

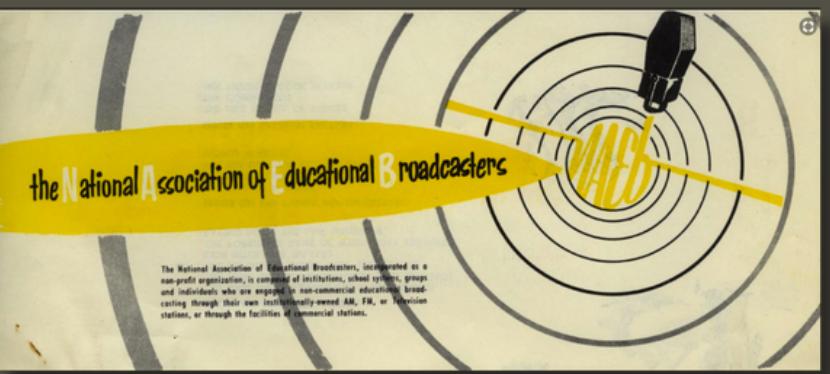
Linking Radio Networks: The *Broadcasting A/V Data* Project

ARSC 2023

Stephanie Sapienza & Emily Frazier
Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (MITH)
University of Maryland



Prologue: Unlocking the Airwaves



NAEB Papers
(Wisconsin)

NAEB Audio
(Maryland)

VIRTUAL REUNIFICATION

Airwaves Website

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Airwaves Website. At the top is a navigation bar with links for HOME, ABOUT, EXPLORE THE ARCHIVE, EXHIBITS, VISUALIZATIONS, and SEARCH. Below the navigation is a section titled "All Programs / Seeds of discontent" which includes a thumbnail of a documentary program and a brief description. A list of "Available Episodes" is provided with titles like "Program 26 of 26" and "Program 25 of 26". To the right is a "Related Documents" section with links to historical documents. At the bottom is an "Interactive Timeline" visualization titled "A History of Early Public Broadcasting (1922 - 1967)".

TRY ME!



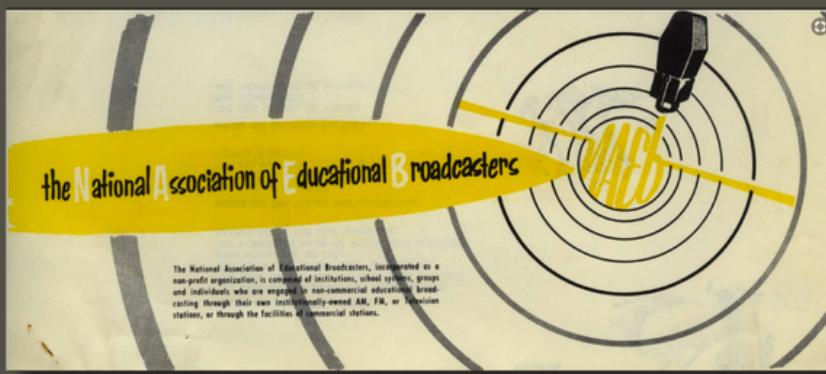
Collections linked by:

- Subjects/Themes
- Entities (People/Organizations)
- Radio Series
- Full Indexed Search (OCR/Transcripts)

Also features:

- Exhibits
- Visualizations (Timeline, Map, Educational Content Tree)

