

THE LOCAL SIGNAL

WRIR 97.3FM

What's Inside?

This quarter brings both a heartfelt farewell and a major milestone: We're saying goodbye to our esteemed five-year President, Melissa Vaughn, and kicking off our 20th Anniversary Fall Fund Drive and Gala. Tune in for details on exciting new shows, the launch of our new Capital Campaign video, and a special feature article for R&B fans. This edition of *The Local Signal* is packed with must-read news and community shout-outs!

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

It's our 20th Fall Fund Drive, so you know we will have a big party!

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Let's Stay Together

Though R&B was once a staple of local radio, industry changes like corporate acquisitions and chart mergers have significantly reduced its presence on the airwaves. To revitalize R&B radio, the solution is not just more stations but curating diverse rotations that include both familiar hits and rising talent. This strategy of mixing various eras and styles, rather than relying on a Top 40 focus, will cement a station's credibility and connect listeners across all generations.

Continued on page 8



AN OPEN LETTER TO THE RICHMOND COMMUNITY THANK YOU **MELISSA VAUGHN**



This is a difficult announcement for the WRIR family.

Today, we're sharing the news that Melissa Vaughn is stepping down as WRIR's president at the insistence of her doctors. Her last day as president was September 30.

For nearly five years, Melissa has undergone treatment for metastatic breast cancer and managed her diagnosis with strength, resilience, and grace. Now, because the cancer has progressed, it is time for her to prioritize her health as she begins a new, aggressive treatment. As she shared with us:

"This is an opportunity to be the best form of me so I can be a better community servant when I come out of this."

We love Melissa and value every single contribution she made to this station. Above all, we ask that you join us in respecting her privacy at this moment.

So where do we go from here?

While we are heartbroken to see Melissa step away, we honor her decision and commit ourselves to carrying her bold vision forward.

Melissa cultivated a team of dedicated leaders who are passionate about independent radio, protecting free speech, and amplifying voices across our community.

That team she helped build is already stepping forward to guide the transition process. The WRIR Board unanimously elected long-time volunteer and board member, Bridé Baker, as Interim President, and Bradley Stabler, a.k.a. Straw, as Interim Vice President. Together, they are already planning for the future and spearheading the **Capital Campaign** to complete our new, accessible home in Shockoe Bottom.

As we navigate the next few months, we ask for your understanding and support.

WRIR is no stranger to being the underdog, but we're going to be okay. As we embark on this new chapter, we remain strong because of you - the Richmond community.

People from all walks of life who truly love the art of independent radio - sharing new music, ideas, and voices across Richmond's airwaves - make WRIR what it is. We believe in the power of a local radio station to educate, inform, empower, and inspire.

And that's what we will continue to do.

For those eager to support Melissa, the message she asked us to share is simple and unequivocal: **give to WRIR**. Donate whatever you can, how often you can, because we all believe that Richmond deserves a bold free speech platform beholden only to the community.

And for those eager to help see us through this unique period in the station's history: **join us**.

Thank you, Melissa.
Thank you, Richmond.
And as always, stay tuned.

Who to Contact:

The Board - VCP@wrir.org

- Bridé Baker
- Straw - Bradley Stabler
- Inga Schunn
- Tommy Brownell
- Channele Vigue
- Doug Nunnally
- Rian Moses-Hedrick
- Maura Garman
- Eric Steigleder
- Bo Brown

Feedback - What do you want to change, preserve, or wish for WRIR's future?: feedback@wrir.org

Photo by RVAMag
Read the article [HERE!](#)



General Station Needs:

Capital Campaign - Channele@wrir.org

Operations - operations@wrir.org, richardschellenberg@wrir.org, jimnelson@wrir.org

Website - Mikegarrett@wrir.org

Socials - socialmedia@wrir.org

DJ & Music - DJ@wrir.org or Musicprogramming@wrir.org

Talk Programming & Underwriting - talkhost@wrir.org or underwriting@wrir.org

Fundraising - Fundraising@wrir.org

Internal & External Newsletter - Rianmoseshedrick@wrir.org



WRIR Fall Fund Drive

Celebrating our 20th anniversary

This Fall's Fund Drive is celebrating something big - WRIR's 20th anniversary! For two decades, WRIR 97.3FM has been powered by passion, community, and hardworking volunteers to broadcast underrepresented news, views, and music. Help us celebrate during our Fall Fund Drive: October 15th to November 3rd, 2025!



