

THE LOCAL SIGNAL

WRIR 97.3FM

What's Inside?

Welcome to the July 2026 edition of The Local Signal, bringing you major updates as WRIR settles into its permanent Shockoe Bottom home and kicks off a \$1 million Capital Campaign. In this issue, we celebrate securing a \$5,000 CultureWorks grant to upgrade our Studio A digital console, alongside details for our upcoming 21st birthday party on August 15th. Finally, we take a moment to deeply honor the memory and legacy of beloved long-time volunteer and LGBTQ+ activist, Judd Proctor.

As Richmond's independent voice, we're excited to keep you tuned in to everything happening both on and off the airwaves. Thanks for being part of the WRIR family — let's dive in!

Edited by: Rian Moses-Hedrick

Over the rainbow, Judd Proctor, WRIR volunteer and LGBTQ+ activist. [page 4](#)



Thank you CultureWorks

We are thrilled to announce that CultureWorks has awarded WRIR a \$5,000 grant to replace our 20-year-old Studio A board with a modern Arrakis Systems H15 digital console, significantly boosting our broadcast quality and unlocking exciting new capabilities to better uplift underrepresented voices.

Continued on page 3





WRIR Birthday Party

WRIR is 21 and
ready to party!

15 | 1-8
August | PM

Ardent Ale
3200 W Leigh St, Richmond,
VA 23230

Celebrate a special day
with live music, raffles, and
community!

Fundraising

CultureWorks

The fundraising team is thrilled to announce that CultureWorks accepted our grant application and awarded WRIR \$5000.00 to fund the Studio A Board Replacement project.

WRIR intends to replace the twenty-year old board with a 14-15 channel digital broadcast console, the Arrakis Systems H15. With this upgrade, WRIR's broadcast quality will be improved. We will be able to more consistently air without interruptions to our broadcast, and with enhanced sound quality and volume control.

In addition to these improvements, the new board has capabilities that will allow WRIR to do things we have not been able to do before that will allow us to better fulfill the station's mission to air underrepresented voices. More to come on that soon!

CULTURE
WORKS

WRIR Capital Campaign

WRIR has officially moved into our permanent, forever home at 1806 East Main Street in historic Shockoe Bottom. Our new, fully renovated, and ADA-compliant space features state-of-the-art broadcast studios and community gathering areas, allowing us to deeply root our mission of airing underrepresented news, music, and views. To cover the costs of this milestone relocation and vital equipment upgrades, we have launched a three-year Capital Campaign to raise \$1 million. We need our incredible community's help to reach our goal, with a target of \$125,000 coming directly from listeners like you. Please consider making a donation today to help protect independent free speech and keep Richmond's unmatched source of community radio thriving far into the future!

Learn more about how you can help:
<https://www.wrircampaign.org/>



1950-2026

REMEMBERING JUDD PROCTOR

WRIR Volunteer



A bit of sad news to share with you all. Former WRIR volunteer, board member and producer of "The Rainbow Minute," Judd Proctor has sadly passed away.

Judd came to the station after hearing an episode of "This Way Out" on the WRIR airwaves right around 2005 and was blown away that a show dedicated to LGBTQ issues was even available on the Richmond airwaves. It inspired him to drive to the station and immediately begin volunteering.

Soon after, he and his husband Brian Burns began writing and producing the long-running segment "The Rainbow Minute." A minute in length, each episode brought light to many, perhaps, unknown or overlooked stories of the people and moments in LGBTQ history. Always well researched, well produced and entertaining, thousands of episodes aired on WRIR, and it was eventually picked up and featured on "This Way Out" itself.

Judd was a joyful delight to be around and always had an amazing smile and gracious salutation for you upon seeing him. He was sassy, saucy, outspoken and unwavering in his advocacy and activism for LGBTQ rights and awareness. He was dedicated to WRIR's mission, understanding the importance of having such a platform for underrepresented voices, like his. He was our very good friend and his contribution to our lives is immeasurable. He will be sadly missed.



Make sure to check out

The Rainbow Minute

Hosted by Judd Proctor & Brian Burns

Listen to this segment on This Way Out hosted by Greg Gordon on Fridays at 10:30 am.

<https://www.wrir.org/show/this-way-out/>

Read more about Judd Proctor

North of the James article by Charles McGuigan

<https://northofthejames.com/judd-proctor>

Photo courtesy of
Michael "Miracle" Harl
The Lotus Land Show
Wednesdays 5 to 7pm

BE IN THE KNOW!

