

UPDATE: WINTER 2015

Moved In!

New England Public Radio Foundation's 50th Anniversary Capital Campaign for WFCR



Tundreds of listeners and well-wishers lioined us in September for the Grand Opening Celebration at our new home at 1525 Main Street in downtown Springfield. The festivities at City Stage included a keynote by former WFCR Intern and UMass Amherst graduate, Audie Cornish, who is currently hosting All Things Considered for NPR. Beautiful performances were given by the Springfield Symphony Orchestra's Principal Trombonist, Brian Diehl, and the Community Music School of Springfield's Charles Majid Greenlee Scholarship Jazz Ensemble. Words of thanks and reflections on this significant day were shared by Congressman Richie Neal, Springfield Mayor Domenic Sarno, UMass Chancellor Kumble Subbaswamy and NEPR's CEO & General Manager Martin Miller. Speaking for the 50th Anniversary Campaign were Honorary Chair Anne Garrels and Campaign Chair Jack Dill.

The afternoon block party kicked off with an incredible show by the UMass Amherst Minuteman Marching Band and featured many great performances by some of the region's premiere musicians including Charles Neville, Avery Sharpe and the Green Street Trio.

By October, the lights were on, computers were humming and the microphones were "hot" at our new home. The staff has settled in and everyone loves the new building and the new neighborhood. As our classical music host John Nowacki recently said, the opportunity "to work in a beautiful space like this is a once in a career opportunity".

The public has raved about NEPR's new headquarters and our architect for the project, Kuhn Riddle of Amherst, was given the Honor Award by the Western Massachusetts Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for the design of the 15,000 square foot space.

The former Women's Department of the Springfield National Bank, which we call the "Volunteer Room", is the staff favorite for meetings. Also, the bank's former vault is now our storage room. One of the two huge and beautiful vault doors is in our Community Room, which gives the space wonderful character.

The City of Springfield has welcomed us warmly in many ways including gifts for each of the staff members from the Greater Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau as well as visits and building tours with some of our neighbors.

As NEPR settles into Springfield, the 50th Anniversary Campaign continues. To date, \$6,175,530 has been raised towards our \$7,000,000 community Campaign goal; with

an additional \$1,767,580 in New Market Tax Credits, total funding to date has reached nearly \$8 million – a phenomenal achievement.

NEPR will spend much of the next year completing Campaign fundraising for facilities (\$650,000 is needed) and for the Program Development Fund (\$350,000 is needed). Campaign Vice-Chair David Scott will be working on this effort in Hampshire County and Rosie Caine and her Campaign committee will lead our efforts in Franklin County. We will be wrapping up fundraising in Hampden County with help from Campaign Chair Jack Dill - as well as CEO & General Manager Martin Miller and NEPR's Major Gifts team - Nancy Reeves, Sara Lawrence. Janet Egelhofer, and the permanent Executive Director of Development and Major Giving.

With new state-of-the-art studios, NEPR is eager to begin production of the new programs funded by the 50th Anniversary Campaign: NEPR Media Lab, a new radio training program for Springfield and Holyoke high school students; Street Level Sounds, a music and spoken word program produced in collaboration with local cultural and educational organizations, which will be available on NEPR's website; and finally, a new daily talk show for the NEPR News Network.





Above Left: UMass Chancellor Kumble Subbaswamy high-fives members of the UMass Amherst Marching Band. Above Right: The UMass Amherst Marching Band greets attendees of the Grand Opening Dedication.

When NEPR completes the 50th Anniversary Campaign in 2015, fundraising will continue for both the building endowment and classical & jazz programming. We have already received future bequest commitments of nearly \$500,000 for the endowment, so the future looks promising.

Also in 2015, the rehabilitation of the Five Colleges Studios at UMass Amherst will be completed.

If you are interested in having a tour of our facilities, please contact Joyce Skowyra, at joyce@nepr.net; 413-735-6600.

We are so proud of our new home and so grateful to everyone who has supported New England Public Radio Foundation's 50th Anniversary Capital Campaign for WFCR!











Top Left: Reception and front lobby. Top Middle: The Vault Top Right: The Volunteer Room (former Women's Department, Springfield National Bank)

Far Left: Back row: State Rep. Jim Welch, Anne Garrels, Chancellor Kumble Subbaswamy, Mayor Domenic Sarno, Front row: Jack Dill, Martin Miller, Audie Cornish, Paul Lambert

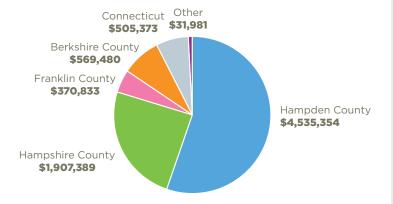
Left: The Bob Paquette Studios are dedicated by Audie Cornish and Bob's husband, Mike



Above: Avery Sharpe and band entertains the crowd at Center Square.

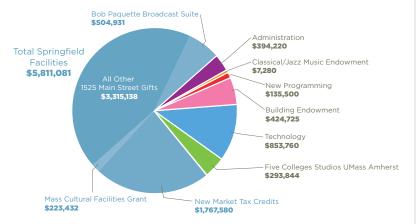
TOTAL PROJECT GIFTS BY LOCATION

(\$7,920,410 as of January 12, 2015)



TOTAL PROJECT GIFTS BY DESIGNATION

(\$7,920,410 as of January 12, 2015)



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*Director, NEPR Foundation, Inc. **Emeritus, NEPR Foundation, Inc.

For more information please go to **NEPR.net/campaign** or call our Executive Director of Development and Major Gifts at 413-735-6601