

KCRW-FM Santa Monica

Programs & Issues for the first quarter of 2024 January, February, March

It has been determined that the following subjects are of concern to the community and have been considered and addressed substantially by elected officials, community leaders, expert witnesses and the general public.

1. Public health and safety
2. Housing and affordable housing
3. Labor and economy
4. Schools and education
5. Environment and energy

The following programs were produced and broadcast in the public interest:

KCRW PROGRAMS/ISSUES LIST – 1st QUARTER 2024 JAN – FEB – MAR

ISSUE	DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM	DATE
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Public health and safety

For decades, lung cancer was associated mostly with men and heavy smokers. Now doctors are seeing more cases in women and people who've never smoked cigarettes. UCLA Interventional Pulmonologist Dr. Scott Oh is the guest.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Monday, Jan. 8, 2024 (13:00)

Public health and safety

When you drink water from a plastic bottle, you're literally swallowing plastic. An average liter of bottled water contains some 240,000 "nanoplastics" — particles that measure under one micrometer, according to a new study from Columbia University. Penn State University chemistry professor Sherri Mason is the guest.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2024 (10:00)

Economy

On Tuesday, SAG-AFTRA announced a deal with a tech company that allows actors to license their voices to be replicated by artificial intelligence for video games. It comes after a record-long strike where AI's use by studios was a contentious sticking point for contract negotiators.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2024 (13:00)

State budget and economy

California is in the red by \$37.9 billion. Governor Gavin Newsom unveiled his budget for the year and his ideas for reducing that deficit. The segment's guest is KQED reporter Marisa Lagos, covering California politics.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2024 (08:00)

Environment and public safety

UCSD oceanographers discovered thousands of World War II-era munitions dumped off the California coast, adding to the barrels of DDT already documented. Rosanna Xia from the LA Times is the guest reporter.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024 (08:00)

Housing and affordable housing

The Supreme Court is hearing a big case involving homelessness that could have major implications for California. The justices also reconsider precedent known as "Chevron deference." LMU's Loyola Law School professor Jessica Levinson is the guest.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2024 (08:00)

Public health and safety

Stanford infectious disease physician and researcher Dr. Abraar Karan talks about the golden state's new COVID guidelines which contradict CDC advice. People can still go to work or school if they have COVID but no symptoms, says the California Health Department, citing vaccinations, natural immunity and Paxlovid as its reasoning.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Thursday, Jan. 18, 2024 (06:00)

Public health and safety

More than 12 million Americans take Singulair. For decades, doctors and regulators ignored alarming side effects like aggressive behavior and suicidal thoughts. The guest is Christina Jewett, a health reporter for The New York Times.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Monday, Jan. 22, 2024 (08:00)

Environment, public safety

San Diego residents are still reeling from a heavy and rapid downpour that started on Monday morning. Is Southern California built to withstand storms like this? The guest is Brett Sanders, professor of civil and environmental engineering at UC Irvine, who runs UC's Flood Lab.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024 (08:00)

Education

School absenteeism has been up since the pandemic. With state governments largely abdicating any role in getting kids back into classrooms, some schools have turned to private companies for a reimagined version of the truant officer. ProPublica reporter Alec MacGillis is the guest.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024 (10:00)

Economy

The stock market is booming, driven primarily by tech stocks. And yet these same companies are looking to continue mass layoffs in the next few months. Roger Lee, founder of layoffs.fyi, is the guest discussing layoffs and AI in the Silicon Valley.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2024 (09:00)

Public health and safety, environment

Palm Springs has long been a retreat for Southern California's wealthy elite but for decades, an overgrown grove of Tamarisk trees separated one of the golf courses from one of the city's few predominantly Black neighborhoods. Guests are Mina T. Son and Sara Newens, co-directors of a new PBS documentary called *Racist Trees*.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2024 (14:00)

Education, public health and safety

California schools full of students struggling to recover from pandemic-related learning loss will receive billions of dollars in state grants over several years, thanks to a settlement announced Thursday. The 2020 lawsuit was filed on behalf of 15 low income students of color who attended schools in Los Angeles and Oakland at the time.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024 (08:00)

