

Newsletter October 2025



GRC Reflections with KYRS Station Manager Michael Moon Bear

Excerpt:

Hosting the Grassroots Radio Conference was a reminder of what's possible when people who care deeply about the role of truth, connection, and community come together. To see people from 45 non-commercial educational stations across the country gather in Spokane



Pacifica Network Welcomes KMEC Radio

We happily announce that [KMEC](#) has joined Pacifica Network. KMEC broadcasts from Ukiah, CA. The station manager is Alicia Bales.

KMEC LPFM is the all-volunteer hyper-local radio station of

to learn, share, and celebrate the spirit of independent radio was very moving. For me personally it was about strengthening a sense of purpose and connection that runs through all of us in community broadcasting. It felt like a collective victory, built on heart and shared values.

[Read more from Michael Moon Bear.](#)

the [Mendocino Environmental Center](#).

Our studios are inside of the historic MEC building in downtown Ukiah, in the heart of Mendocino County, California.

For almost 40 years the MEC has played a key role in the environmental and social justice movement in Northern California, providing uncompromising leadership during the Redwood Timber Wars in the 1990's, standing in solidarity with Native communities and nations, and providing resources for activists.

KMEC was started in 2005 to amplify the voices of resistance in our community, and this mission is as important as ever now, as we embark on our 20th year on the air. We are an environmental center. Live disaster coverage is a priority due to frequent wildfires.

We are proud to be part of the Pacifica Network.



Strengthening News Without a News Director

[Lot's of good info in our October round-table.](#)



FCC Commissioner at GRC 2025

Lauren Schmitt, News Director for KPFA in Berkeley, CA, invites affiliates to learn how to build news content even if you don't have a news director.

Reasons Lauren says local news matters:

- Builds trust and credibility in the community
- Covers issues overlooked by larger outlets
- Supports democracy and community resilience
- Examples: wildfire coverage, local council meetings, school issues

On September 12, Federal Communications Commissioner Anna Gomez keynoted the 2025 Grassroots Radio Conference with KYRS radio in Spokane, Washington. New crackdowns on freedom of speech, the need to fight against self-censorship, and the role of community media were all on the table.

Excerpt from Commissioner Gomez:

Anna Gomez: *What concerns me is that these allegations of media bias [from the Trump administration] are manufactured, and they really are a desire to control how news is reported and what information gets out to communities.*

And, as I mentioned earlier, the FCC should not be policing bias. It is not our job to balance the marketplace of ideas. It is our job to ensure that there is a lot of viewpoints out there.

Keep doing what you do. I think what really worries me is capitulation in advance...I talk a lot about capitulation breeding capitulation, but courage breeds courage; and we really need to continue to stand up. These actions being taken are so frequent and they're so constant that they become noise and we become numb to it. We cannot let this become the status quo. So let's all find our courage and let's speak up and push back.

[Read the full transcript](#)

Now in AudioPort



Earth Eclectic Radio Hour

New!

[Hour](#)

Earth Eclectic Radio Hour is a weekly, one-hour music show that celebrates ecological awareness through sound.

Each episode curates new releases and timeless tracks that explore the connection between people, planet, and spirit - weaving together diverse genres with one unifying theme: ecospirituality.

Produced at WHIV radio in New Orleans, LA by Bart Everson and Laura Dedelow



50 Ways to Weave Your Covers

New!

[Hour](#)

50 Ways to Weave Your Covers is a weekly radio series featuring cover songs, original songs that became more famous when covered, plus obscure hip-hop sample sources.

The show is hosted by radio veterans who revel in the unexpected, such as funky covers of mainstream — often staid — originals, gender-swapped covers, and artist tributes.

Produced by Gray Wheeler & DJ Erik



Make Believe Ballroom

New!

[Hour](#)

Make Believe Ballroom transports you to the golden age of swing with classic big band hits from the 1930s and 1940s—the music that shaped jazz and became the foundation of the Great American Songbook.

On the air almost continuously since 1935, the program features treasured 78rpm recordings, fascinating stories of legendary bandleaders, musicians, composers, and vocalists, listener requests, and special segments that bring the era's music and history vividly to life.

Mattox at WSFM Radio
in Asheville, NC.

Produced by Jeff
Bressler—jazz
enthusiast, big band
historian, author, and
broadcasting veteran
with more than 30
years behind the
microphone.



Pacifica Network

816 Clark Ave, 50010, Ames

ursula@pacifica.org

[vintage radio photo from public domain pictures](#)

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Photo of FCC Commissioner Anna Gomez from personal collection

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