WYSU Continues 24/7 Broadcasting during the COVID-19 Pandemic, and Enhances News Coverage

The COVID-19 pandemic created all sorts of new operational, funding, service, and sustainability challenges and considerations for WYSU. Thanks to the hard work of our entire staff, the station made the necessary adjustments to maintain our broadcast services without interruption, while ensuring the safety of our personnel. A very quick move to remote operations began on Wednesday, March 18, with only a program host in the morning, and one in the afternoon remaining in the studios and offices. The entire dedicated, talented, and hard-working staff responded to the challenge, making it possible to run this public radio service efficiently and well remotely. Beginning in July, the station staff transitioned
back to working (safely!) out of the WYSU-FM offices.

A positive is that WYSU expanded its local news and information service in response to the pandemic. Thanks to Andrea Wood and her team at The Business Journal, the substance level of The Business Journal Reports during All Things Considered has been very strong throughout the pandemic. The Mahoning Matters Coronavirus Report, now called the Mahoning Matters News Report, was added to the top of each hour, and has been a valuable addition to the news service. WYSU has also been providing a great deal of informational spots directed to YSU students and their families, and to local nonprofits and community members in need of assistance because of the pandemic.

Additionally, to avoid the possibility of having to shut down because of infection or other emergency reasons, WYSU has expanded its remote operations capabilities. Four remote studios were purchased and are being integrated into WYSU’s normal operations. These units will enable staff to broadcast remotely in the event they are not permitted on campus or cannot reach the studios for any reason.

88.5 WYSU-FM is committed to being your source for trusted, in-depth news; engaging conversation; and music that stimulates the mind and spirit, before, during, and after this pandemic. We are radio you need to know!

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October is ‘Support WYSU Month’!

Due to the pandemic, WYSU suspended its spring donor drive, and instead of a traditional drive this fall, we will be holding ‘Support WYSU Month’ throughout October. We will not be interrupting our regular
Help lay the foundation for the next 50 years of 88.5 WYSU by renewing your membership or becoming a new member right now! Our commitment to providing inspiring programming is as strong as ever. Please generously renew your yearly contribution to WYSU to help this unique community asset continue to thrive for many years to come.

Moreover, if you recently received a letter from us asking you to renew your support for WYSU, please respond generously with your yearly contribution. As incentive for your early gift this fall, thanks to matching funds from anonymous donors, the first $20,000 in contributions we receive before October will be matched. If you are not yet a member, become one right now! Contribute today - mail in your renewal, or GIVE ON-LINE.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND PARTICIPATE IN THESE VIRTUAL EVENTS!

- YSU University Theatre Presents 'The Glass Menagerie' - September 25 - October 4
  Productions available for viewing on-line. Click HERE for details.

- WYSU to Co-Sponsor Lit Youngstown's Virtual Fall Literary Festival Keynote - September 25, 1-2 pm
  Available via

Get to know...

Chris Hartman, Associate Broadcast Engineer & Web Master

Chris Hartman's diligent work was absolutely critical as the station transitioned to a remote work environment in mid-March. Throughout the pandemic, Chris not only attended to his day-to-day duties, but also established remote work stations for several staff members; attended to the station's unique engineering needs (both in the studios and at our transmitter); oversaw the installation of our new translator in New Wilmington; and was responsible for the selection, set-up, and installation of WYSU's remote studio equipment. We could not have made it through the pandemic as smoothly as we did without Chris.

Chris discovered his passion for technology when he built his first computer as a teenager. Initially interested in playing video games and chatting with friends, he didn’t know he was laying the groundwork for a career in information technology. When he entered college, Chris decided to pursue another passion, music, but he never stopped tinkering with computers. Prior to graduating Summa Cum Laude from Youngstown State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Performance on classical
videoconference. Click HERE for details.

- **YSU Virtual Career Day** - September 29, 1-4 pm
  YSU partners with Handshake to run its Career Day in a virtual format for Fall 2020. Click HERE for details.

- **Digital Reprise of Opera Western Reserve's Don Giovanni (from 2014)** - October 2, 7-9:30 pm
  Recorded live at Stambaugh Auditorium in 2014. Click HERE for details.

- Be sure to regularly visit the WYSU Facebook Events Page for listings and updates of virtual events in our listening area!

  guitar, he took a student position at WYSU as Assistant to the Webmaster. Over the next ten years, Chris focused his career on technology; he received full-time employment as an associate engineer where he acts as webmaster, system administrator, and broadcast engineer. He also earned a Certificate in Computer Networking from YSU in 2013 in order to bolster his growing expertise.

Today, Chris still spends time playing video games and chatting with his friends online, though somewhat less often than his teen years. The rest of his time is divided among his home recording studio, rock band, five pets, friends, and family.
Are you listening to...

LATINO USA • SUNDAYS AT NOON

A radio journal of news and culture from a Latino perspective, produced by The Futuro Media Group and distributed nationwide by National Public Radio. The program explores and gives a critical voice to the diversity of the American experience. Based in Harlem and hosted by award-winning journalist Maria Hinojosa, Latino USA is committed to telling stories often overlooked by mainstream media.

Not only is Hinojosa the anchor and executive producer of Latino USA, she is also anchor of the Emmy Award-winning talk show Maria Hinojosa: One-on-One from WGBH/La Plaza. Hinojosa has reported hundreds of important stories—from the immigrant work camps in New Orleans after Katrina, to teen girl victims of sexual harassment on the job, to Emmy Award-winning stories of the poor in Alabama.

Tune-in! Sundays at 12:00 p.m. on 88.5 WYSU-FM.

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