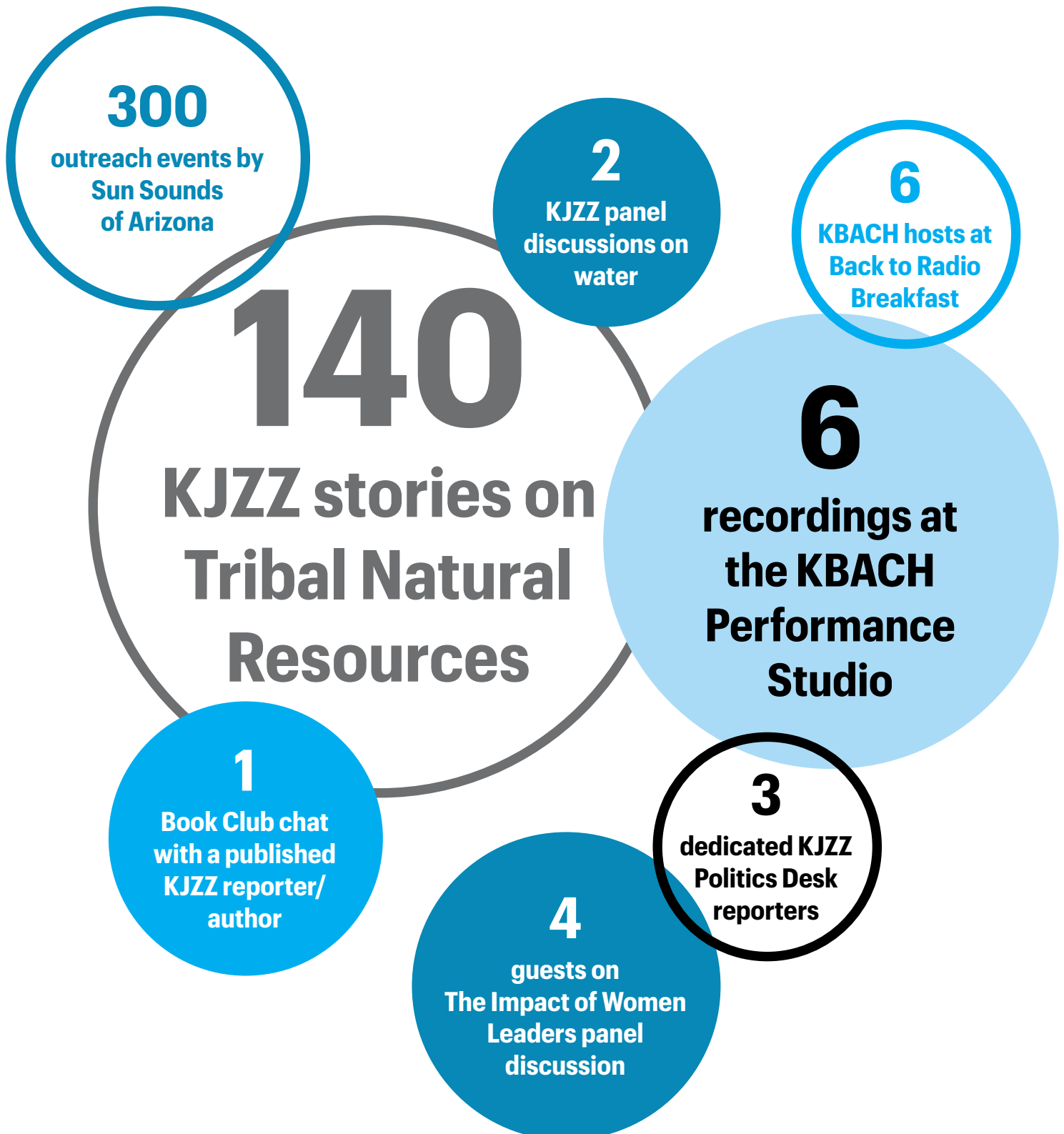




STEPPING OUT

FRIENDS OF PUBLIC RADIO ARIZONA
ANNUAL REPORT
2023–2024

Stepping Out in Our Community



A Message from the Board Chair

As Board Chair, I'm thrilled to share a year of remarkable progress and innovation for Friends of Public Radio Arizona. The theme "Stepping Out" captures our commitment to extending our reach and impact.

We've stepped out into our community, forging new connections and strengthening existing relationships. Our initiatives have brought public radio closer to listeners, fostering a sense of belonging and shared purpose.