UPDATES FOR THE PUBLIC

WRIR is back on TuneIn Radio!

We've got great news: WRIR-LP 97.3 FM is officially back on TuneIn Radio!

That means you can once again listen to your favorite community DJs, local music, and eclectic programming through the TuneIn app or wherever you stream TuneIn.

We're excited to reconnect with listeners who rely on TuneIn to stay connected to Richmond's independent voice.

You can start listening now by searching for "WRIR 97.3 FM" on the TuneIn app which you can find in your app store.

[Here's a link to TuneIn Radio.](#)

Upcoming WRIR Tabling Events

- Plan 9's Bday Bash on July 25 @ Hardywood
- 804 Day on August 1 @ 17th St. Market
- Warriors in Bloom August 1 & 2 @ Agecroft Hall & Gardens
- First Friday on August 7 @ Gallery 5
- DJ spinning on August 7 @ Main Street Library

Kroger Community Rewards

Did you know there's an easy way to support WRIR, Richmond's all-volunteer radio station every time you shop for groceries—at no extra cost to you?

By enrolling in the Kroger Rewards Program and selecting The Virginia Center for Public Press, a portion of your regular Kroger purchases will go directly to supporting our station's music, news, and community programming.

How to sign up:

Go to **[Community Rewards](#)**

Log in to your Kroger account online.

Search for **The Virginia Center for Public Press (#NQ873)** and select it as your nonprofit.

Shop as usual—Kroger does the rest!



Stay Tuned In For More Information
www.wrir.org

SHOUT OUTS!

WRIR in Kansas City FIFA World Cup Party



- Shoutout to the RVA Ren Faire for having our DJ's spin and spread the word about WRIR. Did you see our video the RVA Ren Faire posted? [HERE](#)
- Thanks Janet for setting up our station phone line! Call into the station to let our DJ's and Talk hosts know they are doing a great job. 804-649-9737
- Our Spring FunDrive brought in \$51,700. Not only did we meet our highest goal ever, but we exceeded it too! Thank you to all who donated and supported WRIR. Great job Fundraising committee and all our volunteers who boosted the signal, tabled, and wrote Thank You notes.
- Our Capital Campaign website has been updated! See how you can help WRIR thrive. <https://www.wrircampaign.org/>
- The Volunteer Coordination Committee has its July meeting on Tues, July 21st at 5:30pm via Zoom. Hit them up at volunteercoordinator@wrir.org to join in! The committee's biggest needs are to help support our 21st birthday celebration on August 15th and with community tabling each month! We were also so excited to see so many new faces at our Volunteer Orientation on June 6th!

CURRENT SHOWS



CHECK IT OUT!

NEW SHOWS!

- DJ Silly Baby of Double Dream (2nd & 4th Sundays at 11PM) has a second show that started June 29th called, Dawn Chorus. It's largely an ambient start to Monday morning before Biscuits 'n' Groovy with Bee Gee.
- Sacred Grove (1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 3PM), hosted by Diana. A mixture of things bossa nova, shoegaze, lounge, and all things soulful (plus soul) and inspired by the goddess Diana.
- Quality Time (Fridays at 1PM), hosted by DJ Dial-Up. Quality Time will be a (mostly) vinyl show based around a simple principle: sharing the music that lights up, in hopes that it'll do the same for others. Jesse, Chuck Styles, and Straw all threw down on Quantum Live during the Fund Drive as part of a little thing Chuck Styles nicknamed The Den. Genres featured will include: Quiet Storm, swamp pop, boogie, and more.

NEW SPOT OPENINGS

- Do you have an idea for a radio show? Hurry and start volunteering at WRIR so you can pitch your ideas.

Stay up to date on current shows by viewing our schedule online.

