

FAINT EARTH MURMUR



RADIO CONTACT PROGRAM GUIDE

How to use this Guide...

Tune the radio dial to one of the six station numbers. Your chosen station will then play a random sampling from the large selection of clips listed in this guide.

Hearts & Minds 98

POLITICS AND PROPAGANDA

The power of the mass media in the form of radio broadcasting to sway minds, for good and ill.

Content warning: listener discretion is advised.

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Up to the Minute

NEWS AND INTERVIEWS

On-the-spot live news at historic events, interviews with newsmakers, and everyday news and documentary reporting.

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THE UNDERGROUND

Everything from low-power community radio to high-powered “border blasters,” these stations defied authority in giving voice to the voiceless.





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Inform, Educate, Entertain

ENTERTAINMENT AND EDUCATION

Radio plays, dramas, comedy programs, programs for specific demographics, and the modern heirs to this programming.

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The Sporting Life

SPORTS AND COMPETITION

Live play-by-play from famous sports events, sports interviews, and sports programming.

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Your Hit Parade

POPULAR AND OBSCURE MUSIC

Songs and live music programs from the Golden Age of Radio and latter-day songs about radio, from big band to hip hop.

Left of the Dial - 54

THE UNDERGROUND

From the very beginnings of broadcast radio in the 1920s, power was concentrated in the hands of a very few broadcasters, either commercial (in the United States) or public/government-operated (in much of the rest of the world). Few opportunities existed for smaller broadcasters to have their voices heard above the din, and few of these recordings survive today. Whether high-powered “border blasters” based in Mexico, pirate radio operating at sea outside of governmental reach, or marginalized minorities broadcasting on ultra-low-power stations, radio in the hands of those without a traditional network has existed as long as broadcast radio.

1920's – 1930's

Cowboy Slim Rinehart & Patsy Montana

Cowboy Slim Rinehart broadcast from the Mexican border blaster radio stations in the late '30s, and is believed to be one of the first of the singing cowboys. His “cowboy's sweetheart,” Patsy Montana, joins him on this recording. (1935, English)

Yiddish Radio in New York City: Commercials, IDs, & Program Intros

Yiddish radio was an important part of Jewish immigrant social cohesion in Depression-era New York. The sounds of these low-power, community/neighborhood stations not only provided programming (and commercials) in Yiddish but also helped Jewish political organization. (1937, Yiddish & English)

KGFJ All-Night Radio in Los Angeles

In the early days of radio, few stations presented a 24-hour course of programming. One of the first to do so in the United States was KGFJ in Los Angeles, which presented a low-wattage all-day program of music and news. Though KGFJ was low power, people on the East Coast could receive the station due to a lack of other stations broadcasting in the “nite owl” slot! Ken “Shorty” Carson, heard here, got his start on KGFJ. (1937, English)

Dr. John Brinkley

“Dr.” John Brinkley was a medical charlatan who peddled medical cures and other health products on American radio until he was stripped of his medical and broadcasting licenses. He spent much of his later years broadcasting from less-regulated “border blaster” radio stations in Mexico. (1939, English)

Crazy Water Crystal Program

While the mineral waters (and distilled crystals) of the Crazy Water enterprise were located in Mineral Wells, Texas, the broadcasts sponsored by Hal Collins's Crazy Water Crystals boomed forth from border blaster radio. (1939, English)



The Carter Family on Border Radio

Many so-called “hillbilly” and country artists got their widest exposure through Mexican border blaster radio, and the Carter Family was among them. The second, larger Carter Family band recorded in Texas in the late '30s where their performances were delivered to Mexican radio stations. (1939, English)

1940's – 1950's

WDIA – “The Spirit of Memphis”

WDIA in Memphis, Tennessee was one of the first major radio stations to direct their programming to a predominantly black audience. Many African-American musicians and radio hosts got their start on the station, and its format was influential in the formation of more black radio stations throughout the 1950s. (1950, English)

Paul Kallinger’s *All Night Long Show*

The border blasters continued to broadcast after World War II with a new generation of charismatics, hucksters, and musicians. Paul Kallinger was the host of many nighttime variety shows from Mexico, including this broadcast from the mid-‘50s. (1953, English)

La Voz de la Liberación

Not all ostensibly “underground” radio voices during wars and conflicts were what they appeared to be. During the 1954 CIA-backed coup in Guatemala against Jacobo Árbenz, the CIA sent out transmissions purporting to be broadcasting from rebels in hidden locations within Guatemala. The recordings were actually made in Miami and broadcast from mobile transmitters. (1954, Spanish)

Paul Robeson on *Pacifica Radio*

The Pacifica Foundation was founded in 1946 in the aftermath of World War II by two conscientious objectors and pacifists. Broadcast on Pacifica Radio in the Bay Area began in 1949. In this 1958 interview with entertainer and activist Paul Robeson, Robeson discusses his life (as depicted in his then-new memoir *Here I Stand*), racial and social justice, and his career. (1958, English)

Radio Luxembourg

Radio Luxembourg was one of the only commercial radio stations in Europe. It was founded in the 1920s, but its golden age was in the 1950s and 1960s as a postwar British radio audience sought out radio outside of the BBC. (1959, English)

The Voice of Free Wales

In the late 1950s, as Wales was agitating for higher representation in British affairs through the Welsh party Plaid Cymru, their party representatives could not be heard due to Government and BBC rules on representation. Welsh “pirate” broadcasters began pirate broadcasts like this one to break the stranglehold being used against Plaid Cymru. (1959, English)

1960's – Present

Radio Caroline

Radio Caroline was one of the most well-known “pirate” radio stations broadcasting to the UK and the rest of Europe in the 1960s. The establishment of Radio Caroline on a boat in international waters was a thumb-on-the-nose at major British record labels, which had agreements with the existing offshore commercial broadcaster, Radio Luxembourg. (1964, English)



