

You're receiving this publication because you are a current or past CPR member or listener.
Not interested anymore? [Unsubscribe](#). Having trouble viewing this email? [View it in your browser](#).



Airwaves

Special News & Information
for CPR Listeners

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2011

EXPLORE NEW MUSIC AND NEW POSSIBILITIES ON OPEN AIR

The wait is over for listeners looking to explore new music. This Halloween, OpenAir launched on 1340 AM and online at OpenAirCPR.org.

"For the past few months, we've been looking forward to telling people to tune in and listen to OpenAir," said Program Director Mike Flanagan. "It's very exciting to actually be sharing music rather than talking about what it's going to sound like. Now you can just listen to find out."

"We launched OpenAir with the support of an extremely dedicated and talented team of individuals who have extensive experience working in radio," continued Mike. "Collectively, this group has a deep-seated passion for new music and established connections to the local music scene. Their knowledge and expertise will provide listeners with an unparalleled listening experience and opportunities to discover new music."

Learn more about the voices behind OpenAir:

[Mike Flanagan, Program Director](#)

[Jessi Whitten, Music Director](#)

[Alisha Sweeney, Morning Show Host / Assistant Music Director](#)

[Corey H. Jones, Announcer / Producer](#)

[Brandee Castle, Web Director / Host](#)

Contents

- [Mike Flanagan's passion for music launches OpenAir](#)
- [Assistant news director brings focus to timely newscasts](#)
- [Listeners add value to CPR's news through the Public Insight Network](#)
- [Music education programs thrive thanks to CPR's Instrument Drive](#)

"Giving Thanks" returns to CPR's classical music stations

Tune in to CPR's classical music stations at 8pm on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24, to celebrate the spirit of gratitude with music and stories in "[Giving Thanks](#)." Relax after a big meal and listen to a thoughtful, contemporary reflection on the meaning of the holiday with host John Birge. This year's program features selections from the world premiere of "Table Grace" by Garrison Keillor, sung by VocalEssence. Plus classics from Bach, Copland and more.

Stay tuned to CPR's classical music stations after Thanksgiving as we begin featuring memorable holiday classics throughout December.

Read what the [Denver Post](#) and [Westword](#) have to say about OpenAir, and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!



[back to top ^](#)

MIKE FLANAGAN'S PASSION FOR MUSIC LAUNCHES OPEN AIR

OpenAir Program Director Mike Flanagan has a passion for exploring new music, something he discovered as a kid when he saw how the world reacted to Elvis. He's spent most of his career sharing his expert knowledge of music with listeners, and joined CPR to continue doing just that on OpenAir.

Mike began his radio career at the age of 16 when he hosted an evening rock show on KWSH in Wewoka, Okla. "My world really changed when I discovered radio," said Mike. "I remember feeling really cool knowing that I was in charge of playing music that thousands of people were listening to."

Over the years, Mike has worked for several stations and has experience at all levels, from hosting and producing to programming. You may recognize his voice from his days as a CPR classical music host in the 90's. Most recently, he was the general manager for the University of Colorado at Boulder's nationally-recognized student radio station, Radio 1190.

"Throughout my career, I've come to realize that a big part of enjoying music is learning what influences it and exploring different genres and sounds," said Mike. "My hope is that OpenAir will become a destination for music enthusiasts to discover new music and connect with the local music scene."



Photo

credit: Flickr user [rduck](#).

Assistant news director brings focus to timely newscasts

Judith Smelser recently joined CPR as assistant news director to expand in-depth news coverage. Judith will focus on enhancing CPR's hourly newscasts, producing and editing stories, and coordinating with our partners at KUNC Community Radio in Greeley to inform listeners of the day's news.

"Listeners have always relied on CPR for high-quality in-depth features, conversations and reports about issues of statewide concern," said Judith. "I hope to take that one step further and ensure that listeners can also count on CPR for the most up-to-date news about what's happening across the state. With newscasts throughout the day and reports during 'All Things Considered' and 'Morning Edition,' listeners will hear Colorado's top news stories each and every day."

Before moving to Colorado, Judith spent four years as the news director for WMFE in Orlando, Fla., where she directed the station's coverage of major events including hurricanes, elections, and most recently, the end of NASA's iconic space shuttle program. She also worked as a producer, reporter and host at WMFE. Her award-winning reporting has aired on NPR, "Marketplace" and other public radio programs.

