
Fiscal Year 2024

IMPACT REPORT

On July 8, WNYC celebrated 100 years of service to the New York region and beyond. Over the last century, WNYC has grown from a small, city-owned municipal radio station into New York Public Radio (NYPR)—an essential nonprofit media organization anchoring the civic life of the region and powering the national conversation. We’re a leading producer of fact-based news and information, a convening place for frank and inclusive dialogue, and a champion of classical music and the arts. Whether you choose to support WNYC, WQXR, Gothamist, The Greene Space, WNYC Studios, or all of NYPR—you’re helping us fulfill our mission to make the mind more curious, the heart more open and the spirit more joyful through excellent audio programming that is deeply rooted in New York.

Your contribution has a profound impact on the lives of millions of people, and we’re pleased to share highlights of what you’ve helped make possible over the past fiscal year. On behalf of the board and staff of New York Public Radio, thank you for keeping us strong as we step forward into the next 100 years.

Awards and Accolades

MIRROR AWARDS

- *On the Media*, “[The Fog of War Shrouds a Devastating Conflict](#),” **Brooke Gladstone** [Special Topic: Best Story on Media Coverage of the Israeli-Hamas Conflict]

MEDIA AWARD – New York Food Policy Center

- Gothamist [Food Reporting]

EDUCATION WRITERS ASSOCIATION AWARDS

- WNYC/Gothamist, “[An NYC Student’s Yearslong Struggle to Get Proper Instruction for Dyslexia](#),” **Ave Carrillo, Christopher Werth, Stephen Rex Brown, Clayton Guse, Jessica Gould, Gina Vosti** [Podcast]

EDWARD R. MURROW REGIONAL AWARDS – Radio and Television Digital News Association

- NYC NOW, “[Imminent Danger: One Doctor and a Trail of Injured Women](#),” **Karen Shakerdge, Christopher Werth, Ave Carrillo, Jared Paul, Ethan Corey** [Best Podcast – Large Market]
- *The New Yorker Radio Hour*, “[Radio Ukraine](#)” [Feature Reporting]

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION SILVER GAVEL AWARDS

- *On the Media/ProPublica*, “[We Don’t Talk About Leonard](#),” [Honorable Mention]

NEW YORK PRESS CLUB AWARDS

- NYC NOW, “[Imminent Danger: One Doctor and a Trail of Injured Women](#),” **Karen Shakerdge, Christopher Werth, Ave Carrillo, Jared Paul, Ethan Corey** [Podcast – NYC Metro, Scripted]

THE WEBBY AWARDS

- *Radiolab* [Podcast – Science & Education, People’s Voice winner]
- *Every Voice with Terrance McKnight* [Podcast honoree – Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion]

NEW YORK FESTIVALS RADIO AWARD

- *Embrace Everything – The World of Gustav Mahler*, **Aaron Cohen** [Gold Award]
- *Embrace Everything – The World of Gustav Mahler, Mahler & the Maestro*, **Aaron Cohen** [Silver Award]

FRONT PAGE AWARDS – The Newswomen’s Club Of New York

- *On the Media*, “[The Divided Dial](#),” **Katya Rogers, Katie Thornton, Jennifer Munson** [Investigative Reporting]

BLACK PODCASTING AWARDS

- *Every Voice with Terrance McKnight* [Best Music Podcast]
- *Every Voice with Terrance McKnight* [Best Arts Podcast]

Breaking News

- WNYC’s **Caroline Lewis** investigated a longstanding dispute between Mount Sinai and UnitedHealthcare, which disrupted coverage for thousands of patients. Her reporting provided tangible instructions for residents who may be eligible for Mount Sinai’s financial assistance program. Just six days after her report, Gothamist broke news that an agreement had been reached.
- **WNYC was a regional leader in coverage of the April 5 earthquake** that shook the metro area. **Brian Lehrer** was on-air as the quake hit, pivoting to special coverage that extended to four hours, and which was regularly cited across social media and other outlets. The newsroom published a breaking news email before all major national and local outlets, and continued to publish stories in the following days, including a detailed explainer and accountability journalism on why it took nearly an hour to send cell phone alerts to New York City residents.
- Other major stories Gothamist broke over the past fiscal year include:
 - A unique \$75,000 settlement, paid by The Administration for Children’s Services (ACS) to **Chanetto Rivers**, a Black woman who accused ACS of racial discrimination for pursuing her on marijuana charges after it was made legal.
 - **Mayor Adams’** decision to suspend NYC’s right to shelter rules in a legal application that would affect all New Yorkers in need of housing—not just newly-arrived migrants.
 - The MTA’s new congestion pricing plan, which was approved one week later. The plan introduces a baseline \$15 charge for most drivers entering Manhattan below 60th street.