Wolfman Jack

Wolfman Jack (born Bob Smith in Brooklyn, New York) took to the same border-blaster airwaves as Dr. Brinkley three decades earlier, but

now these stations were on the forefront of a musical and cultural revolt. The Wolfman kept his identity secret through much of the 1960s and reached legendary status on the West Coast as his signal broadcast from Mexico. (1968, English)

The Students Speak

This clip features the sounds of some of the protests of May 1968 Paris captured by French radio, including part of a speech by student leader Daniel Cohn Bendit. (1968, French)

Harvard Student Strike & University Hall Takeover

The 1969 Harvard student strike and takeover of University Hall was covered live on the

radio by WHRB. Protest of the Vietnam War was roiling campuses across the United States and the world, and Harvard in the late '60s was no exception. (1969, English)



The Athens Polytechnic Uprising

In 1973, a series of protests at the Athens Polytechnic Institute in Greece against

the ruling junta grew into a takeover of the university. Students barricaded inside one of the labs created an ad hoc radio station which broadcast until the junta sent tanks onto the scene. (1973, Greek)

Final Broadcast of Radio Pirenaica

Radio Pirenaica was an underground, pirate station that broadcast in opposition to the Franco regime during the post-World War II period. When Franco died and Spain began its process of liberalization, Radio Pirenaica found itself a station without its original agenda, and signed off (with this broadcast) in 1977. (1977, Spanish)

Voces de Ayer y Hay: History

The Puerto Rican Collective presented a history of Puerto Rican women and their impact in the United States for International Women's Day in 1985. (1985, English & Spanish)

Lesbian Hour from International Women's Day 1985

Excerpts from a program focusing on lesbian issues, art, and music from Boston Women's Community Radio's International Women's Day programming for 1985. (1985, English)

Women & Disabilities

A collection of interviews, discussions, and spoken word pieces on women and disabilities assembled for International Women's Day broadcasting in 1989. (1989, English)

WBUR on Pirate Radio in Boston

WBUR News reports on raids at several Boston-area pirate radio stations in 2014. (2014, English)

Touch FM

Touch FM is a pirate radio station that broadcasts from Dorchester, Boston. (2014, English)

Brooklyn Pirate Radio in 2015

Samples from over 30 pirate radio stations broadcasting near Flatbush Brooklyn in July of 2015, including Haitian Creole talk shows, dancehall reggae music, and Hasidic Jewish stations. (2015, various)

Up to the Minute - 80

NEWS AND INTERVIEWS

Radio's power to bring the world news as it happens was always one of its key additions to the media landscape. Newspapers feared the new technology would usurp the papers' role as arbiter of news and current events. Whether on-the-spot reporting during historical events, interviews and discussions with news-makers, or just the ordinary day-to-day news report, radio brought the outside world and history live, by the minute, into the living room like no other technology had previously.

1920's – 1930's

National Defense Test Day

One of the earliest surviving live radio broadcast recordings, the National Defense Test Day was a live radio broadcast meant to demonstrate the use of radio in coordinating in case of national emergencies. It features many innovations in broadcasting including live cut-ins from different locations from coast to coast. (1924, English)

Lindbergh Returns

This clip collection includes Charles Lindbergh's arrival back on U.S. soil on the *U.S.S. Memphis*, a short speech by Lindbergh, and a speech by President Calvin Coolidge where he gives the young flyer the Distinguished Flying Cross. (1927, English)

Amelia Earhart discusses "A Woman's Place in Science"

Two years before her disappearance, Amelia Earhart recorded this speech on women and the benefits that technological advances had brought to their lives. (1935, English)

The Hindenburg Disaster

Subject of one of the most famous radio broadcasts in history, the explosion of the German zeppelin Hindenburg was recorded for posterity by radio journalist Herbert Morrison and his engineer Charlie Nehlsen. (1937, English)

Interviews with Americans Fleeing the Sino-Japanese War

Americans who fled the invasion of China by the Empire of Japan are interviewed by the NBC radio station in Honolulu as they arrive by steamship from Shanghai. (1937, English)

The March of Time

The March of Time was a "newsreel of the radio," sponsored by Time, Inc., which presented news stories and dramatizations of important events of the day. (1938, English)



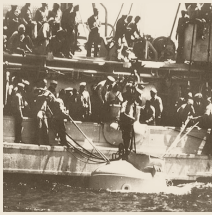
Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

Saint-Exupéry, probably best known as the author of *The Little Prince*, was an avid aviator during flying's golden age between the

World Wars. In this interview with Swiss radio, he discusses a crash he survived in Guatemala and his experience of flying in the Americas. (1938, French)

Howard Hughes's 91-Hour Round the World Flight

Aviator, filmmaker, and industrialist Howard Hughes gained much of his worldwide fame through one of his most outsized stunts: a 91-hour circumnavigation of the globe by airplane. Here local station WDGY in Minneapolis observes Hughes's final refuel before landing in New York to complete the trip. (1938, English)



The U.S.S. *Squalus* Rescue

On the eve of World War II, the U.S. submarine *U.S.S. Squalus* was on a shakedown off the coast of New

Hampshire. It sank to the ocean bottom after a valve failure caused a significant loss of life onboard. Americans nationwide were tuned in to radio to hear about the innovative diving rescue efforts. All 33 seamen who survived the original incident were rescued from the submarine. (1939, English)

1940's – 1950's

Edward R. Murrow from London

Edward R. Murrow's broadcasts from a London under the assault of German air attacks brought the war into American homes before Pearl Harbor. Murrow had been in Europe for two years covering the German *Anschluss* before his iconic broadcasts from London. (1940, English)

