



2023

LOCAL CONTENT & SERVICE REPORT

TO THE COMMUNITY

**“Honest information
that I can believe.”**

- Carol, Brookings

**“Great Programs. So fortunate to have SDPB.
I listen on the radio as well. Thank you.”**

- Judy, Pierre

Local Value

- SDPB is South Dakota’s only TV, radio and digital media organization that is both state-owned and statewide.

- South Dakota’s only statewide source for over-the-air, commercial-free, educational programming for children-PreK and up.

- South Dakotans’ most reliable, accessible, and extensive multi platform resource for access to the South Dakota State Legislature, including live feeds, daily reports, and broadcasts from the Capitol.

- The state’s major broadcaster of South Dakota High School tournaments and events featuring high school student athletes and achievers. Every school year,

- SDPB covers nearly 50 South Dakota State High School Activities events,

including live sportscasts and profiles of students and schools on air, online, and on social media.

- South Dakota’s most significant source of local, in-depth documentaries and history programs.

- Sole provider of over-the-air TV for South Dakota’s most remote and rural areas.

- The statewide Emergency Alert System information provider, alerting South Dakotans to Amber Alerts, Blue Alerts and Silver Alerts, and in the event of natural or man-made disasters.

- Statewide source for all-ages programming about the living culture, history, and current issues of the Oceti Sakowin, comprised of South Dakota’s nine Native American Tribes.

Key Services

Powered by 9 TV transmitters & 6 TV translators and 11 radio transmitters & 9 radio translators, SDPB's Television, Radio, Digital and Education & Outreach platforms are available across South Dakota.

SDPB's 4 TV channels, 2 radio channels, and digital media provide local news, stories, information, and events 24/7 wherever South Dakotans are.

Gavel-to-gavel coverage of every South Dakota State Legislative session, including in-depth reports on proposed legislation, live discussions of bills with lawmakers and South Dakotans, and on-going updates of legislative action.

Localized, trustworthy, first-rate resources for South Dakota educators and caregivers, with state-standardized content, South Dakota-specific history and science curriculum, and outstanding digital content from PBS' expansive K-12 educational resources.

Engaging educational outreach to kids and families at schools, events, and educator conferences all over South Dakota.

Current health and health resources information and reports for all South Dakotans.

Live and on-demand coverage of hearings and floor debates of the South Dakota State Legislature, Public Utilities Commission Meetings, Boards & Commissions, Supreme Court hearings and many more events. Free downloads of the SD.net app available to all.

SDPB delivers audio and webcast services to state agencies, boards & commissions and the state legislature, as well as Digital Dakota Network (DDN) locations, phone conferencing and remote fly packs for streaming and recording meetings.

On air and online profiles and conversations with local & state candidates for public office and detailed ballot analysis to inform South Dakota voters. In-depth coverage of local and national elections.

Comprehensive, free, and accessible online archives of programming, information, and reports.

Cross-platform coverage of nearly 50 South Dakota High School Activities from throughout the state, including live action, student and instructor profiles, and recorded highlights.

“When I drive the state, SDPB always keeps me entertained with the variety of programming that is offered. P.S. My son LOVES Wild Kratts!”

- Prairey, Black Hawk

JULY 2022

Key happenings

SDPB staff attended the **Innoskate festival** in Pine Ridge and Sioux Falls. Innoskate celebrates skate culture with music, professional skaters, and plenty of opportunities to try a kickflip.

SDPB joined the **Storybook Land Festival** in Aberdeen with a booth, activities, and everyone’s favorite blue bird, Buddy. Staff used a learning activity to engage children while talking to parents about SDPB’s education resources.

SDPB continued to live stream the free concerts presented at the **Levitt at the Falls** in Sioux Falls.

Cara Hetland, Director of Journalism at SDPB, attended Neutrino Day and hosted a special edition of **Innovation on In the Moment** from the Sanford Underground Research Facility (SURF).

SDPB presented the **2022 South Dakota State High School Rodeo Finals** on SDPB-TV. The event was held in Fort Pierre in June.

SDPB won six **Regional Edward R. Murrow Awards** for Small Market Radio, awarded by the Radio Television Digital News Association. SDPB won in the following categories: Overall Excellence, Digital, Excellence in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Hard News, News Documentary & News Series.





“Intelligent, quality programming without commercials in a variety of genres. There’s something for everyone and something for whatever mood you’re in.”

- Anne, Brandon

100 Years in the Making

Childhood neighbors Ernest O. Lawrence and Merle Tuve grew up in Canton together before their families moved. Ernest won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1939. Merle was the president of Augustana. Merle would become the founding director of the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, and a pioneer in the use of pulsed radio waves whose discoveries opened the way to the development of radar and nuclear energy. As adults, they returned to Canton, but didn’t live next to each other anymore and had limited communication.

Merle offered the solution – wireless. Soon they were communicating with each other across the city of Canton and with people from as far away as the coasts of the United States. In fact, the citizens of Canton learned of America’s declaration of war against Germany in The Great War of 1917 through reports received by Ernest’s wireless set-up.

Ernest graduated from Canton and attended the University of South Dakota, and that’s where the seed for what became SDPB Radio was planted.

The history for all Public Broadcasting in South Dakota traces its roots to KUSD-AM. This station was one of the oldest educational radio stations in the United States and the flagship station of what was to become the South Dakota Public Broadcasting Network. The station began on the USD campus in Vermillion in 1919 as an “Experimental Wireless Station” in the USD College of Engineering. Sophomore student E. O. Lawrence and USD Dean Lewis Akeley were largely responsible for putting this historic station on the air.

Programming on KUSD was a mix of educational programs, news, music shows, and sports coverage. Through appropriations from the state legislature dating back to 1949, towers and transmitters allowed for upgrades and eventually the building of a network of FM radio stations that cover virtually the entire population of the state.

In the building of SDPB, a few things still ring true today – we exist to make a difference in the lives of people through education, entertainment, and news and information. We continue to build on the legacy that a century of lessons we have taught us and look forward to the next hundred years with the same excitement and wonder that young Ernest and Merle experienced.

Excerpted from an article that was written by SDPB staff and appeared in the July 2022 SDPB Magazine.

August 2022

Key happenings

Dakota Life announced the South Dakota towns that will be featured in its 25th anniversary season. SDPB's flagship "magazine" television show celebrated its silver anniversary with a renewed focus on sharing South Dakota's rural stories with a special emphasis on individual towns in each episode, a framework it created and expanded upon the previous two years. The towns featured in the 25th season were Leola, Sisseton, Mission, Parkston, Miller, Belle Fourche, Lead, Buffalo, and Howard.