Education, public health and safety

Meta chief Mark Zuckerberg testifies before Congress on Facebook's measures to keep children from harm while on-line. Senators berated Mark Zuckerberg and four other social media CEOs on child safety and their platforms. But there's no consensus on legislation to address it.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024 (08:00)

Public health and safety

Attempts are being made use to UV safely in ordinary light bulbs to kill off harmful bacteria and viruses. Guest Dylan Matthews is a senior correspondent for Vox.com.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024 (09:00)

Environment, public health and safety

Greenland's Jakobshavn glacier is one of the fastest deteriorating glaciers in the world, but some researchers say they may have figured out a way to save it. Guest John Gertner is a contributing writer to The New York Times Magazine and author of "The Ice at the End of the World: An Epic Journey into Greenland's Buried Past and Our Perilous Future."

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2024 (14:00)

Education and economy

Americans are losing faith in the value of a college education. For decades, the promise of higher education was the recipe for success. But many people today are now searching for an alternative to traditional college. Guest Doug Belkin is a reporter for the Wall Street Journal.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2024 (14:00)

Police and public safety

Violent crime in Oakland increased by more than 20 percent last year, while it decreased in other California cities including Los Angeles. Alameda County's District Attorney is teaming up with Governor Newsom who recently announced plans to send the California Highway Patrol, National Guard and state prosecutors to address the issue.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2024 (09:00):

Education

Filmmaker Sheila Nivens is the guest, talking about her Oscar-nominated documentary on book banning in schools over subjects like US history, race, and gender identity. The longtime former head of documentary films at HBO, Nevins made her directorial debut with *The ABCs of Book Banning* on the recent push by conservative states and school districts to ban books about race and gender identity on campuses.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Thursday, Feb. 15, 2024 (15:00)

Public health and safety

In the wake of visits to the US/Mexico border by both Trump and Biden, Washington Post reporter Nick Miroff talks about the political aspects of immigration policy. Los Angeles-based journalist Piper French talks about attempts by immigration officials to reunite families separated trying to cross the border.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2024 (16:00)

Economy and labor

Americans are spending more of their income on groceries than they have in 30 years. The Wall

Street Journal's Jesse Newman says the recently approved merger between grocery giants Kroger and Alberson's could exacerbate the situation by reducing competition. Supply chain issues and environmental factors are also contributing to the problem.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2024 (08:00)

Education, public health and safety

The Last Repair Shop is an Oscar-nominated documentary tracing the demise of the Los Angeles Unified School District's musical instrument repair facility. The school system is one of the few remaining that offers children free musical instruments to use while enrolled. Now the district-owned repair shop is closing.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Monday, Feb. 26, 2024 (17:00)

Education and economy

College bound students are beginning the application process but problems with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid have left both high school students and colleges in limbo. Jessie Cruz, a guidance counselor at Compton High School discusses the issue.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024 (12:00)

Public health and safety

Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE) is a brain disorder caused by repeated head injuries. Boston University's CTE Center now thinks the Vermont man who shot 18 people and himself dead suffered brain damage consistent with those exposed to explosions. He was an Army reservist who had been exposed to thousands of blasts.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Thursday, March 7, 2024 (08:00)

Public health and safety, environment

Boston University's Dr. Philip Landrigen discusses a study published in the New England Journal of Medicine that looked at around 300 surgical patients. It found that people with microplastic buildup in their arterial plaque were more than four times as likely to have heart attacks and strokes – some deadly.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Thursday, March 7, 2024 (08:00)

Public health and safety, environment

Surfers have complex social rules that help guide rights-of-way on the waves. Inexperienced surfers who don't know these things can cause injuries to other surfers. That's what happened in 2018 near Santa Barbara. The courts now say injured parties cannot sue a surfer who caused an accident for personal damages. That's because of the inherent risk of injury in the sport.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Thursday, March 7, 2024 (09:00)