We've stepped out to address issues, using the power of public radio to enlighten and engage. Our programming has tackled pressing topics, offering a platform for diverse voices and fostering meaningful conversations.

We've stepped out to explore new paths for fundraising, ensuring the sustainability of our mission. Through innovative campaigns and community partnerships, we've secured vital resources to fuel our growth and service.

As we reflect on this year's accomplishments, we're energized by the possibilities ahead. Together, we're stepping out with purpose, passion, and a shared dedication to enriching the lives of Arizonans through the power of public radio.

Thank you for being an integral part of this journey.



Adriane Youngblood

FPRAZ Chair

Regional Director, Sales – Southwest, Clear Channel Outdoor

Friends of Public Radio Arizona (FPRAZ) assures the future vitality and excellence of our community's public radio and broadens its support.

I listen to KJZZ every day to get my news. It talks about the topics that matter most to me in my life and my world. ”

**KJZZ Member Beth,
Gilbert**

FPRAZ's Tax ID is **01-0579687**. Our Form 990s are available online at fpraz.org

Forging Ahead Online



KJZZ is committed to the news and information our community relies on—especially online.

Earlier this year, our web and digital teams redesigned KJZZ's website, thanks to the support of committed members.

The overhaul integrates more closely with NPR—from streamlined content sharing to enhanced web analytics.

The new KJZZ.org includes an always-on live-streaming audio player—the large orange play button on the

top of any page—allowing the stream to continue simultaneously while navigating around the website.

Additionally, on the right of the top blue bar, “All Streams” offers the chance to listen to other Friends of Public Radio Arizona stations: Jazz PHX and Classical KBACH.

The new KJZZ.org is optimized to give visitors the best experience on desktop, mobile, and tablet devices. Refreshed story pages showcase the vibrant photos and videos KJZZ reporters take in the field.

*I am that person who begins conversations with,
“Did you listen to KJZZ this morning...?”*

**KJZZ Member Shelly,
Wittmann**



After many years, Sun Sounds of Arizona finally has an app of its own, thanks to a grant from NEXT50. The app features live streams for the affiliates in Flagstaff, Tempe, and Tucson, along with the on-demand libraries and quick access to the Sun Sounds website.

This new, easy-to-use app is available in the App Store and on Google Play.

Awards for Stepping Out

Thanks to your donations, the work of KJZZ editors, hosts, producers, and reporters is regularly recognized by national organizations. Edward R. Murrow Awards put public interest above all else, provide a catalyst for public discussion, and adhere to the Radio Television Digital News Association (RTDNA) Code of Ethics. KJZZ won four **Regional Murrow Awards** for news coverage in 2023 in the following areas:



- Continuing Coverage: 'The Zone': From the Courtroom to the Street, the Last Year in Phoenix's Largest Homeless Encampment by Kirsten Dorman, Lauren Gilger, and Tim Agne
- Excellence in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Beth's Story: She Says Being a 'Non-Speaker' Shouldn't Mean Losing Her Right to Decide for Herself by Kirsten Dorman
- Excellence in Sound: Soundies: 1940s 'Music Videos' Gave Black Performers a Time to Shine in the Jim Crow Era by Jill Ryan
- Sports Reporting: Girls Flag Football is Off to a Flying Start with First Arizona Championship this Year by Phil Latzman



Kirsten Dorman



Lauren Gilger



Tim Agne



Jill Ryan



Phil Latzman

KJZZ also won three **Public Media Journalists Association awards** recognizing the best of local public radio news:

- Continuing Coverage, second place: 'The Zone': The last year in Phoenix's largest homeless encampment by Kirsten Dorman, Lauren Gilger, and Tim Agne
- Newscast, second place: KJZZ Newscast: Dec. 7, 2023, anchored by Phil Latzman and featuring stories from Matthew Casey and Gabriel Pietrorazio
- Use of Sound, first place: Cheap and welcoming, Hermosillo's Club Obregon is where the city hangs out with itself by Murphy Woodhouse



Find links to listen to all of these award-winning stories at kjzz.org/awards



Matthew Casey



Gabriel Pietrorazio



Murphy Woodhouse



A Message from the Executive Director

It's remarkable to think that nearly five years have passed since a global pandemic disrupted our lives, leaving a lasting imprint on us all. We are deeply grateful to have navigated that challenging time with the unwavering support of loyal members like you, who share our commitment to the mission of public radio: providing trusted news, entertainment, and information for everyone.

Change is constant, and with it come both challenges and opportunities. This year, we've made a deliberate effort to move beyond the habits shaped by the pandemic and embrace new possibilities.