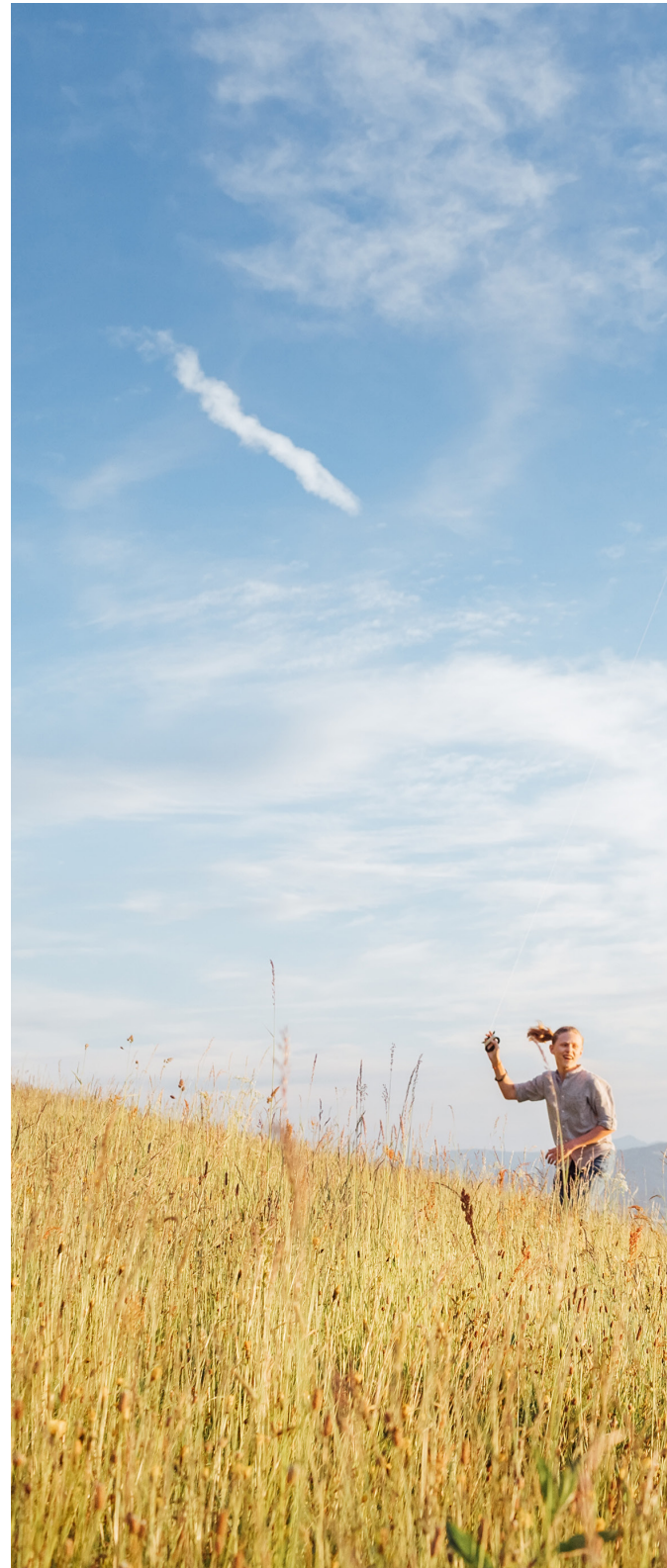
SDPB attended Riverfest in Sioux Falls. The booth included a bird feeder activity and bird sounds, cut outs of favorite PBS KIDS characters, and conversations about SDPB's growing education resources for parents, caregivers, and educators.

SDPB's Black Hills Studio hosted a special Jazz Nightly Live event. Host Karl Gehrke was joined by Les Singes Volants for a special live performance to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the Black Hills Studio.

A story highlighting Four Corners Baseball was produced by SDPB staff. The lighted ball field is located 45 miles west of Pierre and has eight towering lights to shine bright on the shoulders of a rural farmer-rancher community. It's a staple for countless baseball fans in the area.

"SDPB has excellent journalists who keep us informed about everything happening in Pierre and around the state."

- Carmen, Sioux Falls



*"I love Jazz Nightly with Karl Gehrke and
Lori Walsh with In the Moment!"*

- Barbara, Sioux Falls

Make Your Mark: A Back-to-School Guide

For some people, the new school year can bring feelings of excitement and anticipation. However, these new beginnings could also be a source of nerves or anxiety. It is equally essential for caregivers and parents to feel equipped for the new year as it is for children.

A handful of simple steps can ensure that you and your loved ones are ready for the school year:

Get into routine early – The first week is vital to setting the scene for the rest of the school year. Therefore, it is important to tackle a schedule beforehand. Adjusting to a consistent wake-up and bedtime schedule can help you and your little ones wake up on the right side of the bed before the school year even starts.

Make a Visit – Even if your child is attending the same school as the previous year, setting foot in the school beforehand will help refamiliarize you both with the premise. Showing your kids the spots where you will drop them off/pick them up can ease both of your nerves.

Practice scenarios – Younger children could benefit from practicing interacting with other children and adults. Use toys to simulate these interactions; this could include how to introduce yourself, how to ask someone if they want to play with you, how to share toys, and other scenarios.

Read books – Read books where the characters are also going to school. This gives children a look into what they might expect when they enter the classroom and lets caregivers be present for conversations kids might want to have before school.

- "Brand New Pencils, Brand New Books"
- "Danitra Brown, Class Clown"
- "Hunter's Best Friend at School"

Educational Games and Entertainment – Incorporate learning into their day by turning on PBS Kids during the day for entertainment that challenges and expands their minds. If you prefer a learning experience without the television, visit PBS online for a variety of games, readings, and worksheets.

You can play a key role in making sure the child in your life is prepared for school and learning opportunities. Whether you're tackling schooling from home or supporting your child outside of the classroom, you can enter this season of learning with excited preparedness.

Visit [PBS.org/parents](https://www.pbs.org/parents) for access to resources such as workshops and training for caregivers or interactive and educational games for kids.

*Excerpted from an article that was written by SDPB staff
and appeared in the August 2022 SDPB Magazine.*



September 2022

Key happenings

New episodes of **On Call with the Prairie Doc** aired in September, including an episode on preventing and treating sports related injuries.

The September edition of **Music Matters** was a series in two parts documenting Innoskate Pine Ridge and Innoskate Sioux Falls. Part 1 featured a personal tour pioneered by Lakota skateboarding legend Kyle Mesteth of Ground Control and the Toby Eagle Bull Memorial Skatepark. He shared the history of Lakota skate culture on Pine Ridge Reservation tracing back 20 years. He opened viewers eyes to the future of skateboarding on Pine Ridge. The episode engaged in conversations with USA Skateboarding athletes, historians from the Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation, President of the Sioux Falls Skatepark Association, and Levitt Sioux Falls staff.

SDPB staff attended the 605 Black Hills Classic at Lion's Park in Spearfish. We played South Dakota trivia and engaged with parents and caregivers.

