

50 year old Montana State University Community radio station, KGLT, has over 85 announcers on air every two weeks. KGLT can be compared to a manageable community model, and a successful one at that. The variety of people, their similarities and dissimilarities, beliefs, ages spanning three generations, individual tastes in music -- all have joined forces, honed their talents, taken apprentice classes offered by the station, recognize their interdependence, and consequently share music and the love of music with the audience.

What better example can community and college radio or any team set than to be an example of working together to make the whole, better and better. When community members join forces to achieve goals, the same results happen. Success happens because of teamwork. Each individual remains unique, but coming together, we achieve incredible goals. KGLT takes great pride in being a conduit for the community, spreading information about services offered by thousands of non-profit organizations throughout Montana that empower people and make their lives richer on many levels. Like any healthy community, the community that is KGLT excels in its ability to be honest and ethical. KGLT is non-political. The needs of community go deep and KGLT makes a sincere effort to not only entertain and educate by sharing many genres and generations of music, but by sharing the information that enriches everyone's lives and intellects with about 1,800 public service announcements (PSA'S) per year. PSA's respond to rudimentary needs like paying electric bills, help on health care, learning opportunities for students, seniors, sight challenged, enriching courses for dads, art and acting classes for kids, confidential support for mental and emotional barriers, support for victims, veterans, sports, classes in public speaking. To represent such important programs to the listeners is a great honor.

Besides the nine week Apprentice Class, KGLT offers local programming, two minutes in length, about various subjects that are geared toward the Humanities as well as important information for the community. Montana Medicine Show (and a book), by local award winning high school history teacher Derek Strahn is produced by KGLT Music Director Jim Kehoe and Recording Engineer Brodie Cates. It is in its 8th year. There are nearly 400 episodes about the people and stories that built our Treasure State. Unzipping the Weekend and Around Town, oral calendars that run three times daily telling of musical events, lectures and programs in each of our four listening areas, an Avalanche Report sponsored by the local Ski Area (in Montana that is a big area), a fishing report sponsored by the local troutfitter, all of which are part of a service KGLT provides to the station's 11,000 plus weekly listeners.

KGLT's national programming is This American Life, Studio 360, Radiolab, Mountain Stage, and Christy the Wordsmith. They share stories about people, their experiences, their art, their history and even the history of their language!

The doors of KGLT are open to all -- no sexual bias, no age bias, no physical challenge bias, no intellectual bias, no skin color bias. This college radio station has been in the top five of 20 radio stations in the Gallatin Valley since this General Manager has been working at the station, for 17 years. Businesses that sponsor the station are hailed by listeners as invested in their community and their community radio station.

Fiscal Year 2017 brought to Montana State University a call for managed growth. The fastest growing university in Montana, the Board of Regents and the University President want to insure that infrastructure befits growth, including housing and faculty. Therefore, 2017 numbers of students is 1% higher than FY2016 and numbers diversity wise are the same. 17% of the student population of 17,000 are Hispanic/Latino, American Indian, Asian, Black/African, Native Hawaiian, two or more races, International, or Unknown.

KGLT has become significant in Public Media in Montana. Montana Public Television (PBS) and KGLT have in-kind on-air sponsorships. National Public Radio Stations, Yellowstone Public Radio (YPR) in Billings and Montana Public Radio (MTPR) in Missoula, work with KGLT. Both stations carry KGLT's Chrysti the Wordsmith. MTPR carries KGLT Announcer's Indie Chill Wave Show. YPR has carried 'Tellin' Ellen', an interesting interview program produced at KGLT. KGLT is supported by the Friends of KGLT in Bozeman and Last Chance Public Radio Association (LCPRA) in Helena. In FY2017, LCPRA negotiated a signal trade between YPR and KGLT so that KGLT now has its second transmitter and YPR has two new transmitter signals in Helena plus the KGLT translator. KGLT works closely with the YPR engineer who is helping the station streamline its broadcast applications. KGLT and YPR look forward to helping expand one another's footprint in Montana.

In the works, National Public Radio station Yellowstone Public Radio in Billings, Montana and KGLT will collaborate on spreading KGLT's signal and some back end programs including the Fund Drive program. KGLT's Fund Drives are very familial, very human and cover the gamut of many personalities from funny to quiet sincerity. Each donor is a part of the energy that is KGLT. When they check in at the station during Fund Drive, they ask "How are WE doing?" It is a tribute to the love the community has for KGLT. Other public radio stations have incorporated a bit more of that into their Fund Drives, including stories about how they first came to know public radio. KGLT has the pleasure of helping on Montana Public Television when they have on-air fund raisers. MTPBS sent a videographer to the station to film the KGLT promo for their station. KGLT also has an interactive relationship with the Montana History Foundation, which partially funds the Montana Medicine Show, now in its 8th year of sharing two minute in length segments about Montana's history. The Foundation has interesting workshops that revive the all important sense of history that shows us all what was invested in our great state to make it great. The station belongs to Montana Radio Association, College Broadcasters, Inc., Great Public, and has just joined National Federation of Community Broadcasters.

KGLT's Montana Medicine Show is carried by new Butte, Montana community radio station, KBMF, and by Big Sky Radio in two cities 150 miles north of Montana State University, Bozeman. KGLT partners with Montana State University Office of the President and Office of Communications to 'spread the word', the events on campus. As a program of the Associated Students of Montana, KGLT is involved with 22 campus programs including Sustainability, Diversity, Voice Center, Women's Center, the school newspaper, and Outdoor Recreation. All clubs are welcome to share their events via our station: International Food Bazaar, business lectures, conservation programs – the great joy of existing on a campus is the energy and inclusiveness of programs, especially in an age where people are inundated by social media to the extent that clubs are one of the most important resources for face to face interaction and exchange of ideas.

