

rhythm&news

SPRING 2023



Summertime ... and
the Living Is Jazzy
Top Albums of 2022

Student Profile:
Killian Ritland

Staff Profile:
Bob Stewart

Member Profile:
Janice Showers

kcck
jazz 88.3

2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

THE KEY OF G

When I think of the tools that KCCCK uses to carry out our mission, I think of our daily shows and the announcers who host them. I also think of programs that are off air but just as important – mainly our education programs, such as Corridor Jazz, Jazz Band Camp, and Schoolhouse Jazz, and events like Jazz Under the Stars. In computer parlance, I focus on the “software” much more than the hardware (i.e., the devices and tech through which we deliver these things).



Dennis Green

Until something breaks, of course.

This year I found myself thinking about our broadcast tower more than I have in quite some time. Early in the year some of our tower lights failed, notably the one at the very top of the 400-meter structure. Since we’re located less than 2 miles from the Eastern Iowa Airport, this has

the potential of being quite problematic. I soon learned that tower climbers are in somewhat short supply these days (kids – career opportunity, as long as you don’t mind heights!).

It was several months before we were able to get a service person to check out the problem. He found that the top of the tower beacon had literally been torn off, probably during the derecho. Then, while attempting to replace the beacon, he discovered there was a short somewhere in more than 500 feet of wiring connecting the lights to power. It definitely felt like a one-step-forward-two-steps-back kind of experience.



This is an issue that involves more than just KCCCK, as the tower is a significant Kirkwood asset, not to mention the tallest structure on campus. Fortunately, after examining options with the college, we decided to replace all the lights and wiring. The new lights will be LED, resulting in significant energy savings. We should have the new system in place by spring.

All in all, while we’ve had to worry about infrastructure more this year than in years past, I am thankful that broadcast equipment is still built to last. In an age where most devices and appliances obsolesce after what seems like a very short time (remember when refrigerators would last 20 or more years?), much of our equipment is still going strong after a decade or more.

Which makes me glad, because I really would rather concentrate on the “software.”

Dennis Green
General Manager, KCCCK

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Jazz 88.3 KCCCK FM
& HD Radio

Member-supported public radio from
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Jazz Education

Corridor Jazz Project

Three new schools joined the Corridor Jazz Project in 2022: Anamosa, Clear Creek-Amana, and West Branch. Due to the continued effects of the pandemic, we shot video of each school and released the album on DVD for families who might not feel comfortable gathering in person to see their school's band perform. We also were able to stage the first Corridor Jazz Concert in two years at the Paramount Theatre, in association with the Cedar Rapids Community Concert Association.

KCCCK's Student Guest DJ Hours returned in-person to the KCCCK studios. Students shared favorite tunes and stories during April Jazz Appreciation Month.



Jazz Band Camp

Kirkwood's Cedar Hall rang with music in July as 70 students participated in KCCCK's Middle School Jazz Band Camp for a week of learning and playing.



Schoolhouse Jazz

KCCCK's Schoolhouse Jazz returned from the pandemic layoffs with a few changes. Blake Shaw now leads the band as narrator, and we welcomed Gail and Paul Williams to the group.



Summertime ... and the Living Is Jazzy

Jazz Under the Stars

Four beautiful August evenings provided the backdrop for the 34th year of Jazz Under the Stars, headline by The Dandelion Stompers, Betsy Hickok & Ron Roberts, the Iowa Women's Jazz Orchestra, and Blake Shaw's Big(ish) Band.

Our Young Artist Series returned to open each concert. Performing were Vivian Shanley & Friends, YesterNite, The 5K Quintet, and the Kirkwood Jazz Combo.



Physical media is still alive and well as dozens of music fans picked through our selection at the record and CD sale.



The swing dance crowd turned out for The Dandelion Stompers.

Iowa City Jazz Festival

The Iowa City Jazz Festival returned to a two-day event with some unforgettable performances, including saxophonist and singer Camille Thurman, and Superblue with Kurt Elling and Charlie Hunter.