Team SDPB was at the South Dakota Film Festival in Aberdeen. The event took place on September 17th and 18th at the Capitol Theatre. Lori Walsh hosted **In the Moment LIVE** from the Red Rooster Coffee House on Friday. Lori also hosted a discussion with cast, crew, director of a feature film on Saturday evening.

SDPB was at the South Dakota Festival of Books in Brookings September 23rd and 24th. Staff held a booth with trivia and giveaways. Lori Walsh hosted **In the Moment LIVE** from the SDSU campus with exciting interview and insights from the event. On Saturday, there was a screening of SDPB's documentary **Surviving the '72 Flood** which reflects on the devastating flood of Rapid City. Seth Tupper, film producer, participated in a Q&A following the screening.

SDPB streamed the 56th annual Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup on Friday, September 30th. 1,400 bison are brought in each fall by a large group of local and visiting crews.



***“Diverse programming. Honest reporting.
Documentaries of interest and import.”***

- Laurie, Vermillion

“Real stories from real people, telling us what is really going on here in the United States and around the world.”

- Joshua, Sioux Falls

Celebrating 25 Years of Dakota Life

***Dakota Life** celebrates the stories of South Dakotans and their personal connection to their land their community and their culture, these are the stories that make South Dakota unique.*

Every year for the past 24 years, we've ventured out to find stories and discover the history of the many towns across the state that contribute to the charming character of South Dakota. This season we venture into 9 towns to learn what makes them a treasure to our state. Featured in the 2022-2023 season are the towns of **Sisseton, Leola, Mission, Parkston, Miller, Belle Fourche, Lead, Buffalo, and Howard.**

Dakota Life has brought viewers a personal look into histories all over South Dakota since September of 1998. The first three episodes focused on stories like the *Jewel of the Black Hills*, where we explored the Opera House of Lead; *Prairie Spires*, where we highlighted the architecture and history of Prairie churches; and *Dakota Dogs*, where we met working dogs across the state.

Julie Overgaard, Executive Director of South Dakota Public Broadcasting describes the show as such: “**Dakota Life** tells the story of who we are. The history that shaped us. The people who influence us. The places that inspire us. The interests we share. **Dakota Life** helps me find joy in being South Dakotan!” Non-news and feature-driven, **Dakota Life** checks the boxes of television magazine shows, but there is a lot of work happening behind the scenes to make sure you can experience the spark of South Dakota.

Greg Beesley, one of **Dakota Life's** Segment Producers, travels from town to town capturing the special aspects that people enjoy seeing. Beesley shares that one of the most exciting parts of his job is getting to premiere the finished product with the residents of these locations and watch them light up at the thought of their stories being shared.

As we mark this anniversary and look ahead to 25 more years of **Dakota Life**, we hope to continue sharing the stories that make each community unique, and that make each community uniquely South Dakotan. Watch season 25 and discover something new about your neighbors.

Excerpted from an article that was written by SDPB staff and appeared in the September 2022 SDPB Magazine.

October 2022

Key happenings

SDPB's Education and Marketing teams joined forces to hold a booth at the 2022 Siouxpercon in Sioux Falls, SD. Science Steve performed science demonstrations for Siouxpercon attendees while the other side of the booth played SDPB Quick Draw.

Two **Prairie Songs** concerts were held in October. First, at the Orpheum Theater in Sioux Falls and then the Performing Arts Center in Rapid City. Fans listened to music from South Dakota's very own Eliza Blue, Jami Lynn, and JAS Quintet.

A screening of SDPB's documentary **Girls Got Game** was held at the Sioux Falls Studio in October 19th. A panel discussion took place following the screening with documentary producer Nate Wek and Jo Auch, trailblazer for women's sports and Assistant Executive Director at the South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA).

SDPB hosted the 2022 US House and Gubernatorial Debates at the Sioux Falls Studio, which was broadcast live on SDPB TV, SD.net and SDPB's Facebook page.

A premiere screening of SDPB documentary **Pride of Dakotas** took place on the campus of South Dakota State University. The feature documentary focused on the history of SDPB's marching band.

SDPB presents coverage of all South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA) championship and all-state events. Coverage in October included photos and results of Boys Golf, Cross Country and all-state Chorus & Orchestra. Live coverage included steaming and televising Boys and Girls Soccer and the Competitive Cheer and Dance Championships.

Dakota Life *Greetings from Leola* premiered in October with a special screening at the Leola High School Auditorium. The episode included stories from a model train collector, the local card club, a thriving cattle ranch, and a community restored church.

South Dakota Focus, SDPB's televised public affairs program, focused on perspectives on the two statewide ballot measures: a constitutional amendment to expand Medicaid eligibility, and an initiated measure to legalize recreational marijuana. Plus, host Jackie Hendry sits down with candidates for Secretary of State and Public Utilities Commission.

"SDPB is the most fair and stable news outlet we have. Thank you for continuing your work to keep us informed."

- Roger, Rapid City





“Our children, ages eight and five, are deeply interested in the world around them. So many of the programs available through Passport will feed that curiosity with reliable information.”

-Autumn, Sioux Falls

Dakota Life 25th Anniversary Flashback - Brulé

We’re celebrating **25 years of Dakota Life**. Over the course of this anniversary season, we’ll revisit some of the people we’ve met on the show over the years. This month, a conversation with Paul LaRoche, the founder of Brulé.

LaRoche founded Brulé after discovering his Lakota roots and incorporating them into his sound. He was adopted at birth and raised in Minnesota by non-Native parents. In 1993, his wife, Kathy, discovered his biological family, and he was reunited with them on the Lower Brulé Sioux Indian Reservation.

A couple years later, he started Brulé and the group has been touring heavily ever since.

Dakota Life featured the Brulé story in 2007. We recently touched base with Paul LaRoche again.

SDPB: You’ve done a lot of touring through the years. Do you have your favorite stops?

PL: I like to say that our most exotic performance was we were invited to play over in Saudi Arabia. And that was off the chart.

Kind of our home base, that we’ve probably worked in the most would be the Midwest. I would say our most popular stop of all, all these years has been the Black Hills. We’ve ended up in the Black Hills at least for a week [every year]. There’s been times we spent the whole summer. The South Dakota audience has always been our strongest fan base.

SDPB: How did the original members of Brulé come together?

PL: You know, it started so nonchalantly. The very first performance, I was going to perform as a soloist. And before we got to the gig, which would’ve been in ‘95, and we were scheduled to play at a mall over in Rapid City. And before I could leave, uh, my daughter Nicole said, ‘Hey dad, if you could write some of these melodies down, I’ll play my flute with you.’ And that was the start. So, it started out as a duo.

What we are today is, we’re still a four-piece group, but we’ve changed a little bit. Shane has moved from guitar to drums. Nicole is still the lead instrumentalist playing the flute. And then I do multiple keyboards and do some vocals.

Excerpted from an article that was written by SDPB staff and appeared in the October 2022 SDPB Magazine.