WNYC and Gothamist

- **NYC Now**, WNYC’s new local news podcast, launched “Imminent Danger,” a five-part investigation into **Thomas J. Byrne**, an OB/GYN who, despite repeated accusations of negligence and incompetence, is still practicing medicine today. The powerful series extended the reach of NYC Now dramatically, as the podcast’s most-downloaded episodes to date.
- Education reporter **Jessica Gould** produced a seven month-long investigation into how the New York school system works against students with dyslexia: from outdated teaching methods to circuitous and pricey legal requirements. This project was the first long-form feature to be released on NYC Now.
- WNYC investigated more than 700 lawsuits filed under the Adult Survivors Act, pointing to a pattern of institutionalized sexual abuse at Rikers Island and other city jails, and spurring immediate action. Within 24 hours of publication, state legislators promised new legislation and city leaders vowed to hold investigations. Other media pressed the mayor to account for our findings at a press conference the next day, and the Bronx DA stated publicly that the investigation drove her to launch a new team of prosecutors to review our findings. Most recently, council members demanded the city cut the number of women inmates.
- Gothamist was the first outlet to publish in-depth coverage of the ongoing attempts of municipal leaders in Millburn, New Jersey to skirt court orders to build an affordable housing complex, despite state law requiring all New Jersey communities to provide construction opportunities for its “fair share” of affordable housing.
- WNYC established a new early-career reporting fellowship on the Community Partnerships desk, as part of our commitment to fostering the next generation of public media journalists. Our first Fellow, Brooklyn College alum **Jodi Malarbe**, has produced a powerful body of work, including a piece on Black-owned bookstores and an innovative new project called Suds and Civics, turning laundromats across the region into hubs for civic dialogue during election season.

- In July 2023, reporter **David Brand** exposed a loophole in New York state law that has allowed insurance companies to refuse coverage to tenants with subsidized housing. Two days after the report, three lawmakers vowed to introduce legislation banning the discriminatory practice. In April 2024, measures were approved that will reduce inequity in the state’s housing market, eliminating unnecessary additional insurance costs for low-income residents.
- In FY24, WNYC partnered with several New Jersey civic organizations to present two live events hosted by WNYC’s **Michael Hill**: “The State of Segregation” at the Newark Public Library, a necessary discussion about school segregation in New Jersey and what can be done to combat it; and “Vote Your Values,” a sold-out debate among the NJ Democratic contenders for U.S. Senate, broadcast on WNYC, WHYY, and WBGO.
- On June 17, 2024, the New Jersey state attorney general announced an indictment of **George Norcross**, for “extorting others through threats and fear of economic and reputational harm.” This indictment was significantly advanced by the long-term accountability reporting of reporters **Nancy Solomon**, **Matt Katz**, and the broader newsroom, with the findings specifically citing Nancy Solomon’s groundbreaking investigative podcast Dead End.



Podcasts: WNYC Studios



- After the October 7, 2023 Hamas attack, *On the Media* parsed through disinformation, reported on threats to journalists on the ground in Gaza and Israel, and explored signs of potential future geopolitical conflict. An infographic accompanying the episode was shared widely—including by U.S. House Representative **Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez**—as a guide to help news consumers cut through the noise of unverified information, sketchy sourcing, and misleading representations as war-related photographs, videos, screenshots, and news stories flooded the Internet.
- The first season of *Terrestrials*, *Radiolab*’s special series created specifically for young audiences, is now available on **PBS Learning Media**. Produced with our partners at WNET, this collaboration features new episode-specific instruction tips, discussion questions, and activities for teachers. The creation of this new resource on such a trusted and widely-used public platform allows us to connect with even more children and educators, meeting audiences where they are, both in- and outside of the traditional podcast space. Building on this success, a second season of *Terrestrials* is slated to launch in September.
- WNYC Studios’ critically acclaimed podcast *Blindspot* launched Season 3: The Plague in the Shadows. Hosted by **Kai Wright**, this season explores the early years of the HIV epidemic in New York City, when the virus tore through some of our most vulnerable communities while the wider world looked away. Each episode features testimonials from New Yorkers who changed the narrative about AIDS by demanding that they, and their illness, be seen.
- “We Don’t Talk About Leonard,” a special *On the Media* series in partnership with ProPublica about the influence of far-right activist **Leonard Leo** on the American judiciary, earned an Honorable Mention for the Silver Gavel Award for Media and the Arts—the American Bar Association’s highest honor “recogniz[ing] outstanding work that fosters the American public’s understanding of law and the legal system.” The project was also a finalist for the 2023 IRE Award in Audio, honoring the best watchdog journalism of the year.
- *Radiolab* made history with its recent episode about a strange object orbiting Venus. After co-host **Latif Nasser**’s captivating reporting and the team’s persistence, the International Astronomical Union (IAU) officially named the quasi-moon Zookve, after the title of the episode, and included *Radiolab* on NASA’s “Venus Facts” page. *Radiolab* then secured a partnership with the IAU to allow our listeners to name a quasi-moon of Earth. This unique investigation shows the powerful impact of *Radiolab* in facilitating engagement with the sciences, and the passionate engagement of the show’s global community.

