2018 Annual Report
The real sound of Savannah is 107.5 FM and WRUU.org

The beginning…Savannah Soundings

It all started over five years ago as a very thoughtful conversation among a group of community members. The dream was to provide voice and visibility to the community through music and talk shows not found locally. After thousands of hours of volunteer time, knowledge and talent, Savannah Soundings, “Community Radio with Global Soul,” was born.

Once generous donations and grants were received from committed supporters, including Unitarian Universalist Church of Savannah members, the Unitarian Universalist Association, and many individuals in the community, the build out – a true labor of love – of the radio station began. Countless talents converged to make an almost uninhabitable space turn, seemingly by magic, into a radio station!

A really phenomenal accomplishment took place in January of 2016: streaming online at savsoundings.org. The next landmark step occurred in April of 2017: with the tower up and all equipment running, the first official radio broadcast on WRUU 107.5 FM began!
2018
A great year

Happy Anniversary!

A big celebration occurred this year...WRUU's first broadcast anniversary! Founders, builders, volunteers and friends took special joy at this exciting benchmark.

Voted 2018 Runner-Up in Best of Local Radio

After just one year of broadcasting, Connect Savannah awarded WRRU 107.5 "Runner-Up for Best of Local Radio." We've realized remarkable growth in programming and listenership. The hard-earned reasons for this win have everything to do with having over 60 volunteer program hosts now, including our first youth host, and a multitude of dynamic and ever-fascinating music and talk shows. Behind the scenes is the Executive Task Force working hard to keep us on the air and on the web.

“Really loving the joyful eclectic aesthetic...thank you...”
-- from an admirer
Our numerous music shows span the spectrum from Latin, Classical, Opera, to Alternative Rock, Metal, Indie, Blues, Americana, Jazz, and more.

Our talk shows hit deep connections on a variety of community, state, national and world-wide issues, as heard on locally-produced shows such as Savannah Lexicon, Savannah Business Showcase, Art on the Air, Voices of Resistance, Savannah on Film, Heart in the Hand, Muses and Memoirs & More, Savannah Music Local and Sustainable, One Human Nation, and Algonquin Kitchen, to name just a few.

In addition we have nationally-syndicated programming such as Democracy Now!, Background Briefing, Alternative Radio, and Economic Update.
Savannah’s only all-volunteer, local community radio

The Executive Task Force of WRRU is comprised of two community representatives, two UUCS representatives, two ex-officio members, and the leaders of our five teams: Programming, Infrastructure, Governance, Fundraising, and Media.

Making On-Air and On-line a Reality

Our Program Team has 62 active program hosts, four active producers, and 19 others who have helped throughout the year. Yes, that is over 80 – and we started with three! Alongside, to help assure we have a functional studio, are five integral Infrastructure Team volunteers.

The Media Team brings us an increased media presence on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, the Web, and in local print media, featuring articles about the station or special program guests and our monthly Volunteer Orientations. Visitors from 10 countries, reading our posts in nine languages, are now engaging with our Facebook page and listening from afar!

The WRRU Street Team of ten program hosts are out on the streets of Savannah to give WRRU more than a voice on the airwaves. They’ve had booths at the Forsyth Farmers Market, Savannah Music Festival, Savannah Stopover, Savannah Jazz Festival, Earth Day, and many of our fundraising events, to chat with the community and spread the word about our diverse array of talk and music shows.

If you haven’t heard yet, we guarantee “Fun” at our “Fun-raising” events, with 42 enthusiastic volunteers helping with this year’s fundraisers. Tunes and Brews at Southbound Brewery, Pint Night at Green Truck Pub, the Summer Business Auction, the Location Gallery Art Benefit, Gypsy Jazz and Sister Sound concerts were just a few!
Community Radio with Global Soul

Underwriting

Our program sponsors have our hearts, as they’ve helped us build WRUU and supported us as we’ve grown. Shout outs to:

Brighter Day, Sentient Bean, Cleland Site Prep, Jones, Boykin, & Associates

The Numbers

The Executive Task Force has focused on increasing donations and business partnerships while maintaining frugal oversight of expenditures. For fiscal year 2018, we’ve demonstrated our committed stewardship to our donors:

For the year ending June 30, 2018:
Net Worth $36,221
($20,131 physical property, $12,379 cash assets)
Income $25,764
Expenses $16,612

Our budgeted income for 2018-2019 is $32,200. We are growing and need your new or renewed support to make it happen!

We love WRUU

Special hugs go out to all 90 of this year’s donors, including our 16 Serious Fans ($107.50), 9 donors of the DJ’s Circle ($200.00), 5 of the Broadcaster’s Circle ($500.00), 3 of the Engineer’s Circle ($1,000), and our one very special Producer’s Circle donor ($2,500).
Who we are

Executive Task Force 2017-2018

Doug Johnson, Chairperson and Governance Team Leader
Dave Lake, Program Team Leader
Bill Rolfs, Infrastructure Team Leader
Trent Kissinger, Fundraising Team Leader
John Bennett, Media Team Leader
Jennifer Highland, Secretary, UUCS Representative
Louise Frazier, UUCS Representative
Vicki Weeks, Community Representative
Ian McCarthy, Community Representative
Reverend David Messner, Unitarian Universalist Church of Savannah

WRUU is a project of the
Unitarian Universalist Church of Savannah (UUCS)

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Donations: wruu.org