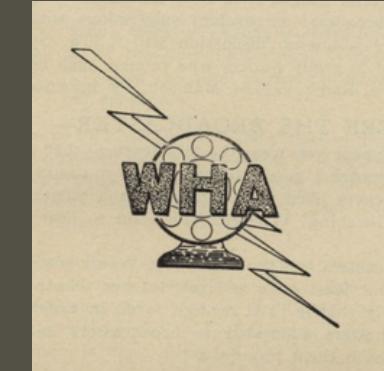
Now: Broadcasting Audiovisual Data



+



+



+



VIRTUAL REUNIFICATION LINKED DATA

BA/VD Website



The screenshot displays a network visualization of entities. Nodes are represented by colored circles (blue, orange, green) connected by lines. Labels include 'NAEB', 'NFCB', 'WHA', 'KUOM', and 'WLB'. Below the graph is a search interface with a dropdown menu for selecting entities from the list: NAEB, NFCB, WHA, KUOM, and SINGLE COLLECTION ONLY. A search bar at the top allows for searching by entity name, with a dropdown menu showing letters A through Z. A list of entities is provided, such as 'Abbott, Waldo' (NAEB) and 'Abernathy, Ralph David' (NAEB).

Collections linked by:

- Entities (People/Organizations)
- Browse/Limited Search (Wikipedia blurbs)

Also features:

- Exhibits
- Linked Data Tutorials/Documentation
- Network Visualization

Networks, Linked Data, & Research Questions

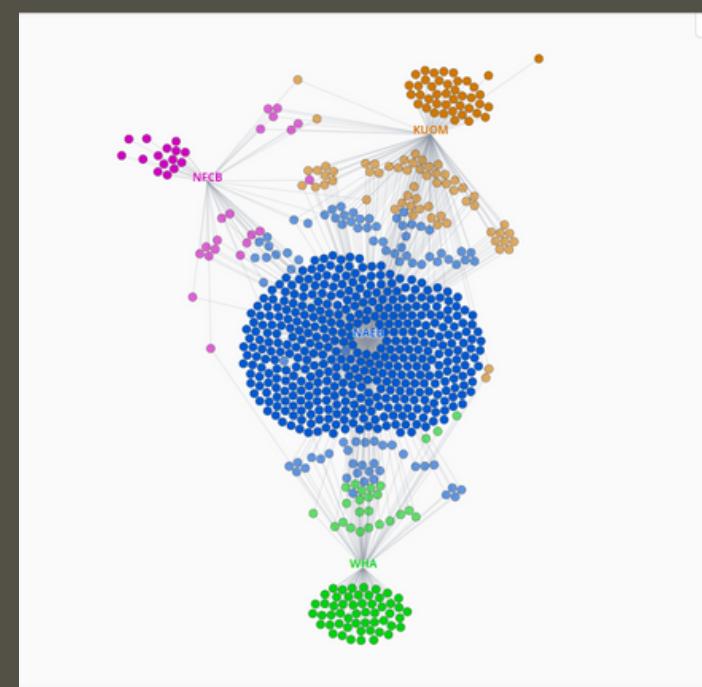
entity (noun): The corporate bodies, persons, or families associated in some way with the creation, accumulation, maintenance, and/or use of archival materials (Society of American Archivists. *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*. Chicago: Society of American Archivists, 2004).

Question #1: How can the digital humanities encourage the use of audiovisual collections as primary historical records, both in and outside of higher education?

Question #2: How does it change the research experience for users to access radio collections through a network-centric lens, as opposed to a content-centric lens? How does it change our collective understanding of this time period in radio, in U.S. history, and U.S. culture?

NETWORKS: The interconnected web of entities (people and organizations) who either made radio programs, or are represented IN those radio programs.

