

KXXR-FM RADIO

Minneapolis/St. Paul

Quarterly Issues and Program Report

1st Quarter – April 1, 2024

Dates: January 1st – March 31st, 2024

This station airs four 30-minute programs weekly on Sundays (Access Minnesota is 26 minutes and :30 seconds). We address local and statewide community issues and concerns.

Current KQRS, 93X and LOVE 105 Schedule:

4:00 am – 4:30 am	The Best of Our Knowledge
4:30 am – 5:00 am	Viewpoints
5:00 am – 5:30 am	Minnesota Matters
5:30 am – 6:00 am	Moore About the World

Public Affairs Programs

The Best of our Knowledge – is a 30 minute program produced by National Productions that is hosted by Bob Barrett. It highlights breakthroughs across disciplines and across the globe putting listeners at the forefront of their fields. Each week this program examines some of the issues unique to education, looks at the research and invites commentary from experts and administrators from all levels of education.

Viewpoints – is a 30 minute program produced by Media Tracks; moderator host, Shel Lustig. Program covers health care, crime reduction, economy, political issues, and many other important local and global issues.

Minnesota Matters– Minnesota Matters offers listeners unique perspectives on the people, places and stories that matter most to Minnesotans, from current events and politics to sports and the arts.

Moore About the World– Moore About the World...where business, culture and history collide with the events of the week, featuring Twin Cities attorney, writer and businessman, Terrance Moore, of the Hellmuth & Johnson law firm.

The following issues are commonly addressed topics:

1. **Economy**
2. **Education**
3. **Environment**
4. **Health**
5. **Legal/Law**
6. **Politics**
7. **Urban**

Economy

Viewpoints	2/4/24	<p>VIEWPOINTS EXPLAINED: STANLEY RAKES IN \$750 MILLION IN SALES IN 2023: WHY EVERYONE SEEMS TO BE PERPETUALLY OBSESSED WITH ITS BEVERAGE TUMBLERS</p> <p>We cover the viral hype behind Stanley tumblers that just seems to keep growing year after year.</p>
Viewpoints	2/4/24	<p>SEGMENT 1: YOU'RE NOT ALONE: WHY THE AVERAGE AMERICAN CAN NO LONGER AFFORD THE AVERAGE HOME</p> <p>Just 15.5 percent of homes on the market last year were within budget for the average American. That's the lowest percent for housing affordability ever recorded in U.S. history, according to a new report from the real estate firm Redfin. We speak with two real estate and housing experts about the large-scale increase in housing prices and mortgage loans and if there's any relief in sight this year.</p>
Moore About the World	2/11/24	<p>America's Shrinking Middle Class: The gap between the nation's wealthiest and poorest citizens keeps growing, fostering resentment and promoting political extremism on both the right and left. Middle-class Americans are feeling the economic stress as inflation drives down real wages. A look at how wealth inequality threatens our democracy and what can be done to mitigate its impacts.</p>
Viewpoints	2/25/24	<p>VIEWPOINTS EXPLAINED: WHAT IS TEMU – AND IS IT WORTH IT?</p> <p>Have you shopped at Temu before? The Chinese-owned e-commerce company has seen a meteoric rise in sales since it entered the U.S. market in September 2022. It's known for its extremely low prices on all kinds of goods (think Amazon) but is there a deeper explanation behind these bare bone prices?</p>
Viewpoints	3/3/24	<p>SEGMENT 1: WHAT LIES AHEAD: A CLIMATE CALAMITY FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES</p> <p>2023 was the hottest year on record since global records began in 1850. We're also currently far from being on track to hit The Paris Climate Agreement – a landmark international treaty adopted in 2015 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and limit global warming to below 2 degrees Celsius this century. We speak with anthropologist and climate policy expert Naveeda Khan about the U.N. Climate Change Conference that took place this year and how smaller, developing countries are stepping up and demanding change.</p>
Minnesota Matters	3/8/24	<p>DEED encourages Businesses to hire Minnesotans with disabilities, Belos Cipriani, Oleb Media (Tasha Redel)</p>
Minnesota Matters	3/22/24	<p>Minnesota E-15 sales record in 2023, Brian Werner of Mn-Biofuels Association (Brent Palm) Tackling Credit Card Debt, Shannon Doyle LSS Financial (Tasha Redel)</p>
Moore About the World	3/31/24	<p>How Employers Are Retaining Workers When Jobs Are Plentiful: Finding and keeping employees is more difficult in a robust job market. Why and how employers are beefing up benefits and other perks, from free office snacks to pet insurance to unlimited personal time off.</p>

