

Issues List 3rd Quarter 2016 - Wyoming Public Media

Issue: Energy

Topic: The coal industry's recent downturn is casting ripples throughout the economy in the West. In Wyoming, the unemployment rate is climbing faster than any other state in the country—and it's not just miners who are struggling. From a hotel in Gillette, Wyoming Public Radio's Stephanie Joyce explores the fallout from the collapsing mineral economy.

Time: 5 min

Date: 7/1/16 at 3pm and 7-3-16 at noon on WPR. 7/3/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: How oil and gas drilling can affect drinking water has been a source of controversy across the country, from Pavillion Wyoming to Pennsylvania. Residents near drilling operations in the Keystone state have filed thousands of complaints, and sometimes waited for YEARS for answers. That's left some isolated communities to fend for themselves in a quest for clean water. For Inside Energy, Maryam Jameel from the Center for Public Integrity reports.

Time: 4 min

Date: 7/1/16 at 3pm and 7-3-16 at noon on WPR. 7/3/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: One of the great hopes for saving the coal industry is the development of a cheap, efficient way to permanently store the carbon emitted from it, but so far, carbon capture and storage has struggled to live up to expectations. David Mohler is the deputy assistant secretary of clean coal and carbon management at the U.S. Department of Energy, and is in charge of federal research and development in those areas. He speaks with Wyoming Public Radio's Stephanie Joyce.

Time: 8 min

Date: 7/1/16 at 3pm and 7-3-16 at noon on WPR. 7/3/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Across the country, power companies are rushing to keep pace with a changing energy landscape. Many operate on outdated business models that never accounted for people producing their own electricity or clean energy mandates. That's prompted Arizona's largest

utility to pursue a new way of charging its customers -- one that no other utility has done before. Will Stone reports for Inside Energy.

Time: 5 min

Date: 7/15/16 at 3pm and 7/17/16 at noon on WPR. 7/17/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: On April first, Frank Thompson lost his job as a mechanic at Peabody Energy's North Antelope Rochelle mine. He was one of almost 500 coal miners laid off that day by Peabody and its competitor, Arch Coal. At the time, Thompson, who is a single dad, was most concerned about what being laid off would mean for his son. Three months later, Thompson still isn't sure what the future holds, but he's trying to stay in Wyoming. Wyoming Public Radio's Stephanie Joyce caught up with him at a park in his hometown of Douglas.

Time: 6 min

Date: 7/29/16 at 3pm and 7/31/16 at noon on WPR. 7/31/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Glance at a satellite image of northeast Wyoming, and you can't miss the coal mines. The square-cornered grey blotches stretch north to south over more than 70 miles. But if all goes according to plan, someday, when the mining is done, those scars will disappear, erased from the landscape by intensive reclamation efforts. Coal companies are on the hook for that cleanup, but the industry's recent collapse has raised questions about whether they will actually come through. How big of a problem would it be if they didn't? Wyoming Public Radio's Stephanie Joyce takes us behind of the scenes of the complex, expensive process of cleaning up mining's legacy.

Time: 5 min

Date: 8/12/16 at 3pm and 8/14/16 at noon on WPR. 8/14/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Wyoming's wind producers breathed a sigh of relief yesterday when the Legislature's Joint Revenue Committee voted down a bill that would have increased the tax on wind energy

production. Wyoming Public Radio's energy reporter, Stephanie Joyce, was at the committee's meeting and she joins us now to talk about the day's twists and turns.

Time: 5 min

Date: 9/23/16 at 3pm and 9/25/16 at noon on WPR. 9/25/16 at 9am on WPM

Topic: Over the last three years, the German embassy has donated grant funds to educate University of Wyoming students about German history. Recently, the German Ambassador Peter Wittig visited the campus himself and, while he was here, Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards sat down with him to talk about what Wyoming can learn from Germany's own coal downturn AND the refugee crisis. They started the conversation with what he loves so much about Wyoming.

Time: 6 min

Date: 9/23/16 at 3pm and 9/25/16 at noon on WPR. 9/25/16 at 9am on WPM

Issue: Education

Topic: Educators from across the country are met in Washington D.C. this week for the annual national education conference. Kathy Vetter is the Wyoming Education Association President. While some states still struggle with funding, others have restored education money to pre-2008 levels. That's not the case in Wyoming, where a downturn in the energy economy has led to cuts in education funding for the first time in many years. She tells Bob Beck that educators fear that things could get worse.

