

= WBCM @-@ LP =

WBCM @-@ LP is a classic country , bluegrass , and Americana @-@ formatted broadcast radio station . Licensed to Bristol , Virginia , the station serves the twin cities of Bristol in Virginia and in Tennessee . The Birthplace of Country Music owns and operates WBCM @-@ LP .

The station , a working exhibit inside of the museum , went on the air for the first time in August 2015 . The planning for the station dates back to late 2013 . Programming includes live concerts held at the museum and the revival of " Farm and Fun Time " . The latter program , a live and local radio music show , aired on Bristol 's WCYB from the 1940s to the 1960s .

= = History = =

= = = Construction = = =

The Birthplace of Country Music applied for a construction permit to start a new low @-@ power radio station , as part of the FCC 's October 18 , 2013 , LPFM filing window . The application was granted and the construction permit issued on March 13 , 2014 . The station was to originally launch on 103 @.@ 5 FM .

The company proposed , in its original application , that the station would " produce content that looks back at recording and radio technologies ' impact on the world " along with " early country music , and current trends in roots and traditional music " . It was also proposed that the station would " broadcast archival recordings of a variety of influential sources " . The station would broadcast from inside The Birthplace of Country Music museum , located in Bristol , Virginia . Using vintage restored broadcasting equipment , the station would be a working exhibit inside the museum . The station 's antenna would be placed on the WOPI tower , located on Delaney Street in Bristol , Virginia .

On April 14 , 2014 , the station received its call sign , WBCM @-@ LP . The museum opened to the public on August 2 , 2014 . In March 2015 , Tony Lawson , founder of Knoxville , Tennessee , radio station WDVX , was hired by the museum as station manager . He was tasked to " create a radio station and media center for the museum " . Lawson had been consulting with The Birthplace of Country Music prior to being hired .

The Birthplace of Country Music received an email on May 27 , 2015 , voicing concern about WBCM @-@ LP 's potential interference with full @-@ power station WIMZ @-@ FM . WIMZ @-@ FM , licensed to Knoxville , Tennessee , also broadcasting on 103 @.@ 5 FM , can be heard in the Bristol area . The Birthplace of Country Music requested a new frequency for WBCM @-@ LP , on June 10 , 2015 , out " of an overabundance of caution and to eliminate potential interference " to WIMZ @-@ FM . On June 18 , 2015 , the frequency of the station was changed from 103 @.@ 5 to 100 @.@ 1 FM .

= = = Launch = = =

WBCM @-@ LP began operations , with " program testing " , on August 8 , 2015 . Six days later , the station was issued a License to Cover , allowing it to begin official operations . The official launch of the station took place at 4 : 00pm on August 27 , 2015 . A " launch event " , held at The Birthplace of Country Music museum , included studio tours , a live concert broadcast on WBCM @-@ LP , and a reception . Two online music streams and a mobile app , as well as the station 's livestream , were also launched on the same day .

The museum plans to include the broadcast of numerous live concerts in the future .

= = Programming and Reception = =

In addition to live concerts , WBCM @-@ LP will air a revival of the Radio program " Farm and Fun

Time " . " Farm and Fun Time " aired on WCYB Radio ( now WZAP ) during the 1940s through the 1960s . Each edition of the program is broadcast live from The Birthplace of Country Music museum

While focused on serving Bristol in Virginia and in Tennessee , the signal of WBCM @-@ LP can be heard up to 30 miles away .