'daBluesapalooza

2022 marked the 30th anniversary of Bob DeForest's first blues show on KCKK, and we threw a party to celebrate! Bobby D and John "Big Mo" Heim co-hosted 'daBluesapalooza in January, a massive jam session featuring nearly two dozen musicians. Musicians came from all over the Midwest to pay tribute to Bob and Big. Homebrewed, Dennis "Daddy-O" McMurrin, Al Naylor, Johnny Kilowatt, and Gloria Hardiman were among those who performed. Blues pianist and Cedar Rapids native Jeff Taylor came all the way from his home in Boston to be a part of the fun.



Taste of Jazz

Taste of Jazz returned in 2022 in grand style. In addition to the outstanding food and decorations created by Kirkwood hospitality arts students and lobby entertainment featuring our own Hollis Monroe and Saul Lubaroff, the 250 guests in attendance heard heartfelt comments from award-winning student bassist Vivian Shanley about the impact KCKK has had on her education. Then, we got to hear Vivian team up with friends Ana Koch and Ely Smith in their band, Open Strings. And just when you thought the evening couldn't get any better, powerhouse funk group 10 of Soul took the stage for an electrifying set that brought nearly everyone in the room to the dance floor! Save the Date info for Taste of Jazz 2023 will come to you soon. Don't miss it!





Bob Stewart has been keeping you company on KCCK for more than two decades and has been named JazzWeek magazine's Programmer of the Year seven times! But how did he get interested in jazz and in broadcasting? To ferret out these juicy nuggets, we turned to someone who sees Bob every day: KCCK midday host Hollis Monroe.

HM: I know you're a performer as well as a producer and program director. Where did you receive your musical training?

Bob: I didn't really receive any formal musical training per se, but I loved to sing! I had several lessons along the way, but most of my learning has been on the job, as it were. I've been singing in choral ensembles from the time I was in elementary school and I've just absorbed all the valuable lessons and techniques imparted by some very talented and knowledgeable choral directors along the way. My formal training came in my chosen field of broadcasting, which I studied at the University of Iowa.

STAFF PROFILE:

Bob Stewart

director and program director. I then had the opportunity to take my jazz show to a local rock station, KKRQ in Iowa City, and do a Sunday morning program while I was still in school. After graduation, they took me on full time. After a couple of years, I moved crosstown to another rock station, KRNA, a stint that lasted nearly 15 years. It was in 1999 that a former colleague from my college radio days, Dennis Green, became the general manager of KCCK and wondered if I might be interested in joining him. Finally, I was able to put my passions for jazz and radio together! It's been 22 years and counting in what has been a dream job.

HM: How did you discover jazz?

Bob: My first exposure to jazz that I remember was as a kid watching Sunday morning television when one of the stations ran "The Glenn Miller Story" starring Jimmy Stewart. It was the fascinating tale of Miller's quest for that certain sound that would set his big band apart from all the others. And that music definitely caught my ear. I began doing big band "radio shows" into a little cassette player, commercials and all, which I guess was my first, unofficial foray into broadcasting.

Later on, a family member turned me on to John Coltrane, which to this day is still my favorite of all. That led to explorations of Miles Davis, Thelonious Monk, and others. A high school chum introduced me to jazz fusion bands like Weather Report, Return to Forever, and Passport. I was pretty much open to any kind of jazz by then. Thanks to the Columbia Record Club, I discovered artists like Carla Bley, McCoy Tyner, and Erroll Garner. By my college days I was fully enamored by the music, spending countless hours in the local record stores seeking out more gems. And Hancher Auditorium's jazz series brought people like Pat Metheny, George Benson, The Crusaders, Jean-Luc Ponty, Dizzy Gillespie, Stan Getz, Dave Brubeck, and many other greats to campus ... I was in heaven!

HM: What would you say is the secret for success at KCCK?

Bob: The success of KCCK wouldn't be possible without all the people down through the years who have been passionate and dedicated to the music and the station. But we're also lucky to be situated in an area where the jazz scene is very vibrant. The Corridor has a wealth of talented performers and composers and arrangers who are deeply dedicated to the music. It's also important to note the work of all the educators — from the jazz programs at the University of Iowa, University of Northern Iowa, Coe College, and Kirkwood Community College, along with the directors of all the high school jazz programs in eastern Iowa — who instill in their students that passion for the music and produce the next generation of performers and composers and educators.