Time: 7 min

Date: 7/1/16 at 3pm and 7-3-16 at noon on WPR. 7/3/16 at 9am on WPM

Topic: Wyoming President Laurie Nichols started her job on a Monday, the Monday after the Friday when Governor Matt Mead told the UW trustees that they must whack an additional

\$35 million from the University budget. Needless to say it's been a stressful time. Nichols tells Wyoming Public Radio's Bob Beck that they still have \$15 million to cut and now the cuts could come from programs and personnel, which will be very difficult.

Time: 10 min

Date: 7/15/16 at 3pm and 7/17/16 at noon on WPR. 7/17/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Earlier this month, the University of Wyoming's new president Laurie Nichols visited the Wind River Indian Reservation and sat down with business councils from both the Eastern Shoshone and the Northern Arapaho to talk about how to increase the number of Native Americans at UW and how to make them more welcome. Melodied Edwards reports.

Time: 7 min

Date: 7/29/16 at 3pm and 7/31/16 at noon on WPR. 7/31/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: The University of Wyoming has been working with a number of school districts across the state in an effort to change the way science is being taught in K-12 schools. Just this week ACT test scores show that Wyoming students still have a ways to go in being prepared to take college level science. With the roll out of the Next Generation Science Standards, UW has been working with districts to find new ways of teaching to those standards. Pete Ellsworth is the former coordinator of UW's Science and Math teaching center and Ana Houseal is UW's science outreach educator. She tells Bob Beck that early results show that within the districts that are doing things differently...scores are improving.

Time: 8 min

Date: 8/26/16 at 3pm and 8/28/16 at noon on WPR. 8/28/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Over the last several weeks we've gotten lots of information concerning testing of students. Some were more positive than others. To get a full assessment of how students are doing we turn to State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jillian Balow. It's a busy time in education, next week an education committee will continue working on such reforms as

distance education and how they will assess education in the future. Plus there is the issue of funding cuts. Superintendent Balow starts by saying that she's mostly pleased with some of the test scores she's seeing.

Time: 8 min

Date: 9/16/16 at 3pm and 9/18/16 at noon on WPR. 9/18/16 at 9am on WPM.

Issue: Politics

Topic: Wyoming Senator John Barrasso has one of the more difficult jobs in Washington this summer: he's chairing the GOP platform committee for the party's convention. Matt Laslo reports from Washington on the tough road ahead for the state's junior senator.

Time: 5 min

Date: 7/1/16 at 3pm and 7-3-16 at noon on WPR. 7/3/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: The question comes up every election year, does my vote count? The answer sometimes depends on what race or issue you are voting on. Wyoming is a very Republican state, so if you are not part of the GOP it's possible that your vote might mean very little, especially in the Presidential race. Wyoming Public Radio intern Liam Niemeyer met up with Wyoming voters in Laramie recently and asked...does your vote count?

Time: 3 min

Date: 7/15/16 at 3pm and 7/17/16 at noon on WPR. 7/17/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: When it comes to energy issues, Wyoming's delegates to the Democratic National Convention did not see eye to eye with many Democratic Party leaders or their party's platform. Correspondent Matt Laslo caught up with some of the delegates in Philadelphia and sent us this audio postcard.

Time: 5 min

Date: 7/29/16 at 3pm and 7/31/16 at noon on WPR. 7/31/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: When U.S. Representative Cynthia Lummis announced that she would not seek re-election this year, some big names in the state stepped forward, but so did a number of

others, especially in the Republican Party. But their lack of cash and name recognition has made it difficult to get the same attention as two current office holders and another candidate with a famous last name.

Time: 5 min

Date: 8/5/16 at 3pm and 8/7/16 at noon. 8/7/16 at 9am.

Topic: Wyoming is facing a primary election on Tuesday amid a historic downturn in the state's energy industry. In recent weeks, candidates for a variety of offices, including those running for the U.S. House of Representatives, have weighed in on the current energy situation, and how they would fix it. Our energy reporter, Stephanie Joyce, joins us now to fact-check some of those claims.