BBC Broadcasts a Convoy Bombing and Dogfight at Sea

This amazing audio features BBC correspondent Charles Gardner's eyewitness account of a German attack on a British naval convoy and the subsequent arrival of British fighter planes during the Battle of Britain. (1940, English)

Live Updates from Honolulu in the Aftermath of Pearl Harbor

NBC's affiliate KGU in Honolulu had one of the first live on-the-spot bulletins after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. (1941, English)

Freedom's People

In 1941 and 1942, an eight-part documentary series on the history of African-Americans was broadcast over the NBC network in association with the U.S. Office of Education. Ambrose Caliver, a black scholar and proponent of black literacy and education, created this series which included installments on black artists, inventors, and clergy. (1942, English)

CBS Morning News of the World featuring Global Live Updates

A fairly typical sampling of stories of the war effort during June 1942, including updates from the aftermath of the Battle of Midway, the Soviet lines, Libya, London, and Australia for the Southwest Pacific theater. This is the dawning of live global media. (1942, English)

The Battle of Iwo Jima as reported by NBC News

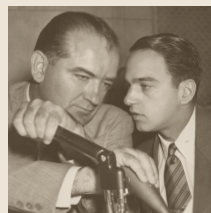
The victory at Iwo Jima is tempered by the bloodiness and length of the battle in this live report from the aftermath of the battle. The concern over how much more difficult and bloody a capture of the Japanese home islands would be is also evident. (1945, English)

Walter Winchell

Controversial radio columnist Walter Winchell's power and fame over the airwaves was, for a short time, unmatched. His bulletin delivery and constant editorializing became his trademark. (1945, English)

The First Atomic Bomb

The atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, began the atomic era in earnest, and in this CBS News report from the next day, we hear American media grappling with the new age that humanity has entered. By this point, detailed reports of damage had not yet reached American radio listeners. (1945, English)



Army-McCarthy Hearings

This daily report on the proceedings of the Army-McCarthy hearings dates from the middle of the three-month political grandstand by Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin. The hearings, full of delays, were testing the public's and McCarthy's colleagues' patience even before Joseph Welch stood up to McCarthy. (1954, English)

1960's – Present

President-Elect Kennedy interviewed by WHRB

In the days leading up to his inauguration, John F. Kennedy conducted a short interview with Harvard's radio station WHRB, where he joked about the faculty of Harvard coming to Washington, D.C. to serve in his Cabinet. (1961, English)

Cuban Missile Crisis

This speech, broadcast over both radio and television, alerted the American public to the escalation of the Cuban Missile Crisis and announced the naval quarantine of Cuba by U.S. forces. (1962, English)

WHRB Reports the Death of President Kennedy

Harvard radio covers the assassination of President Kennedy on November 22, 1963; WHRB's Charles Murray '65 reads the announcement of the President's death. (1963, English)

The Kennedy Assassination

KLIF, a Dallas radio station with a popular music format in 1963, was one of the first news outlets to report on the assassination of President Kennedy on November 22, 1963. (1963, English)



First Space Walk

In this Swiss news radio broadcast, the news of the first spacewalk by cosmonaut Alexei Leonov is heard from Moscow, including

speeches to the public from Leonov himself and from Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev. (1965, French)

Donna Halper on WAVA

Donna Halper introduces music and announces the news on WAVA in 1978. (1978, English)

WINS 1010 News

WINS in New York was one of the first AM stations to adopt the all-news format which began sweeping across the AM dial as music stations migrated to FM in the 1960s. Its iconic news music, meant to sound like a teletype machine's chatter, was taken from a composition called "Construction Site" by Danish jazz composer Ib Glindemann. (1978, English)



Reporters' Roundtable

Five women news reporters in Boston discuss International Women's Day, women in media, and a selection

of other topics in this roundtable discussion. (1987, English)

Asian Women Community Activism

Women immigrants from east Asia to the United States discuss their experiences and their bringing people together through activism. (1988, English & Chinese)

Women in AIDS Prevention and Education

A documentary and series of interviews and discussions featuring women active in AIDS prevention, education, and treatment in New York City and Boston, assembled for International Women's Day 1989. (1989, English)

Farm Talk on KUYI Radio

One of KUYI Radio's self-produced programs, Farm Talk provides a place for Hopi farmers to share and discuss issues of importance, agricultural traditions, and information and news. (2014, Hopi & English)

Hearts & Minds - 98

POLITICS AND PROPAGANDA

From the moment that radio's popularity exploded, people noted and feared its unprecedented power to reach and move the masses, for good and for ill. In the 1930s, nascent totalitarian leaders and smaller-stakes propagandists cluttered the airwaves with exhortations to listeners. But the power of mass media was also able to rally people to heroic movements and stands against these very same dictators. The complicated nature of radio being used to sway listeners' beliefs and actions is found on this station.

Some of the recordings on this station contain propaganda and speech that some might find objectionable. Listener discretion is advised.

1920's – 1930's

Woodrow Wilson's Armistice Day Speech

One of the oldest surviving radio recordings, this 1923 speech by then-former President Woodrow Wilson is on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the end of World War I. (1923, English)

George V & The Prince of Wales open the British Empire Exhibition

The first radio broadcast by Britain's King George V. He and his son (the Prince of Wales) open the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley in 1924, at the height of British imperial power. (1924, English)

Franklin Roosevelt at the Democratic Convention, 1924

In this recording from the floor of the Democratic National Convention in New York City, Franklin Roosevelt helped break a 103-ballot deadlock between New York Governor Al Smith (Roosevelt's candidate) and William McAdoo of California by accepting compromise candidate John W. Davis. Southern Democrats sympathetic to or allied with the Ku Klux Klan had prevented Smith's selection, as he was Catholic. (1924, English)

Pope Pius XI's First Vatican Radio Broadcast with Marconi

Gugliermo Marconi, wireless radio pioneer, introduced Pope Pius XI in this first international test of Radio Vatican's signal. (1931, Italian & Latin)

