

WCRB

WCRB – 99.5 Lowell, MA

W242AA – 96.3 Beacon Hill, MA

WJMF – 88.7 Smithfield, RI

WGBH – 89.7 HD-2 Boston, MA

WCAI – 90.1 HD-2 Woods Hole / Martha's Vineyard, MA

Quarterly Issues and Programs Report

October 1 – December 31, 2021

Public Safety

WCRB provides comprehensive weather forecasts along with information about all special weather-related watches, warnings, and advisories that affect listeners in the region. Delayed school openings, school closures, and notices about weather-related event cancellations and venue changes are also included in this information. (In drive time, forecasts are given approximately four times per hour, with each report being about 30 seconds in length.) The station also provides serious traffic and transit alerts when the situation is of great significance to the listening audience.

News

Each Monday morning, airing at 2:00am and running for one hour, WCRB airs a program produced by WGBH News called *Under the Radar*, an in-depth look at some of the week's stories that may have gone unnoticed in the news cycle. Local experts join as panelists with host Callie Crossley of WGBH News. The topics covered and the guests interviewed for the shows are included in the following partial list of issues.

News Stories of Community Interest

Education/Youth/Schools

November 15: Kyle Lukoff, Stonewall-winning author of *When Aidan Became a Brother* and 2021 National Book Award finalist for the novel *Too Bright to See*. Vanessa Ford, co-author of *CALVIN*, a children's book centered around a transgender boy, inspired in part by Ford's child. Ford is also a nationally-known advocate for transgender youth rights. Katy Kania, head of teen services at Robbins Library in Arlington, Massachusetts. It's Transgender Awareness Week, which is a time to reflect on issues facing the trans community, including representation in media. There is a growing number of books, especially in children's literature, that center trans kids as main characters, and more stories that portray a range of experiences. Advocates want more trans authors and characters to be seen and heard. (26 minutes)

December 13: Dr. Ibram X. Kendi is America's leading anti-racist scholar. A best-selling author and founder of Boston University's Center for Anti-Racist Research, Dr. Kendi has helped push forward discussion about anti-Black racism. The MacArthur Foundation released the names of its Class of 2021 "Genius" Fellows this October. They join an exclusive group of previous Fellows who have demonstrated outstanding talent in their fields. American historian, professor, and author Dr. Kendi is one of three local awardees, part of our series, "The Genius Next Door." (23 minutes)

December 27: Brie Reynolds, career development manager and career coach at Flexjobs, a search site for flexible and remote jobs. Matthew Moll, teacher at Peabody PREP, a single-district virtual school system within the Peabody Public Schools system. If the pandemic taught us anything, it's that a lot of people love working remotely. Sure, many people might miss in-person meetings and look forward to

hallway chats again. But others appreciate the flexibility that remote work provides, and they don't want to give that up. (25 minutes)

Public Safety/Crime

Government

November 8: Erin O'Brien, associate professor of political science at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. Luis Jimenez, associate professor of political science at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. Rob DeLeo, associate professor of public policy at Bentley University. Candidates of color made history nationwide this month, including right here in Boston where Michelle Wu became the first woman and person of color elected as the city's mayor. Voters also gave Boston City Council new powers to override some of the mayor's decisions. Plus, Republicans took home some big election wins nationwide, including governor of Virginia; is that a bad omen for Democrats in 2022? (57 minutes)

Medical/Health

October 11: Greg Austin, founder, president, and coach at Inclusive Fitness, a Boston-based gym that specializes in training neurodiverse people. Kristin Abendroth, director of client experience and head neurotypical coach at Inclusive Fitness. Barbara Baker, parent of Mary Gwen, an Inclusive Fitness athlete. Typical gyms normally don't accommodate neurodiverse people. Not only are the flashing lights and sounds in typical gyms often disorienting, but also many physical trainers haven't worked with neurodiverse people. But one local gym is changing that – Greater Boston's Inclusive Fitness is creating both a workout space and a community. (33 minutes)

November 29: Harvard professor Dr. Marcella Alsan is a physician-economist and one of the 2021 MacArthur "Genius" Fellows, one of three who are local. We talk with Dr. Alsan for our series, "The Genius Next Door." She researches the effects of racial discrimination and the resulting mistrust of the medical field for historically marginalized populations. (25 minutes)

December 27: Nina Resetkova, reproductive endocrinologist at Boston IVF. John Petrozza, director of Massachusetts General Hospital Fertility Center. Nikki Richardson, former egg freezing patient. It's too soon to know all the ways the COVID-19 pandemic reshaped our decisions about life and family, but during the year of uncertainty, the number of people electing to freeze their eggs nearly doubled. Just a little over a decade ago, egg freezing was considered an experimental procedure. Today, it's a common procedure millions choose each year. The panel discusses patients' reasons for electing this procedure and the potential future implications. (35 minutes)