November 2022

Key happenings

Dakota Life *Greetings from Mission* premiered with a local preview of the show and conversations between SDPB staff and community members. The show featured the Sinte Gleska University's Sicangu Heritage Center, Miss Indian World, local youth working with horses to overcome adversity, and the multifaceted effort to establish food sovereignty on the Rosebud Reservation.

South Dakota State High School Football Championships took place at the Dakota Dome in Vermillion. All championship games aired on SDPB-TV and photos were posted on SDPB.org.

SDPB hosted the 2022 US Senate Debate at the Sioux Falls Studio, which was broadcast live on SDPB TV, SD.net and SDPB's Facebook page.

SDPB streamed and aired the 2022 South Dakota High School State volleyball tournaments, live from Summit Arena at The Premier Center in Sioux Falls.

The All-Nations Football State Championships were held at the Dakota Dome in Vermillion. SDPB streamed the games online at SD.net.

Pride of the Dakotas, an SDPB documentary, premiered on SDPB TV. A screening took place at the State Theater in Sioux Falls.

SDPB's Lori Walsh hosted a special **In the Moment** episode featuring authors of "City of Hustle", an anthology of Sioux Falls stories. Interviewees included Patrick Hicks and Jon Lauck, the editors of the collection,

"I consider SDPB to be an absolutely essential service and resource for me and all people in South Dakota."

- Stanford, McLaughlin



“SDPB is an integral piece of the community.”

- Jesse, Sioux Falls



Conquering the Unknown: A Young Athlete's Comeback Story

One must face many hurdles when entering high school, like new faces, more complex classes, and thoughts of the future. In addition to these frightful barriers, one Leola student had to face the loss of movement in her lower body. A once heavily involved student-athlete encountered a medical mystery leaving her in a wheelchair for months. Her goal was to walk for her middle-school graduation, and she was able to do that and so much more. The story of Ashtyn Hadlewick, her rehabilitation, and her persistent joy throughout the journey is truly inspiring.

Ashtyn is a current freshman at Leola High School. Last year, before a significant decline in health, she was involved in numerous sports. What started as some difficulty breathing during a basketball game progressed into an asthma attack that landed Ashtyn in the ER. She was then diagnosed with pneumonia and was treated for it but was still having trouble breathing. Ashtyn's pulse would skyrocket any time she stood, going from 70 to 180. This new development resulted in her being admitted to the hospital to run tests and try medications. After two weeks, Ashtyn left the hospital in a wheelchair, unable to walk or stand.

Ashtyn stayed in a wheelchair for about three months and started a Telemed program online through a specialist in Dallas. Through the coaching and blood pressure medication, Ashtyn could stand again. Eventually, Ashtyn was able to get rid of the walker completely. Then she set the goal to spend the summer working towards involvement in sports again.

Ashtyn was diagnosed with POTS or postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome. Her specific condition was Hyper-POTS, meaning her heart rate would rise substantially with any change of position. Ashtyn kept hope and remained headstrong. Not only was she able to walk across the stage for her 8th-grade graduation, but she is back playing volleyball.

Ashtyn's strength and joy throughout her difficult journey were noticed by many around her. Doug Hatlwick, Ashtyn's father, says she was a rock throughout the whole situation. He says, "She was way stronger than what I could have ever been with what she went through. She was kind of the one that helped us keep going."

Excerpted from an article that was written by SDPB staff and appeared in the November 2022 SDPB Magazine.

“We rely on SDPB radio and television daily for news, information, and entertainment -- including streaming SDPB radio daily during the 6 months we spend in Arizona each winter.”

- Karen, Sioux Falls

December 2022

Key happenings

A special **Jazz Nightly Live** event was held at the SDPB Black Hills Studio in Rapid City.

Dakota Life *Greetings from Howard* premiered, featuring stories about the community’s Friday night football tradition, a postcard collector, and an iconic family-owned grocery store.

SDPB-TV offered holiday music from local groups and organizations, including Handel’s *Messiah*: The Sioux Falls Symphony Orchestra & Chorus, 2022 Mount Marty Christmas Vespers and Laura Ingalls Wilder Pageant’s *A Barrel Full of Christmas Memories*. They were just a few of the nearly 40 holiday specials SDPB presented on TV in December.

South Dakota Focus covered reimagined community churches across the state. In Tea, a “churcharaunt” is the latest in the microchurch movement, while a ministry in New Underwood will be a working ranch for men in crisis. Immigrants find community through shared experiences, languages and faith--as seen through a traditional German Christmas service and the growing Hispanic community in the Sioux Falls area.

SDPB broadcast Governor Kristi Noem’s budget address, in which the governor proposes the state budget for the new Fiscal Year. This is an annual occurrence which helps our mission of providing open government to the residents of South Dakota.

SDPB covered the SDHSAA State Oral Interpretation Competition, which was held in Mitchell. Photos and results were posted on SDPB.org and SDPB’s Facebook page.

In the Moment featured some of the most thoughtful, challenging and entertaining interviews from the previous year. Stories included excerpts from *Dakota Choral Union Presents Christmas at the Cathedral*, cast members and director of the feature film *Electric Jesus*, and New York Times bestselling author Craig Johnson.



"I have enjoyed PBS all of my life and never want to lose it."

- Diane, Chester



Excerpted from an article that was written by SDPB staff and appeared in the December 2022 SDPB Magazine.

Dakota Life 25th Anniversary Flashback - Spies

Joshua Spies is an artist based in Sioux Falls. Growing up in Watertown, he got his start sketching prairie waterfowl. Nowadays, collectors seek him out for his wildlife paintings settings as diverse as Tanzania, Mongolia and Tajikistan.

Dakota Life featured Joshua's work back in 1999. He's circled the globe a few times and expanded his subject matter in exotic locales. We caught up with him again as we look back at 25 years of **Dakota Life**.

SDPB: Who influenced you as a young artist?

Joshua Spies: I'm originally from Watertown. Terry Redlin, John Green and John Wilson were all kind of mentors. I would paint with John Green from time to time. I would hang out with John Wilson at his studio, and the same with Terry Redlin. When I had questions on projects and things I was working on they all always had open doors.

SDPB: Does it surprise you looking back, that a kid from Watertown would have those kind of mentors?

Joshua Spies: Yes. God works in strange ways. If I had grown up somewhere else, I'm sure I would have still had the same motivation to do what I'm doing. It is kind of strange two of them, Terry Redlin and John Wilson are from Watertown and John Green is from Madison, which is not very far away.

SDPB: Did you have certain spots where you would observe local wildlife?

Joshua Spies: Yes, I did a lot of photography. In a small community it didn't take long to get outside of town. I've traveled the world working on a lot of projects and different things from different continents. But it's kind of funny cause now I'm getting more interested in doing projects on things around here.

SDPB: What were some of your first subjects?

Joshua Spies: Birds. The usual like pheasants and ducks, geese and songbirds. That sort of material from the region.