Gandhi's Speech Before the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

In 1931, Mahatma Gandhi traveled to Britain to attend the Second Round Table Conference. During this trip to Europe, he stopped in Geneva, Switzerland and spoke before the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and on radio about his pledge of non-violent resistance. (1931, English)



Will Rogers on “Bacon, Beans, & Limousines”

In many ways a direct rebuttal to a Herbert Hoover speech aired earlier in the same program, Will Rogers's folksy charm takes a more stridently political turn as he discusses the early years of the Great Depression and the unfolding economic crisis, whom exactly he believes caused it, and whom should remedy it. (1931, English)

Franklin Delano Roosevelt's First Inaugural Address

In his first Inaugural Address, the new President Franklin Delano Roosevelt had to calm a jittery nation which had seen its fortunes plummet precipitously in the aftermath of the stock market crash of 1929 and the worsening Great Depression. (1933, English)



FDR's Fireside Chat

President Roosevelt had been speaking directly to the populace as early as his tenure as New York's governor, but it was his series of "fireside chats"

as President that helped quell the worries of a shaken nation. This recording, from his first fireside chat, explains the banking crisis of early 1933. (1933, English)

Hitler's First Broadcast as Chancellor

Adolf Hitler's first speech as chancellor is typical of the speeches he would make on radio and film to the German people over the next 12 years. Placing primary importance on the nationalist, anti-Communist, racist, and anti-Semitic *völkisch* philosophy of which he would set himself up as primary exemplar, Hitler appealed to Germans' "humiliation" at the end of World War I and used mass media to murderous, genocidal ends. (1933, German)

Neville Chamberlain

Prior to his departure for Germany where he would meet with Hitler and sign the Munich Agreement over the annexation of the Sudetenland, British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain went on the BBC to calm a jittery nation and reassure them that he was a "a man of peace to the depths of my soul." Less than a year later, the two nations would be at war. (1938, English)

Father Coughlin

Father Charles Coughlin was an American Catholic priest, populist pamphleteer, demagogue, and anti-Semitic radio broadcaster who criticized perceived international conspiracies both communistic and capitalistic. (1938, English)

1940's – 1950's

Churchill and the Battle of Britain

Winston Churchill's wartime speeches, especially those to Parliament that were re-recorded and broadcast on radio like the "Their finest hour" speech heard here, were a large part of the British government's attempt to galvanize civilian will against the possibility of Nazi invasion. (1940, English)

Charles de Gaulle, June 1940

General Charles de Gaulle's call to arms, broadcast by the BBC while he was in exile, called upon all free French to join him on British soil to help resist the German invasion. (1940, French)

Marshal Pétain Announces Collaboration

Marshal Pétain, a hero of the French Republic from World War I, gained power and formed the collaborationist Vichy government in 1940 after German occupation. In this address to the French people, Pétain announces the collaboration with Nazi Germany as a way to preserve French autonomy and sovereignty. (1940, French)



Lord Haw-Haw

Lord Haw-Haw, like Tokyo Rose, was a name given to a number of English-speaking German propagandists. William Joyce, a British-Irish

fascist sympathizer who went to Germany on the eve of war, broadcast in the early days of the war to demoralize and confuse British civilians and military personnel. He was hanged for treason after the war. (1940, English)

Joseph Stalin after the Nazi Invasion

After Hitler's invasion of the Soviet Union in Operation Barbarossa, Soviet leader Joseph Stalin took to the airwaves to give the Soviet people a frank accounting of the invasion's success and what would in the Great Patriotic War. (1941, Russian)

Tokyo Rose

During World War II, the Japanese government used English-speaking POWs and Japanese subjects to broadcast demoralizing propaganda to the Allies. Tokyo Rose, a catch-all name given by U.S. enlisted men to the women broadcasters Japan used, was possibly the most famous of these broadcasts. (1944, English)

Radio Free Europe

Founded in 1949 to broadcast to nations within the Soviet sphere of influence, Radio Free Europe broadcast until the end of the Cold War and was an essential part of the U.S. propaganda effort against the Warsaw Pact. This recording announces the beginning of broadcasts directed at Poland. (1952, English)

Joe McCarthy on “Trumanism”

At his height, Senator Joseph McCarthy had no problems going after the biggest figures in American politics, even President Harry S Truman in the first year after his presidency. McCarthy, invoking the spectre of “Stalinism,” calls Truman’s supposed disregard for Communists in his midst, “Trumanism.” (1953, English)

Radio Rebelda Cuba

Founded in 1958 by Che Guevara to communicate on behalf of the 26th of July Movement and Fidel Castro, Radio Rebelda today continues to broadcast as an arm of the Castro regime. (1958, Spanish)

1960’s – Present



Che Guevara at the United Nations

In 1964, Che Guevara, then Cuban Minister of Industry, gave an impassioned speech to the United Nations

General Assembly, excerpts of which are heard here. His visit to New York was marked by a bazooka attack and attempted stabbing by anti-Castro Cubans. (1964, Spanish)

The Role of Radio in May 1968

French Prime Minister Georges Pompidou took to the National Assembly floor during the May

1968 crisis to impugn the role of mass media, including radio, in inflaming revolutionary feelings on the streets of Paris. (1968, French)

Radio Hanoi, “Hanoi Hannah”

“Hanoi Hannah” was a propagandist for North Vietnam in a long line of broadcasters who attempted to elicit demoralization in the opposing forces. Radio Hanoi was run by the North Vietnamese Army, and several individuals filled the role of “Hanoi Hannah” during the Vietnam War. (1968, English)

Salvador Allende at the United Nations

In this speech before the United Nations nine months before his overthrow by the coup of General Augusto Pinochet and death, Chilean President Salvador Allende speaks of the problems of exploitation and debt Chile had experienced at the hands of the then-First World. (1972, Spanish)