Education

Minnesota Matters	1/5/24	SELF Loans, Laura Erdman SELF Loan Student Success Manager. Minnesota Office of Higher Education (Tasha Redel)
Minnesota Matters	1/19/24	The "Great American Think-Off, Betsy Roder, executive director of the New York Mills Regional Cultural Center (Bill Werner)
Viewpoints	1/21/24	SEGMENT 2: WHY ARE WE BANNING MORE BOOKS THAN EVER BEFORE? Books have been taken off shelves since the colonial period, but, in recent years, more books than ever have been deemed unsuitable for young readers and are being removed from schools and local libraries. We cover the controversy by highlighting two differing perspectives on the debate.
The Best of Our Knowledge	1/22/24	Universities across New York state studying AI are banding together to unlock the potential of the technology to benefit public good. We'll speak with a researcher who has been working to develop classroom curricula surrounding the rapidly advancing technology.
Viewpoints	1/28/24	SEGMENT 1: NEW YEAR, SAME CHALLENGES: WHY THE AMERICAN EDUCATION SYSTEM IS AT A CROSSROADS? For years, the media has covered teacher burnout and how more and more teachers are resigning. Yet, despite this increased coverage, little has been done to improve pay, working conditions and autonomy on a large-scale for educators. Now, many schools across the country are reaching a breaking point and lower-than-average student scores are reflecting this systemic breakdown. We speak with two education experts about what needs to change and how listeners can get involved.
The Best of Our Knowledge	1/29/24	On this episode of The Best of Our Knowledge we'll learn about a science degree program offering a unique look at the future of fermentation.
Minnesota Matters	2/1/24	U of M Search Continues for new President, Regent Mary Davenport (Bill Werner)
The Best of Our Knowledge	2/5/24	Following the resignation of former president Claudine Gay, Harvard University is at the center of the debate over free speech on college campuses. We'll speak with a member of a faculty organization defending the rights of students to protest violence against Palestinians. And we'll speak with the supervisor of the Onondaga Nation Farm.
Minnesota Matters	2/9/24	Lost Winter of 2023-2024, Assistant State Climatologist Pete Boulay (Brent Palm)

Education

Viewpoints	2/18/24	<p>SEGMENT 1: CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH: THE DAREDEVIL STUNT PILOT YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF</p> <p>Most Americans are well acquainted with the story of Amelia Earhart, but few have heard the name, Bessie Coleman. This fearless legend earned her pilot's license two years before Earhart became certified. This week, as we commemorate Black History Month, we cover the story of Coleman and the countless barriers she faced as an African American woman in the early 1900's set on making a name for herself in performance stunt flying.</p>
The Best of Our Knowledge	2/19/24	Hamilton College has named its next president. We'll speak with Steven Tepper, who is currently serving as a dean at Arizona State University.
Viewpoints	2/25/24	<p>SEGMENT 1: SCHOOL, SPORTS, STANDARDIZED TESTS: WHEN IS THERE TIME TO BUILD LIFE SKILLS?</p> <p>As an academic advisor, Ana Homayoun has had many conversations with students, parents, and administrators. With so much competition and so many pressures, what's always top-of-mind is grades, college admissions and how to stand out from everyone else. But what often falls by the wayside are the fundamentals of how to create a healthy and successful life. We speak with Homayoun about why so many teens (especially in the last 10 years) seem to really struggle post-high school and how parents can better prepare their kids before they hit this breaking point.</p>
The Best of Our Knowledge	2/26/24	A mild winter allows for an early prescribed fire. We'll speak with acclaimed jazz trumpeter and music educator Sean Jones. And a push by public colleges and universities in New York aims to get more students involved in producing local news
Minnesota Matters	3/1/24	988 Crisis Line Implementation, Carolina De Los Rios, United Way (Tasha Redel)
Minnesota Matters	3/15/24	Brad Hokanson, University of Minnesota, Creativity vs. Intelligence (Ashley Walker)
Moore About the World	3/17/24	The Wisdom of Ancient Greece: Greek philosophers like Plato and Aristotle are strikingly relevant today. As we struggle to deal with modern issues such as political divisions and so-called "fake news," the philosophies of ancient thinkers can help us separate fact from fiction as we deal with the 24-hour news cycle and social media.
Minnesota Matters	3/29/24	Minnesota Releases 2023 Graduation Rates, Representative Peggy Bennett (Tasha Redel)
Viewpoints	3/31/24	<p>SEGMENT 1: '2/3 OF STUDENTS ARE TESTING BELOW PROFICIENCY IN READING': WHY WE'RE FAILING THE NEXT GENERATION</p> <p>Millions of kids aren't meeting current reading comprehension guidelines. With so many young people falling through the cracks, what's broken within the current curriculum? What's the best way to actually teach reading? Education expert Natalie Wexler joins us to share important insights on emerging research and what parents should know.</p>