We've reconnected with our community in meaningful ways, going beyond the airwaves to share vital information, inspiring music, and, most importantly, face-to-face interactions with you—our dedicated listeners. From events and panel discussions to local performances and member gatherings, we've worked to create spaces where ideas are exchanged, performances are celebrated, and connections are strengthened. These experiences deepen the sense of community that makes public radio so special.

As we look back on the past year, we're proud of what we've achieved and excited for the road ahead. Our mission to inform, engage, and entertain remains at the heart of everything we do. Your continued support inspires us to keep growing, innovating, and making a meaningful impact.

We appreciate the integral role you play in our journey. We look forward to another year of connection, creativity, and shared success.



Linda Pastori

Executive Director, FPRAZ

Associate Vice President, Division of Public Service

Public radio is as valuable to our society as public schools, public libraries, and national parks!

**KJZZ Member Theresa,
Phoenix**

Performing at KBACH

As KBACH members, you are critical to our classical music mission, and our job is to keep listeners connected to the Valley's classical scene. And as often as we can, we host local artists in the KBACH Performance Studio to record beautiful music and informative conversations.

Listen to all these interviews at kbach.org/performance



Thank you for producing a wonderful interview for us. The recording quality is top notch and we are grateful for the opportunity to be featured.

**Christopher McKay,
Urban Nocturnes**

Thank you for all of your efforts. These broadcasts and interviews with local arts organizations are invaluable.

**Mark Dix,
Downtown Chamber Series**





KBACH Back to Radio Breakfast (Oct. '23)



The Impact of Women Leaders Panel (Sep. '23)



Food, Water, and the
Panel Convers



KBACH Back to Radio Breakfast (Oct. '23)



The Impact of Women Leaders Panel (Sep. '23)



KBACH Back to Radio Breakfast (Oct. '23)



KJZZ Politics Desk L



Book Club Author Chat (May '24)



Book Club Author Chat (May '24)





Future of Tribal Lands
Discussion (Nov. '23)



Luncheon (April '24)

Connecting and Addressing Issues

Connecting with listeners and members is a key component of public radio's place in our community. When we host local events and forums or provide a platform for diverse voices, it reinforces our role as a vital source of information and connection for residents.

Throughout this fiscal year, KJZZ and KBACH hosted a series of engaging events in the community that covered a wide array of topics, fostering dialogue, raising awareness, and encouraging connection. These gatherings aimed to create spaces for learning, collaboration, and reflection, underscoring our commitment to being not just a source of news, entertainment and music, but a catalyst for community engagement and thoughtful discourse.

We are grateful to everyone who participated and look forward to building on this momentum in the year ahead.



KJZZ Politics Desk Luncheon (April '24)



Uranium and the Grand Canyon
Panel Conversation (June '24)



The Politics of Water Panel Conversation (May '24)



The Politics of Water Panel Conversation (May '24)



Reaching New Listeners

Sun Sounds of Arizona, with affiliates in Flagstaff, Tempe, and Tucson, is committed to community outreach and making as many people as possible aware of our life-enhancing reading service.

In fiscal year 2023–2024, our volunteers and outreach coordinator stepped out at 300 events across the state, including the Aging Made Easier Conference in Chandler, the 13th Annual African American Conference on Disabilities, and many more.

Sun Sounds ambassadors also presented at senior communities like Westminster Village in North Scottsdale and hosted groups for tours of our studios to help them better understand our volunteer-fueled operation.

Sun Sounds continues to serve the community with audio versions of printed election information, enabling those with vision or reading disabilities to gain the knowledge needed to be informed voters.



Expanding Our Impact at Local Schools

SPOT 127 Youth Media Center provides young people in the greater Phoenix area with mentoring and instruction in key digital skills vital for success in today's information economy.

Your gifts of support help SPOT 127's instructors step out into the community and visit schools, offering students the time and resources needed to enhance their multimedia abilities.

With the knowledge high school students gain at SPOT 127, they can step into new opportunities. Some take advantage of SPOT 127 scholarships to attend community or 4-year colleges. Tempe High School students used their newfound talents to debut a newscast benefitting the entire student body! SPOT 127 is pouring into our community's youth and creating a better future for all of us.