WQXR

- WQXR hosted two Classical Kids Fairs this fiscal year: on October 8, 2023, at the Queens Theater and June 2, 2024, at the Brooklyn Children’s Museum. The fairs welcomed more than 2,700 people, engaging kids and families with free live performances, an “instrument petting zoo,” arts and crafts, and dance and songwriting workshops.
- WQXR is committed to amplifying the work of emerging musicians. Since 1978, WQXR’s weekly radio show *Young Artists Showcase* has sought out and displayed the talents of young artists, including international competition winners and standouts from New York’s prestigious music schools. And, WQXR has supported a total of 17 emerging and mid-career artists through the [Artist Propulsion Lab](#), through which artists have created innovative, multi-media work, such as a new [radio play](#) by **Zlatomir Fung**—and have gone on to receive recognition such as the Avery Fisher Career Grant Award, Third Coast Audio Award, and other accolades.
- Over the past year, WQXR produced brand-new seasons of three beloved podcasts: *Aria Code*, our partnership with The Metropolitan Opera that gives listeners new insight on some of the most famous arias in opera history; *The Open Ears Project*, featuring actors, authors, and musicians speaking about their favorite classical music; and *Helga*, produced in partnership with the Brown Arts Institute, inspiring listeners with soulful conversations between host **Helga Davis** and twelve artists and thinkers about resilience, creativity, hope, and struggle.
- In May 2024, WQXR and Carnegie Hall released *If This Hall Could Talk*, exploring the history of American music through the history of the venerated and eccentric concert hall. This project continues WQXR’s strategic aim of producing shows in partnership with the city’s cultural institutions, engaging both new audiences and devoted listeners while championing the classical community.

The Jerome L. Greene Performance Space

- Artist In Residence **Kia LaBeija** mounted a [photography exhibit](#) as a companion project to **Blindspot Season 3: *The Plague in the Shadows***, featuring portraits from the series. LaBeija’s residency included multiple evenings of performance, conversation, and celebration—including a reading of *I, of Course, Was Livid*, a documentary theater work based on an historic 1992 CDC hearing that included women in the clinical definitions of AIDS, with **Elizabeth Koke** and **Theodore (Ted) Kerr**.
- For years, *Morning Edition* has featured listener-submitted poems during National Poetry Month. This April, after drawing over 500 listener submissions, host **Michael Hill** welcomed [seven local poets](#) who have contributed over the years to perform their work in front of a live audience in The Greene Space. The evening’s success spoke to the strength of NYPR’s multimedia approach and cross-platform collaboration, as well as the impact of cultural programming rooted in community engagement.
- In May 2024, **WNYC partnered with BBC Newshour** to host a [live conversation on immigration](#) and the migrant experience. WNYC reporter **Arun Venugopal** spoke with BBC Newshour host **Nuala McGovern** and BBC Assistant Editor **Heba Ayoub**—going behind the scenes of BBC Newshour’s coverage, and taking audience questions about the situation in NYC and globally.
- In June 2024, The Greene Space presented “Radiolab LIVE: How to Save a Life,” hosted by co-host **Latif Nasser**. Featuring testimony from ER doctor and Radiolab contributor **Avir Mitra**, survivors and saviors of cardiac arrest, and live CPR demonstrations from the American Red Cross, the event delved into the [science of cardiac arrest](#) and gave audiences concrete knowledge that could help them save lives and make a difference.