Time: 4 min

Date: 8/12/16 at 3pm and 8/14/16 at noon on WPR. 8/14/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Nearly 150 years ago, Wyoming was the first place in the country to grant women the right to vote. The question is - has that done any good for women in the state? In a new series on women in Western politics, Wyoming Public Radio's Caroline Ballard reports the answer might be no.

Time: 4 min

Date: 8/26/16 at 3pm and 8/28/16 at noon on WPR. 8/28/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Donald Trump is wooing energy-state voters by promising a presidency that will champion coal, promote drilling and free frackers from federal regulations limiting oil and gas development. Joe Wertz reports for Inside Energy, oil-state influencers are helping shape the platform of the Republican presidential candidate.

Time: 6 min

Date: 9/2/16 at 3pm and 9/4/16 at noon on WPR. 9/4/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton has energy whisperers with roots in fossil fuel country as well. Trevor Houser grew up in coal-rich Wyoming. He's part of a small team behind Clinton's energy strategy. Inside Energy's Leigh Paterson spoke with Houser about crafting energy policy in the middle of an energy bust.

Time: 6 min

Date: 9/2/16 at 3pm and 9/4/16 at noon on WPR. 9/4/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: To get on a primary ballot in Wyoming only takes a few things... meeting age and residency requirements, signing your name, and 200 bucks. But when it comes to actually running a campaign, there's a whole new set of challenges. Wyoming Public Radio's Caroline Ballard has the story of one woman who took on the odds of campaigning herself.

Time: 5 min

Date: 9/23/16 at 3pm and 9/25/16 at noon on WPR. 9/25/16 at 9am on WPM.

Issue: Social issues

Topic: If trends continue, Wyoming will close its gender wage gap last out of all 50 states – in the year 2159. The Institute for Women's Policy Research predicted that date by looking at salary rates in the state from 1969 to 2013. Julie Anderson is a Research Associate at the institute, and she joined Wyoming Public Radio's Caroline Ballard to discuss why Wyoming is such an outlier when it comes to the wage gap.

Time: 6 min

Date: 7/1/16 at 3pm and 7-3-16 at noon on WPR. 7/3/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: In recent years, the rates of teen suicide on many Indian reservations has skyrocketed, making it the second leading cause of death among Native youths. But as Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards reports, a new program on the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming is taking a novel approach to preventing teen suicide.

Time: 5 min

Date: 7/15/16 at 3pm and 7/17/16 at noon on WPR. 7/17/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: The two tribes on the Wind River Indian Reservation are growing and prospering...the Northern Arapaho is expected to reach 11,000 this year, the Eastern Shoshone is almost 5,000 strong. But while the number of people has been expanding, the number of homes where all those people can live has not. As the first part in her series on the reservation housing shortage, Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards reports that the situation has led to severe overcrowding...and the social problems that come with that.

Time: 6 min

Date: 8/12/16 at 3pm and 8/14/16 at noon on WPR. 8/14/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: The community of Gillette has seen tension recently with plans for a Quran burning and protests over Gillette's first mosque. Writer and Pulitzer Prize winner [Kathryn Schulz](#) heard this and wondered how a Muslim community came to be in coal mining Wyoming. She wrote an article this summer about Zarif Khan, a Muslim man from Pakistan who built a restaurant, a life, and a family in Sheridan at the turn of the last century. Schulz joined Wyoming Public Radio's Caroline Ballard to talk about the piece [Citizen Khan](#).

Time: 7 min

Date: 8/26/16 at 3pm and 8/28/16 at noon on WPR. 8/28/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Overcrowding in homes on the Wind River Reservation is a real problem. In the early 2000's, the number of homes with more than six people living in them grew by almost 10 percent there. And the reason is, there just aren't enough houses on the reservation. And as Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards reports there are a lot of hurdles for how housing developments are funded.

Time: 5 min

Date: 9/2/16 at 3pm and 9/4/16 at noon on WPR. 9/4/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Restorative justice programs are on the rise around the country...facilitating meetings between victims, offenders, and community members, in order to repair some of the harm caused by crime. Now, a group of volunteers in Casper wants to incorporate the method into the state's legal system. Wyoming Public Radio's Maggie Mullen reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: 9/23/16 at 3pm and 9/25/16 at noon on WPR. 9/25/16 at 9am on WPM.