www.wrir.org/schedule

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
12am	House Music Sessions	Just Cause / Double Dream	Richmond Cryptoids	Dog Germs / PND (punk's not dead)	The Church of the Ecstatic	The Mix Room / OPEN	The Lunar Orbit / Twilight Dispatch
1am	Hip-Hop for the Rest of Us	Encore Music and Local Talk Shows <i>encore airing</i>	Metal Box	FREQUENCY <i>encore airing</i>	A Drone's Life	Neighborhood Wide Web	Encore Music and Local Talk Shows <i>encore airing</i>
2am							
3am	Encore Music and Local Talk		Encore Music and Local Talk	Encore Music and Local Talk	Encore Music and Local Talk	Unicorn Power	Live from the Audience
4am	Shows <i>encore airing</i>	Dawn Chorus	Shows <i>encore airing</i>	Shows <i>encore airing</i>	Shows <i>encore airing</i>		
5am							
6am	The Jagar Morning Show	Biscuits 'n' Groovy w/ Bee Gee	Where The Bears Sing	Wednesday Breakfast Blend	Breakfast Blend w/ Galaxy Girl & Friends	Life is a Mixtape / MIDI Mornings	Encore Music and Local Talk Shows <i>encore airing</i>
7am							Clean House / Half Awake
8am		Democracy Now!	Democracy Now!	Democracy Now!	Democracy Now!	Democracy Now!	
9am	The Sunday Morning Jazz Show	Big Picture Science	With Good Reason	Black Agenda Report	Sprouts / Building Bridges	Sound Opinions	The British Breakfast
10am		Radio Ecoshock	The Children's Hour	Civic Cipher	Embrace Matters of Richmond	WRIR Presents This Way Out	
11am		Food Sleuth Growing Greener	Mr. Dad's Storytime	How 2 Human/Rising Up with Sonali	Richmond Business Babes	Bumps N Banter SIFTER for the Ear	Paul's Boutique / Alley Oop's Nolde Oldies
12pm		Scholars' Circle & the Insighters	Confetti Park A Grain of Sand	What Wakes Me Up/Moccasin Tracks	Women & Politics	Bossa Brazil	
1pm	Stop the Madness Latino	From the Vault	Outer Focus (2nd & 4th Tuesdays)	Daily Courtship / Left Field with Duncan	Alternative Milestones	Quality Time	Cause and Effect
2pm							
3pm	Ambiance Congo / The Other Black Music	Richmond Counterculture / Shockoe Sessions	Sacred Grove (1st & 3rd) / Single Use (2nd & 4th)	Dream Girl Radio / EXT SRC	Higher Consciousness	POP Goes The World! / What the Fontaine?!	End Of The Century
4pm							
5pm	The Motherland Influence	French Kiss / With Love	Wide Ear Folk	The Lotus Land Show	The Young Professional / Mid-Atlantic Jams	Friday Clock Out / Commonwealth of Notions	River City Limits
6pm							
7pm	If Music Could Talk	The Edge of Americana / Time Again Radio	Handful Of Brains	Midtown Swing	Quantum Live Radio / Whatever I Want	Deutscher Jam	Panoramic / Club Unity
8pm							
9pm	House of SWÉ (1st & 3rd) / Otherworlds (2nd & 4th)	The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit / Soul II Soul	Kaleidoscope Soul / Interstellar Elevator	Mercury Falls	Sunrise Ocean Bender (1st, 3rd) / Altered Circuitry: ReWired (2nd, 4th) / Various (5th)	Guitar Inferno	FREQUENCY
10pm							
11pm	Just Cause / Double Dream	Richmond Cryptoids	Dog Germs / PND (punk's not dead)	The Church of the Ecstatic	The Mix Room / OPEN	The Lunar Orbit / Twilight Dispatch	House Music Sessions

SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

Cause & Effect

- Saturdays 1-3PM
- The show focuses on a band/artist, their influences, who they influenced and/or their collaborations. The rotating DJ's are also welcome to focus on a related theme like a record label or the history of a genre.
- Some of our recent shows have included topics such as The Strokes, Violent Femmes, Yacht Rock and Nervous Records.

Richmond Counterculture

- 3-5PM every other Monday
- Monday July 20th, I am having musician Erin Lunsford in studio during the first hour and then in the second hour, Jimmy Catlett will visit. Both guests will discuss their recent albums and play songs live.

The British Breakfast

- Saturdays 9-11AM
- On July 11, 2026, The British Breakfast had visitors from afar. Peter Borse, Podcaster and DJ from Chelmsford, Essex England and the Inventor of the music related App, "Periscope" (worth a search engine dive) and Heidi Katz, concert goer extraordinaire, originally another record store geek from MASS. and now resides in Ashland, the Center of the Universe. We split the pics with an awesome focus on Northern Soul!
- Stay tuned for more special guests on TheBritish Breakfast which will include two past co-hosts.
- Moop has returned to Alley Oops Nolde Oldies after surviving the Crimean War after joining the French Foreign Legion. The show remains on full tilt now featuring deep cuts and sing-a-longs from the years 1949-1976.