KCCK's Top Albums for 2022

Terri Lyne Carrington topped our airplay chart this year. Here is a look at some of the other albums that rose to the top throughout the year on Iowa's Jazz Station.

Visit www.kcck.org/news/top-88-for-2022 to see the full Top 88 chart.

- 1.** Terri Lyne Carrington
"New Standards, Vol. 1" (Candid)
- 2.** Brian Lynch and Spheres of Influence
"Songbook Vol. 2: Dance The Way U Want To"
(Hollistic Musicworks)
- 3.** Ben Patterson "The Way of the Groove" (Origin)
- 4.** Scott Hamilton "Classics" (Stunt)
- 5.** Bob James
"Feel Like Making LIVE!" (Evolution Media)
- 6.** Jazzmeia Horn and Her Noble Force
"Dear Love" (Empress Legacy)
- 7.** Anat Cohen & Marcello Goncalves
"Reconvexo" (Anzic)
- 8.** NYO Jazz "We're Still Here" (Carnegie Hall)
- 9.** The Greyboy Allstars "Get a Job" (Greyboy)
- 10.** David Janeway
"Distant Voices" (SteepleChase)
- 11.** The BBB featuring Bernie Dresel
"The Pugilist" (Dig It)
- 12.** Dafnis Prieto featuring Luciana Souza
"Cantar" (Dafnison)
- 13.** Tom Harrell "Oak Tree" (HighNote)
- 14.** Tony Monaco "Four Brothers" (Chicken Coop)
- 15.** Kurt Rosenwinkel and Jean-Paul Brodbeck
"The Chopin Project" (Heartcore)
- 16.** Jason Yeager Septet
"Unstuck in Time: The Kurt Vonnegut Suite"
(Sunnyside)
- 17.** Cyrus Chestnut "My Father's Hands" (HighNote)
- 18.** Ella Fitzgerald
"Ella At The Hollywood Bowl" (Verve)
- 19.** Grant Geissman "Blooz" (Futurism)
- 20.** Craig Davis
"Tone Paintings: The Music of Dodo
Marmarosa" (MCG Jazz)
- 21.** Steve Turre "Generations" (Smoke Sessions)
- 22.** Alternative Guitar Summit
"Honoring Pat Martino Vol. 1" (HighNote)
- 23.** Ricky Peterson & the Peterson Brothers
"Under the Radar" (Leopard)
- 24.** Tierney Sutton "Paris Sessions 2" (BFM)
- 25.** Lynne Arriale Trio
"The Lights Are Always On" (Challenge)

Looking back, it seems like a no-brainer that Killian Ritland would come to work at KCKK. After all, his dad played saxophone in college as a member of Johnson County Landmark, the University of Iowa's top jazz band. And his mom has been a Cedar Rapids-area radio personality ("Mo" on Z102.9) for many years. But when he came to KCKK's Jazz Band Camp as a rising sixth grader, no one could have predicted that career path. Especially Killian, who didn't particularly like jazz.

"Jazz was just what my dad listened to," Killian recalls. "And who wants to listen to the music their dad does?"

In another small act of rebellion, Killian took up the trombone rather than the instrument his dad played. This is even more notable because Killian was born with a cleft palate, which required many surgeries as a youngster as well as a lot of work on his speech. And yet he picked a brass instrument, perhaps the most difficult musical choice for someone with an unusual mouth structure.

"It's certainly made things a little more challenging," he admits. "But everyone has a different mouth to begin with. So, I just had to take my own path and figure it out from there. There are some surgeries I could have now to cover up the scar tissue and all that. But I'm like, nah. I want to be reminded of how far I've come against the odds of not being able to play at all."

Even though he didn't have much interest in jazz, Killian was keenly interested in pursuing and playing music, so his parents signed him up for Jazz Band Camp. It didn't take long for the lightbulb to go on. Anthony Williams, DMA, jazz band camp instructor and UNI trombone professor, said something in trombone sectionals that Killian took to heart.