Right: BA/VD Network Visualization



Networks, Linked Data, & Research Questions

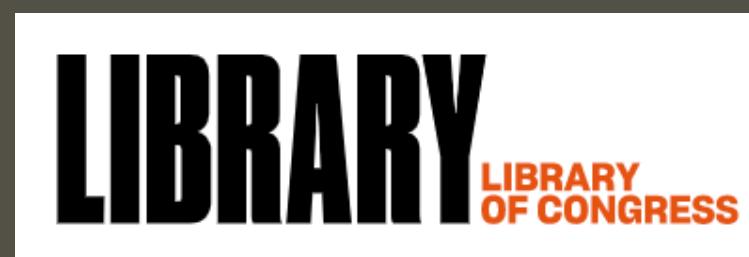
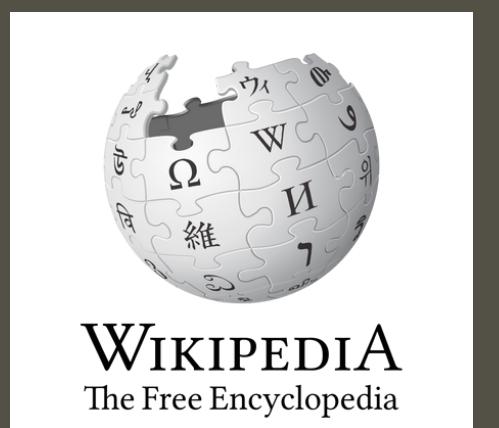
Question #3: How does linked data help better contextualize radio collections by connecting them to the vast array of resources on the world wide web?



