

Dear Listeners,

The year is coming to an end, and November was more active than ever!

This year's Giving Tuesday was exciting and heartening. More than 300 listeners responded to honor charities and non-profits with a message on air and a mention on our website. WPM staff always look forward to this annual event. It's a great way to give back to the community by recognizing the work of volunteers and organizations that form the backbone of our state services. WPM's Giving Tuesday on-air and online activities are unique among public radio stations and other organizations. Instead of asking for a donation, we honor the organizations and activities listeners call in, and give many of them much needed promotions. Thanks to this year's Giving Tuesday sponsor – Community Foundation of Wyoming. You can view all the organizations/activities listeners cited at <http://wyomingpublicmedia.org/wyoming-public-radio-giving-tuesday-2017>. And remember, this is the season of giving! Wyoming's non-profits can always use a gift!

On November 27th, Gillette was the location of a unique series called "I respectfully Disagree." Here's a synopsis:

It's been a hard couple of years for the community of Gillette. Hundreds of coal miners lost their jobs, anti-Muslim speech tore the community apart, the Hispanic community has been living in fear of deportations and the economic path forward is still unclear there. As part of her series, "I Respectfully Disagree," WPR reporter, Melodie Edwards, hosted an event November 27 at the Rock Pile Museum in which she brought together community leaders from across the political spectrum--a coal miner/mom, a faith leader, a Hispanic community leader, a senator, leaders from both parties, a Trump supporter/coal miner, a poverty advocate, the city's mayor and a college administrator. They broke bread together, shared their stories, discussed shared values and brainstormed solutions.

Our new donor-funded reporter is based in Cody, as part of a partnership with the Buffalo Bill Center of the West. You will hear stories and features from Kamila Kudelska throughout our radio schedule and online. View Kamila's stories [here](#).

American Public Media (APM), distributor for both A Prairie Home Companion and The Writers Almanac, has discontinued distribution of The Writers Almanac, amid recent allegations about Mr. Keillor. Beyond statements from Minnesota Public Radio, we have no other information at this time. Chris Thile will continue to host the two-hour segment Saturday from 6 to 8 p.m.

Wyoming Public Media's Open House takes place this Friday, December 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 pm. Be sure to drop by if you're in the area. An annual tradition, this very casual gathering is fun and a wonderful way to meet other public radio enthusiasts and to tour the station. Jazz musician, Ben Markley, will offer a live performance.

Be sure to check out our new site TheModernWest.org. It's a destination for those who want to experience the West both past and present. You'll find cultural stories, news, oral histories, artist performances and podcasts that draw from original Wyoming Public Media productions as well as a variety of sources linked to major Wyoming cultural sites.

As the holidays are upon us, WPM will also offer several beautiful special holiday programs from near and far, from the deep past to contemporary times. We hope you enjoy our season's offerings, and the new programs in the coming year.

On behalf of the staff, I wish you all a very safe and joyful holiday season!

Sincerely,
Christina Kuzmych
General Manager
Wyoming Public Media



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