

Indiana Public Radio

Local Content & Service
Report to the Community
2015



indianapublicradio.org

The Scene



The Scene crew recording a live event at the Rathskeller Biergarten in Indianapolis.



Because IPR is located on the campus of Ball State University, it's important for the station to offer hands-on, creative opportunities for its students. *The Scene*, created in 2010, is just one of those opportunities. Produced by students, 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. In 2015, *The Scene* had an opportunity to partner with the *Muncie Music Fest*, a large multi-genre festival held at the Cornerstone Center for the Arts in downtown Muncie. The Scene crew captured several live performances – the only show that was granted access to do so – and later broadcast those performances on IPR.

Indiana Weekend

In 2015, WIPB continued to produce the popular local program *Indiana Weekend*.

Indiana Weekend with John Strauss, airing weekly on IPR, included segments on Anderson's historic Paramount Theatre, the latest guidance for people seeking to shed pounds in the winter from the Ball State Adult Physical Fitness Program, and an update on how military veterans at the university are faring.



Examples of our diverse sources for story ideas included a segment with black college students raising money and awareness for the homeless in Muncie, and an interview with writer Dwight Ritter about his novel, "Growin' Up White," set in the racially turbulent Indianapolis of the 1950s, and the woman – his prosperous white family's maid – who changed his life.

The shows have showcased elements of Indiana's economy including "Hoosier Harvest," a show about three farm families bringing in the crop this fall, and a look at how local communities are stressing "quality of place" in hopes of luring new residents - and greater prosperity.



Adam Howell, who earned his college degree in economics from Princeton, drives a combine to harvest soybeans for his family's farming business in Madison County, Indiana.

Morning Musicale

Each weekday morning, IPR's resident classical music guru, Steven Turpin, plays a hand-picked playlist of pieces as part of the popular program *Morning Musicale*. Turpin also welcomes performers into the IPR studios for live performances and interviews.

These performances and interviews spotlight community events such as a performance by violinist Hilary Hahn, the Ball State University Opera production of "La Boheme," and a preview of Raúl Prieto Ramírez's "Muncie Pipes! First Annual Gala Pipe Organ Festival." Turpin also engaged his audience with trivia, ticket giveaways and more throughout the year.



Members of the Quartetto di Cremona with Steven Turpin, host of *Morning Musicale*.

Community Connection

Created in 2013, Community Connection is an IPR original program that tells the story of nonprofit organizations in our community. Each month, we focus on one organization and what its volunteers and staff are doing to make East Central Indiana a better place to live and work.

In 2015, the program spotlighted the work of a health provider (Open Door Health Services), a cancer service agency (Little Red Door Cancer Services of East Central Indiana), a mentor program (Big Brothers Big Sisters of Delaware County), and an organization that provides shelter for the homeless (Muncie Mission), among others. The program is produced by Ball State University students, which is another example of IPR's commitment to provide educational and enrichment opportunities that students cannot get in the classroom.





IPR's Community Engagement Coordinator, Michelle Kinsey, recently presented a Pecha Kucha talk on the new StoryCorps smartphone app at the David Owsley Museum of Art on the Ball State University campus.

StoryCorps

It became clear in 2015 that race relations was an important issue facing the IPR community. IPR's Community Engagement department reached out to a new local group, R.A.C.E. (Reconciliation Achieved through Community Engagement), to provide resources to assist with its ongoing effort to understand and improve race relations in this community and beyond. We used StoryCorps as a tool to encourage people to tell their stories and preserve them for future generations. This is an ongoing project that will continue through 2016 through partnerships with the Muncie Boys & Girls Club, Roy C. Buley Community

Center and the R.A.C.E. group. As part of our efforts to get the word out about the StoryCorps race initiative, our Community Engagement Coordinator partnered with the David Owsley Museum of Art on the Ball State University campus to encourage an audience of teachers, students, community organizers, parents and others to tell their stories of racism in our community. Taking the StoryCorps project to a diverse, large audience at the Ball State University museum created awareness of the community-wide issue of race relations and racial bias, and motivated groups like the Muncie Boys & Girls Club, to get involved.

Other Community Engagement Efforts

- IPR participated in Muncie on the Move events, which draw local business and community leaders to share information about programming, events and community engagement efforts.
- In 2015, IPR offered tours for several groups, including one for 130 Muncie Community Schools students, many of whom are living in poverty. In fact, more than 70 percent of the student population within this school district qualifies for free-and-reduced meals.
- IPR participated in the annual Arts Walk, an outdoor arts festival which drew thousands to downtown Muncie. IPR used this opportunity to share information about its programming as well as upcoming events including “All Beers Considered,” a popular beer tasting fundraiser for the station.
- IPR provided activities for more than 40 children during a family-focused Muncie Symphony Orchestra performance at Ball State University’s Emens Auditorium.



IPR’s Radio Drama “A Christmas Carol” drew a crowd of nearly 300 at Sursa Performance Hall on Ball State’s campus.

News Awards

Stephanie Wiechmann

Indiana Associated Press – Best Reporter, Local Radio

Indiana Associated Press – Best Enterprise Story, “To Protect Our Resources, a Reservoir or a Greenway?”

Indiana Broadcaster’s Association – First Place in Breaking News Story, “Misconduct Charges Filed Against Muncie City Court Judge”

Indiana Weekend with John Strauss

Indiana Associated Press – Best Public Affairs, “Prison Art Lessons”

Society of Professional Journalists – Third Place in Radio Documentary or Special, “Prison Art Lessons”

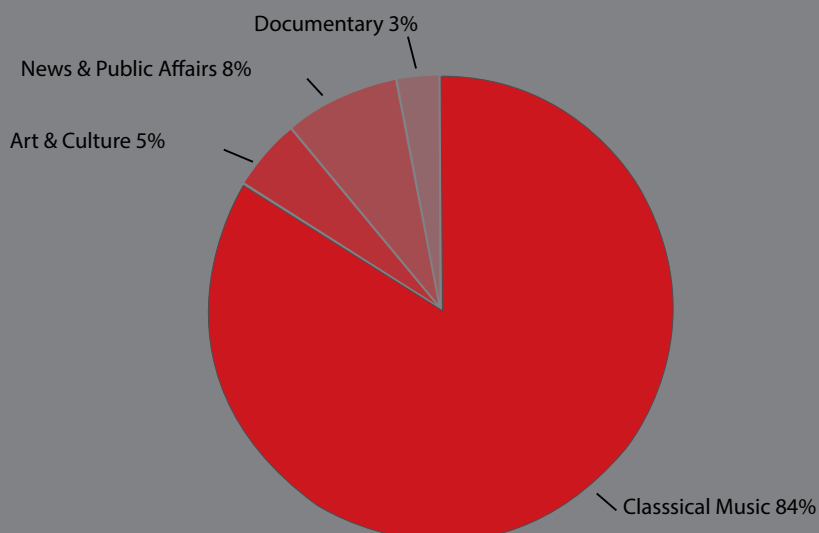
Payne Horning (student)

Indiana Associated Press – Best Student Reporter

Zach Huffman (student)

Society of Professional Journalists – Third Place in Student Radio Features Reporting, “Hoosier at Sochi Olympics” and “Burying Unclaimed Hoosier Military Dead”

Local Programming



IPR produced
867 hours
of local programming
in 2015.