1621 W BROAD ST RICHMOND VA

FALL 2025

\$ 50,000 goal

Our Fall T-Shirt artist is Richmond's own Emily Meyer.

- For \$11/month or \$65 one-time, you can sport this anniversary shirt to show off your great taste in radio.
- For \$21/month or \$125 one-time, you will receive our Fall shirt and a clear WRIR backpack.
- For \$61/month or \$365 one-time, a non-profit of your choice will receive free underwriting. That means your gift counts twice! You'll also receive our shirt and backpack.

Tune in on-air and online to learn more about picking up gifts at events and in-person at the radio station as well as mailing options.

At WRIR, we believe in amplifying community voices to encourage positive change in Richmond and around the world. Contributions like yours allow us to continue producing programming that reflects the interests, concerns, and aspirations of people like you. Whether it's through music, news, or cultural content, your support helps shape the conversation. You can go to www.wrir.org to donate today!



Donate Once

Donate Monthly

WRIR MONSTER "NOWHERE TO WEAR IT" MASHQUERADE

OCT 26TH AT STUDIO TWO THREE FROM 6-10PM
LEAGUE OF SPACE PIRATES, CRACKFOX, INVICTIS AND NU RODEO CALDONIA BURLESQUE



\$30 PRESALE

\$35 AT THE DOOR



RAFFLE
PHOTO BOOTH
SNACKS & CAKE
CASH BAR
ALL AGES


Wrir.org 97.3 FM
your community radio station

20TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

GET YOUR TICKETS

wrir.org/monster

CURRENT SHOWS



CHECK IT OUT!

NEW SHOWS!

- White Pill officially joins WRIR on Tuesdays 3pm - 5pm
- Otherworlds officially joins Sundays 11pm - 1am, rotating with DJ FiveOhSeven of Just Cause
- Wide Ear Folk, Tuesdays 5-7PM, new and old contemporary and traditional folk music
- Soul II Soul every other Monday 9-11PM

House Music Sessions

- 11PM-1AM every Saturday
- DJ Vince Slay House Music and Legendary Guests!

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 / Otherworlds	Richmond Cryptoids	Dog Germs / PND (punk's not dead)	The Church of the Ecstatic	The Mix Room / 56 kbit/s	Guitar Inferno / The Lunar Orbit
1am	Hip-Hop for the Rest of Us	Encore Music and Local Talk Shows <small>encore airing</small>	Metal Box	FREQUENCY <small>encore airing</small>	A Drone's Life	Neighborhood Wide Web	Interstellar Elevator
2am							
3am	Encore Music and Local Talk Shows <small>encore airing</small>		Encore Music and Local Talk Shows <small>encore airing</small>	Encore Music and Local Talk Shows <small>encore airing</small>	Encore Music and Local Talk Shows <small>encore airing</small>	Unicorn Power	Live from the Audience
4am							
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	Mr. Dad's Storytime <small>encore airing</small>
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	Sojourner Truth	First Voices Radio	The Means of Production / Boom Goddess Radio This Way Out	The British Breakfast
10am		Radio Ecoshock	The Children's Hour	Civic Cipher	For the Wild	WRIR Presents: Black Coochie (1st)/Discussing Disability (2nd)/OPEN! (3rd)/Final Friday Signal Boost (4th)	
11am	Bebop and Beyond with Mr. Jazz	Food Sleuth Raging Skillet	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		Brain Box <small>encore airing</small>	Confetti Park A Grain of Sand	What Wakes Me Up/Moccasin Tracks	Women & Politics	Novel Film (1st & 3rd)/The Talking Machine (2nd & 4th)	
1pm	Global A Go-Go	Banji Kaicho	Finding Sounds / Outer Focus	Daily Courtship / Left Field with Duncan	Alternative Milestones	Head Empty Radio	Cause and Effect
2pm							
3pm	Ambiance Congo / The Other Black Music	Richmond Counterculture / Shockoe Sessions	Adrenal Gland Bandstand / Single Use	Dream Girl Radio / EXT SRC	Higher Consciousness	POP Goes The World!	End Of The Century
4pm							
5pm	The Motherland Influence	French Kiss / Stop the Madness Latino	Wide Ear Folk	The Lotus Land Show	The Young Professional / Mid-Atlantic Jams	Friday Clock Out	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	Commonwealth of Notions / Deutscher Jam	Panoramic / Journey Through the Crates
8pm							
9pm	Club Unity / House of SWE	The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit / Soul II Soul	Kaleidoscopic Soul / Kristin Star	Mercury Falls	Sunrise Ocean Bender (1st, 3rd) / Altered Circuitry: ReWired (2nd, 4th) / Various (5th)	What the Fontaine?!	FREQUENCY
10pm							
11pm	Just Cause / Otherworlds	Richmond Cryptoids	Dog Germs / PND (punk's not dead)	The Church of the Ecstatic	The Mix Room / 56 kbit/s	Guitar Inferno / The Lunar Orbit	House Music Sessions

SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

SIFTER FOR THE EAR

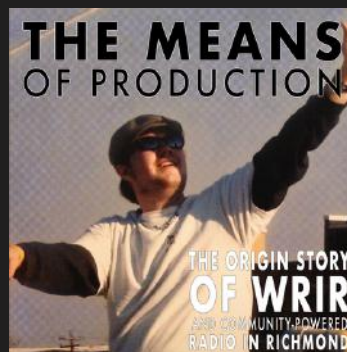
- 11:30AM-12PM every Friday
- Melissa Chase and Amie Carter will talk about "Showcase" new on WRIC. An animator whose film will play at the Pocahontas Reframed Film Festival. The writer/director behind a new PBS series on Edgar Allen Poe

Global A Go-Go

- 1-3PM every Sunday
- I describe Global A Go-Go as "music from around the world in the universal language of groove." In short, you could call it a world music program that emphasizes the danceable over the folkloric.
- October 19 - Siemon Allen visits Global A Go-Go to talk about and play music from Matsuli Music's superb new compilation album Zulu Guitar Blues: Cowboys, Troubadours and Jilted Lovers 1950-1965. Siemon is a South African expat who lives in Richmond and has one of the world's largest collections of South African recordings. About half of the tracks on Zulu Guitar Blues come from 78 rpm records in Siemon's collection.
- October 26 - Global A Go-Go features the music of Tarwa N-Tiniri, an Amazigh (Berber) desert blues band from Morocco, who will be performing at Révéler Experiences on Wednesday October 29.

The Means of Production

- First Fridays 9-9:30AM
- Hi! I'm Whitney Whiting and I've been producing a limited audio documentary series about how WRIR was born. It's called The Means of Production and features voices of WRIR's earliest volunteers like James Hickman, Dustin Richardson, Chris Maxwell, Ana Edwards, Liz Humes, Bill Lupoletti, Gene Pemberton, and many others.
- Episode 7 will pick up with WRIR's first official broadcast on January 1, 2005 and how the station changed Richmond forever after. We're gonna talk a lot about Shockoe Bottom in this episode (WRIR's new future home!) and how early volunteers like Ana Edwards used the air waves to educate listeners about Shockoe Bottom's history in a decades-long effort to reclaim its Sacred Ground.
- While the on-air series is coming to a close at the end of the year, the broader effort to collect oral history interviews with WRIR volunteers will continue. There are still so many people I have not yet had time to record with. If anyone wants to collab on this oral history collection and/or if there are others working on WRIR archives/history in general, let's connect: whiting.whitney@gmail.com
- All episodes of The Means of Production can be found at soundcloud.com/another-richmond and on Youtube @AnotherRichmond