Biscuits 'n' Groovy

- Mondays 6AM
- The first two shows of July (7/6 & 7/13) will celebrate the very best of the first 50 shows, compiling the very best tracks from the first year of Biscuits 'n' Groovy into two flaming hot playlists featuring the very greasiest of grooves from the show so far!
- Listeners should keep an ear out for occasional guest appearances from B'n'G co-conspirator Dr. T, delving deep into his basement of funk, jazz and afrobeat.

SIFTER FOR THE EAR

- 11:30AM-12PM every Friday
- Interviews, news & reviews of film, TV & streaming by Jerry Williams, aka TV Jerry.
- 7/1 Makers of the VPM doc: "Declaration: Black Americans and the Revolutionary War"
- 7/8 Marc Weinberg & Victoria Fraser on being screenwriters in LA
- 7/15 Creating VPMC's IllumiNATION event that was projected on the building
- 7/22 Singer/songwriter Carol Connors, who wrote the "Rocky" theme and lots more
- 7/29 Learn about Virginia native & 20s/30s Hollywood star Billy Haines (actor, decorator)

House Music Sessions

- 11PM-1AM every Saturday
- Soulful House Music sets by DJ Vince Slay, 7 years strong. Also guest Djs from all over the world along with interviews!

SCAM



ALERT

1

PRETENDERS ON THE LOOSE



People are pretending to be WRIR staff.

2

THE SCAM OFFER



They offer a “**PREMIUM PROMOTIONAL MEDIA PACKAGE**” with a “**PARTICIPATION FEE**”.

3

THE TRUTH

WRIR **DOES NOT ASK FOR PAYMENT** to be interviewed on any of our shows.



4

VERIFY OFFICIAL EMAILS

Official emails from WRIR will include **@wrir.org** in the email address.

?

UNSURE?

Reach out to **info@wrir.org** for confirmation.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS



Thank you for supporting community radio and local initiatives!

SANCTUARY FAMILY MEDICINE

Support for WRIR comes from Sanctuary Family Medicine. Sanctuary Family Medicine will be opening in South Richmond, Virginia in Summer 2026. This Direct Primary Care practice will provide patient-centered, whole-person care with a focus on gender-affirming care and health justice.

Sanctuary Family Medicine es una clínica de atención primaria que abrirá sus puertas en Richmond VA en el verano del 2026. Esta clínica de modelo de membresía proveerá cuidado para todos pacientes con énfasis en justicia social y atención de afirmación de género.

[Learn More](#)

UNDOING RUIN CONSERVATION LANDSCAPING

Support for WRIR is brought to you by Undoing Ruin - Conservation Landscaping.

WRIR and Undoing Ruin uplift the Richmond Eco-system, be it supporting diverse voices or stewarding resilient land use choices.

If you are interested in gardening as non-violent direct action visit Undoing Ruin, to read more about their available services and ecological philosophy.

[Learn More](#)

NORTH OF THE JAMES

Support for WRIR 97.3FM comes from North of the James. They've been publishing real stories about real people for thirty years. From its inception, North of the James has been committed to authentic storytelling, forgoing canned content in favor of narratives that resonate with its readers. This dedication to quality journalism has earned the magazine numerous accolades from the Virginia Press Association for excellence in writing, photography, and design. The latest issue is available online at northofthejames.com.

[Learn More](#)

BECOME AN UNDERWRITER

Are you looking for a unique way to connect with a loyal, diverse, and hyper-local audience? Become an underwriter for WRIR 97.3FM! Underwriting is a non-commercial way to support Richmond's nonprofit community radio station while spreading the word about your business, organization, or events. Your customized on-air announcements will reach our dedicated listeners on broadcast radio, streaming, and archived programs—ensuring your message resonates far beyond a single moment. Plus, your contribution directly supports WRIR's mission to build an inclusive, community-driven radio station. Join us in amplifying Richmond's voice and become an underwriter today! [Learn More](#)

WRIR Gallery

Our amazing WRIR volunteers are the heartbeat of Richmond's community radio! From hosting shows to running events, their passion and dedication keep the station alive and thriving. Huge thanks to everyone who helps us amplify RVA's voice! 📻❤️

Connect with us on our social media channels: [Instagram](#) / [Facebook](#) @wrir97.3fm

WRIR is 100% volunteer powered.
Become a VOLUNTEER!

We are currently looking for people who like the technical side of radio for our Operations Committee and people who enjoy connecting with others for our Volunteer and Events Committees. We also are looking for more on-air DJs and Talk Hosts.

[Learn More](#)



Next edition of "The Local Signal"
coming October 2026

DONATE ♥

www.wrircampaign.org