Radio Venceremos

The Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front of El Salvador used a radio station in the northern mountains of El Salvador to broadcast information against the then-ruling right-wing El Salvadoran regime. (1982, Spanish)

International Women’s Day Wrap-up and Call-in 1985

At the end of International Women’s Day 1985, members of the Boston Women’s Community Radio group take calls from the public. (1985, English)

Radio Télévision Libre des Mille Collines

The Rwandan genocide of 1994 was encouraged by radio broadcasts from the so-called *Radio Télévision Libre des Mille Collines*, filled with racist propaganda in the form of music, interviews, and harangues which called out individuals in hiding, giving motivated Hutus instructions to attack and kill Tutsis and moderate Hutus. (1994, French & Kinyarwanda)

Diane Rehm on Rush Limbaugh

Diane Rehm, National Public Radio host, takes conservative radio host Rush Limbaugh to task for his on-air mockery of Michael J. Fox's Parkinson's symptoms. Rehm herself suffers from spasmodic dysphonia, a condition which affects her on on-air voice. (2006, English)



**Voice of Korea
Broadcast from
North Korea**

In South Korea, the possession or recording of North Korean propaganda broadcasts is a criminal offense, and frequencies from the north are jammed. Still, the North Korean regime blankets the medium wave with broadcasts in a number of languages as propaganda efforts. (2006, English)

Inform, Educate, Entertain - 115

ENTERTAINMENT AND EDUCATION

The Golden Age of Radio evokes scenes of dramatic actors huddled around microphones, foley artists working on special effects, and serialized dramatic productions sent out day after day over the airwaves. But radio's power to entertain (and educate) was not limited to drama. Comedies, children's shows, and programs aimed at housewives, presented a wide array of entertainment choices to diverse audiences.

1920's – 1930's

Empire Builders

One of American radio's first dramatic series, *Empire Builders* was sponsored by the Great Northern railway and featured dramatized stories from the past and present of the American West, the territory of the Great Northern. (1931, English)



Flash Gordon

Flash Gordon was one of the biggest newspaper comic strips in the U.S. when Mutual Broadcasting decided in 1935 to adapt his

recent adventures against Ming the Merciless on the planet Mongo for the radio. (1935, English)

The First Coast-to-Coast Network Broadcast

The West Coast of the U.S. had its own regional radio networks in the first half of the 1930s. By 1936, the Don Lee Network, one of the largest of these, merged with the East's Mutual Broadcasting to become the nation's first true coast-to-coast network. (1936, English)

Little Orphan Annie

Little Orphan Annie was the heroine of one of radio's most popular children's programs. To

modern ears, the commercial content of an average episode can be a little bit jarring. This episode features Annie and her friends putting together a radio set to send out signals to Daddy Warbucks. (1936, English)

Lux Radio Theater

Lux Radio Theatre provided dramatic adaptations of stage plays, classic novels, and new motion pictures and was one of the most popular radio programs of the 1930s and 1940s. Hollywood stars would often reprise their roles for live radio, including in this recording of "The Legionnaire and the Lady," an adaptation of 1930's *Morocco* with Marlene Dietrich and Gary Cooper. (1936, English)

The Houdini Séance on the 10th Anniversary of His Death

Touted as "the final" séance to reach famed illusionist Harry Houdini from beyond the grave, this Halloween 1936 radio séance actually kicked off an annual tradition of trying to reach Houdini's spirit on Halloween, the day he died in 1926. (1936, English)

The Shadow

A legacy character from the pulps, *The Shadow* had been on the radio since the early '30s in various forms, but only came into his own in the series begun in 1937, which featured a young Orson Welles as the wealthy heir-turned-crimefighter with the power to "cloud men's minds." (1937, English)

The War of the Worlds

Orson Welles's Mercury Theatre of the Air presented this adaptation of H.G. Wells's *War of the Worlds* and updated it by turning it into a fictionalized set of radio broadcasts. While the legend around listeners' reactions to the broadcast may be slightly exaggerated, thousands believed the broadcast real and flooded CBS's phone lines. (1938, English)

Vox Pop at the World's Fair

Vox Pop began as a local feature on Houston radio in the early 1930s, but the format was a hit, and the creators began a regional, and eventually national, program dedicated to "man on the street" interviews. This episode comes from the 1939 New York World's Fair. (1939, English)

Mid-Morning Women's Programming

This array of programs is indicative of the sort of daytime programming on American radio directed at housewives in the 1930s: a women's shopping companion and soap operas, including the long-running *Our Gal Sunday*. (1939, English)

1940's – 1950's

Edgar Bergen & Charlie McCarthy

The idea of a ventriloquist on the radio may seem absurd to modern observers. Indeed, critics often wondered about the appeal of comedian and ventriloquist Edgar Bergen and his wooden buddy Charlie McCarthy. But the two were an entertainment and radio industry mainstay for almost two decades. (1941, English)



Dick Tracy & the Case of the Empty Safe

Dick Tracy was another comic strip character who got his own radio program. It aired in the

years prior to World War II and in the final years of the war and beyond. This episode is marked by a news bulletin from the BBC announcing the death of Adolf Hitler. (1945, English)

Superman Fights the KKK

The year after the end of World War II, *The Adventures of Superman* radio show took on the issue of the Ku Klux Klan in a storyline called "The Clan of the Fiery Cross." Investigator and writer Stetson Kennedy, who infiltrated the Klan, and revealed their code words and rituals to the public, consulted on this serial. (1946, English)

The Jack Benny Program

Jack Benny hosted his comedy program on radio for over two decades, creating a cast of characters who became household names throughout America. (1946, English)