Environment

Viewpoints	1/7/24	<p>SEGMENT 2: THE SECRETS LEARNED FROM A FIFTH-GENERATION BEEKEEPER</p> <p>In Meredith May's book, she examines the parallels between the inner workings of beehives and our society, and how beekeeping taught her numerous life lessons as a child. She also discusses the threat to bees with commercialized beekeeping and what we can do to protect these insects that are vital to our ecosystem.</p>
The Best of Our Knowledge	1/8/24	<p>We'll have a conversation with Dr. Carl Safina, an ecologist and author of <i>Alfie & Me: What Owls Know, What Humans Believe</i>. The book tells the story of an orphaned owl who was cared for by Carl and his wife Patricia during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the large impact a little owl had on their lives.</p>
The Best of Our Knowledge	1/15/24	<p>National Geographic writer Jen Szymanski will speak with our Jody Cowan about her latest book for young readers, "Deadliest Animals on the Planet." And we'll learn about ice yachts – the fastest craft on the planet at the turn of the 20th Century.</p>
Viewpoints	1/28/24	<p>VIEWPOINTS EXPLAINED: THINKING OF BUYING AN ELECTRIC CAR SOON? KEEP THIS IN MIND</p> <p>Frigid temperatures across the U.S. have been wreaking havoc for millions of drivers, especially electric car owners. We cover this unfolding crisis and how auto manufacturers are responding.</p>
Minnesota Matters	2/1/24	<p>Dry Mild Winter Increases Wildfire Danger, National Weather Service Meteorologist Tyler Hassenstein (Jake Griffith)</p>
Minnesota Matters	3/1/24	<p>Record meteorological winter in MN, Pete Boulay, State Climatology Office (Brent Palm)</p>
Viewpoints	3/3/24	<p>SEGMENT 1: WHAT LIES AHEAD: A CLIMATE CALAMITY FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES</p> <p>2023 was the hottest year on record since global records began in 1850. We're also currently far from being on track to hit The Paris Climate Agreement – a landmark international treaty adopted in 2015 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and limit global warming to below 2 degrees Celsius this century. We speak with anthropologist and climate policy expert Naveeda Khan about the U.N. Climate Change Conference that took place this year and how smaller, developing countries are stepping up and demanding change.</p>
The Best of Our Knowledge	3/11/24	<p>In a changing climate, researchers around the world are asking citizen scientists to use their smartphones to help monitor beach erosion and storm damage.</p>
Viewpoints	3/17/24	<p>SEGMENT 1: WHY YOU SHOULD DROP WHAT YOU'RE DOING ON APRIL 8 & SEE THIS RARE EVENT</p> <p>On Monday, April 8, a total solar eclipse will hit a large diagonal stretch of the U.S. The next event of this magnitude isn't set to happen again until 2044. We speak with eclipse expert and journalist David Baron about why a total solar eclipse is a can't-miss event worth the travel and traffic.</p>

Environment

Viewpoints	3/24/24	SEGMENT 2: AMERICANS LOVE-HATE RELATIONSHIP WITH THIS FURRY ANIMAL In the early 1900's, deer almost went extinct after they were over-hunted for their meat, hides and antlers. Today, most parts of the country have a very different problem. We speak with wildlife expert Erika Howsare about our long and tangled relationship with the white-tailed deer.
Viewpoints	3/24/24	VIEWPOINTS EXPLAINED: WHY DO WE SUCK AT RECYCLING? If we spend effort recycling items, it's logical to assume that most of these bottles, cartons and boxes will be recycled and reused. However, for plastic, this is rarely the case. We talk about the plastic crisis and why it's important to cut down on the plastic you use in your daily life.