We appreciate our Tax Credit Donors! In FY 23-24, we received \$69,339.33



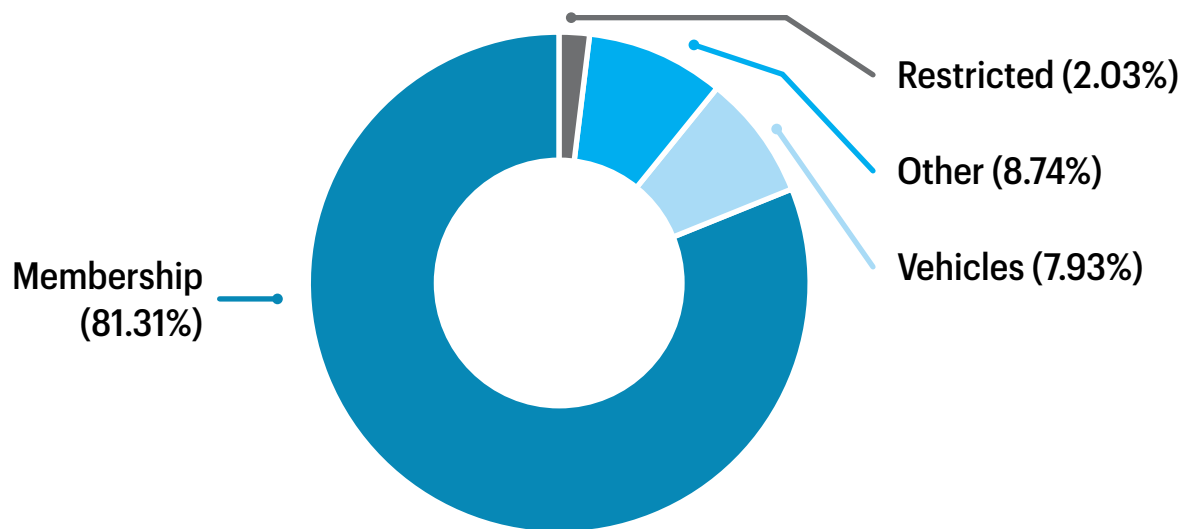
Fiscal Year 2023–2024 Financials

End of Year Assets: \$10,640,702

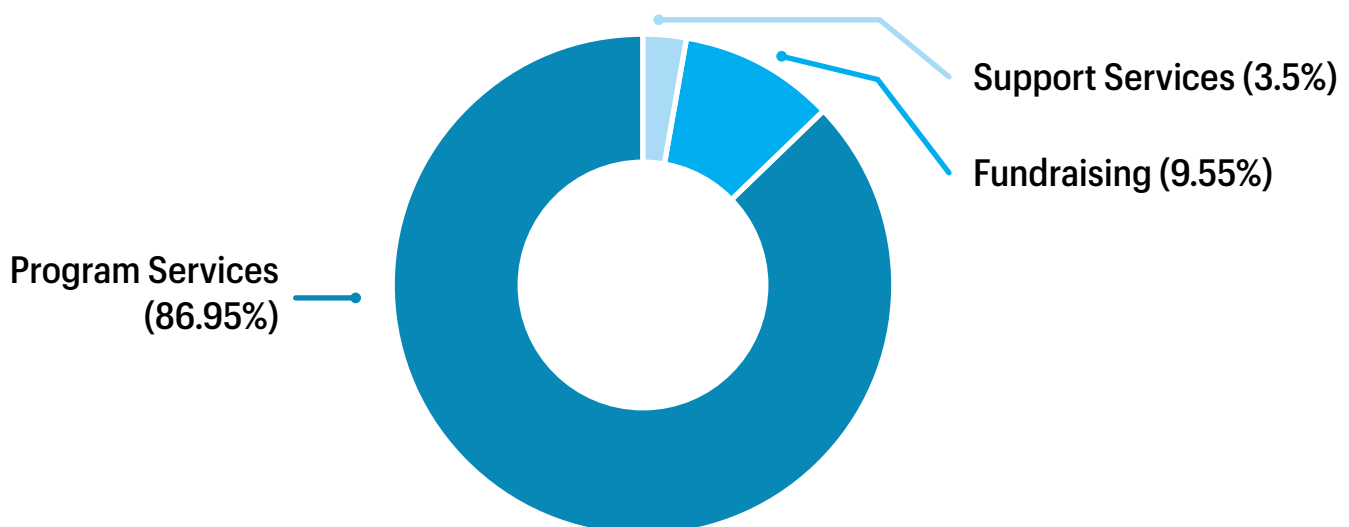
Membership as of 6/30/24:

27,075 members

Total Revenue FY23–24: \$8,378,562



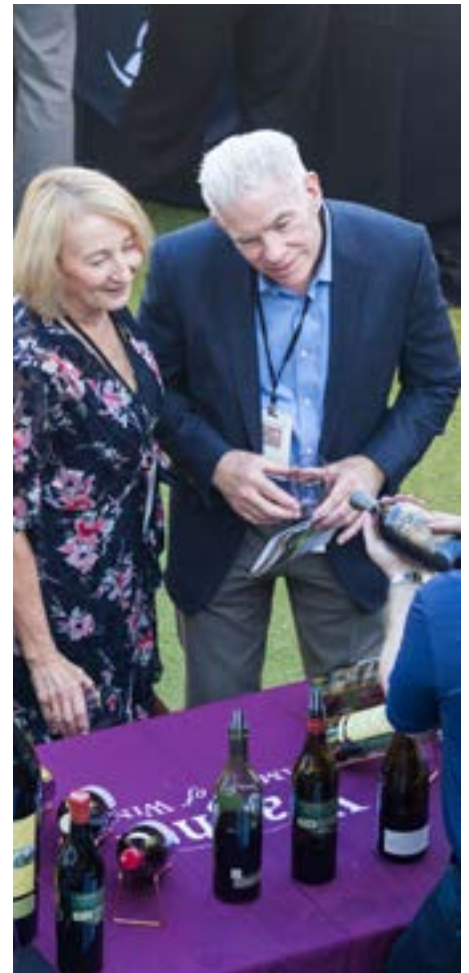
Total Expenses FY23–24: \$6,948,534





A New Festival Era

For over 20 years, First Press has been a signature fundraising event for the Friends of Public Radio Arizona. The 2024 First Press Fine Wine Festival was held on the beautiful grounds of the Wrigley Mansion, a Phoenix landmark. This fun-filled afternoon included wine tastings from 23 Southwest wineries, sumptuous foods, breathtaking views, and multiple opportunities to bid on silent auction items. Proceeds supported KJZZ, KBACH, and SPOT 127.



Friends of Public Radio Arizona Board Members (FY 23–24)

Adriane Youngblood (Chair)
Clear Channel Outdoor

Stacy Mendez (Vice Chair)
Avnet, Inc.

Glenn Wike (Secretary)
The Burton Family Foundation

Libby Goff (Treasurer)
Blockwise

Pallav Acharya
REDW LLC (Retired)
CPA Global Tax

Gail Bradley
Northern Trust (Retired)

Bryan K. Darby
QTS Data Centers

Joseph Garcia
Chicanos Por La Causa
Sí Se Vota CPLC Action Fund

Mistie Hague Weishaar
Greenberg Traurig, LLC

Amy Heisler
Silicon Valley Bank,
A Division of First Citizens Bank

Paul Hickman
Arizona Bankers Association

Jennifer Holsman Tetreault
TPI Composites

Betty Hum
Intel Corporation (Retired)

Eshé N. Pickett
Intel Corporation

Hope M. Sharett
Fiesta Bowl

Alec Thomson
Arizona Lottery

Christina Worden
SRP

Jon Hoban (Ex Officio)
Rio Salado College
Division of Public Service

Kate Smith (Ex Officio)
Rio Salado College



The FPRAZ Board and Emeritus Council members and their families attended an Ice Cream Social this past summer and enjoyed the informal setting. Thanks to all our volunteer board members!

Division of Public Service Executive Team

Jon Hoban
Vice President & General Manager

Ben Overbaugh
Chief Engineer

Linda Pastori
Associate Vice President
Executive Director, Friends of Public Radio Arizona

Matt Rogers
Program Director, KBACH

John Sage
Associate Vice President
Director of Information Technology

Brian Smith
Operations Director, KBACH

Chad Snow
News Director, KJZZ

Friends of Public Radio Arizona (FPRAZ) Emeritus Council

Evelyn Casuga
Steve Curley
Susan Edwards
Karen Greenberg
Phil Hagenah
Julie Johnson
Laura W. Martin
Carl Matthusen (General Manager Emeritus)
John McDonald

Carol McElroy
Suzanne Pfister
Armando Roman
Todd Sanders
Dan Schweiker
Chip Scutari
Larry Stewart
Diane Veres

KBACH provides a beautiful music listening experience that enriches my day and offers much-needed breaks from the busy-ness of my life.

**KBACH Member Evelyn,
Anchorage, Alaska**



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Friends of Public Radio Arizona is recognized and certified by:



**Friends of Public Radio Arizona assures the future
vitality and excellence of our community's
public radio and broadens its support.**