Bob and Ray on WHDH Radio

Bob Elliott and Ray Goulding met as staff members at Boston's radio station WHDH. Thrown together—Bob was a DJ and Ray a news anchor—they went on after their free-wheeling shows on WHDH to become a nationally-famous comedy duo. (1949, English)

The Black Museum

Orson Welles hosted this British-produced true crime series about the objects in Scotland Yard's famed "Black Museum" of crime history. (1952, English)

The Goon Show

The Goon Show's anarchic spirit was born in the main cast's experiences in the British Armed Forces during World War II. Their targets were military authority, the "boys' tales" they were raised on, and traditional light entertainment as performed on the radio. (1954, English)

The Archers

The Archers is the longest-running program in radio history. Aired on BBC Radio 4 since 1951, it is an ongoing soap opera of rural families in the fictional village of Ambridge, Dorsetshire. This excerpt is from the controversial death of Grace Archer in a stable fire in 1955. (1955, English)

Alfred Hitchcock Interview

This Alfred Hitchcock interview was conducted by Swiss radio in 1956 with Hitchcock conversing in French. In this

interview, he discusses the role of women in his films. (1956, French)

1960's – Present

Jean Shepherd

Probably best known to modern audiences as the creator of holiday film classic, *A Christmas Story*, the New York radio personality Jean Shepherd cultivated a hip late-night fan base who tuned in for nearly three decades to hear his observations on American life and his upbringing in the Midwest. (1965, English)



Bob Fass

Bob Fass pioneered a new form of “free-form radio” in New York City on WBAI in the 1960s. This call-in show covered important political, civil

rights, artistic, musical, and other happenings of the time from a non-mainstream perspective. (1967, English)

Readings from International Women's Day 1982

Readings from International Women's Day 1982 featuring excerpts from June Jordan's *Civil Wars* and Kate Rushin's poem, “It Was in Ibadan.” (1982, English)

WILD radio

Announcements on WILD radio in Boston from the 1980s. (1985, English)



Prairie Home Companion

Garrison Keillor's creation, *A Prairie Home Companion*, debuted in 1974 on Minnesota Public Radio. Keillor's

inspiration were the old-timey radio variety shows like the classic broadcasts from the Grand Ole Opry. Keillor's missives from the fictional Lake Wobegon, Minnesota soon became the show's centerpiece. (1985, English)

Donna Halper Entertainment News

Donna Halper gives some entertainment news in the mid-1980s. (1986, English)

Senator Obama on

Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me

The radio panel quiz show format has been a mainstay on the BBC for decades, but this format made its greatest inroads in the United States in the form of *Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me!* begun by Chicago Public Radio in 1998. Here, then-Illinois Senator Barack Obama takes his turn as a “significant person being asked about insignificant things.” (2005, English)

Car Talk

Car Talk was the brainchild of two local Boston radio hosts and sometime engineer/mechanics, Tom and Ray Magliozzi. Their program, once syndicated on public radio airwaves, became a nationwide institution. (2009, English)

Hopi Traditions & Hopi Time

Hopi cultural traditions are also preserved through broadcast on KUYI. This collection of clips features stories about times of day and times of year. (2014, Hopi)

Shooting Stars on KUYI Radio

Hopi Language instruction and preservation is one of KUYI Radio's goals. *Shooting Stars* is a program dedicated to educating younger listeners while engaging older listeners in the Hopi language. (2014, Hopi)

The Sporting Life - 124

SPORTS AND COMPETITION

Just as current events, music, and political propaganda can bind a group, region, or nation together in a common experience, so too can radio accounts of sporting events. Much like newspapers, sports leagues and team owners were hesitant to embrace the new technology, since radio presented live sporting events freely to millions who would not then trek to the ballpark. But the demand for live sports accounts and the immediacy and urgency of sporting competition have produced some of the most famous and iconic broadcasts in radio history.

1920's – 1930's



Dempsey-Tunney II: “The Long Count”

The Jack Dempsey/ Gene Tunney rematch in September 1927 was marked by the controversial “long

count,” when the referee gave Tunney extra time to get to his feet after a Dempsey knockdown. Tunney went on to win the match by decision. (1927, English)

Coca-Cola Topnotchers with Grantland Rice & Graham McNamee

Coca-Cola Topnotchers was a combination music and sports program where legendary sportswriter Grantland Rice would interview sports figures of the day in the midst of orchestral dance music. In these two episodes Rice interviews Ty Cobb and Bobby Jones’s golf coach Stewart Maiden. (1930, English)

England vs. Scotland Soccer Highlights, 1932

In the early days of broadcasting soccer over the radio, broadcasters needed to devise a way to allow the listener to visualize the pitch. The *Radio Times* created a diagram which divided the pitch into eight squares, which allowed play-by-play commentator George Allison to

concentrate on calling the action as his assistant called out which square the action was in. (1932, English)

Yankees vs. Tigers

This September 20, 1934 nearly full-game recording of a Yankees/Tigers game in Detroit on WWJ radio is believed to be the oldest surviving complete baseball game recording. (1934, English)

Max Baer vs. Joe Louis

Max Baer, who defeated German Max Schmeling in 1933 while wearing a Star of David on his trunks to reflect his Jewish heritage, lost his title in 1935 to James “Cinderella Man” Braddock and was dealing with nagging injuries. The Baer vs. Joe Louis match, while a defeat for Baer, was a major payday. This fight also put Louis on the map as the man to beat in heavyweight boxing. (1935, English)

Jesse Owens Interview with DRF

In this interview with German radio, Jesse Owens speaks about his experience in Germany during the 1936 Berlin Olympics. (1936, English, German)

Joe Louis vs. Max Schmeling Rematch

In their first bout, Schmeling defeated Louis, knocking him out for the first time in his career. In the rematch, Louis came out looking for

revenge and beat Schmeling in a single round TKO. Given the tenor of international politics at the time, an African-American fighter beating the pride of the Nazi regime was a point of pride for Americans, especially black Americans. (1938, English)