Guitar Inferno

- 2nd & 4th Friday 11PM-1AM
- Tune in every other Friday night at 11pm for a fiery dose of six-string pyrotechnics from around the world...Guitar Inferno features the best extreme guitar music from around the planet, drawn primarily from the fusion, rock, and metal genres!
- Your host DJ Entropy AKA McMetal has a PHD in Shredology and is sworn to deliver only the highest caliber product to the listening audience...let's light it up \,,/
- 10/10 - Mondo Halloween Boonanza Pt 1
- 10/24 - Mondo Halloween Boonanza Pt 2

CLEAN HOUSE

- 7-9AM every 1st, 2nd, 4th & 5th Saturday
- Clean House Vol. 1 on Bandcamp - this is a compilation of local artists including Christian Luke Brady, Greg Darden, Past Palms, Gardener and more! <https://cleanhouzerecords.bandcamp.com/album/clean-house-vol-1>
- It celebrates reaching 100 shows on-air and it features all RVA or RVA-expat artists- The artwork is also by a VCU grad Emma Barnes so lots of local connections
- It is just \$5 (with the option to pay more) and anything we manage to make I will be donating into the WRIR pot to help us get moved down to Shockoe so please share the link with your friends! I will also be getting physical tapes made next month and will donate a portion of those sales as well

SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

Cause & Effect

- 1-3PM every Saturday
- Cause & Effect explores the influences, associations and collaborations of a different artist each week. Sometimes we'll expand the topic to include a theme like a genre, a record label or an in depth topic of the rotating DJ's choice. Find them on Instagram/Twitter @causeeffectwrir and [Facebook](#)
- 10/18 (Fund Drive Show) - Straw - Toonami
- 10/25 (Fund Drive Show) - One Hit Wanda's Annual Halloween Special

This fall Cause & Effect is bringing you some great radio. If you've never heard the show it's basically two hours of music fans getting to talk about and play their favorite bands or artists in a way you don't usually get to hear.

Created by former WRIR DJ Lightning's Girl, Cause & Effect has a different host each Saturday and when a new DJ steps into the radio booth on Saturdays at 1pm you're going to get a focused presentation that's often been researched obsessively for years.

WRIR DJs are a dedicated and knowledgeable group, but when you combine that dedication and knowledge with a topic they truly love you're going to get some of the best and most passionate radio you're going to hear.

More specifically, when a DJ hosts Cause & Effect they get to tell you about where an artist or genre comes from, where they've been, where they're going or what came after them. This might include an artists' influence on music, their own influences, their collaborations, cover songs and of course the unexpected.

They could also branch out and cover a topic like a genre, a music festival, a record label or anything else.

This fall we've got a great lineup of DJs covering Toonami, Velvet Underground, Turnstile, jazz trumpeter Woody Shaw and Pink Floyd.

And on October 25th One Hit Wanda will be doing what's become her annual Halloween episode. I'm not sure what it's going to be about yet, but I'm definitely curious. And now you are too.

So that's it! That's Cause & Effect and it airs every Saturday from 1-3pm on WRIR. Thanks for listening!



Jon Auer and Ken Stringfellow of The Posies visiting Cause & Effect in 2016
(hosted by Pop Goes the World's Enzo)

Written by: Christian Carter-Ross

LET'S STAY TOGETHER



Al Green, an undeniable pioneer of soul, harmonized a powerful reminder about recommitting to existing relationships with three simple words: Let's Stay Together. Much like the message in that 1972 hit, R&B has found itself in a position where its relationship to the airwaves needs to be rekindled. Radio, without overstating the obvious, has given a platform to many genres and subgenres across eras of music. Not all genres have the same resources to create lasting impacts that interlock generations of listeners. As a child, a product of the 90's, I remember being more excited about my time with the radio than the television. Between checking out the underground hip-hop they'd play in the late hours on 102 JAMZ or the quiet storm on 97.1 QMG, I understood that radio was the most accessible resource to connect the community. After the 90's, radio stations began to lose their identity (especially their regional identities) with acquisitions from conglomerates like iHeart Media and syndication. Why's this context important? The mission that kept us connected to a healthy rotation of music began to uproot. Niche stations available on SiriusXM were great placeholders but with an exclusive focus on top 40 hits on local stations, R&B's presence became less visible until the era of playlists. That's also due to the merging of Hip-hop and R&B charts in the mid 2000's. As you can see, this is a layered investigation, but the evidence couldn't be clearer if the consumer is paying attention.