"He said, 'You don't need to become a master or anything. You just learn to appreciate it. And listen.' And that's exactly what I did that day. I went home and just threw on 'Kind of Blue,' which is many people's introduction album to jazz. And I thought, 'I kinda like this actually.' And so I kept kind of diving more into it. I got into some Ellington, videos I found on YouTube, and it just kind of kept spiraling until I learned to like it. But I started out hating it and ended up loving it!"

Once the jazz bug bit Killian, there was no stopping him. As he prepared for high school at Liberty, he successfully auditioned for the top jazz band as a freshman. He would go on to become a two-time Jazz All-Stater.

He stayed involved with KCKK through high school, too, participating in the Corridor Jazz Project and eventually returning to Jazz Band Camp as a counselor. Killian sensed that KCKK would be the perfect place for someone like him, interested in both jazz and broadcasting. But how would he get his foot in the door?

"One adage my mom taught me very early was to just keep saying yes. When someone asks you to do something, say yes. Ask, 'How can I help?' That was how I came back to Jazz Band Camp as a counselor, which led to me being around when someone was needed to help with the Iowa City Jazz Festival, then Jazz Under the Stars. I always said yes. One night Ron (Adkins) said, 'What would you think about being on the air?' And I was so excited, because that's always kind of been the dream. And now I have a show on Thursday nights!"

Killian balances his work at KCKK with classes at the University of Iowa where he is a Trombone Performance major; his activities include such groups as the Jazz Repertory Ensemble. Postgraduation plans? Perhaps performing on a cruise ship for a few years before returning to school for an advanced degree, or operating his own lessons studio. He says performing is his real passion, though, and that will always be a major focus of his career.

He's become a valuable member of the KCKK team, and we look forward to seeing what new things he says yes to in the future!

Always Say Yes!

STUDENT PROFILE: Killian Ritland



Killian performs with his band, YesterNite, at Jazz Under the Stars.



Sixth-grade Killian at Jazz Band Camp.



MEMBER PROFILE:

Janice Showers

Janice Showers, Iowa expatriate now of Gainesville, Florida, may have retired to a much warmer college town, but she will always have deep ties to Iowa, and a close connection to KCCK.

While the balmy climes of central Florida have advantages over the bone-numbing cold of Iowa winters, life in the Sunshine State is not without its pitfalls.

Like hurricanes.

Hurricane Ian's outer bands hit the Gainesville area. The city missed flooding rains but got tremendous wind and dust. Those winds knocked the neighbor's tree into Janice's front yard. Lots of hard work got everything fixed. KCCK is honored to have played a part in Janice's hurricane recovery, keeping her company during the cleanup.

Janice was listening to KCCK and heard a fund drive break while she was cutting up storm debris. Even though she had many more things to think about, she took time to call and make a donation. In fact, she gave again later in the week to make sure she could get the new travel mug!

"I'm always gratified to talk to people who appreciate KCCK enough to make a donation, but it's humbling when we learn that we really are a 'jazz oasis' for people during the tough times," said KCCK General Manager Dennis Green.

Janice has been a KCCK listener for many years. "I found it on the dial a long time ago and have been a fan ever since," she said. "You play great music all day."

Jazz and Janice go way back. While at the University of Iowa, she was a regular attendee of Hancher's jazz series. It was there that she heard Miles Davis play and fell in love with his music.

As a jazz fan, Janice appreciates that KCCK does more than just play music. She enjoys that KCCK producers "tell us all about the artists. We learn while we're listening. We get to know who is playing and learn their stories."

Janice is an all-day listener. "I turn (KCCK) on and let it play." Outside, she listens on her phone while she works on a current chore: reinforcing her fences to keep the armadillos out.

Yes, armadillos. Janice says keeping these "tactical possums" from digging up her yard is a near-constant task.

Living in the hometown of the University of Florida, Janice says she's required to ask, "Did the Gators play today? Did they win? Go Gators!" But in the next breath, she lets out a rousing, "Go Hawkeyes!"