Seabiscuit vs. War Admiral

The Sport of Kings loomed large in the American sports scene in the 1930s, and it had one of its biggest matchups

in 1938 as plucky Seabiscuit raced the previous year's Horse of the Year, War Admiral. The nation was riveted as an estimated 40 million heard underdog Seabiscuit beat War Admiral by four lengths at Pimlico, home of the Preakness. (1938, English)

1939 Indianapolis 500

The Indianapolis 500 was not aired in its entirety by the major radio networks at the end of the 1930s. In this recording, NBC gives listeners just the beginning of the race and would miss the death of Floyd Roberts, the previous year's champion, in a crash on Lap 109. (1939, English)

1940's – 1950's

1948 Kentucky Derby

Citation began his historic 1948 season with this victory at Churchill Downs, eventually going on to win the 1948 Triple Crown. (1948, English)

Clement Attlee's Welcome for the 1948 London Olympics

In the aftermath of World War II, the desire to return to pre-war "normalcy" led to the United Kingdom offering to host the 1948 Summer Olympics. While Germany, Japan and the Soviet Union did not participate, it was one of the world's first steps back to a new normal in the aftermath of global conflict. (1948, English)

Uruguay vs. Brazil, 1950 World Cup

In the first World Cup held in the aftermath of

World War II, Uruguay defeated host nation Brazil in this decisive match, which was not a final. The championship was decided by victory in a final round-robin group including Uruguay, Brazil, Spain and Sweden. (1950, Portuguese)

The Shot Heard 'Round The World

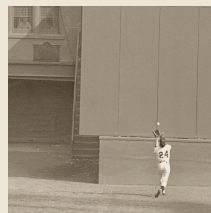
The Giants and Dodgers tied in the National League pennant race in 1951, which led to this one-game playoff. Russ Hodges's broadcast became known as the "Shot Heard 'Round the World" because of the many U.S. armed forces members in Korea who were listening. (1951, English)

England Wins the Ashes for the First Time in 19 Years

For 19 years, English cricket had lost the biennial England-Australia Test (also known as "the Ashes") since the controversial "Bodyline" Test in 1933. But in 1953, a new generation of English cricketers defeated Australia at the Oval to regain the Ashes. (1953, English)

Phil Rizzuto's Sports Caravan

Yankee shortstop Phil Rizzuto started recording this radio show while still an active player, but even at this early point, you could see him preparing for a transition to a long and storied career in broadcasting. This is one of the earliest "sports talk" shows, featuring letters from listeners and listener participation. (1954, English)



Willie Mays and "The Catch"

NBC play-by-play man Jack Brickhouse seems at a loss for words witnessing Willie Mays's almost impossible catch

at the Polo Grounds in the 1954 World Series. (1954, English)

Maurice Richard Pleads for Calm After the Forum Riot

In the aftermath of Québécois sports icon Maurice Richard's season-balance suspension in March of 1955, an appearance by NHL President Clarence Campbell at the next game

in Montréal triggered a full-scale riot. On the radio the next day, Richard pleads for calm, but the fires of the future Quiet Revolution in Québec had been in part lit by this incident. (1955, French)

Colts vs. Giants

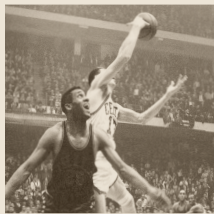
NFL Championship Game, 1958

Also known as “The Greatest Game Ever Played,” this was the NFL’s first sudden death overtime championship, and marks for some the beginning of American football’s ascendancy as America’s favorite sport. (1958, English)

1960’s – Present

Roger Maris breaks home run record

Mel Allen calls the 60th home run by Roger Maris during the 1961 season. (1961, English)



John Havlicek Steals the Ball

Boston radio legend Johnny Most’s best-known call happened in the 1965 NBA playoff series between the

Boston Celtics and the Philadelphia 76ers.

In Game 7, Celtics’ sixth man John Havlicek executed one of the biggest steals in basketball history to save the game for the Celts.

(1965, English)

Koufax Perfect Game

Legendary sportscaster Vin Scully had a lot of memorable calls in his half-century working for the Brooklyn/Los Angeles Dodgers. In 1965, Sandy Koufax was the best pitcher in baseball, and here Scully calls the final inning of his perfect game in September 1965.

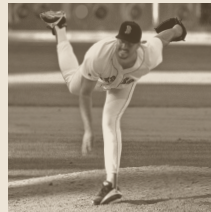
(1965, English)

“Harvard Beats Yale, 29-29”

WHRB’s coverage of the dramatic conclusion of the 29-29 tie at “The Game” in 1968 demonstrates the excitement at the Crimson squad holding the favored Yale Bulldogs to a tie in a 16-point comeback. Both teams finished the season at 8-0-1. (1968, English)

Kirk Gibson's World Series Homer

Jack Buck was working play-by-play for CBS Radio for the 1988 Dodgers vs. A’s World Series when the injured Dodger Kirk Gibson staggered up to the plate in the bottom of the ninth. This home run and this home run call soon entered the list of legendary baseball moments. (1988, English)



Roger Clemens’ 20 strikeouts

Joe Castiglione calls Roger Clemens’ game-ending 20th strikeout in September of 1996, tying his own Major

League record. (1996, English)

Ernie Harwell announces baseball

Some signature lines from the great baseball radio announcer Ernie Harwell. (2002, English)

Red Sox 2004 ALCS Stolen Base

Joe Castiglione announces a close stolen base by Red Sox player Dave Roberts during the 2004 playoffs. (2004, English)

Red Sox 2004 World Series victory

Joe Castiglione announces the first Red Sox World Series victory in 86 years: “Can you believe it?” (2004, English)

Joe Castiglione Season Closer

Joe Castiglione closes out the 2013 Red Sox season by reading from the poem, “Green Fields of the Mind” by Bart Giamatti. (2013, English)

Your Hit Parade - 158

POPULAR AND OBSCURE MUSIC

Since radio's beginning, the power of music over the new medium was evident. Music appeals to listeners' sense of hearing directly of course, and as such, first live and then eventually phonograph musical performances became a radio programming mainstay. Music has also been inextricably linked to the business of radio from its beginning, as artists had to deal with a "disruptive technology" similar to today's worries about music streaming and copyright, and record labels and management had to work with the radio powers-that-be to get their artists wide exposure.