Above: Graphic courtesy of Stanford Linked Data Workshop

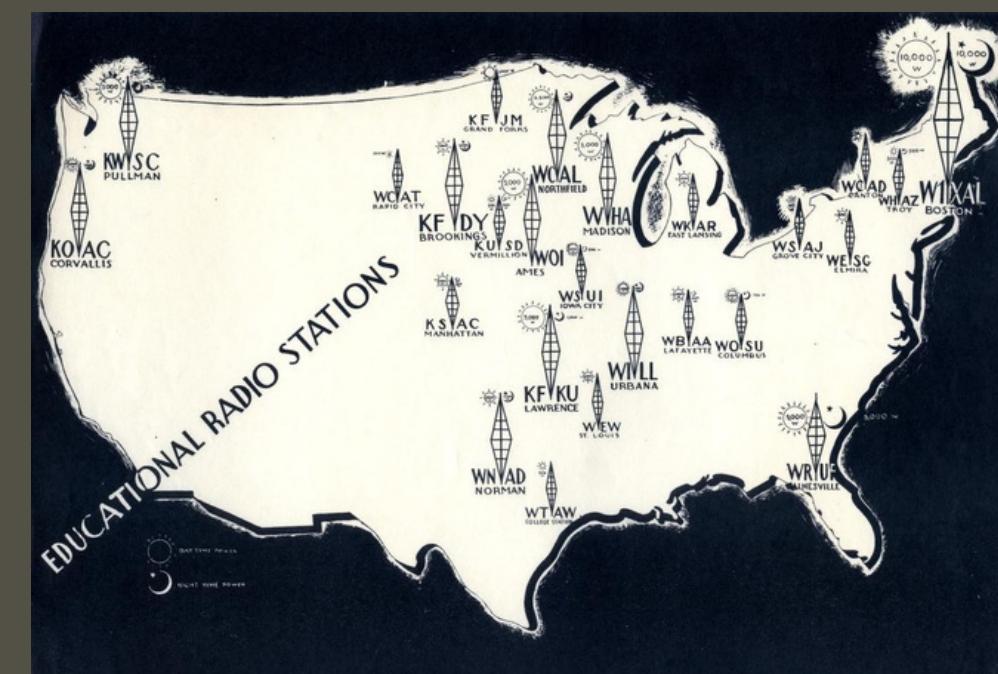
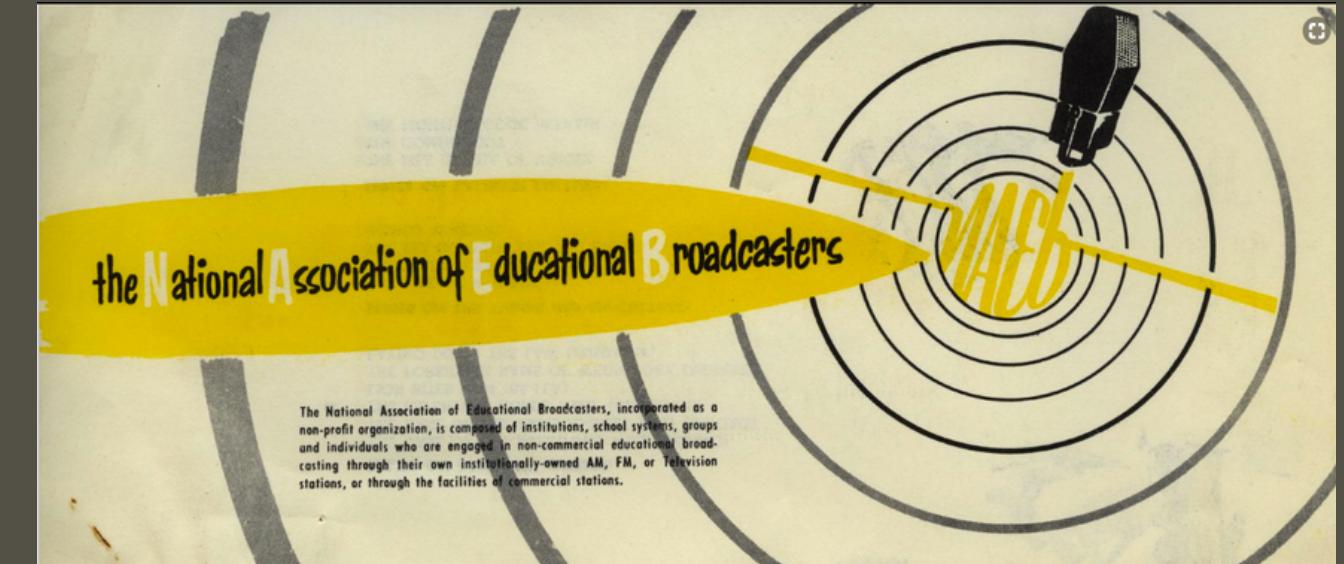
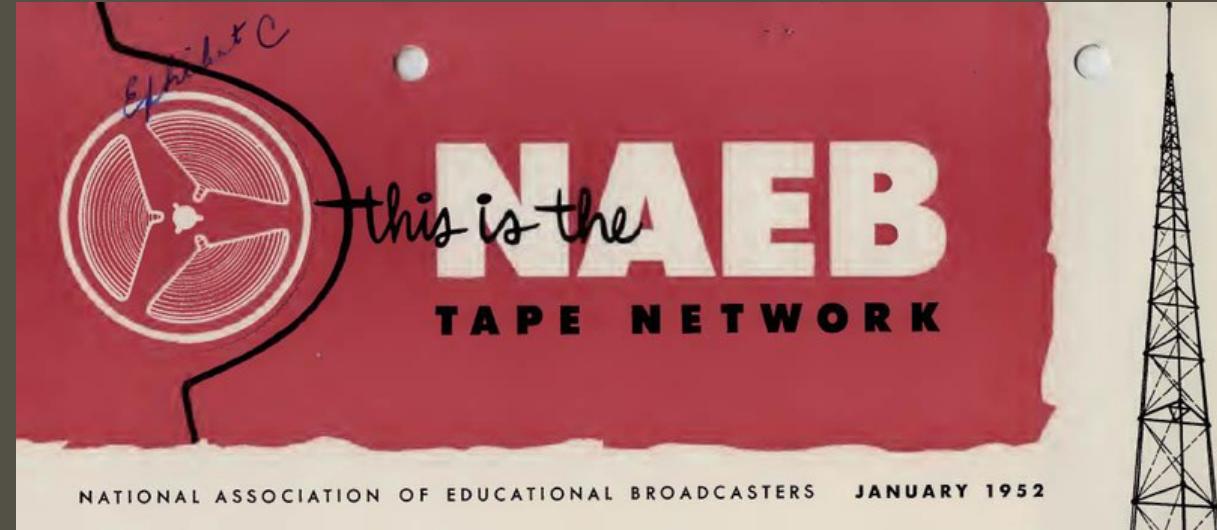
LINKED DATA: Leverages existing information on the internet. Connects collections to more contextual information by linking them to other resources exploring the same topics, or the same entities (people and organizations).