Employment/Unemployment/Poverty

December 6: On the movement's tenth anniversary, local Occupy participants assess the movement's successes and shortcomings, including the mainstreaming of the notions of the 1% and extreme economic inequality. Panelists: Jimi Two Feathers is a community organizer and founding member of Dance New England, Earth Drum Council, and Concord Neighborhood Network. He was involved in the People of Color Working Group in Dewey Square. Myrna Morales is a librarian and director of leadership development and partnerships for the Massachusetts Coalition of Domestic Workers. (33 minutes)

Environment/Ecology

October 25: MIT professor Taylor Perron is a geomorphologist who studies the evolution of landscapes on Earth and other planets. He is one of the 2021 MacArthur Fellows, and one of three based in the Boston area. We talk with professor Perron for our series, "The Genius Next Door." (25 minutes)

November 15: Maine state Rep. Nicole Grohoski. Sarah Nichols, sustainable Maine director at Natural Resources Council of Maine. Ever since China banned the United States' recyclables back in 2018,

recycling centers in American towns and cities have struggled to manage the amount of waste and the costs associated with recycling. But a new law in Maine relieves municipalities' financial burden by shifting the responsibility for the recycling costs onto the producers of packaging waste. The move could encourage more use of reusable materials and reduce waste overall. Maine is the first state in the nation to pass this kind of law, and advocates say it will likely be a model for the rest of the country. (31 minutes)

November 22: A panel of environmental health experts discuss the UN Climate Change Conference and the efforts of environmentally-conscious consumers to reduce emissions from leaf blowers. Panelists: Beth Daley, editor and general manager of *The Conversation*, U.S. Cabell Eames, political director of Better Future Project, a Massachusetts-based grassroots climate-action organization. Dr. Aaron Bernstein, Interim director of The Center for Climate, Health, and the Global Environment at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, a pediatrician at Boston Children's Hospital, and an assistant professor of pediatrics at Harvard Medical School. (30 minutes)

Economy/Business

November 1: The pandemic has changed the business of art. Visitor numbers to galleries plummeted as the pandemic forced shops to close their doors. The art world had to shift, kicking off a digital art craze. Back in March, a new record was set when a piece of digital artwork sold for \$69 million. The art was sold as a digital file, called an NFT, which stands for "nonfungible token" — a term that can apply to any digital collectible. Many underrepresented artists who haven't been given broad access to mainstream galleries think that crypto-traded art could be a viable avenue to sell their work. (24 minutes)

November 1: As TikTok's popularity surges, users intent on going viral and making money through their followings have joined forces with other creators in group houses in which to create their content. Kyle Gove, owner and manager of the local TikTok group "The Mass House," joins us to discuss the group's goals of achieving lucrative brand deals. (33 minutes)

November 29: Eric Jackson, jazz radio personality and host of *Eric in the Evening* on GBH Radio, Jay Sweet, executive producer of the Newport Folk Festival and Newport Jazz Festival, and Sue Auclair, Boston-based PR and marketing executive, discuss the impact of George Wein. Wein, a jazz promoter, musician, and producer, died in September at the age of 95. He founded the Newport Jazz Festival in 1954, creating a blueprint for all subsequent music festivals around the world. The Festival launched musicians' careers and was a tool for social justice, promoting a diverse lineup of artists and appealing to racially mixed audiences. (32 minutes)

December 13: Seven years ago, the Massachusetts Port Authority created a policy known as "Massport Model," an inclusion clause to ensure that women and minorities were included in the development process. In September 2021, The Omni Boston Hotel at the Seaport opened to rave reviews. The \$550 million complex is gleaming luxury hotel, marking something bigger than just a building: a lucrative business model that centers diversity. (34 minutes)

December 27: COVID-19 upended tradition, forcing many workers out of the office and into remote work. Many office workers expected to return to the office this fall, but both the Delta variant and rising demand for remote jobs have made employers reconsider. How will employers and employees find a balance? And, just what does the future of work look like locally and beyond? (32 minutes)

Family/Morality/Religion

October 4: Grace Sterling Stowell is the executive director of the Boston Alliance of Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer Youth, or BAGLY. Janson Wu is the executive director of GLBTQ Legal Advocates and

Defenders, or GLAD. Sue O'Connell is a political commentator at New England Cable News, and a co-publisher of *Bay Windows* and *The South End News*. We kick off LGBTQ History Month with our LGBTQ News Roundtable. A local school committee member is under fire for her transphobic TikTok posts. Plus, is the state's child welfare system putting LGBTQ youth at risk? And, Rep. Liz Cheney admits she was "wrong" to oppose gay marriage. (35 minutes)

October 25: Michael Jeffries is the dean of academic affairs and professor of American studies at Wellesley College. Rachel Rubin is a professor of American studies at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. Netflix is reeling from backlash against comedian Dave Chappelle's latest special, which critics say contains transphobic material. Plus, Hollywood celebrities from Adele to Jonah Hill speak up against fan obsession over their weight loss. And the Rolling Stones remove one of the most popular songs from their tour setlist over lyrics referencing slavery. Those stories and more on our Pop Culture Roundtable. (32 minutes)

This listing is illustrative of programs aired on WCRB and is not intended to be an exhaustive listing of programs responsive to issues of relevance to the community.