Health

Minnesota Matters	1/5/24	January Radon Month, M-D-H Indoor Air Program Supervisor Dan Tranter (Brent Palm)
The Best of Our Knowledge	1/8/24	We'll have a conversation with Dr. Carl Safina, an ecologist and author of <i>Alfie & Me: What Owls Know, What Humans Believe</i> . The book tells the story of an orphaned owl who was cared for by Carl and his wife Patricia during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the large impact a little owl had on their lives.
Minnesota Matters	1/26/24	Flu and COVID Season Upon Us, MDH Commissioner Brooke Cunningham (Tasha Redel)
Viewpoints	2/4/24	SEGMENT 2: WE ALL EXPERIENCE TRAUMA: HOW TO BEST WORK THROUGH IT Trauma comes in many shapes and forms – and nearly everyone experiences trauma at some point in their life. Viewpoints speaks with psychiatrist, Dr. James S. Gordon to better understand a person's reaction to trauma and the body's resilience in dealing with these stressful events and situations.
Viewpoints	2/11/24	VIEWPOINTS EXPLAINED: A RUSSIAN FIGURE SKATER DISQUALIFIED & A NEW PRECEDENT SET Russian figure skater Kamila Valieva wowed us all at the 2022 Winter Olympics. At just 15 years old, she jumped onto the international stage, earning first place in her Olympic routines. However, this success was embroiled by controversy after she failed a drug test weeks before the competition. She was still allowed to compete as officials investigated, but now, these achievements have been wiped from record books. We cover her disqualification & why this sentence sends a message to all countries competing in this year's Olympics.
Minnesota Matters	2/16/24	Measles cases in Minnesota, MDH Epidemiologist Emily Banerjee (Brent Palm) Elizabeth Wrigley-Field, University of Minnesota, COVID Deaths Undercounted During Core Pandemic Years (Ashley Walker)
Viewpoints	2/18/24	VIEWPOINTS EXPLAINED: HEADING TO THE NAIL SALON SOON? THINK AGAIN A new study published in the scientific journal, <i>Nature Communications</i> , has found a potential link between gel nail treatments and skin cancer. We cover the latest research and how to advocate for your health when at the nail salon.
Viewpoints	2/25/24	SEGMENT 1: SCHOOL, SPORTS, STANDARDIZED TESTS: WHEN IS THERE TIME TO BUILD LIFE SKILLS? As an academic advisor, Ana Homayoun has had many conversations with students, parents, and administrators. With so much competition and so many pressures, what's always top-of-mind is grades, college admissions and how to stand out from everyone else. But what often falls by the wayside are the fundamentals of how to create a healthy and successful life. We speak with Homayoun about why so many teens (especially in the last 10 years) seem to really struggle post-high school and how parents can better prepare their kids before they hit this breaking point.
Viewpoints	2/25/24	SEGMENT 2: PERFORMANCE ANXIETY: WE ALL STRUGGLE WITH IT. HOW DO YOU RISE ABOVE? Before a big presentation or test or job interview, most of us struggle with different levels of anxiety, nerves, and self-doubt. Dr. Dana Sinclair has worked with Olympic athletes, A-list actors and actresses, and even surgeons on how to overcome this performance anxiety and get back in control in a matter of minutes. We speak with her to learn how everyone can utilize these same strategies in their daily lives.

Health

Viewpoints	2/25/24	<p>VIEWPOINTS EXPLAINED: WHAT IS TEMU – AND IS IT WORTH IT?</p> <p>Have you shopped at Temu before? The Chinese-owned e-commerce company has seen a meteoric rise in sales since it entered the U.S. market in September 2022. It's known for its extremely low prices on all kinds of goods (think Amazon) but is there a deeper explanation behind these bare bone prices?</p>
Minnesota Matters	3/1/24	<p>Long-Term Health Care Needs, Deputy Majority Leader Nick Franzen (Blois Olson)</p>
Viewpoints	3/3/24	<p>VIEWPOINTS EXPLAINED: A DEADLY BEACH DEATH – AND NO, IT DIDN'T HAPPEN IN THE WATER</p> <p>We cover the unexpected death of a 7-year-old girl late last month at a beach in Fort Lauderdale. What all parents should know about this deadly phenomenon.</p>
Minnesota Matters	3/8/24	<p>Minnesota flu season update, MDH Epidemiologist Melissa McMahon (Brent Palm)</p>
Viewpoints	3/10/24	<p>SEGMENT 1: CAN YOU JUGGLE IT ALL? NPR'S MARY LOUISE KELLY OPENS UP ABOUT HER STRUGGLES</p> <p>NPR journalist and co-host of "All Things Considered" Mary Louise Kelly joins us to share her story of balancing motherhood with a long-spanning, demanding career in journalism. She – like many mothers – has struggled to have it all and recounts the many tradeoffs over the years.</p>
Minnesota Matters	3/15/24	<p>Minnesota Goat Tests Positive for Bird Flu, Dr. Brian Hoefs Board of Animal Health (Tasha Redel)</p>
Viewpoints	3/17/24	<p>SEGMENT 2: WHY DOES RUSSIA CONTINUE TO GET AWAY WITH THE WIDE-SCALE DOPING OF ITS ATHLETES?</p> <p>The 2024 Paris Olympics is set to start in just four months. While Russian athletes have been barred from representing their country, they'll still be able to compete on a neutral, no-representation status. However, there are still many lingering questions about the efficacy of anti-doping tests and if the Olympics will once again be plagued by athletes who are retroactively banned.</p>
Viewpoints	3/24/24	<p>SEGMENT 1: EXPANDING INTO AGING: HOW TO OVERCOME OUR FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN</p> <p>Why do we fear the process of getting older so much? We speak with author Caroline Paul about gaining a new perspective on aging – one that embraces adventure, new relationships and keeps us curious and growing as we age.</p>
Viewpoints	3/31/24	<p>VIEWPOINTS EXPLAINED: SICK OF CARDIO? NEW RESEARCH SUGGESTS THIS SHIFT IN EXERCISE</p> <p>Current exercise recommendations in the U.S. are the same for both men and women. New research published earlier this month in the "Journal of the American College of Cardiology" uncovers evidence that women may benefit much more from this type of exercise.</p>