Many of the non-profit organizations who have events include the station logo on flyers and programs. Community members attending events appreciate the signs of collaboration. Groups that KGLT includes in its PSA's and Community Calendars include: Heroes and Horses, Warriors and Waters, Queer/Straight Alliance, Montana Wilderness Association, Montana Wildlife, 4-H, Head Start, Human Resources Development Council, Shakespeare in the Park, Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force, all animal shelters, Gallatin Bicycle Club, American Lung Association, MT., Montana Shares, Bridgercare (low cost medical choice), Befrienders (friendship for seniors), libraries on and off campus, Brain Injury Association, Tobacco Use Prevention, and Montana Association for the Blind.

Foundations that supported KGLT programs in 2017 were Humanities Montana, Gilhousen Foundation, and Montana Historical Society as well as additional donation support through the MSU Alumni Foundation.

There are three important gauges to measure KGLT's impact on helping the community: 1. Annual Fund Drives began about 40 years ago, making \$3000.00 by asking on-air for listener support. That total is now up to \$198,000.00 in support. KGLT also has loyal underwriters that brought in \$120,000.00 in support in 2017. Initially, Montana State University supported the station financially; now, KGLT is self-supportive except for the yearly average of \$12,000.00 to \$15,000.00 in support from the Associated Students of MSU and the gift of free rent. The Growth Budget is separate from the Operations Budget. 2. Non-profits and campus groups come back for more, as do the underwriters. Businesses continue to underwrite because their business increases. In 2017, the most substantial underwriting contract KGLT has received was renewed because more customers are purchasing from that business since they started underwriting at the station. Of the 160 University groups and hundreds of Southwest Montana organizations, the groups we have helped who continue to partner with KGLT over the years include Heroes and Horses, Warriors and Waters, Bozeman Deaconess Hospital, Bear Creek Respite, MSU Schools of Engineering, Nursing, and Community Leadership, Salvation Army, Human Resource Development Council, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, United Way, and Montana Shares. 3. A media marketing representative shares reports with KGLT that the station is consistently #1 in listener loyalty. The variety of announcers and genres of music means the listeners doesn't want to change to another station to find something new. KGLT is always in the top five of 21 FM stations in the Gallatin Valley, home of our original transmitter and highest population with an average of 11,500 to 13,000 listeners per week.

Quotes from listeners and organizations:

"Thank you so much for your support and flexibility for our ROC Wheelchair Carnival! I love working with you. The event was a success and everyone had a blast! We couldn't have done it without your support!"

"Steady Listener since 1985 - best radio in at least 5 states, Stay cool."

"I hope you all know how much you keep us happy and how much we appreciate your goodness and talent. You are the best."

"Thank you very much for taking the time and showing my grandson Charles the workings of KGLT. Charlie wasted no time telling his mom of the adventure which he really enjoyed."

"We listen from Florida over the internet. KGLT is wonderful!! This is how we stay in touch with our community."

From Montana State Collegiate Cattlewomen:

Thank you for your support of our annual 5K fun run and bargeque. We appreciate people like you helping us support the community."

From Betsy Danforth, director of the MSU Women's Center: "Just a note to say thank you so much for all the work KGLT does to help promote our MSU Women's Center events. It is wonderful to have such an ally here on campus to help us get the word out to the community about our educational programs and events celebrating the accomplishments of women. We honestly could not do it without you and KGLT!"

From Live from the Divide: "What can I say... You took a chance on a home grown program and never looked back! WE are so grateful for your belief and patience with our program as we continue to reach higher and do better."

From Be the Match: Thank you... We were able to add 154 willing and committed bone marrow donors to the registry and we were so excited to have the pleasure of working with you. We think you are awesome!"

KGLT has 3,639 likes on Facebook.

KGLT and Montana State University share the sentiment expressed by University President Waded Cruzado in 2017: " As a world-class research institution of higher education, we at Montana State firmly believe our university is enriched and strengthened by the talent, insight and culture that all students, faculty, researchers and staff offer. This conviction, of course, is extended to individuals who were not born within our state and national frontiers: this conviction includes the world."

KGLT has provided information on air including these but not restricted to just these subjects. The station will not change its inclusivity. Plans for 2018 is to provide information to enrich the lives of all and to continue in perpetuity: 1. Senior Immigration attorney will present on recent changes to policy, 2. A facilitated conversation on human rights, plight of refugees and the travel ban, 3. Going Global in culturally diverse communities, 4. Interchange Symposium on human migration and displacement, 5. The Heart Initiative combats human trafficking, 6. DisCourse, a queer intersectional reading group discussing critical text, 7. Indigenous People's Day, 8. Indigenous Feminism, 9. Rosalyn LaPier, indigenous writer, botanist, and environmental historian presents "From Prairies to the Atomic Age on the Blackfeet Reservation".

KGLT provides information about travel classes, Community Involvement, the Women's Center, the Voice Center, mental health, suicide prevention, international celebrations such as Festivals of Lights, Food Bazaars, and Muslim Fasting Day.

The station thrives on the variety of announcers it has. Currently, of the 85 announcers on the air every two weeks, there are Russian/French, Brazilian, Italian announcers, students and seniors ranging in ages 18 to 70. Disabilities are not a hindrance to being a DJ at KGLT.