Issue: Wildlife and Endangered Species

Topic: Most moose herds in Wyoming are in decline, but the Snowy Range Moose herd appears to be an exception. After a moose re-introduction in northern Colorado, they started showing up in the Snowy Range Mountains west of Laramie in the 1980s. They're commonly spotted throughout southeast Wyoming, but there is little data concerning their exact numbers. Now a joint research project by the University of Wyoming and Wyoming Game and Fish is trying to change that. Bob Beck reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: 7/15/16 at 3pm and 7/17/16 at noon on WPR. 7/17/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: When a pack of wolves in northwest Wyoming started killing cattle, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service did what they promised when they introduced the species 20 years ago, they responded by killing off the wolf pack. In another instance a pack killed 19 elk and left them uneaten. Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards took a horseback ride in the area to find out what's going on with wolves there.

Time: 5 min

Date: 8/5/16 at 3pm and 8/7/16 at noon. 8/7/16 at 9am.

Topic: The Wyoming Game and Fish Department continues to put the finishing touches on the plan for how Wyoming will manage the grizzly bear. This week Game and Fish Commissioners voted to approve a three state agreement concerning how Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana would manage grizzlies when they come off the endangered species list. Wyoming Game and Fish Chief Game Warden Brian Nesvik joins us to provide an update on where those delisting efforts stand.

Time: 5 min

Date: 8/12/16 at 3pm and 8/14/16 at noon. 8/12/16 at 9am

Topic: In the last week a bow hunter suffered numerous injuries after he was attacked by a bear. Game and Fish officials worry about such things at this time of year as more hunting seasons get underway. Tara Hodges from the Cody Game and Fish office explains that hunters need to be bear aware.

Time: 5 min

Date: 9/16/16 at 3pm and 9/18/16 at noon on WPR. 9/18/16 at 9am on WPM

Topic: When you think of raccoons, you may think of cute little creatures or maybe your neighborhood pest. But where do they live? Are they social? How smart are they? The University of Wyoming Raccoon Project is setting out to answer those questions. Wyoming Public Radio's Caroline Ballard rode along with the team of scientists on one of their recent trapping days.

Time: 5 min

Date: 9/16/16 at 3pm and 9/18/16 at noon on WPR. 9/18/16 at 9am on WPM

Issue: Health Care

Topic: When someone gets really sick, it can be difficult to know what to do for them - should you bring flowers? Food? A card? Jackson resident Kathleen Neiley is providing an answer with a new business: Full Circle Quilts creates custom, group funded t-shirt quilts for cancer patients. She told Wyoming Public Radio's Caroline Ballard the idea came from her own experiences.

Time: 6 min

Date: 7/15/16 at 3pm and 7/17/16 at noon on WPR. 7/17/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: For the last five years, a pilot project on the Wind River Indian Reservation has been building backyard vegetable gardens for residents there. But so many people wanted to participate that the organizers applied for funding to get a full-fledged project off the ground with twice as many plots. As Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards reports, the idea is to study whether gardening improves the many health issues on the reservation.

Time: 5 min

Date: 7/29/16 at 3pm and 7/31/16 at noon on WPR. 7/31/16 at 9am on WPM.

Issue: State budget

Topic: Due to Wyoming's economic downturn a number of state agencies have been required to cut their budgets to make up for a revenue shortfall that could reach \$300 million dollars. Among the cuts is 1 million dollars that the Department of Corrections uses for Substance abuse treatment. At the same time the Wyoming Department of Health is cutting funding for local substance abuse treatment. Wyoming Public Radio's Liam Niemeyer reports some worry the cuts could harm those in and out of the prison system.

Time: 5 min

Date: 7/29/16 at 3pm and 7/31/16 at noon on WPR. 7/31/16 at 9am on WPM

Topic: In fiscal year 2016, the University of Wyoming's utility bill was \$10.8 million—almost \$2 million more than fiscal year 2015. Next year, as new buildings under construction come online, that bill is likely to increase, even as the University faces \$41 million in budget cuts. Stephanie Joyce reports.