SDPB: What places stand out in your travels?

Joshua Spies: I love Africa. I love the people there. Mongolia is another one. Just seeing how their culture is, it's just fascinating to me.

"I've been a listener and supporter of SDPB for several years. I'm a huge fan of the in-depth quality news and unique cultural programming, and thankful for the opportunities SDPB provides to university media students for industry experience and networking."

- Kyle, Maryville, MO

January 2023

Key happenings

SDPB covered the inauguration of Governor Kristi Noem in Pierre. The ceremony was broadcast live on SDPB-TV and online.

Legislative coverage began in earnest in January. The session begins with Governor Kristi Noem's State of the State Address. All of SDPB's coverage of the legislature is streamed online at SD.net, SDPB.org, and is available on the SDNet app and coverage of the general sessions of the House and Senate are offered live each legislative day. SDPB News covered the legislature. News reports from Lee Strubinger and our team of reporters were featured during Morning Edition, All Things Considered, and throughout the day. In the Moment with Lori Walsh featured discussions with lawmakers and South Dakotans about legislation.

Host of SDPB's **South Dakota Focus** Jackie Hendry covered the voter approved constitutional amendment to expand Medicaid eligibility in South Dakota. The episode focused on what's next in the process of implementing the program, and how the adjustment has panned out in other states.

Music series **Wish You Were Here with Eliza Blue** took viewers to Good Roots Farm Garden just outside Brookings, South Dakota. Good Roots is a family-run organic farm and community gathering place.

"I am grateful that great, unbiased newscasts are available whenever I'm driving and more in-depth stories are mixed in. I really love starting my weekends off with the Saturday morning lineup!"

- Curtis, Rapid City

Excerpted from an article that was written by SDPB staff and appeared in the January 2023 SDPB Magazine.



Access to Democracy

SDPB devotes a team to coverage of the legislature in Pierre. Our team includes Jackie Hendry, Producer and Host of South Dakota Focus, and Lee Strubinger, Politics and Public Policy Reporter for SDPB News, who provide insight into what this time means to them and why our coverage is vital.

Why is covering the legislature important?

Jackie: SDPB's coverage of the legislative session is one of our most critical services to the citizens of South Dakota. Every public hearing in the process of making new laws is available online and floor debates air on TV. No one else in our state offers that service, and I'm proud to be a small part of that work by hosting December's budget address and January's inauguration and State of the State address.

Lee: What happens in the state legislature affects all South Dakotans. People need to know what is happening with their elected officials and why.

What benefits can South Dakota citizens realize by following our coverage?

Jackie: I understand why lots of people don't engage directly with the legislative process—it's a little confusing! But understanding the process means citizens can play a more active role

in the governmental process beyond election day. Civic engagement is among the most patriotic things a person can do, in my opinion, and my colleagues and I at SDPB work hard to make that process as accessible as possible

Lee: Democracies require a well-informed public. I view SDPB's role in covering the state legislature as vital to the American/South Dakotan experiment.

What are you looking forward to in the upcoming sessions?

Jackie: I'm very interested to see what if any action is taken to address ongoing high rate of nursing home closures around our state. And of course, I'll be watching for any adjustments to the state's trigger law related to abortion in the wake of the overturn of Roe v. Wade and see how the legislature responds to Governor Noem's intention to cut the grocery tax.

Lee: I'm keeping an eye on how Governor Kristi Noem gets her food sales tax cut passed in the legislature. The state is facing increased costs with infrastructure projects, a nursing home crisis and still remains 50th in teacher pay—to name a few. I'm also interested to see where the state's abortion policy goes following the SCOTUS Dobbs decision.

Pierre in the Palm of your Hand

South Dakota Public Broadcasting offers comprehensive news about the 2023 legislative session and provides access on many platforms. This year we begin with the inauguration of Governor Kristi Noem for her second term in office. SDPB1 TV offers live coverage Saturday, Jan. 7 at noon Central (11 MT) and provides all the pomp of the Grand March from the Capitol Rotunda at 6:30pm Central (5:30 MT).

The 98th South Dakota Legislative Session gets underway Tuesday, January 10 at 1:00pm (noon MT) with the Governor's State of the State Address – available live online, on SDPB1 TV and SDPB Radio. The address will repeat that night at 10:00pm (9 MT) on SDPB1 TV.

ONLINE

All of SDPB's coverage of the legislature is streamed online at SD.net, SDPB.org, and is available on the SDNet app. Monitor committees, follow legislation, and watch the general sessions on your device.

Coverage is also available on our SDPB News social media channels on Facebook and Twitter. Hashtag #SDLeg

SDPB TV

Coverage of the general sessions of the House and Senate are offered live each legislative day, beginning at approximately 1:00pm (noon MT).

SDPB2 World: Live coverage of the SD House of Representatives

SDPB3 Create: Live coverage of the SD Senate

South Dakota Focus: Join host Jackie Hendry Thursdays, January 26th, February 23rd, and March 30th at 8:00pm Central (7 MT).

Visit [SDPB.org/tv/tv-schedules](https://www.sdpb.org/tv/tv-schedules) for specific days and times.

SDPB RADIO

SDPB News covers the legislature. Listen for news reports from Lee Strubinger and our team of reporters during Morning Edition, All Things Considered, and throughout the day. In the Moment with Lori Walsh features discussions with lawmakers and South Dakotans about legislation. More at [SDPB.org/InTheMoment](https://www.sdpb.org/InTheMoment).

SDPB Radio is also available by streaming at SDPB.org, on the app, or through your smart speaker.

February 2023

Key happenings

SDPB hosted the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra Music Composition Academy Recital in the Sioux Falls Studio. The music program was streamed live on SD.net.

The SDHSAA One-Act Play and Technical Theatre Festival took place at O’Gorman High School in Sioux Falls. SDPB provided photos and results on SDPB.org and SDPB’s Flickr page.

Dakota Life *Greetings from Miller* featured stories from the Midway Drive Inn Theatre, the South Hand Old Settler’s Picnic, the country courthouse, and season decorations.

SDPB covered the SDHSAA Gymnastics Championships on February 10 and 11. Live coverage was made available online, and recorded highlights aired on SDPB TV in March.

Boys & Girls State Wrestling Championships took place at The Monument in Rapid City. Coverage aired on SDPB TV and all mats were live on SDPB.org. Photos and results of all SDHSAA events can be found on SDPB.org.

February’s episode of **Wish You Were Here** took viewers to snowy, scenic St. Peter-on-the-Prairie, a non-profit community center outside Madison.

The **South Dakota Focus** team provided insight into SDPB’s ongoing coverage and what matters to South Dakotans. Host Jackie Hendry broke down developments, including efforts to repeal the sales tax on groceries and much more, during the February episode.

***“Thank you for televising
the competitive cheer and
dance state meet. We enjoyed
watching our granddaughter.”***

– Geraldine, Pierre



"I have lived in several states across the US, and out of all of them I feel that SDPB has the best selection of relevant, engaging programming. It's the perfect mix to keep me connected to my state, my community, and the world."

