia in January 1969 at the age of forty-five, his story nearly died with him, and that would have been a travesty because Baggs still has so much to teach us about how to find the answers to those not-so-simple questions, like how to live in peace with one another. This story captures the history of Miami, the community's geopolitical importance, and the loss of one of its greatest champions. *The Life of Bill Baggs* premiered on WLRN-TV, Wednesday, April 20th, at 9:30 pm.





Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Parade

On January 17, the WLRN production team live streamed and recorded the 46th Annual MLK Parade in Liberty City. Considered one of the oldest and largest celebrations in the U.S., thousands of parade-goers gathered to watch the three-hour event as it traversed along an 8 mile track that Dr. King once traveled during his frequent visits in Miami. WLRN-TV broadcasted a hosted one-hour highlight of the day's event.



Silver Knight Awards

Honoring more than 1,300 high school seniors for their academic excellence and extraordinary passion for community service, WLRN recorded and broadcasted The Silver Knight Awards on Tuesday, May 26. Miami-Dade and Broward County Public School students were recognized. The Silver Knight Awards was presented by The Herald/El Nuevo Herald.

The Spoken Word

Viewers enjoy highly produced film shorts that are integrated seamlessly into the schedule giving them uninterrupted, quality storytelling. In celebration of Black History Month, WLRN produced seven short form segments featuring local African American poets performing their own work at the Historic Hampton House in Miami. The following original productions began airing on February 2, 2022, and continued throughout February in between regularly scheduled programming:

- The Breaths of Our Skin by Christell Roach
- A Letter to My Daughter by Poet Sophia Liautaud
- Racism is Dead by Keto Matthews
- Kings Men by Sarahra Peterson
- Libete by Lysz Flo
- Poems Like These by Darius V. Daughtry
- History Shouldn't be a Mystery by Gary Allen





On April 9, 2022, WLRN held its inaugural EcoFest at the Mizner Park Amphitheater. The event was free to the community and had over 1,000 attendees, with more than fifty eco-friendly vendors and community non-profit organizations from 4Ocean, to Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, to Community Greening. The community event brought conservationists and families alike to celebrate Earth month by learning through engaging activities and exhibits as well as special guests like Zoo Miami's Ron Magill and presentations. The event included live music, a Junkanoo Band performance, free yoga class, and concluded with a premiere of WLRN's original documentary *Troubled Waters: A Turtle's Tale*.



Tallahassee Takeover

Tallahassee Takeover podcast series explores the ways Florida's GOP-controlled state government is stripping local control from cities, towns, and individuals, one law at a time. Topics included exploring how Florida stopped local gun laws, the controversy over school districts and classroom mask mandates, how state action on a local minimum wage effort led to a constitutional amendment, state efforts to short circuit local carbon emission goals, and how public health work has shifted from local control to the state government. <https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/tallahassee-takeover>



Surfside Condo Collapse

On June 24, 2021, a Surfside, Florida condo building collapsed in the early hours, killing 98 people. WLRN covered the immediate aftermath of the tragedy in the hours after the collapse, the search and recovery efforts, demolition of the remaining structure, creation of a memorial, and the searing pain felt by residents who lost loved ones and property. WLRN reporters continued covering every court hearing relating to litigation and sale of the property, focusing on the people directly affected by the catastrophe. <https://www.wlrn.org/tags/surfside>



Coronavirus Continued Coverage

Earning a National Edward R. Murrow Award, for the statewide series that focused on the effects on schools and school children of the pandemic shutdown and subsequent rise of virtual learning. Our service to the community continued throughout and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic, which engulfed hard hit South Florida and Latin America. We continued informing our audience across the broadcast, web, and social media spectrum well into 2021 and 2022. This included publishing a twice-a-week email newsletter that grew to more than 16,000. <https://www.wlrn.org/tags/coronavirus>



WLRN Public Media is committed to being the most trusted source of information and entertainment in South Florida's diverse community.

Licensed to the school board of Dade County, WLRN is best known for its award winning journalism, its original productions and its public radio and television programs.

But WLRN's services go well beyond the airwaves – WLRN is a South Florida treasure.



WLRN Public Media is the premier choice for trusted journalism, quality program content, and resources & services that positively impact the South Florida community.