We're happy to be Janice's connection to the Hawkeye State, and her long-distance source for the music that keeps her energized.

KCKK 2022 Donors

The following list reflects charitable gifts given to KCKK between Jan. 1, 2022, and Dec. 31, 2022. While every effort has been made to ensure that this report is accurate, we apologize in advance if we failed to list your name properly.

If you believe your listing is in error, or you do not wish your name to be printed in future reports, please contact the KCKK Office at 319-398-5446.

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Wendell Keith & Rebecca Farmer

Peter Kelley

Matt & April Kenney

Carol Kidder

Amy Kilpatrick

Elinor King & Ken Kimes

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Scott Klug

Michael & Mary Knipper

Casey Kohrt**Elmo Konzen****Stacia Koppenhafer**

Dennis & Karen Kral

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Maria & Kevin Kummer

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David & Leann Kunz

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Laura LaCombe**Jim & Barbara Laughlin****Jay LeaVesseur****Judith Lebeda****Laurie Lee****Lynda Leidiger**

Mark Levine

Seth Levy

Michael Lewis-Beck

Susan Liddell

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Lisbon Community School

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Ina Loewenberg

James Loos

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Kathleen Luchman**Paul & Donna Lunstrum**

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Chris & Bonnie Lyon**Steve Lyons****Mike Maas**

Ken MacDonald

Terri Macey

Bridget & Wayne Malake

Bonnie Malone

Ray & Stephanie Manning

Marion Independent School District

Martha Markham**David Martyn**

Wayne & Kay Mase

Kent Mauck**Sally & Dan McAleer****Teresa McAndrews**

Lillian McBride

Jerilyn McCarty**Kathy McDonald****Joe & Jeri McGillicuddy**

Otis McGowan

Melanie McNeil & James Ruebush

Dennis & Julie McPartland

David Mehrl

David & Robyn Miessler-Kubanek**Craig & Andrea Miller**

Ted Miller

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Janet & Dick Ransom

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Maryann Rasmussen

Barbara Reck

Randy Reihmann

**James Rensberger
& Lisa Schleisman**

Rae Riebe

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Beverly Ring

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John & Trudi Rosazza

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Ann Rude

Trudy Russell

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Cheryl Sawyer

Sandy Sawyer

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James & Melissa Schreiber

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Rosanna & Mark Seabold

Kay & Clyde Seery

Franklin Seiberling

Meredith Sewell

Tim Shakespeare

Vivian Shanley

Nicole Sheldon

Janice Showers

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Fletcher Williams

Mark & Mary Anne Williams

Steve & Nancy Williams

DaLayne Williamson

Kevin & Deborah Witte

Bob Wolff

Daryl Woodson

William Wylder

Nancy York & Tom Hess

Greg Young

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Jack & Doreen Zumwalt

Bret Zvacek

Friend 1
(\$25+)

Susan Adams

Tonya Adams

Richard & Linden Aerts

Craig & Debora Aldrich

Roger & Dixie Allen

Steven Altheide

Tom Anderson

Darcy Andres

Anonymous (6)

Anonymous (20)