This screenshot shows a search result for "Entity | Robert Frost". At the top, there's a logo of a radio tower with the text "Broadcasting A/V Data". To the right, a box states: "Using linked data and archival authority records to enhance discoverability for broadcasting collections." The main content area displays a portrait of Robert Frost and a detailed biography. Below the bio, there's a section for "Appears in:" which lists various sources like "University of Minnesota (WLB/KUOM)", "National Association of Educational Broadcasters (NAEB)", and "National Federation of Community Broadcasters (NFCB)".



What's in these collections?

National Association of Educational Broadcasters (NAEB)



- Scope: ~ 5,000 radio programs (384 series); 700 digitized folders
 - Time Period: ~1950 - 1970
 - Major Themes: U.S. History; Cold War; Labor Issues; Education History; Labor Issues; Vietnam War; The Space Race
 - Examples (Program Titles): America On Stage, Evolution of Jazz, Portrait of the American, Seeds of Discontent, Indian Country, Teach-In on Vietnam

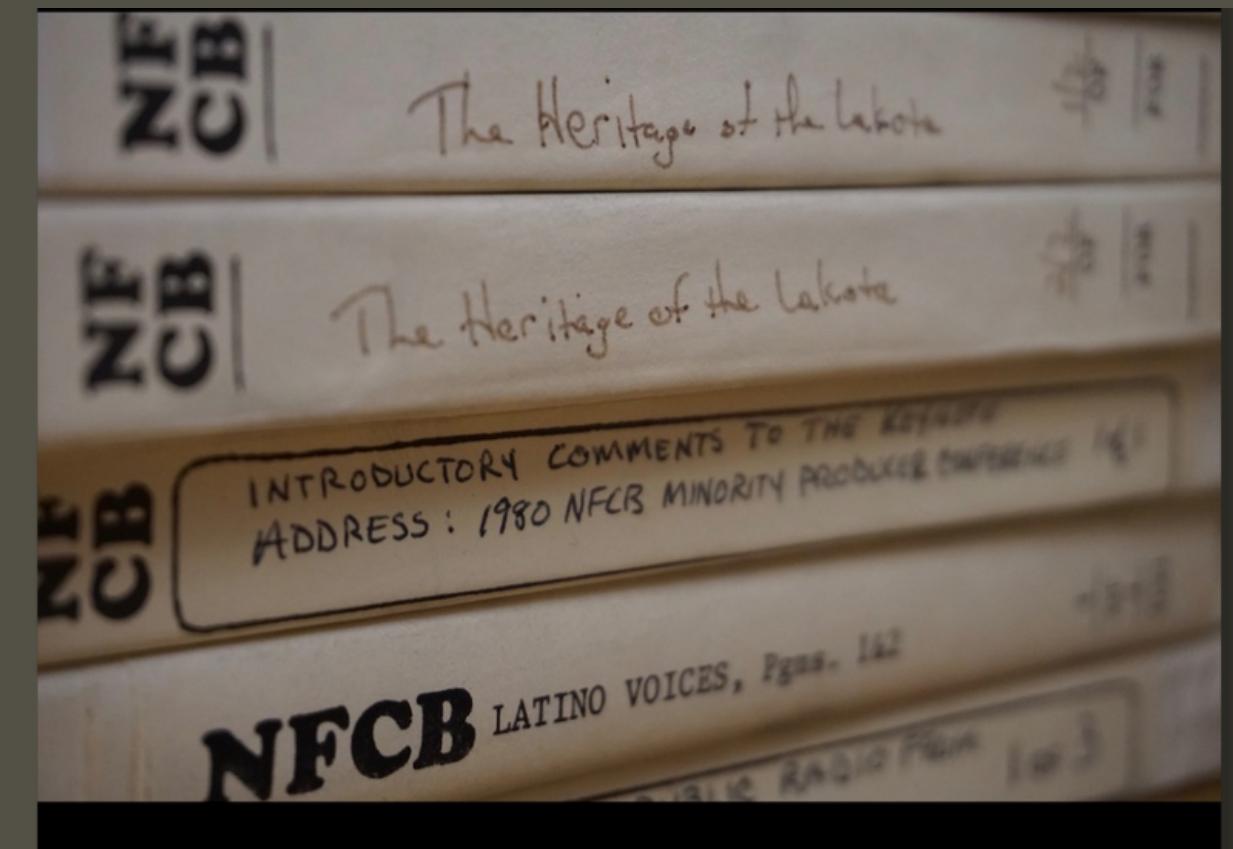
What's in these collections?

