

Dear Listeners,

Fund Drive came and went, and was a great success. You helped us reach and slightly surpass goal. This was a most heartening feat, as I know that Wyoming is still dusting itself off from the recent recession. Renewing and new members responded enthusiastically, and our sustaining donors kept the bottom line in check. I'm often asked, "What makes people give, even in tough economic times?" The immediate answers are programming, accessibility to a signal in Wyoming, and the feeling of being connected in a state where people live far apart, yet so many know each other. There's a sense of community and neighborhood in a statewide network – you know that your friends and relatives are listening to the same news story, piece of music, or humorous tidbit that you're hearing. It's a tie that binds us all together.

In the last several years, other very compelling reasons for supporting public media have emerged – reliability, accuracy, balance, universality. As national media concentrates increasingly on one story per day or week, public radio continues to include other stories and voices from the nation and the world. You can find this in our national reporting as well as in programs like the BBC. And of course, in Wyoming, we have a top-rated news department and cultural affairs team that concentrates on us – Wyomingites!

It was on November 7, 50 years ago that public broadcasting was launched. True, there were many exciting forays into creating media (radio and TV back then) that was public-spirited and educational. But it wasn't until the Public Broadcasting Act, that the idea really took off. Today, we have public media on radio, television, online, as well as numerous other digital devices that create a rich source for accessing content. I'd like to share with you a letter Patricia Harrison, Corporation for Public Broadcasting President and CEO, wrote to the public broadcasting community. It best captures the history and philosophy of one of our nation's best public services – public broadcasting.

Thank you for the role you played in making this happen! You can view our own Wyoming Public Radio/Media history on <http://wyomingpublicmedia.org/programs/50-years-wyoming-public-radio>.

Thank you again, and please pledge if you haven't already!

Sincerely,
Christina Kuzmych
General Manager
Wyoming Public Media



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JAZZ WYOMING**

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