Michael Arentson

Richard & Betty Armstrong

Kathy & Randy Atkinson

Peter Ault

Del Ray & Jan Axtell

Robert & Mary Ballantyne

Ricky Bartlett

Nicholas Barton

Larry & Sandra Beatty

Les & Evelyn Beck

Roger & Anne Beermann

Michael & Ingrid Benda

Michael Benedict

Kayoko & Darek Benesh

Douglas & Jean Boatman

Thomas & Amy Bohr

Nick Borchert

Lorraine Borowski

Steven & Jennifer Bosking

Ruth Bradley

Jeremy Brigham & Selma Dannen
Felser Brigham

Terri & Kelvin Bronner

Elaine Brown

Melissa Brown

Larry & Joan Buchanan

Charles Buck & Patricia Rossman

William Budelier

Kevin Burford

Max Burkey & Susan Ekstrom

Margaret Burns

Sharon Burrows

William & Elizabeth Caldwell

Andrew Callahan

Kathy & Cam Campbell

Daniel Campion

Jerry & Marilyn Canady

Andrea Canter

John Carlson

Mardella Carlson

Craig & Linda Carney

John Carr

Sue & Barry Carter

Carol & Bill Casey

Andrew Cecil

Theresa Cecil

Bill Chadima

Jiwoong Choi

Ivar Christopher

Nathan Christopher

Charles Cizio & Judith Price

John & Karen Clark-Hansen

Robert Cline

Darwin & Liz Coleman

Paul Collingsworth

David & Paula Colton

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David Gouran

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Vaclav Hasek

Gina Hausknecht & Matthew Brown

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Kristin Hendricks

George Herman

Ryan Hesseltine

Ellen Heywood & Paul Ingram

Deborah Hide

Henry & Gloria Hoffman

Charlie Hogue & Deb Paulsen-Hogue

Cat Man Willie

Robert Holmes & Sharon
Carmody-Holmes

Ric Holmquest

Ed & Becky Holstrom

William & Jeanette Holtz

Shawn Holub

Myrene & HD Hoover

Tracie Houdina Van Pelt

& Danny Van Pelt

Shih-Yao Hu

Tony & Sue Huebsch

Mary Huffman

Carol & William Hulbary

Mary Huneke

Jenna Hunt

Tieu Huynh

Cassim & Julie Igram

Marion Jacobs

Charles Jennissen & Laurie Stange

David & Mary Jepsen

Dan Johnson

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Kristine Jones

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Bonnie Love	Bryan & Jessica Netolicky	Jeffrey Ruetsche	Joseph Svec
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Charles Morrison	Roy Porterfield	William J. Smith	Michael & Anne Welsh
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Guy & Terri Wendler	Gerald Wyant	Michael Ferris	Joel & Tara Nagel
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Margaret White		Rebecca Kauten	James & Jan Robinson
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Mike D. Wiethorn	Chad & Amanda Allard	Thomas Koopman	Keith Stickford
Bruce Williams	Anonymous (3)	Lee D. Legette	Duncan Suthers
Bonnie Winslow-Garvin	John & Barbara Bardsley	Kathleen Maddigan	Linda Van Etten
Craig & Candace Wood	Karen Blomberg	William McCool	James & Dorothy White
Darrell Wrider & Tricia Bowen	Carey Bostian & Miera Kim	Angie Meyer	
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KCCK's Future Fund

Future Fund is the name we've given to planned or legacy gifts that support KCCK's jazz programming, both on the air and in our schools, and to preserve KCCK's service to the community in perpetuity. A special thank you to this special list of donors who have committed to the future of jazz in our community. There are many ways you can leave a legacy gift to KCCK. Some don't even require changing your will or hiring an attorney. Visit <https://www.kcck.org/legacy-giving/> to learn more, or contact KCCK Development Director Michelle Collier.

Ron Adkins	Edward & Kelli Rinderspacher
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Csps Hall	The Hotel At Kirkwood Center	Natural Talent Music	West Music
		Newboco	

2022 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Operating Revenues

CPB, Community
Service Grants

\$155,317

Jazz Band Camp

\$13,800

Contributions from individuals
through Kirkwood Community
College Foundation

\$287,740

Contributions from business
and industry through Kirkwood
Community College Foundation

\$40,744

Nonoperating Revenues

Investment earnings
(loss)

\$87,796

State Board and
Iowa Department of
Education allocations

\$536,895

Administrative support from
Kirkwood Community College

\$187,158

Expenses

Programming and Production

\$467,048

Broadcast and Engineering

\$11,254

Programming Information and Promotion

\$25,209

Management and General

\$408,241

Fundraising and Membership Development

\$108,708

Underwriting and Grant Solicitation

\$15,695

Jazz Camp

\$11,680

Depreciation

\$17,630

KCCK's financial audits for this and previous years
can be viewed at www.kcck.org/legal or in person
during business hours at the KCCK office.

TOTAL REVENUE

\$1,133,858

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$1,065,465

CHANGES IN NET POSITION

\$145,350



Kirkwood Community College
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