Time: 5 min

Date: 8/26/16 at 3pm and 8/28/16 at noon on WPR. 8/28/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Many programs on the University of Wyoming campus are facing budget cuts, but there are those who believe that academics is suffering more than it should. That's especially when compared to athletics. In public forums several faculty and staff members say they want athletics de-emphasized at the University. Wyoming Public Radio's Bob Beck took a look at the athletic department budget and has this report.

Time: 5 min

Date: 9/2/16 at 3pm and 9/4/16 at noon on WPR. 9/4/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: This week, University of Wyoming officials proposed cutting 16 academic programs in order to meet a \$15 million budget cut required for the next fiscal year. President Nichols notes that they are also looking at consolidating some programs and so in total she says they are actually looking at 8 to 10 program eliminations. In past years when the University of Wyoming has made budget cuts, it has tried to avoid eliminating academic programs, but Nichols has stood by her position that academic cuts must be considered.

Time: 5 min

Date: 9/23/16 at 3pm and 9/25/16 at noon on WPR. 9/25/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Earlier this year the Wyoming legislature cut 36 million dollars from money they provide to school district. Since that time districts have been trying to get that money back and

convince lawmakers that additional cuts would hurt their ability to adequately teach students. Wyoming Public Radio's Bob Beck reports that it all centers on the state constitution.

Time: 5 min

Date: 9/23/16 at 3pm and 9/25/16 at noon on WPR. 9/25/16 at 9am on WPM.

Issue: Business

Topic: Wyoming has a growing but mostly unnoticed software industry. The state has also made progress in developing data centers and tech companies, but a group of Cheyenne entrepreneurs noticed that the state lacked web developers and those who are trained to work in the technology industry. The newly created Array, School of Technology and Design is hoping to change that. Wyoming Public Radio's Bob Beck has more.

Time: 5 min

Date: 7/29/16 at 3pm and 7/31/16 at noon on WPR. 7/31/16 at 9am on WPM

Topic: Wyoming, like other energy producing states, is shedding jobs in coal, oil, and gas. But the renewables industry is growing nationwide, including jobs to make parts like wind turbine blades and towers. Wyoming wants to attract wind manufacturing jobs as part of an effort to diversity its fossil fuel-based economy, but right now the state has none of these jobs.

Neighboring Colorado has thousands. Inside Energy's Leigh Paterson went to find out what's standing in the way, starting off in Cheyenne.

Time: 5 min

Date: 7/29/16 at 3pm and 7/31/16 at noon on WPR. 7/31/16 at 9am on WPM

Topic: This week, the New American Economy issued a report on the economic impact of immigrants in every state, highlighting the role immigrants play as entrepreneurs. One place where immigrants are starting new companies in Wyoming is the Wyoming Technology

Business Center – a business incubator for start-ups. Wyoming Public Radio’s Caroline Ballard reports.

Time: 6 min

Date: 8/5/16 at 3pm and 8/7/16 at noon on WPR. 8/7/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Every year a forum in honor of former Ambassador Tom Stroock delves into an issue facing Wyoming. This year the focus will be on sovereign wealth funds such as Wyoming’s permanent mineral trust fund and rainy day accounts. State Treasurer Mark Gordon and University of Wyoming Stroock professor Jason Shogren join me to discuss the upcoming Stroock Sovereign wealth forum that will be held in Jackson. They speak with Bob Beck.

Time: 8 min

Date: 8/12/16 at 3pm and 8/14/16 at noon on WPR. 8/14/16 at 9am on WPM.

Issue: Environment and Natural Resources

Topic: 50 million years ago, Wyoming looked different. It was tropical, with lots of trees and wet, humid conditions. Scientists know this because of the many fossils found from this time period in the Green River Formation in Southwest Wyoming. New research on one particular fossil is allowing scientists to paint an even more detailed picture of that world. Sterling Nesbitt is an assistant professor of geosciences at Virginia Tech, and studied the fossil of *Calciavis Grandei* – a relative of modern day ground dwelling birds like ostriches and emus. Caroline Ballard reports.

