

Quarterly Issues Programs List for station - WIDR 89.1 FM
July-September 2022
Placed in the Public File October 1st, 2021

Section I: Issues

The station has identified the following issues as significant issues facing our community in this quarter:

- A. Possible implications of Biden's student loan debt forgiveness bill
- B. Rising extremism across the country and specifically in the Kalamazoo area
- C. What the film *Master* teaches us about the tendency of racist microaggressions to boil over into flat-out aggression
- D. The importance of representation in discussion of the 1980's comedy *Real Genius*

Section II: Responsive Programs

The station has broadcast programming dealing with each of the above-referenced issues. Programming dealing with each issue is below.

A. Possible implications of Biden's student loan debt forgiveness bill

- a. Air Dates: 8/31/22
- b. Length: 2hr
- c. Description: Andy Argo discusses Joe Biden's recent passing of a bill said to relieve 10 thousand dollars of student loan debt, and how this contradicts directly with his history of worsening the crisis, as well as how his campaign promise was one seeking to eliminate loan debt outright.

B. Rising extremism across the country and specifically in the Kalamazoo area

- a. Air Dates: 8/17/22
- b. Length: 2hr
- c. Description: *Media Cyphers* host, Andy Argo, discusses the rise of extremism in the country, and how that is felt in the Kalamazoo area. Specifically, Argo looks at the recent attempted arson of Kalamazoo's Planned Parenthood in the wake of the overturning of Roe v Wade. In the grander scheme of things, Argo blames the more defined disparity between the far ends of left and right-wing politics since the Trump administration.

C. What the film *Master* teaches us about the tendency of racist microaggressions to boil over into flat-out aggression

- a. Air Dates: 8/10/22
- b. Length: 60 minutes
- c. Description: Hank Mellowish and Cully Cooper discuss the much-maligned film *Master*, released earlier this year, and how its far bleaker portrayal of racism that those of Jordan Peele makes it a difficult watch. They discuss the harm in compounding microaggressions and the duty all people have to speak up when they see injustice occurring.

D. The importance of representation in discussion of the 1980's comedy *Real Genius*

- a. Air Dates: 9/21/22
- b. Length: 60 minutes
- c. Description: Cully Cooper and Hank Mellowish of *Reel Live* discuss the cult-classic *Real Genius*, and specifically its kindness in its portrayal of the “nerd” archetype. They discuss the problematic prototypical bursts of marginalized individuals onto the film scene, discussing Blacksploitation in the case of Black Americans, the early films of John Waters in the case of the LGBT community, and the now-reviled *Revenge of the Nerds* in the case of academic types. While it hasn't often been discussed, the two come to the conclusion that these confrontational films make a great case for the importance of entering the arena in direct opposition to the mainstream's terms. The exploitation of citizens by the military industrial complex is also discussed.