National Federation of Community Broadcasters (NFCB)

Recipient of a 2017 CLIR Recordings at Risk digitization grant: "Preserving the Programming Archives of the National Federation of Community Broadcasters. National Public Broadcasting Archives at the University of Maryland"



- Scope: ~ 600 radio programs
- Time Period: 1964 - 1984
- Major Themes: music cultures throughout the world, U.S. social and cultural issues, feminist and African-American voices & perspectives
- Examples (Program Titles): Mabel Vernon: Suffragist; Classic Blues; Kahn-Tineta Horn of Mohawk Nation; Auburn Avenue and Atlanta Black Commerce; Nikki Giovanni on Education



Images courtesy of University of Maryland Libraries (Laura Schnitker)

What's in these collections?

WHA (Wisconsin Public Radio)

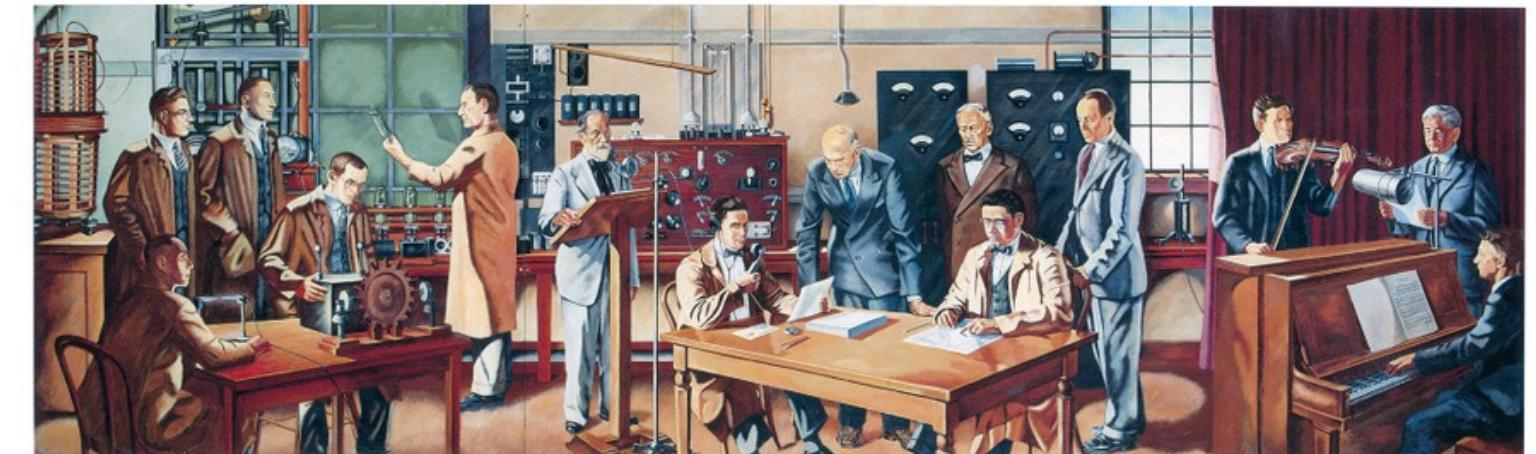
Recipient of a 2017 CLIR Recordings at Risk digitization grant: "Preserving Rural and Women's Programming on Wisconsin Public Radio (WHA), 1920-1950"