- Kayla, Huron



Wounded Knee Stand-Off 50th Anniversary

On February 27th, 1973, a 71-day stand-off began at Wounded Knee. During this time, around 200 Ogalala Lakota and American Indian Movement (AIM) followers occupied the town of Wounded Knee, SD. The occupation was a result of the desire among Native people that their voices be heard and treaties fulfilled. The town of Wounded Knee was significant because of the massacre that took place there 80 years prior.

The Occupation of Wounded Knee was significant because it exposed the suffering of Indigenous people and helped shine a spotlight on injustices. Progress happened in the wake of the Wounded Knee Occupation, including the Indian Religious Freedom Act that Congress passed in 1978.

Kevin McKiernan, who is the writer, producer, and director of the film **From Wounded Knee to Standing Rock: A Reporter's Journey**, was a rookie reporter for NPR and the Wounded Knee Occupation was his first assignment.

After being snuck into the reservation to evade a news blackout, he recorded film and sound during the standoff – much of it hasn't been seen or heard before. With over 150 hours of footage and interviews across 11 states and 8 reservations collected, his documentary was an 8-year journey that offers a personal look into what it was like to be involved in the 71-day occupation.

Kevin offers a take on the Wounded Knee occupation, explaining that while it was a territorial and violent battle, ultimately, it was a spiritual battle. "I think that a lot of people think of Wounded Knee, and they think of guns, and they think of fighting and that sort of thing. I learned that was a very small part of what was going on. The real center of that experience for me was a spiritual one because of the daily sweat lodges and the other ceremonies that took place there. People really understood that their religion was under attack."

Kevin McKiernan, whose work has been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, has served as a foreign correspondent from Nicaragua, Iraq, Syria, West Africa, and Afghanistan. He has also the PBS documentary *Good Kurd, Bad Kurd* and co-produced the Frontline episode *The Spirit of Crazy Horse*.

From Wounded Knee to Standing Rock: A Reporter's Journey airs on SDPB1 Monday, February 27th at 7pm Central (6 MT) - the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the 1973 Wounded Knee Occupation.

March 2023

Key happenings

March is a busy month for South Dakota High School Sports and Activities. Results and photos from the State Debate Individual Events Tournament were posted online at SDPB.org. SDPB also presented live coverage of South Dakota State High School Basketball Tournaments from multiple locations in South Dakota. SDPB also streamed and recorded the All-State Band concert and provided images and results from the State Visual Arts Gallery.

Dakota Life *Greetings from Parkston* featured stories from a dedicated congregation, the best prime rib, city parks, and one woman's mission to share the stories of the people who called the rural community home.

This month's episode of **Wish You Were Here with Eliza Blue** took viewers to Cloverleaf Mine in Lawrence County, South Dakota. Historically this mine was associated with the Galena Mining District in what is now the Black Hills National Forest. Gold was located there in 1878, but due to financial problems and flooding has been closed since 1937. New owner Joe Nonnast is giving the abandoned mine new life by refurbishing and adding to existing structures with an artisan's touch.

In March, legislative session comes to an end. SDPB provides in-depth coverage for all South Dakotans for understand and engage in the politics of their state. SDPB's daily radio show *In the Moment* features interviews from politicians, experts, and SDPB journalists, including Lee Strubinger.

“Quality reporting, expert analysis, and thoughtful commentary that connects us to our communities and the world we live in.”

- Melanie, Madison





"You are always there to bring me what I want to listen to or watch. I was especially impressed this year, and years past, with your dedication to high school music and sports in our schools. Thank you."

- Jane, Alcester

Courage of Castlewood

On May 12th, 2022, a tornado tore through the South Dakota town of Castlewood. Among the wreckage was the school. The F2 tornado touched down on the south end of Castlewood and tore through the middle of the school, destroying eight classrooms, the lunchroom, the kitchen, and the gymnasium. The aftereffects of the tornado left parts of the school in shambles.

A canceled practice just 15 minutes before the tornado hit left the school primarily empty. Ethan Kemp, Bus Driver & Custodian, was in the school when it all happened. After getting some weather reports on his phone, he pulled his truck into the building for protection, barely making it inside in time. Ethan states, "I ended up getting a little too close as I saw the weather coming. I turned around and tried to get in the door, fumbling for keys, I barely made it in, and when I did, the door slammed shut on me. A loud bang and dust everywhere. That was it." The fire alarms went off, and the adrenaline started setting in. Ethan was able to let in some people who had lost a house across the street, and luckily, there were no injuries within the school.

Even with all the devastation, Castlewood remains strong. Angela Keszler, Principal and Athletic Director, left the school at 4:30 that day. "We had a lot of donations from area schools just for supplies for us to use for those couple of days because we were in all three churches in town, including the Catholic Church, for the last two days." Surrounding schools aided with supplies and space for the remaining days of the school year. The next school year started on time thanks to the help of those in town and other efforts.

"There already was a lot of community pride here, and this event just enhanced it that much more," says Angela. While rebuilding the school is predicted to take 2-3 years, the town's team spirit perseveres. The school is seizing this as an opportunity to make improvements.

Excerpted from an article that was written by SDPB staff and appeared in the March 2023 SDPB Magazine.

April 2023

Key happenings

Dakota Life *Greetings from Belle Fourche* toured the Center of the Nation Wool warehouse, experienced The Belle Fourche Cowboy Band, and visited the Belle Fourche reservoir and dam.

SDPB attend the annual **Youth and Family Services Kids Fair** in Rapid City. Science Steve, Buddy and SDPB's education team were all there to help encourage lifelong learning and provide materials to parents and caregivers. SDPB staff and several volunteers provided activities, resources, and early learning information at the Youth and Family Services (YFS) Kids Fair in Rapid City. Over two days, thousands of children and families learned about SD birds, made bird feeders, and took photos with PBS Kids characters. Parents learned about using SDPB shows, games, activities, and resources to support their children's learning.

Community conversations for the next season of **Dakota Life** were held in several communities across the state. These community conversations help SDPB producers find the unique South Dakota stories to feature on SDPB TV and online.

SDPB aired **The Pomp Room: A Rock N Roll Bar Story**, a story about the famous local bar. When the Ertz family bought the pomp room in Sioux Falls in 1971, they had no idea what they had started. Their decision to focus on rock music featured thousands of bands - from the unknown to the world-renowned. And thousands more showed up to drink, dance, and become part of the pomp room family.

"I've enjoyed NPR since I was a teenager. I've lived in several metros over the years, and I can say SDPB is my favorite NPR station. In the Moment is so down to earth and just hits different on a personal level. I'm proud to support SDPB!"

- Scott, Rapid City



“We LOVE South Dakota Public Broadcasting. The radio station is on practically all day, and we are regular viewers of News Hour and other SDPB TV programming.”

