WHAT IS STORYCORPS?
The StroyCorps mission is to preserve and share humanity’s stories in order to build connections between people and create a more just and compassionate world. Each week, the StoryCorps podcast shares these unscripted conversations, revealing the wisdom, courage, and poetry in the words of people you might not notice walking down the street. This is to remind ourselves of our shared humanity, to strengthen and build the connections between people, to teach the value of listening, and to weave into the fabric of our culture the understanding that everyone’s story matters. At the same time, StoryCorps creates an invaluable archive for future generations.

WHY JACKSON?
When Wyoming Public Media “sold” the producers on Jackson and the area, we told them that Jackson is not just the story of the rich and famous -- something it’s identified with most often. Rather, Jackson has many stories to tell that are hidden and unexpected. It has the stories of the old miners and trappers who came and stayed. It has the stories of a mix of ethnicities - people from all over the world who moved into the area to work and then settled. It has the stories of the transient population - people who come to work in the international tourist industry, contribute to the local economy and culture, but then leave. Jackson also has a proximity to the Wind River Reservation, with an underrepresented culture and stories to tell. All these groups mix in one of the most beautiful places in the world and give the StoryCorps team a chance to unveil a side of the region that often goes unseen. Jackson has many stories, and Wyoming Public Media looks forward to making this a strong Jackson area event that will involve a wide number of individuals and groups that are integral to the Wyoming Community.
StoryCorps educates and inspires its listeners.

88%
Strongly agree that StoryCorps makes them feel connected to people with different backgrounds

81%
Reminded listeners of their shared humanity

80%
Helped them see the value in everyone’s life story and experience

80%
Humanized social issues, events, and policies

71%
Became interested in thinking about how society could be improved

70%
Made them feel more positive about society

HOW DOES IT WORK?
StoryCorps will be in Jackson from May 20th through June 24th, 2018. During that month, it will set up the MobileBooth in a location that best serves the public and has the electricity required to record. Prior to the recording month, StoryCorps will work with Wyoming Public Media staff and community contacts to create an interest in participating, particularly in diverse communities in the Jackson area. StoryCorps scouts will visit Jackson several times beginning in March to get a taste of the community. Then, in May, the MobileBooth will arrive, and the intense work of recording interviews starts! Interviews are scheduled in advance and the sign up is open to the public. Each 30 minute interview session has a facilitator who wants to hear your story and will guide you in the recording process. After the MobileBooth’s visit, your story will be archived as a part of our national heritage in the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?
The StoryCorps process requires a wide variety of involvement which allows you to contribute to this project in whichever way works best for you!

Make a Gift
If you’re looking to make a project-focused contribution to Wyoming Public Media, now is the time to do it! With your support, we can ensure the opportunity to spread stories, cultures, and wisdom from Wyoming to listeners all over the world. All donations go directly to the funding of getting the MobileBooth to Jackson. Contact Ry Woody at 307-766-2181 to make a StoryCorps specific contribution.

Become a Corporate Sponsor
By becoming a Corporate Sponsor of the StoryCorps project, you establish your business as a contributor to the sharing of Wyoming stories. Your business or organization will also receive air time with Wyoming Public Media in exchange for your contribution. For information, contact Dianne Burner at 307-766-2401.

Tell Your Story
Perhaps the most important part of the process is the storytelling. When May comes around, sign up for a recording appointment and tell us about your mountain adventures, your first kiss, your family history... whatever makes you who you are! Listen to stories online at storycorps.org.
WHAT DOES RECORDING LOOK LIKE?

StoryCorps gives people of all backgrounds, typically two at a time, the opportunity to record meaningful conversations and archives the recordings at the Library of Congress. Recording a StoryCorps interview couldn’t be easier: You invite a loved one, or anyone you choose, to the StoryCorps booth to share a 40-minute conversation in the MobileBooth Airstream trailer at the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum. Two weeks before Opening Day, we will promote registration opening on-air and on wyomingpublicmedia.org. From there, you’ll be able to register yourself and your interview partner, it’s that simple! You’ll receive a list of questions to help you decide what you’d like to talk about if you’re feeling stumped, and on your chosen recording day, the StoryCorps facilitators will help you decide what you want to do with your recording facilitate the discussion, make sure sound quality is good, and make the experience memorable for you and your partner!

On May 24th at 9:30 am, The Wyoming Public Media and StoryCorps collaboration kicks off with a big celebration, VIP Interviews, press sessions, Mobile Booth Tours, and a live performance from Canyon Kids, all broadcast live on Wyoming Sounds!

WHAT TYPES OF QUESTIONS CAN I ASK?

The interview is completely yours to control, but if you’re not sure what you want to learn about your loved one, StoryCorps has a few suggestions:

• What is your favorite memory of me?
• Do you have any regrets?
• What did you think your life would be like when you were older?
• How would you describe me? How would you describe yourself
• Where will we be in 10 years? 20 years?
• What was my mom/dad like growing up? When did you first find out that you’d be a parent? How did you feel?
• What were the hardest moments you had when I was growing up?

View more online at storycorps.org/participate/great-questions/
WHAT OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS ARE COMING TO JACKSON?

Wyoming Public Media is partnering with the Teton County Public Library to bring The Month of the Story to Jackson this Spring. In addition to summer reading programs and events, Wyoming Public Media will host the following evening programs in the Ordway Auditorium at Teton County Public Library:

MAY 24, 6pm - What Makes a Good News Story with Bob Beck
Wyoming Public Media News Director Bob Beck hosts a night of listening sessions and discussions centered around public radio news, how it’s made, and what power reporting holds. Join in to hear hard news, investigative reports, and human-interest piece and what value they hold in our society.

MAY 30, 6pm - The Trials of Wildlife Reporting with Melodie Edwards
Holding down squirming fawns...climbing down cliffs to eagle’s nests...getting stuck on a snowmobile in search of wolverines. These are just some of the adventures WPR’s Melodie Edwards has embarked on in search of the best sounds of wildlife in Wyoming. Join us for a conversation about why it’s important to go to such lengths to tell wildlife and environment stories.

JUNE 6, 6pm - The Importance of Storytelling to Native Culture, Past and Present with Darrah Perez
Telling stories from a Native Community is at times difficult, especially when they come from inside the Wind River Reservation. Most Native Community members do not like to be talked about, some even in a good way; it can be considered boasting. Developing partnerships and trust is essential in reporting in Native Community. Darrah will bring her stories of trust development and how to communicate with a healing community.

JUNE 13, 6pm - HumaNature: What Makes A Good Podcast with Erin Jones, Caroline Ballard, and Micah Schweizer
The producers of Wyoming Public Media’s award-winning storytelling podcast, HumaNature, explore the elements of what make a podcast shine. In this multimedia presentation, Caroline Ballard, Erin Jones, and Micah Schweizer will take you behind the scenes of launching and producing a new podcast.

JUNE 21, 6pm - StoryCorps Community Listening Event
As the StoryCorps Mobile Tour team’s time in Teton County draws to an end, they invite you to come listen to the stories collected during their stay in this beautiful part of the world. The program will also feature locally produced segments from the Wyoming Public Media news and cultural affairs teams. Come listen to an audible moment in history featuring the diverse and rich cultural makeup of Jackson Hole.