Legal/Law

Minnesota Matters	1/5/24	Rep. Maria Isa Perez-Vega, Anti-Declaw Law (Ashley Walker)
Minnesota Matters	1/19/24	Commissioner Rebecca Lucero, Minnesota Department of Human Rights, Pregnancy Discrimination Case Settlement Agreement (Ashley Walker)
Viewpoints	1/21/24	<p>SEGMENT 1: THE RISE OF THE CORPORATE DISPENSARY</p> <p>Cannabis has grown to become a multi-billion-dollar industry in the U.S. But how much of this revenue is going to small businesses rather than large chains controlling every part of production? We discuss the current inequities and the failure to maintain a model that helps populations who've been disproportionately affected by the war on cannabis get a seat at the table.</p>
Viewpoints	1/21/24	<p>SEGMENT 2: WHY ARE WE BANNING MORE BOOKS THAN EVER BEFORE?</p> <p>Books have been taken off shelves since the colonial period, but, in recent years, more books than ever have been deemed unsuitable for young readers and are being removed from schools and local libraries. We cover the controversy by highlighting two differing perspectives on the debate.</p>
Viewpoints	1/21/24	<p>VIEWPOINTS EXPLAINED: WHY DID IT TAKE DECADES TO MAKE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY A HOLIDAY?</p> <p>We highlight the decades-long political fight to pass state and federal legislation that officially made the third Monday of January Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.</p>
Minnesota Matters	1/26/24	State Trooper Ryan Londregan in the shooting death of Ricky Cobb the Second, Hamline University Legal Expert David Schultz (Bill Werner Two Segments)
Viewpoints	1/28/24	<p>SEGMENT 1: NEW YEAR, SAME CHALLENGES: WHY THE AMERICAN EDUCATION SYSTEM IS AT A CROSSROADS?</p> <p>For years, the media has covered teacher burnout and how more and more teachers are resigning. Yet, despite this increased coverage, little has been done to improve pay, working conditions and autonomy on a large-scale for educators. Now, many schools across the country are reaching a breaking point and lower-than-average student scores are reflecting this systemic breakdown. We speak with two education experts about what needs to change and how listeners can get involved.</p>
Minnesota Matters	2/1/24	State courthouse Valentine's Day weddings, Kim Pleticha, Judicial Branch Public Affairs (Brent Palm)
Viewpoints	2/4/24	<p>SEGMENT 1: WHY DIVORCE RATES ARE CLIMBING RIGHT NOW & WHAT TO KNOW IF YOU'RE EVER IN THIS SITUATION</p> <p>For many divorce attorneys, the beginning of the year is typically peak season for obtaining new clients. After the holiday season is over, struggling couples reassess their marriage in the new year and then, if they choose to move forward, start the process of divorce in February. We speak with prominent New York City divorce attorney Jacqueline Newman about the biggest misconceptions people have when it comes to divorce and why everyone –single or married – should keep these tips in mind.</p>

Legal/Law

The Best of Our Knowledge	2/5/24	Following the resignation of former president Claudine Gay, Harvard University is at the center of the debate over free speech on college campuses. We'll speak with a member of a faculty organization defending the rights of students to protest violence against Palestinians. And we'll speak with the supervisor of the Onondaga Nation Farm.
Viewpoints	2/11/24	VIEWPOINTS EXPLAINED: A RUSSIAN FIGURE SKATER DISQUALIFIED & A NEW PRECEDENT SET Russian figure skater Kamila Valieva wowed us all at the 2022 Winter Olympics. At just 15 years old, she jumped onto the international stage, earning first place in her Olympic routines. However, this success was embroiled by controversy after she failed a drug test weeks before the competition. She was still allowed to compete as officials investigated, but now, these achievements have been wiped from record books. We cover her disqualification & why this sentence sends a message to all countries competing in this year's Olympics.
Minnesota Matters	2/23/24	Burnsville Officer Shootings, Governor Walz, Police Chief Tanya Schwartz, BCA Superintendent Drew Evans (Tasha Redel) In the aftermath of last weekend's tragedy in Burnsville, state lawmakers are trying to address another issue affecting police officers: School Resource Officers (Bill Werner) Burnsville firefighter tribute, MN Fire Chiefs Association President Eric Bullen of Albertville (Brent Palm)
Minnesota Matters	3/8/24	Sports Betting Bill Movement, Minnesota Retailers Association President Bruce Nustad (Blois Olson)
Viewpoints	3/10/24	SEGMENT 2: FIGHTING FOR YOUR LIFE IN FRONT OF A PRISON PAROLE BOARD: THE ROAD TO REHABILITATION Parole from prison is one of the key aspects of the criminal justice system. The program incentivizes good behavior, promotes rehabilitation and a successful reintegration into society. But as rates of parole have plummeted in recent years in the U.S., experts are raising doubts about the subjective nature of the process and if prisoners have the adequate tools and resources to get parole.
Minnesota Matters	3/15/24	School Resource Officer Bill Signed by Governor Walz (Bill Werner) Sports Betting Bill Clears Another Hurdle, Senator Matt Kline Chief Author (Blois Olson)
Minnesota Matters	3/22/24	Sports Betting Bill is Still Alive, Representative Pat Garofalo (Blois Olson)
Minnesota Matters	3/29/24	Delta weighs in on a DOT decision that could impact their Mexican partnership (Blois Olson)