- Scope: ~ 5,400 radio programs (250 digitized)
- Time Period: 1920 - 1950
- Major Themes: educational content for farmers, home economics, 4-H programs, and Wisconsin folklore
- Examples (Program Titles): 4-H Songs; Homemakers Program; Farm Program; Abe Lincoln Slept Here



Wisconsin Public Radio—Where Broadcast Radio Began



This mural in the lobby of "Old Radio Hall" on the University of Wisconsin campus depicts early developments in the history of 9XM/WHA-AM. It has been operating continuously since 1917 making it the "oldest station in the nation" with an unbroken history of providing public radio programming services.

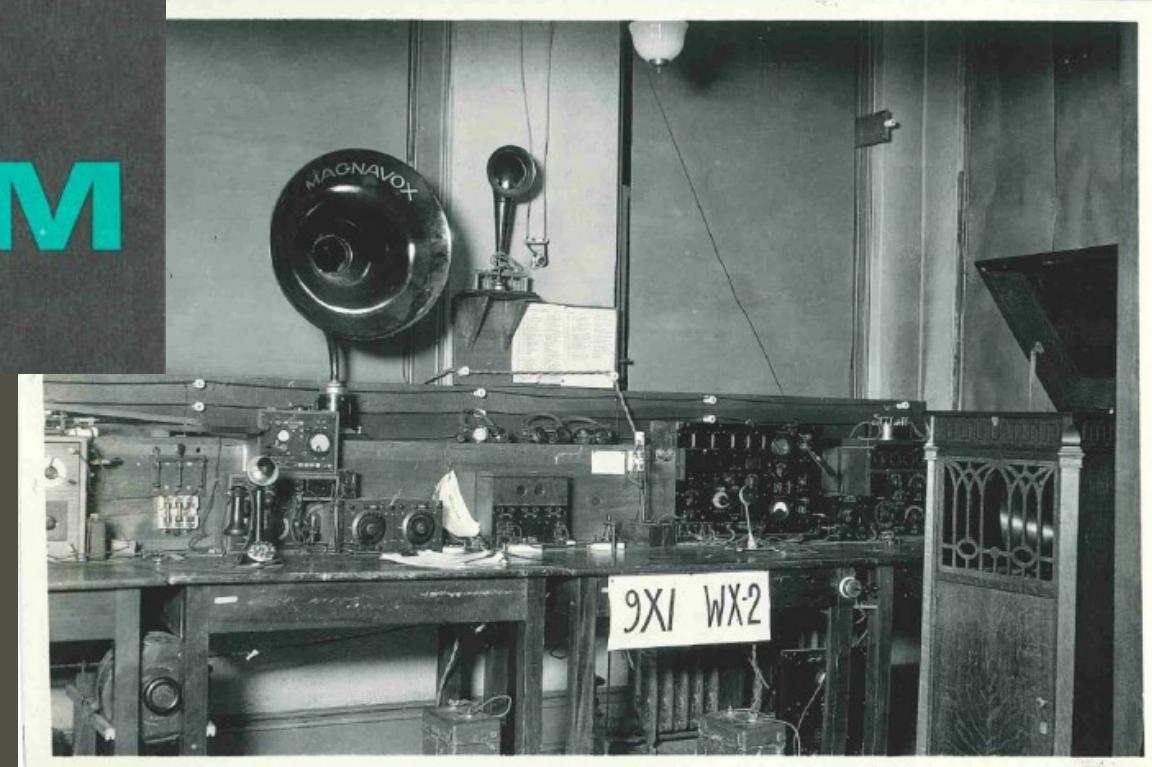
Images courtesy of UW-Madison Libraries and Wisconsin Public Radio