The decline of R&B on the radio also shifted the demographics for about a decade, causing the genre to feel outdated until the second wind of Neo Soul artists like H.E.R, Lucky Daye, Alex Isley, SZA and Leon Thomas. Not only are these artists popular within the genre but they've mastered the art of crossover features with artists like Robert Glasper, multiplying their audience and their chances of charting in other genre spaces. While it doesn't guarantee radio rotation, it increases the odds of popular playlist placements which yields more cultural profit with today's listenership. Though seasoned listeners have complained that they're only introduced to new R&B artists through their kids or digging deep in playlists, neither avenue is as convenient as radio.

One could argue that the obvious solution to the decline could be to create more R&B stations, but that doesn't equate to retaining listeners. I believe the solution requires a bit more but remains very simple to carry out. If we want the demand to increase, we have to curate an experience that exists far outside the top 40. Sure, you reel the audience in with a familiar audio hug but more importantly, you remove the necessity of playlist digging from their weekly to-do list. The addition of rising talent in your rotation will cement your station's credibility as a premier source for the genre. Also, R&B is one of the few genres without a regional sound, leaving a lot of space for what the consumer can expect no matter where you're listening on the map. Our stations should operate with that in mind and queue everything from Soul to Contemporary in one sitting. I've recently started my own show here at WRIR titled "Soul II Soul" and this gumbo-esque structure of connecting various eras of R&B has garnered a lot of great feedback. Listeners have complimented our effort to cater to all appetites, so everyone feels engaged and anticipates future shows. We want our show to soothe the person getting through a late night shift, the couple enjoying a candle lit dinner and the kid with the old soul sitting next to the radio like I did during my childhood.

The legacy of R&B shouldn't be boxed into a few decades on late night radio, nor should program directors be forced to rotate the same 4 songs every hour during the day. This method feeds into the tired "R&B is dead" narrative on socials. Those agitators are misinformed and likely lack the resources to find good music. I've often discovered the loudest voices in that echo chamber confuse impact with content for the algorithm. We have an opportunity to redefine the impact of R&B's place on the radio but this will take a collective effort with a limited pool of resources. Let's maximize the opportunities at the local level when possible. Create shows that offer more than a top 10 countdown. Bringing a stylized approach, rather than a metric-based approach, will cultivate an authentic buzz and create a viable alternative to your region's major stakeholders. Melvin Lindsey started the Quiet Storm on Howard's campus as an intern nearly 50 years ago. There will be another moment in time when the record labels and media conglomerates will take notice of the pivot.

Make sure to check out Soul II Soul

Soul II Soul with Christian Carter-Ross (@ranesupreme) & Jaleelah Harris (@jaleelahh)

1st & 3rd Monday- 9:00 pm - 11:00 pm

Playing all the dope R&B you've complained about not hearing outside for two decades. A quiet storm reimagined; redefining the legacy of R&B on the radio. Spinning what you love, you've forgotten about, and introducing you to artists that should be on your radar. We've packed the five disc changer with everything from Soul to Contemporary, including R&B-leaning Hip-hop records. And be sure to send in your music! We want our tide to lift all boats. My hope is that you'll call in to dedicate a song to your boo or your boo will intuitively show up outside your window blasting Jodeci from a boombox. Either works for us.

BE IN THE KNOW!

EVENTS WRIR WILL BE AT

Tokyo Melody: A Japanese City Pop Dance Party
October 16, 8PM at LOSO

After a great run since January 2021, my show **Banji Kaicho** will be coming to an end this October. It's been an amazing journey sharing Japanese and Asian music on the Richmond airwaves, and I'm so grateful for all the support and kind words along the way.

To mark the finale, I'll be hosting one last event on Thursday night, 10/16 at LOSO—Tokyo Melody: A Japanese City Pop Dance Party—with WRIR's own Straw (Panoramic). Come celebrate with me and send off Banji Kaicho with a night to remember! You can still keep up with me on Instagram @banji_kaicho

Learn more:

<https://losorichmond.com/calendar/tokyo-melody-japanese-city-pop-dance-party-1>

VOLUNTEER NEWS

Stop The Madness Latino Show, Monday 5-7PM

On Stop The Madness Latino Show Monday's Giveaway 2 Tickets to El Gran Combo de Puerto Rico and Grupo Niche, 2 Amazing Salsa Bands (20 October / 03 November).