Politics

The Best of Our Knowledge	1/1/24	The Israel-Hamas war has intensified debate over free speech on college campuses. And we'll speak with an internationally-known advocate for human rights in the West Bank.
Minnesota Matters	1/5/24	Update on the week's political goings-on, which ranges from the "state flag" to the "red flag" (Bill Werner)
Minnesota Matters	1/5/24	Rep. Maria Isa Perez-Vega, Anti-Declaw Law (Ashley Walker)
Viewpoints	1/7/24	SEGMENT 2: SPEAKING WITH THE ARTIST BEHIND SOME OF THE MOST ICONIC ILLUSTRATIONS We speak with illustrator and artist Tim O'Brien who's illustrated countless magazine covers over the decades. O'Brien speaks with us about his long career, the history of illustration, its evolution and how the art form is used to convey a deeper meaning or take on a singular moment in time.
Moore About the World	1/7/24	Remembering LBJ, Part 1: A look at the life and career of President Lyndon Baines Johnson and how his upbringing and early adulthood shaped his political ideology. How Johnson ascended from Congress to the presidency, and how he helped the nation recover from the shock of President John F. Kennedy's assassination.
Minnesota Matters	1/12/24	"Jesse Ventura Shocks the World." Bill Werner talked with executive producer and fellow State Capitol reporter Mary LaHammer
Moore About the World	1/14/24	Remembering LBJ, Part 2: Historians believe that the Johnson presidency continues to shape American society decades after he left office. The Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, Medicare, and Medicaid are the lasting legacies of LBJ. Yet, the escalation of the Vietnam War under his watch tarnished his reputation, and some contemporary critics believe his Great Society programs did more harm than good.
Viewpoints	1/21/24	SEGMENT 1: THE RISE OF THE CORPORATE DISPENSARY Cannabis has grown to become a multi-billion-dollar industry in the U.S. But how much of this revenue is going to small businesses rather than large chains controlling every part of production? We discuss the current inequities and the failure to maintain a model that helps populations who've been disproportionately affected by the war on cannabis get a seat at the table.
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Politics

Moore About the World	1/21/24	How Politicians Sabotage Their Campaigns: Slips of the tongue have proven costly for politicians. Saying the wrong thing can quickly scuttle a political career. Several examples of political blunders and what happened to the politicians who committed them are presented.
Viewpoints	1/28/24	<p>SEGMENT 1: NEW YEAR, SAME CHALLENGES: WHY THE AMERICAN EDUCATION SYSTEM IS AT A CROSSROADS?</p> <p>For years, the media has covered teacher burnout and how more and more teachers are resigning. Yet, despite this increased coverage, little has been done to improve pay, working conditions and autonomy on a large-scale for educators. Now, many schools across the country are reaching a breaking point and lower-than-average student scores are reflecting this systemic breakdown. We speak with two education experts about what needs to change and how listeners can get involved.</p>
Viewpoints	1/28/24	<p>SEGMENT 2: WHY MEXICO IS AT A CRITICAL POLITICAL JUNCTION</p> <p>It's not just a heated election year for Americans. Millions of Mexicans are also gearing up for a contentious election cycle to elect their next President and Congress. We cover Mexico's ongoing struggle to maintain a fair and equal democracy and what's at stake within the country and U.S.-Mexico relations.</p>
Moore About the World	2/4/24	America's Culture Wars: Abortion, LGBTQIA+ rights, and DEI programs are among the myriad of controversial issues that are stoking division in America. How can we promote productive dialogue on these explosive topics and help tone down the culture wars that keep us divided?
The Best of Our Knowledge	2/5/24	Following the resignation of former president Claudine Gay, Harvard University is at the center of the debate over free speech on college campuses. We'll speak with a member of a faculty organization defending the rights of students to protest violence against Palestinians. And we'll speak with the supervisor of the Onondaga Nation Farm.
Viewpoints	2/11/24	<p>SEGMENT 2: UNDER THE RADAR PT 1: AN ALTERNATE PERSPECTIVE ON THE FAMED SPACE SHUTTLE PROGRAM</p> <p>The space shuttle is seen as an engineering marvel and a symbol of human innovation, ingenuity, and collaboration. However, there's a darker side to the space shuttle program that's often been excluded from the mainstream narrative. This week, we uncover this story with the help of Harvard professor Matthew H. Hersch who's the author of Dark Star: A New History of the Space Shuttle.</p>
Moore About the World	2/11/24	America's Shrinking Middle Class: The gap between the nation's wealthiest and poorest citizens keeps growing, fostering resentment and promoting political extremism on both the right and left. Middle-class Americans are feeling the economic stress as inflation drives down real wages. A look at how wealth inequality threatens our democracy and what can be done to mitigate its impacts.

