
Fall FY24

IMPACT REPORT

WNYC and Newsroom Programming

- Reporter **David Brand** investigated insurance companies that refuse to cover rental buildings with low-income New Yorkers who use vouchers to pay rent. Just two days after the piece was published, three New York lawmakers stated intent to introduce legislation banning the practice.
- WNYC has remained a leading voice in the conversation about short-term rentals in New York City. **David Brand** and **Jaelyn Jeffrey-Wilensky** reported on the influence of Airbnb listings on gentrification in Bed-Stuy, as well as the new government approval process for online listings.
- 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 series to date.
- **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a seven month-long investigation into how the New York school system works against students with dyslexia: from outdated teaching methods to circuitous and pricey legal requirements.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 partnered with NJ Spotlight News, Chalkbeat Newark, and the Center for Cooperative Media to present "The State of Segregation" at the Newark Public Library, with WNYC's **Michael Hill** leading a necessary discussion about school segregation in New Jersey and what can be done to combat it. The event was a unique opportunity for parents, students, journalists, and experts to come together to inform media coverage (and potentially public policy) around the issue.
- WNYC and NJPR provided critical information on elections in both New York and New Jersey. On November 7, **Brian Lehrer** hosted a special Election Night 2023 program, featuring an hour of discussion and listener calls about the region's swing districts, school boards, councils, and legislatures, and how the results might shape next year's elections. **Nancy Solomon** also reported on the effects of battles over trans students' rights on New Jersey Democrat races.

Breaking News

- Gothamist broke the news of 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.
- WNYC’s **Liz Kim** broke the news of **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.
- Gothamist was the first to report on 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 Studios

- The New Yorker Radio Hour earned a **National Edward R. Murrow Award** for Radio Ukraine, its 2022 episode on a Ukrainian music radio station that switched up its programming to become “the station of national resistance” after the Russian invasion.
- 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 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.
- After hearing from mental health providers that they were using episodes of *Death, Sex and Money* in their practice, the DSM team put together a Therapist Toolkit with interviews, stories, and additional resources for providers to use in conversations with clients.
- The New York Times named WNYC Studios’ fourth season of *More Perfect* one of the best podcasts of the year. It was one of only two public media productions on the list.

WQXR

- WQXR’s first season of *Every Voice with Terrance McKnight*, spotlighting Black voices in the history of American opera, won two categories in the Black Podcasting Awards: **Best Music Podcast** and **Best Arts Podcast**.
- On October 8, 2023, WQXR welcomed more than 1,700 people to the Queens Theater for our largest Classical Kids Fair to date—engaging kids and families with free live performances, an instrument petting zoo, arts and crafts, and dance and songwriting workshops.
- For WQXR’s annual holiday tradition, the **Classical Countdown**, the station represented the tastes of New Yorkers on-air. In total, we received submissions from 1,553 listeners who requested 7,266 of their favorite pieces. Once again, Beethoven’s 9th symphony reigned supreme!
- Over the past three years, WQXR has supported 17 of classical music’s brightest emerging artists through the Artist Propulsion Lab. APL artists create innovative multi-media work—such as the new radio play by cellist **Zlatomir Fung**—and have gone on to receive the industry’s top honors, including the Avery Fisher Career Grant Award, Third Coast Audio Award, and other recognition.

The Jerome L. Greene Space

- As part of Climate Week NYC, The Greene Space hosted two events that not only explored current crises and solutions, but imagined the roadmap to a better future. “Afterglow” welcomed writers, researchers, and artists to explore a hopeful climate future through the lens of cutting-edge literary moments, while “Adapting to the New Age of Wildfire” featured a science-based conversation about predictive fire ecology presented by the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies.
- WNYC’s Community Partnerships & Training desk teamed up with The Greene Space to host an evening of storytelling and recipe-sharing. Community members shared family recipes and stories about food, and the evening featured a panel discussion on the experiences of immigrant food entrepreneurs in NYC.
- The Greene Space welcomed Fall 2023 Artist in Residence **The Mash-Up Americans**, a media organization and boutique creative studio founded by podcast hosts **Amy S. Choi** and **Rebecca Lehrer**. Authors, entrepreneurs, and even an astrologist joined Amy and Rebecca as special guests for three lively, community-centered events, focused on the future of the great melting pot that is America, and the meaning of cross-cultural identity.