ARE YOU READY WIN TICKETS RVA?

1st Caller With The Phrase That Pays

El Gran Combo de Puerto Rico & Grupo Niche "Salsa Pa' Mundo Tour"

Salsa Madness Los Lunes

Follow The Madness
 StopTheMadnessLatinoShow.com
 stopthemandnesslatino@gmail.com

Madness Studio Hot-Line
 804-649-9737
 5pm-7pm

Stay Tuned In For More Information
www.wrir.org

SHOUT OUTS!



Congrats Mr. Jazz!



- WRIR won Style Weekly's 'Best of Richmond' categories for **Radio Station** and **Most Anticipated Moves Downtown!**
- Mr. Jazz, who recently retired from radio, won a snazzy achievement award, pictured above.
- Welcome Bo Brown as our new Board Treasurer! His mission is to improve their community through financial literacy and emotional intelligence. They currently are a Controller with the Richmond Flying Squirrels and held positions as an Investment Analyst and Senior Project Accountant at previous jobs. Might be an Indiana Pacers fan.
- Shoutout to Janet Lundy! You helped to make sure the HVAC was fixed, you held down the table at PrideFest, and you have been a great interim treasurer! (We also see you too Mark Guncheon with those finance skills)
- "I miss Harvey 'Soul' Hall, & the Knots Landing he loved." - Billy Gulley
- RIP D'Angelo. Richmond, VA legend and pioneer of Neo-Soul music.

NAME SOMETHING AT THE NEW STATION!

WITH YOUR GENEROUS DONATION YOU CAN LEAVE YOUR LEGACY. **DONATE NOW**
www.wrircampaign.org



GoFundMe

Urgent: Help WRIR-LP 97.3FM Richmond Relocate!

WRIR-LP 97.3FM, Richmond's volunteer-powered community radio for two decades, urgently needs your help to move from its decaying location. Our current century-old home has leaky roofs and inaccessible studios that are hindering our mission to amplify underrepresented voices. We are relocating to a new, ADA-accessible space in Shockoe Bottom, but we must complete the construction and move before our lease expires this year. We are facing a critical \$1,000,000 financial need to finalize the new home at 1806 E Main St. Your donation will fund a safe, inclusive space with new studios and a live performance area, securing WRIR's future for years to come.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/donate-to-wrirlp-973fms-urgent-relocation>

Learn more about our move to 1806 E Main St. in Shockoe Bottom and how your donations can even name items in the new studio!!

Please share our story with your friends and family who are looking for opportunities to give back to their community.

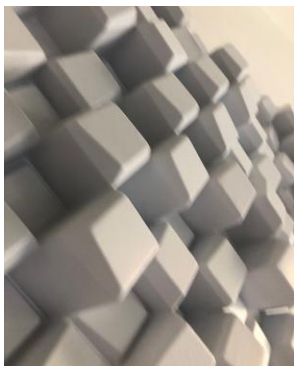
We appreciate you all!

www.wrircampaign.org/

Donate Now



View our NEW campaign video HERE!!



Updates from the new building!



THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS



Thank you for supporting community radio and local initiatives!

THE CAMEL

Support for WRIR 97.3FM comes from The Camel, Richmond's go-to destination for live music, great food, and a welcoming vibe. With 28 local and craft beers on tap and a menu available late into the night, it's your social oasis. Don't miss their brunch shows and packed calendar of performances featuring musicians from near and far. At The Camel, the mission is clear: to be a home for artists, a hub for RVA's music scene, and a safe, inclusive space for all.

[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 Ecosystem, 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 Engagement Committees.

[Learn More](#)



Next edition of "The Local Signal"
coming January 2026

DONATE ♥

www.wrircampaign.org



NORTH OF THE JAMES
"Truth and facts, no alternatives."