Politics

Minnesota Matters	2/16/24	Lawmakers returned to the State Capitol this week, and MNN's Bill Werner reports that the opening of the 2024 legislative session brought dessert first, followed by a plate of hot-button issues that could run through May adjournment into the November election.
Viewpoints	2/18/24	<p>SEGMENT 2: UNDER THE RADAR PT 2: A LOVE-HATE RELATIONSHIP WITH AMERICA'S SPACE SHUTTLE</p> <p>In total, the NASA space shuttle program had 135 missions. You can't argue that the birth of this shuttle launched us into a new era of space exploration and innovation. But – what's not often mentioned are the controversies, setbacks, and disputes behind the scenes. Former NASA flight director and program manager Wayne Hale speaks candidly with us about the myths and facts of the NASA Space Shuttle Program.</p>
Moore About the World	2/18/24	Free Speech, the First Amendment, and Social Media: Social media platforms are being touted as the new American "town square." Misinformation, accidental and intentional, runs rampant on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, X, and other platforms. How can we protect users without violating the First Amendment? Can the government tell social media companies what information they can and cannot allow on their platforms? Can Congress force a Chinese-owned company like TikTok to sell the platform or shut it down altogether?
Minnesota Matters	3/1/24	Minnesotans and the nation remembered and honored Burnsville Officers Paul Elmstrand and Matthew Ruge and Firefighter/Paramedic Adam Finseth, who gave their lives when a domestic call turned into a standoff -- and then into tragedy (Bill Werner)
Minnesota Matters	3//24	"Super Tuesday" presidential primary" (Bill Werner)
Viewpoints	3/10/24	<p>VIEWPOINTS EXPLAINED: WHY TENS OF THOUSANDS OF VOTERS ARE CHECKING THIS BOX</p> <p>We cover this growing movement at the polls this year as several states hold election year primaries and caucuses.</p>
Moore About the World	3/10/24	How Presidents Make Decisions: Presidential decisions have altered the course of history and impacted the lives of all Americans. A look at the presidential decision-making process and historical examples from past presidencies.
Viewpoints	3/17/24	<p>SEGMENT 2: WHY DOES RUSSIA CONTINUE TO GET AWAY WITH THE WIDE-SCALE DOPING OF ITS ATHLETES?</p> <p>The 2024 Paris Olympics is set to start in just four months. While Russian athletes have been barred from representing their country, they'll still be able to compete on a neutral, no-representation status. However, there are still many lingering questions about the efficacy of anti-doping tests and if the Olympics will once again be plagued by athletes who are retroactively banned.</p>

Politics

Viewpoints	3/17/24	VIEWPOINTS EXPLAINED: WHAT'S HAPPENING IN HAITI? Close to 4,000 prisoners escaped from two of the biggest jails in Haiti after local gangs unleashed a massive jailbreak. We cover the unfolding chaos in the capital city and why the future looks uncertain for this Caribbean country.
Minnesota Matters	3/22/24	Legislative Weekly Re-Cap, Budget Surplus, Wizard of Oz (Bill Werner)
Minnesota Matters	3/29/24	Governor Walz State of the State Recap (Bill Werner)