[Read more about Judith Smelser.](#)

[Read more about Mike Flanagan.](#)

Photo: Mike Flanagan.

[back to top ^](#)

LISTENERS ADD VALUE TO CPR'S NEWS THROUGH THE PUBLIC INSIGHT NETWORK

CPR's news team develops stories to inform you about a number of different issues. And listeners actually play an important role as sources by participating in the Public Insight Network (PIN). PIN is an online tool used by our news team to gather insight, perspective and experiences from listeners to add depth and voice to our news coverage.

Lee Hill is CPR's PIN analyst and reporter. PIN members share their comments and submit queries to Lee, who looks through the information to find news sources for various stories.



“When I sift through queries, I’m looking for responses from people who’ve had an experience that will help advance the story,” said Lee. “We may have all the facts and figures to put the story together, but hearing from someone who’s actually been affected by the news often adds much-needed texture and voice to a story. My job is to listen to what people are saying, and report their stories to help inform the rest of the community.”

PIN is also a way for CPR to stay connected to Colorado's community. Our statewide coverage is enhanced when we hear from people sharing their experiences. [Sign up today and become a PIN member.](#)

Photo: Lee Hill.

[back to top ^](#)



Photo: Judith Smelser. Photo credit: [WMFE](#).

Music education programs thrive thanks to CPR's Instrument Drive

More than 40 schools throughout Colorado are seeing improvements in music education after receiving instruments during CPR's Annual Instrument Drive. We've heard from many students and teachers thanking CPR for organizing the event and promoting music education.

Sarah Starbuck, the band, choir and orchestra director at Thornton Middle School spoke about her school's ability to expand their program. "Thank you again for what you have done for the music program at my school," she said. "I have been able to grow the program by a considerable amount."

We also heard from Keith Bisailon of Heritage High School in Colorado Springs who wrote, "I have many students who are able to play instruments now who would not have been able to otherwise. Your work in all of this is greatly appreciated."

Columbia Middle School was also one of the 40 plus schools to benefit from the instrument drive, receiving 21 instruments in total. Instrumental Music Teacher Nina Walsh said, "The kids were thrilled to receive the instruments, thank you so

FALL PLEDGE DRIVE RAISES NEARLY \$1,000,000

Thanks to more than 7,800 listeners who pledged during the fall pledge drive, CPR met the goal and ended the drive a full day ahead of schedule. This was the biggest drive in CPR's 40-year history. With your support, we raised almost \$1,000,000 toward our \$11,000,000 budget. We're thankful that our listeners continue to invest in their community by supporting CPR and we'll continue to look for ways to satisfy your programming needs.

Congratulations to Joy Dillon of Denver who won the Hawaii vacation package from Apple Vacations. [Find a complete list of sweepstakes winners.](#)



[back to top ^](#)

CPR SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT: NORTHSTAR INVESTMENT ADVISORS

Northstar Investment Advisors is an independent, registered investment advisory firm that has been a CPR underwriter for 15 years. "The public really relies on CPR's high-quality programming to stay informed," said Fred Taylor, co-founder

much!"



Photo: Students from Columbia Middle School in Aurora pose with their instruments.

Help ensure a strong start to 2012 by supporting CPR in 2011

Transferring appreciated stocks and securities to Colorado Public Radio is a great way to support in-depth news and music, and potentially avoid capital gains taxes.

Find more information at cpr.org or call (303) 871-9191. Please be sure to let us know of your gift so we can properly acknowledge your support. And thanks for ensuring statewide news and music for generations to come!



Forward to a friend

Know someone who might be interested in this email? Why not forward it to a friend?



Unsubscribe

If you no longer wish to receive this email please [unsubscribe](#).

of Northstar Investment Advisors. "We value the service that CPR provides, which is the main reason we've been proud supporters for so many years."

Fred enjoys listening to reports from CPR's [Andrea Dukakis](#) and also lists [Linda Wertheimer](#) as a favorite NPR reporter.

Photo: Fred Taylor.



7409 SOUTH ALTON COURT, CENTENNIAL, CO 80112 • 303.871.9191

www.cpr.org