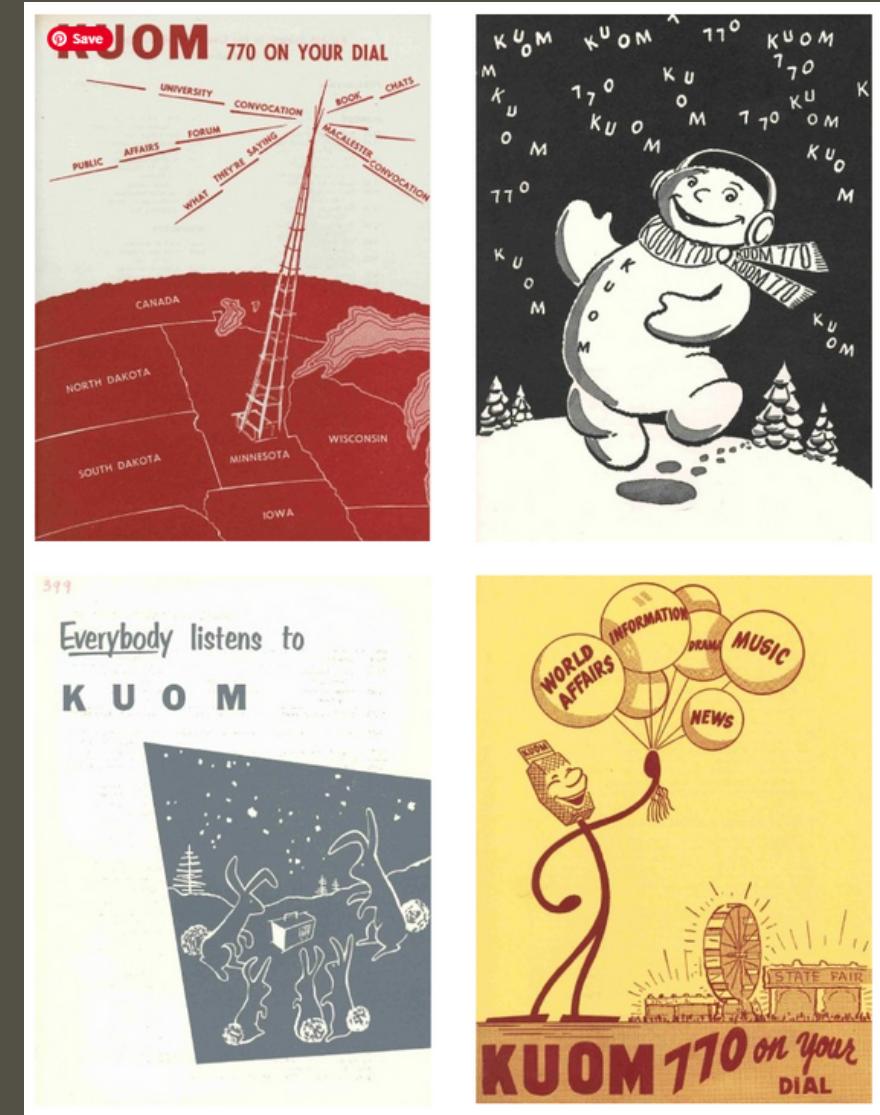
What's in these collections?

Station WLB/KUOM

Recipient of a CLIR Recordings at Risk digitization grant: "University Radio at Risk: Digital Preservation Reformatting of Educational Radio"



- Scope: ~ 4,600 radio programs
- Time Period: 1920 - 1950
- Major Themes: educational information, political conversations, public affairs topics, and social issues
- Examples (Program Titles): Twin Cities School Problems; Masters of the Mesabi; Winifred Witch and the Ungrateful Grace; Songs of the Revolution; Secrets of the Water World



Images courtesy of University of Minnesota Libraries



 SCAN ME

Check us out!
bavd.unlockingtheairwaves.org

THANK YOU!

Stephanie Sapienza
sapienza@umd.edu

Emily Frazier
emilyfi@umd.edu