Time: 6 min

Date: 7/29/16 at 3pm and 7/31/16 at noon on WPR. 7/31/16 at 9am on WPM

Topic: The National Park Service celebrated its 100th year of existence recently. Now the beloved federal agency is trying to figure out how to make it through the next century, while protecting the national parks “unimpaired for future generations”. Penny Preston reports.

Time: 4 min

Date: 9/2/16 at 3pm and 9/4/16 at noon on WPR. 9/4/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Yellowstone has seen extreme fire danger this summer, and crews are using everything at their disposal to manage them. Fighting wildfires increasingly relies on new technology like drones and a web program that traces every lightning strike in real time. But in the Black Hills of Northeastern Wyoming, the most basic of technology is still relied on...The human eye. Wyoming Public Radio's Maggie Mullen visited some of the few remaining fire lookout towers in the state.

Time: 5 min

Date: 9/2/16 at 3pm and 9/4/16 at noon on WPR. 9/4/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: For three years now, a few hardy souls at Central Wyoming College in Riverton have been making an expedition up to the Dinwoody Glacier in the Wind River Range to document how climate change is taking its toll on one of the state's largest glaciers. This year, Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards made the trek in with them.

Time: 6 min

Date: 9/16/16 at 3pm and 9/18/16 at noon on WPR. 9/18/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: In Grand Teton National Park, the White Grass Dude Ranch entertained visitors who came for mountain views and the chance to play cowboy for many years. It closed in 1985 and soon the ranch's cabins and lodge started falling apart once people stopped using them. That's how White Grass joined a backlog of some 27-thousand historic properties nationwide that the National Park Service couldn't afford to maintain. But things have changed. Wyoming Public Radio's Rebecca Huntington attended a recent rope-cutting to celebrate the ranch's revival.

Time: 5 min

Date: 9/16/16 at 3pm and 9/18/16 at noon on WPR. 9/18/16 at 9am on WPM

In recent years, archaeologists have discovered sites in the highest reaches of Wyoming's mountains where prehistoric people are believed to have lived year round...higher than some researchers believe North American people could have possibly survived. But a new study in the Wind River Range has even found artifacts at the base of a glacier almost 12-thousand feet in elevation. Wyoming Public Radio's Melodie Edwards hiked the 23 mile into this remote archeology dig to find out what they're learning there.

Time: 5 min

Date: 9/23/16 at 3pm and 9/25/16 at noon on WPR. 9/25/16 at 9am on WPM

Issue: Arts and Culture

Topic: The University of Wyoming hosted a summer institute for an organization that supports women of color in academia. Sarah Ortegon, artist and former Miss Native American USA spoke with Wyoming Public Radio's Maggie Mullen at the UW Art Museum, where some of her paintings are currently exhibited.

Time: 6 min

Date: 8/5/16 at 3pm and 8/7/16 at noon on WPR. 8/7/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: Thanks to innovations in camera technology, wildlife biologists are now able to peek into the lives of animals like never before. Now, a new book called *Candid Creatures: How Camera Traps Reveal the Mysteries of Nature*, compiles the best camera trap photos from around the world. I talked with author, Roland Hayes, head of the Biodiversity Lab at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences. Hayes starts our conversation by explaining just what a camera trap is.

Time: 5 min

Date: 8/5/16 at 3pm and 8/7/16 at noon on WPR. 8/7/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: The University of Wyoming is kicking off another school year, and with it comes a new season of visiting performers through the school's Cultural Programs. Janelle Fletcher is the Director of Fine Arts Outreach & Cultural Programs, and she joined Caroline Ballard to preview some of the fall season acts.

Time: 7 min

Date: 9/2/16 at 3pm and 9/4/16 at noon on WPR. 9/4/16 at 9am on WPM.

Topic: After public universities opened their doors to women, the chance to study music composition opened up as well. But the best known, highest paid composers still tend to be men. Composer Libby Larsen is one notable exception - she is the eminent musician-in-residence at the University of Wyoming for the 2016 – 2017 academic year. She joined Wyoming Public Radio's Caroline Ballard to talk about her music and some of the biggest challenges still facing female composers.

Time: 6 min

Date: 9/23/16 at 3pm and 9/25/16 at noon on WPR. 9/25/16 at 9am on WPM