- Connie, Montrose

Iconic Images of SD

This month SDPB features the premiere of a new series, *Iconic America: Our Symbols and Stories with David Rubenstein*, which highlights history by examining national symbols.

South Dakota has some iconic images of its own.

The State Capitol Building: Located in the state capital of Pierre, this building is home to the offices of those in the legislature and most state officials. It was built from 1905-1910 and sits on 20 acres of land with a renaissance-revival architectural style.

Wounded Knee Massacre Monument: This monument is located on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation located on the site of the Wounded Knee Massacre of 1890, where nearly 300 Lakota people were killed. In 1965, it was designated a U.S. National Historic Landmark.

The Sioux Horse Effigy: This sculpture is a dance stick that is one of two known in the world. There are holes throughout to symbolize bullet holes with red paint symbolizing blood – indicating the horse died in battle. It was carved around 1875, most likely by a Sioux Warrior, to honor his horse that might have been killed in action.

The Verendrye Plate: The Verendrye Plate is a lead tablet found in 1913 on a hilltop at Fort Pierre. The plate was left in 1743 by the Verendrye brothers. It is the first known written evidence of a visit by Europeans to South Dakota.

The Ghost Dance shirt: Those who followed the Ghost Dance Movement believed this religious dance would bring about the arrival of a Messiah, the departure of settlers, and the return of the buffalo. These shirts were believed by those who wore them to be so protective that even bullets couldn't penetrate them.

Spirit Mound: This prominent hill, located near Vermillion, has been described as the home of “evil spirits,” or “little people,” by the Plains Indians. Members of the Lewis and Clark expedition climbed the hill in 1804 and documented it in their diaries.

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church “Cathedral on the Prairie”: Completed in 1921, Monsignor Anthony Helmbrecht hoped one day this prairie church in Hoven, SD might be a bishop's home. It is said you can see the church from miles with twin spires that rise 140 feet.

Visit our website for more iconic images around South Dakota and tune in to the new series *Iconic America: Our Symbols and Stories with David Rubenstein* starting April 26th 9pm central (8 MT).

Excerpted from an article that was written by SDPB staff and appeared in the April 2023 SDPB Magazine.

MAY 2023

Key happenings

Dakota Life *Greetings from Lead* featured a historic home, toured the slopes with area ski patrol, talked to locals, and visits the Lead Opera House.

SDPB worked with students from Sturgis Brown High School through the state's Youth Journalism Pilot Project. The students chose a story to tell in their voice: isolation and where students find hope. We have met regularly since the end of January, working on interviewing, shooting interviews and b-roll, and writing their script. Brad Van Osdel, Jackie Hendry, and Krystal Schoenbauer are instrumental in lending their area of expertise to this. Journalism instructor Teresa Froelich is key to working with the students and keeping them on track. The finished feature story is featured on this month's SD Focus followed by experts discussing the issues raised by the students. Mental wellness is an important topic for our youth and these students bring their peer's personal stories to light and also bring us hope.

SDPB hosted a stop during the Downtown Sioux Falls Art & Wine Walk. Tim Davison, SDPB digital content producer, and his wife, Stephanie Arne, featured their original artwork.

Premiere screenings of **The Ups and Downs of Herb and Jan Conn**, SDPB's newest documentary, took place in Rapid City and Custer.

Dakota Life Detours *Silver Screens* premiered with stories from seven South Dakota communities with Drive in Movie theatres: Miller, Gregory, Winner, Redfield, Mobridge, Mitchell and Hermosa.

New episodes of **On Call with the Prairie Doc** aired in May, including a live ask anything with host Dr. Andrew Ellsworth.

South Dakota High School Activities continued in May with the **Boys State Tennis Tournament, All-State Jazz Band, and State Track & Field Championships**. SDPB staff took photos, record results and stream content online and on SDPB-TV.

"Fair news coverage, via Morning Edition, All Things Considered, and Weekend Edition; local focus, as in In the Moment. Thank you for this great service!"

- Penny, Yankton





"I have been enjoying public radio and television since the 70s. I cannot imagine things without these valuable sources of information and enrichment. My all time favorite shows are Masterpiece, Antiques Roadshow, and Finding Your Roots - but I watch so many more! Through my interest, and your excellent programming, my children have also grown to love Public Television. THIS brings me joy. It's finally time sign up to be a monthly sustainer."

-Christina, Rapid City

Conns, Caving, & Climbing

Herb and Jan Conn are Black Hills legends. Originally from the White Mountains of New Hampshire, they traveled the West after Herb's WWII-era Army service. Soon they fell in love with the Black Hills, built an off-the-grid cave dwelling, and set out to establish the Black Hills as a climbing destination.

By 1959, they were lured into exploring Jewel Cave, where only two miles of passage had been documented. Twenty years later, they had mapped over sixty miles in what is now known as the third largest cave system in the world and helped locate and establish the popular Scenic Tour.

Herb and Jan inspired others in many ways beyond their pioneering work as climbers and cavers. **The Ups and Downs of Herb and Jan Conn** documents their ascents and descents, and the exploratory, literary, cartographic, artistic, and musical repertory they created -- all of which continue to inspire people with an itch to explore, beneath or above the surface.

Justin Koehler, producer of *Ups & Downs*, moved back to South Dakota last year after being out of the state for almost 20 years.

Herb and Jan did not want to be in the spotlight, but it is hard to ignore the feats that the couple achieved. For them, it wasn't about the competition but rather the adventure. Together, the duo, the engineer and artist, made history. Justin shares what he hopes the audience will take away from the film.

"Herb and Jan lived life on their own terms- no one else's. They pursued their dreams and aspirations regardless of outside judgments. They 'colored outside the lines' of what was considered a 'traditional life' in that time, and they did it not to seek fame or fortune, but to simply do something they loved and enjoyed," says Justin.

SDPB is hosting free screenings of **The Ups and Downs of Herb and Jan Conn** Wednesday, May 10th at 2pm at West Hills Village, 255 Texas Street in Rapid City, and Thursday, May 11th at 6:00 pm and 7:30 pm at the Custer Beacon, 351 Washington Street in Custer.

Watch it on SDPB TV Thursday, May 18th at 8:30 pm Central (7:30 MT).

Excerpted from an article that was written by SDPB staff and appeared in the May 2023 SDPB Magazine.

JUNE 2023

Key happenings

In June, South Dakota was finally underway with a sanctioned league of high school softball tournament. The Board of Directors for the SDHSAA voted to officially sanction high school softball in November of 2021 with the spring of 2023 being slated as the inaugural season. SDPB provided live coverage on SDPB TV and highlights with photos at SDPB.org.

SDPB participated in the Sioux Falls Festival of Cultures. The festival took place at the Levitt at the Falls in Sioux Falls and included family-friendly events, live entertainment, food and workshops.