Education, police and public safety

Earlier in the week, students and members of the Jewish community gathered at UC Berkeley to protest antisemitism. Last month, violence there led to the cancellation of an Israeli lawyer's speech. KQED San Francisco reporter Sydney Johnson discusses the meeting held between the protesters and university administrators.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Tuesday, March 12, 2024 (06:00)

Public health and safety

The director of preventive cardiology at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center discusses a new study in which her research found that women need only do half the exercise that men must do to reap the same benefits. She suggests women on average have less muscle mass than men,

implying that less exercise is needed than for men.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Wednesday, March 13, 2024 (07:00)

Public health and safety, education

A professor of journalism and an investigative journalist discuss TikTok, the social media platform under scrutiny for its practice of collecting data on US users. Some members of congress say the Chinese government could control the software and see the company as a threat to national security. Steve Mnuchin is seeking investors to purchase the firm.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Thursday, March 14, 2024 (14:00)

Transportation and public safety

New cars can collect data on your acceleration, braking, speed, and more. This information is being sent to insurance companies. Some drivers have had their premiums increased for no apparent reason. Kashmir Hill, technology reporter for the New York Times, discusses how vehicle owners can find out if this data is being used to determine your insurance rates.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Thursday, March 14, 2024 (10:00)

Public health and safety, education

Tensions between red and blue states over numerous issues have shown signs of weakening. In Orange County, anti-LGBTQ rights activist members of a school board there were tossed out of office in a successful recall campaign. Politco's Blake Jones, who covers education in California, discusses the trend.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Wednesday, March 20, 2024 (08:00)

Public health and safety

Governor Newsom scored a major political victory with the narrow passage of Proposition 1. It will redirect taxpayer funds to programs to help the mentally ill and homeless and attempt to rebuild a mental health system that was largely dismantled under Regan's tenure as governor.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Thursday, March 21, 2024 (09:00)

Public health and safety, education

Genetic tests to determine the presence of 'the breast cancer gene' or even regular mammograms can fail to detect the presence of the disease. Surgeon Amanda Woodworth at USC's Keck School of Medicine discusses the Breast Cancer Risk Assessment Tool, an on-line questionnaire that can fill in the gaps and save lives.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Thursday, March 21, 2024 (09:00)

Public health and safety

The Supreme Court will hear arguments challenging the major abortion drug mifepristone, which is used in more than half of all abortions in the U.S. The guest is Jessica Levinson, a professor at LMU's Loyola Law School in Los Angeles.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Monday, March 25, 2024 (11:00)

Police and public safety

The Los Angeles Innocence Project is pushing for new evidence and DNA testing in Scott Peterson's quest for a retrial. Peterson was convicted of murdering his wife and their unborn son two decades ago. The guest is Vinne Politan, court TV anchor.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Tuesday, March 26, 2024 (14:00)

Public safety, housing and environment

The Santa Monica City Council recently voted to explore compensating the descendants of a Black man named Silas White for his plot of land on Ocean Ave. White dreamed of converting a building he owned into the Ebony Beach Club, where African Americans could feel safe from discrimination. The city took the land, saying they needed it for public parking.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Wednesday, March 27, 2024 (09:00)

Public health and safety, economy

New analysis from the Kaiser Family Foundation shows that Medicare spending on weight loss drugs like Ozempic rose to \$5.7 billion in 2022 — up from \$57 million in 2018. The guest is Juliette Cubanski, deputy director of the Kaiser Family Foundation's program on Medicare.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Wednesday, March 27, 2024 (09:00)

Public health and safety, environment, transportation

Los Angeles City Council officials announced plans to eliminate traffic lanes, widen sidewalks and add bike and bus lanes to a three-mile stretch of Hollywood Boulevard. The goals: Boost safety and attract more tourists and residents. The project's price tag is about \$8 million.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Wednesday, March 27, 2024 (09:00)

Economy and labor, public health and safety

The state's mandatory \$20/hour minimum wage for fast food workers goes into effect on April 1, but some say that amount isn't enough. Higher menu costs and layoffs might come.

Press Play with Madeleine Brand – Aired Thursday, March 28, 2024 (10:00)