## 2016

## LOCAL CONTENT & SERVICE REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY





# PROGRAMS WITH IMPACT

#### **BICENTENNIAL SPECIALS**

In 2016, Indiana Public Radio partnered with WIPB-TV to create special programming celebrating Indiana's Bicentennial. *Indiana @ 200* consisted of short radio, television and web programs. Based on an essay series written by local educator Andrea Neal, the segments celebrate Indiana's rich history and reveal the special character of our Hoosier state. Ms. Neal has written extensively about taxes, good governance, higher education, civic education and K-12 education. The *Indiana @* 200 segments were made available to other public media stations throughout the Hoosier state and are archived on our website.



IPR continued its monthly program, *Community Connection*, in 2016, focusing on 12 local non-profit organizations in our listening area. But the focus last year was deliberate – to concentrate on organizations that are minority-formed or minority-aimed to make sure those stories were told and, as a result, help was found, whether it was in the form of those who could volunteer their services or those who would benefit from services these organizations provide. Organizations included the Whitely Community Pantry, the Muncie R.A.C.E. Group and Muncie Unity Center.

200

I really enjoyed sharing about R.A.C.E. Muncie on Community Connection, and appreciated that it was going to reach an audience we may not have previously reached. It helped us get the word out there about the work that we do related to reconciliation and relationship building here in Muncie.

- Jason Donati, R.A.C.E. Muncie



Members of Whitely Pantry are interviewed for Community Connection.



## **PROGRAMS WITH IMPACT**

#### OFF THE BEATEN PATH

*Indiana Weekend with John Strauss*, airing weekly on IPR, included segments on Indiana history and tourism. Segments included a visit to Decatur for the town's remarkable Sculpture Tour of outdoor artwork. Another featured a look at "road trips" to historic sites across the state. Another show took listeners to the classic Ohio River town of Madison, which was formed seven years before Indiana became a state and yet has managed to preserve its history.

And a popular segment from the city of Peru introduced listeners to teen performers in the Peru Amateur Youth Circus as they rehearsed for their annual festival. Economic development is another part of the Indiana story that the show embraces. *Indiana Weekend* took listeners to the city of Anderson — decimated in recent years by cutbacks in the auto industry but now enjoying a resurgence of job announcements, a new Purdue Polytechnic Institute and a proposed co-working

space. Voices in that show included entrepreneurs building new businesses – and residents eager for an economic recovery and new opportunities in Madison County.

The show's topical focus turned late in the year toward conservation, where a debate over the future of state forests has pitted environmentalists against the foresters who say that they need to dramatically increase the amount of logging allowed on public lands. This was Indiana's bicentennial year, and the program featured prominent state historians talking about Indiana's colorful past and the personalities who made the state what it is.





### JAZZ NOTES

A chance encounter at a local antique mall in 2015 found IPR's Steven Turpin and Larry Beck discussing the shortage of jazz programming in east central Indiana. What resulted were three programs that aired in that year hosted by Beck. In March 2016 a new series entitled, *BlueNotes: Indiana Public Radio's Quarterly Jazz Digest* joined IPR's permanent schedule with Beck as the host.

The premiere year featured 8 hours of programming on jazz of the swing era, smooth jazz, Bicentennial Hoosier jazz and holiday jazz. The "Bicentennial Salute to Hoosier Jazz" episode was endorsed by the Indiana Bicentennial Commission. *BlueNotes* will continue in 2017.



# MUSIC PROGRAMS



Members of Quartetto di Cremona with IPR's Classical Music host Steven Turpin.

IPR continued its daily classical music program *Morning Musicale with Steven Turpin*. In addition to providing ever-changing playlists of classical music, *Morning Musicale* promoted local music concerts and featured special live performances by visiting artists in studio. A total of twelve artists of genres ranging from Irish to gypsy flamenco were interviewed and performed live in the studio during 2016.

In 2016, *The Scene*, produced in collaboration with the music media production class in Ball State University's School of Music, continued to highlight the local music scene monthly. Created in 2010, the music program features live performances and interviews captured at venues around Central Indiana. Each episode, which airs on Saturday evening, consists of two live sets produced by students.



One of the many artists featured on The Scene.





## NEWS ACCOLADES



Cameron Ridle and Zach Huffman



Michael Kuhn, Stephanie Wiechmann, Zach Huffman and Terry Heistz

IPR's news team was awarded eleven awards during the state's spring news awards season. The Indiana Associated Press Broadcaster's Association and the state Society of Professional Journalists chapter recognized stories and newscasts aired in 2015 from both IPR's professional news reporters and student reporters.

#### **AP** Awards:

Best Local Reporter, Best Short-Form Radio Newscast, Best Continuing Coverage of a Single Event, and Best Enterprise Story – Stephanie Wiechmann

Second place, Best Long-Form Newscast for a *Morning Edition* broadcast – Stan Sollars

Second place, Best Radio Public Affairs for an *Indiana Weekend* episode – John Strauss

#### AP Student Awards:

First place, Best Use of Radio Sound for Anderson Fire Dept. story – Zach Huffman

Second place, Best Radio Student of the Year – Michael Kuhn

SPJ Awards:

Third place, Documentary for *Stan's Journey* – Stan Sollars

Third place, Best Radio Newscast for *All Things Considered* broadcast – Stephanie Wiechmann

#### **SPJ Student Awards:**

First place, Student Features Reporting for "Fighting the Fire" – Zach Huffman

Indiana Student Journalist of the Year to Cameron Ridle



# IPR LOCAL VALUE

Indiana Public Radio addresses the interests and concerns of a diverse, curious audience in determining program choices. Our listeners demand quality, factual news from local, regional, national and international sources. Likewise, in our music programming we offer performance of the highest standards in a variety of genres, also an expectation of a discerning listenership, with an emphasis on local/ regional content. Our community engagement, both online and in-person, purposefully addresses this diverse audience, offering a platform for sharing their voices and allowing us to become a vital partner in the communities that we reach.

### **KEY SERVICES**

IPR continued its longstanding Season Partnerships with **13 local music and culture organizations** to promote the arts locally. In addition to promoting local concerts, we conducted pre-concert community engagement activities with Muncie Symphony Orchestra.

#### IPR SEASON PARTNERS

Anderson Symphony Orchestra Arts Place, Inc. Civic Hall Performing Arts Center Cornerstone Center For The Arts Honeywell Center Marion Civic Theatre Marion Philharmonic Orchestra Masterworks Chorale Muncie Civic Theatre Muncie Symphony Orchestra Muncie Three Trails Music Series Richmond Symphony Orchestra Wabash Valley Music Association

### ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY

The station provided tours for several different groups each year, from **Boy Scouts** to home schoolers. In 2016, a group of more than 90 students from a Muncie middle school spent time at the station, learning about careers in broadcasting and more.

IPR participated in the annual **ArtsWalk** in downtown Muncie, a large outdoor fall arts festival. IPR presented a booth of coloring and craft activities for children as well as information about IPR programming. Hundreds attend the annual event.

IPR participated in the **Muncie Chamber of Commerce's Muncie On the Move** breakfast events, which offered the station the opportunity to spotlight its programming and special events as well as build relationships with potential partners and underwriters.

IPR presented its annual **Radio Drama** during the holiday season. We partnered with the **Ball State University Department of Theatre and Dance** to produce the drama. It featured a professional foley artist, musicians from **Ball State's Music Department** and community members. The performance was presented in front of a live audience, broadcast on IPR and recorded for broadcast later on **WIPB-TV**. *Pictured: Radio Drama performers Paul Tavianini and Stan Sollars.* 