SDPB covered the SDHSAA Boys & Girls State Golf Tournaments in Watertown, Rapid City and Pierre. Updated standings and photos were posted to SDPB.org.

To partner with The Great American Recipe premiere, SDPB included South Dakota style recipes creatively named after local radio shows in the June edition of the SDPB magazine.

South Dakota Focus host Jackie Hendry was chosen for the National Press Foundation's The Future of the American Child 2023 Journalism Fellowship. The fellowship program is designed to help journalists master the complexities of public policies that affect children and how to portray those insights in their reporting. As one of fifteen journalists chosen, Jackie attended a training series and received high-level briefings on child health from experts in the area.

The South Dakota Hall of Fame announced the inductee class of 2023, which included SDPB's Larry Roher. Known as "A Voice of South Dakota", you've heard Larry on SDPB Television and Radio for many years. His impact on South Dakotans through his innovations in media programing extends to high school activities and statewide music programs. Larry and the Class of 2023 was celebrated at the Honors Ceremony in September.

"Reporting that is not only ACTUALLY fair and balanced but also interesting, important and insightful is what keeps me hooked on SDPB and NPR!"

- Jennifer, Brookings



"In addition to providing great broadcasting for South Dakota, I appreciate your enthusiasm for the work you do. The SDPB newsletters are wonderful also. Thanks so much!"

- Janet, Sioux Falls

Ready, Set, Summer

Summer is upon us. Even if your little ones aren't in the classroom, they can develop and strengthen their minds before the next school year begins. SDPB is equipped with a strong and willing team of specialists who are constantly working on resources that can be utilized by parents, guardians, teachers, daycare providers, and more. Two of our Education Specialists, Steven Rokusek and Amelia Meyer, gave us some insight on current resources that you can jump into along with upcoming tools they are eager to roll out.

Steven Rokusek focuses on developing materials and providing in-service training at schools and education conferences. The slowdown of outreach during the summer gives our team extra time to focus on the particulars. This summer brings updates to our pages like **Native American Studies**, South Dakota History (**Dakota Pathways**, **Images of the Past**), and **Sanford Promise**.

"We have created a new video series called **How To Draw Using Perspective: By Dick Termes**," says Steven. "South Dakota Public Broadcasting produced this online drawing series in partnership with Asio Studio of Rapid City. The twelve-part video series covers one-point to six-point perspective and will include a comprehensive educational website with perspective grids, activities ideas, and lesson plans. The new website will launch in the fall for the new school year."

Amelia Meyer specializes in Early Learning and creates resources used by parents, early learner educators, and caregivers. She is the co-creator of our weekly ELI (Early Learning Initiate) Links newsletter and is responsible for posting content on our ELI webpage.

Amelia says, "I love doing this work because people often don't know the huge variety of activities we provide, and it's so fun to see their reaction when we share all the hands-on lessons available." She continues, "SDPB got to partner with Headlights Theater in Sioux Falls to produce a series called, **Create Your Own Dance Studio**. It has been fun to work on because each of the five videos shows the steps to construct a place to dance and a way to create a dance for children aged 5-10. It makes dancing accessible right in your own home!"

School might not be in session, but learning and information always are. We hope these resources will come in handy through the season and onward.

Excerpted from an article that was written by SDPB staff and appeared in the June 2023 SDPB Magazine.

LOCAL IMPACT

Over 3,000 educators/parents subscribe to SDPB's Education Update PreK-12 Newsletter, which is distributed via the State K12 Network to ensure teachers have easy access to resources. The Links Early Learning Newsletter, focused on activities for children ages 2-5, has 1300 subscribers. PBS LearningMedia has over 8500 users subscribed through SDPB.

SDPB.org attracted **1,816,770 users with 5,439,932 individual pageviews.**

In FY23 SDPB's core social media platforms (Facebook, X/Twitter, Instagram) reached over **18 million total users** which in turn generated over **1.3-million engagements** and **6.8 million video views** of SDPB's digital shorts in that time period. Additionally, a renewed focus on SDPB's YouTube platform saw that site generate 38 million impressions which led to just under 3.2 million views of SDPB's live, long and short-form content on that platform, an increase of 16% over FY22.

In FY23, SDPB broadcasts **2,737 hours of locally produced programming** on politics and public affairs, education and health, science and tech, business and economic development, sports, music, and the arts on SDPB signature programs In the Moment with Lori Walsh, South Dakota Focus with Jackie Hendry, Dakota Life, Jazz Nightly with Karl Gehrke and On Call with the Prairie Doc. Every month, 275,000+ South Dakota households regularly tune in to SDPB TV & Radio.

STORIES OF IMPACT

In June of 2022, SDPB celebrated a historical **100 years of radio programming.** KUSD-AM is the source of South Dakota's public broadcasting history. This station was the flagship of the future South Dakota Public Broadcasting Network and was among the country's first educational radio stations. In 1919, the station was founded as an "Experimental Wireless Station" in the USD College of Engineering on the USD campus in Vermillion.

KUSD's programming remained a combination of news, music, sports, and instructional content.

Towers and transmitters made possible by 1949 state assembly appropriations eventually led to constructing a network of FM radio stations that reached almost all of the state's residents.

Just as in 1922, our mission is to improve people's lives via news, entertainment, education, and information. With the same excitement and awe for the coming century, we continue to build on the legacy left by the lessons learned during the past century.

We asked our donors



WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO GIVE TODAY?

Here's what they said:

"I love the programming and the news coverage from SDPB."

Mary, Watertown

"Accurate, thorough reporting and diversity."

Evelyn, Sioux Falls

"Our love for the wonderful programming that enriches us, our children and grandchildren."

Fawn, Madison

"There are films that I can use for teaching in the classroom."

Devona, Martin

"The information it brings to me during my commute."

Laura, Sioux Falls

"How much JOY SDPB brings our toddler, Harper!"

Chloe, Sioux Falls

"I was raised on SDPB both TV and radio. I rely on NPR for my news, and I feel good about what my kids are watching on PBS."

Nejla, Sioux Falls

"The wonderful programming and truthful news and stories."

William, Sioux Falls

"Great programming that can be had nowhere else but public television."

Randy, Sheridan, WY

"I enjoy all the programs on SDPB."

Sharon, Dell Rapids

"We enjoy the magazine programs and Passport. Last year we got the Carpenter's CDs to enjoy. Thanks for the good programs of SD towns."

Mary, Flandreau

"SDPB, I really enjoy the sewing programs. Fons and Porter is a favorite. The kids' shows come in handy when grandkids stay. The nature programs are enjoyed by the whole family, even the cat."

Margie, Firesteel

"I love being able to use Passport and watch shows as I am able vs when they are scheduled."

Gina, Brookings

"In The Moment is a must-listen. I also like the Moth stories and Way With Words."

Kahleen, Rapid City

"I listen Morning Edition every day, but I love listening to the HD Classical programming."

Charlie, Rapid City