Urban

Viewpoints	1/7/24	CULTURE CRASH: A MASTER OF THRILLERS: A LOOK AT FILMMAKER EMERALD FENNELL Love a good, jumpy scare? Us too. We cover some old and new releases from acclaimed filmmaker Emerald Fennell.
Minnesota Matters	1/12/24	2023 Food Shelf Use, Angelica Klebsch, Director of Community Partnerships Second Harvest Heartland (Tasha Redel) North Stars book Mirage of Destiny, Author Kevin Allespach (Brent Palm) Gopher hockey player Carl Fish (Mike Grimm)
Viewpoints	1/14/24	CULTURE CRASH: THE STRUGGLES OF STREAMING GIANTS We talk about why most streaming platforms are struggling to make a profit at year's end.
Viewpoints	1/21/24	CULTURE CRASH: LOOKING FOR SOMETHING NEW TO WATCH? DIVE INTO THIS FIVE-PART SERIES Critics can't decide whether Steve McQueen's five-part series, "Small Axe" is a TV show or if it's a series of short films. Either way, the release is a hit and will keep you hooked the entire way. Stream it now in full on Amazon Prime.
Viewpoints	1/28/24	CULTURE CRASH: LOVE JEREMY ALLEN WHITE FROM "THE BEAR"? PUT THIS TITLE ON YOUR LIST OF NEW MOVIES TO WATCH We cover the new drama "The Iron Claw" featuring Jeremy Allen White, Zac Efron and other leading names.
Viewpoints	2/4/24	CULTURE CRASH: WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT GRAND THEFT AUTO VI? We discuss what gamers can expect from the latest release of Grand Theft Auto VI that's set to drop next year.
Minnesota Matters	2/9/24	Legacy of Lutsen Resort, Scott Benson and Bill Werner (Two Segments)
Viewpoints	2/11/24	CULTURE CRASH: THE FILMS WE WISH THE OSCARS NOMINATED There's no shortage of anger and frustration over the Oscars snub around Barbie. And while we agree, we feel like this has already been well-covered elsewhere. Instead, this week on Culture Crash we highlight some other films that we feel have not gotten the attention or the nominations they deserved.
The Best of Our Knowledge	2/12/24	We'll speak with music theorist and author Miriam Piilonen about her book: Theorizing Music Evolution, which lends a fresh eye to old ideas from Charles Darwin and Herbert Spencer.
Viewpoints	2/18/24	CULTURE CRASH: WHETHER YOU'RE A SWIFTIE OR NOT, HERE'S WHAT WE CAN ALL AGREE ON We cover the one and only pop sensation: Taylor Swift. You can love her. You can hate her. But you can't argue that's she this.

Urban

Viewpoints	2/25/24	CULTURE CRASH: THE HIGHLY ANTICIPATED PART 2 WE'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR We review the upcoming release of Dune: Part Two featuring Timothee Chalamet, Zendaya, Florence Pugh and other big names.
Viewpoints	3/3/24	CULTURE CRASH: WHY WE LOVE GOING BACK TO WHAT WE KNOW We discuss why older, nostalgic TV shows often seem to outperform newer releases.
Viewpoints	3/10/24	CULTURE CRASH: CAN "VANDERPUMP RULES" REBOUND FROM A WILD SEASON 10? We review Season 11 of the reality TV series, "Vanderpump Rules".
Viewpoints	3/17/24	CULTURE CRASH: OUR LOVE FOR SCI-FI From "Interstellar" to "Solaris", we love a good sci-fi movie that transports us to a new dimension and time. We highlight some of our favorites and why the genre continues to grow.
The Best of Our Knowledge	3/18/24	We'll take a trip to the largest collection of popular music in the world – and meet the man who has dedicated most of his life to cataloging recordings and historic materials.
Viewpoints	3/24/24	CULTURE CRASH: EMMA STONE & HER METEORIC RISE IN HOLLYWOOD Emma Stone just added another Oscar win to her resume. We discuss her evolution as an actress and what's next for this A-list star.
Moore About the World	3/24/24	Misused Phrases: Many well-known sayings are routinely misused, causing misunderstandings and embarrassment. When did these phrases first come into our language, and why are they often misstated?
The Best of Our Knowledge	3/25/24	What's your favorite board game? We'll explore the history of board games in America. And we'll visit an upstate New York woodworking shop that is opening its doors to the community.
Viewpoints	3/31/24	CULTURE CRASH: WILL 2024 BE A SLEEPER YEAR FOR MOVIES? The Writer's Guild of America strike halted production in Hollywood for five months last year, creating a ripple effect into this year's film and TV lineup. Will 2024 be a bust for movie lovers?

- Public Service Announcements:
- **KQRS – 307** PSAs ran from 1/01/2024 – 3/31/2024
- **93X – 235** PSAs ran from 1/01/2024 – 3/31/2024
- **LOVE 105 – 294** PSAs ran from 1/01/2024 – 3/31/2024
- Total PSAs that ran in 4th quarter 2023 on KQRS, 93X and LOVE 105 were: **836**.