1920's - 1930's

WAAM Organ Performance

A very early radio recording preserved by WAAM in New Jersey, a station associated with Thomas Edison's labs. (1928, English)

Der Lindberghflug

This "Lehrstück," or experimental opera, was written by Bertholt Brecht, with music by Kurt Weill and Paul Hindemith, in the dying days of the Weimar Republic. It celebrates Charles Lindbergh's transatlantic flight. (1930, German, English, French)



Bing Crosby's Solo Radio Debut

Bing Crosby, who would become one of the nation's biggest performers in the late 1930s, started out in

local vocal groups before breaking out on his own in 1931. This recording is his solo radio debut, beginning a decades-long association with CBS. (1931, English)

Music From the Royal Hawaiian Hotel

There was a great vogue for all things Hawaiian in the mainland U.S. in the early part of the

20th century following the island chain's colonization by the U.S. in 1898. The steel guitar and ukelele became popular in American music, and programs like this one broadcast from the Royal Hawaiian Hotel enticed American visitors to come to the islands. (1934, English)

Radio Dance Programs

On both sides of the Atlantic, dance bands broadcasting from ballrooms and hotels ruled the British and American airwaves in the mid-1930s. Before swing music made its explosive debut in the later 1930s, the typical contemporary music program featured big-band, "sweet" music for listening and dancing. (1936, English)

Duke Ellington at the Cotton Club

Duke Ellington's second residency at the Cotton Club in 1937, after the club had moved to Midtown Manhattan, is recorded for posterity with this March radio performance for the Mutual Broadcasting network. (1937, English)

Barber's Adagio for Strings Conducted by Arturo Toscanini

Arturo Toscanini, who had fled Mussolini's Italy, had been hired by NBC's David Sarnoff to conduct a symphony orchestra for the radio. In 1938, Toscanini, who usually conducted

the old European masters of classical music, conducted the world radio premiere of contemporary American composer Samuel Barber's *Adagio for Strings*. (1938, English)

“Turn Your Radio On”

“Turn Your Radio On” was a gospel/country song published by Albert E. Brumley in 1938 that extolled the power of the radio to bring people to God. It's sung here by Roy Acuff, a legend of country music in the middle part of the 20th century and mainstay of the Grand Ole Opry radio program. (1938, English)



Grand Ole Opry

WSM in Nashville began their “barn dance” program in 1925, and in a few years it became a Southern institution. The Grand Ole Opry

name came about in reaction to the more traditional opera airing prior to the program. This recording is from the national version of the program aired on NBC in the late 1930s. (1939, English)

The Ink Spots on WFIL in 1939

The Ink Spots were one of the first black vocal groups to achieve success among white audiences, and their role in the transition between older black jazz vocal styling and the popular music of the day set the table for the later popularity of rhythm and blues and rock-and-roll in the 1950s. (1939, English)

1940's – 1950's

Vera Lynn's “We'll Meet Again”

British singer Vera Lynn popularized “We'll Meet Again” in the very early days of World War II, and it became a standard for British and other Allied soldiers during the war. Lynn went on to host a radio program during the war called “Sincerely Yours.” (1940, English)

Glenn Miller

Glenn Miller, one of the most famous big band leaders of the period leading up to World War II, volunteered for service in 1942. He

organized Army Air Force bands, went on the road to entertain G.I.'s, and even recorded shows in German like this “Wehrmacht Hour.” He disappeared flying over the English Channel in December 1944. (1944, English & German)

Spotlight Band Featuring Louis Armstrong

A rotating series of bandleaders led the Coca-Cola Spotlight Band through a tour of military bases, factories, and other wartime facilities during World War II and in the immediate postwar period. Here, Louis Armstrong plays for the folks at Geiger Field in Washington state in this October 1945 recording. (1945, English)

Benny Goodman Orchestra

Benny Goodman plays “Oh Baby” live on the radio. (1946, English)



Spike Jones

Spike Jones was America's foremost purveyor of comedy/novelty music in the 1940s and '50s. His touring show, Spotlight

Revue, went out to the U.S. armed forces on Armed Forces Radio in the form of the “Corns-o-Poppin Revue.” (1949, English)

Maria Callas

Legendary soprano Maria Callas sings on Italian radio as Violetta in Verdi's opera *La Traviata*. (1953, Italian)

Elvis Presley Performs on the Louisiana Hayride

Elvis Presley's role as a musical revolutionary cannot be understated, but his first live radio performance didn't go over that well with the conservative folks at the musical radio program, “Louisiana Hayride,” although the audience seems to like it. (1954, English)

Alan Freed on WJW Cleveland

Alan Freed, the “Moondog,” was one of the first rock-and-roll DJs, bringing rhythm and blues and early rock to a white mainstream

audience. Starting his career in Cleveland, he moved to New York in the latter half of the 1950s. He was one of the casualties of the early rock radio payola scandal, and died in 1965. (1954, English)

WHRB Station ID from the Live Folk Orgy

WHRB Harvard Radio's "Orgy" format has its roots in an undergraduate who played all nine Beethoven symphonies after a particularly difficult final exam. The tradition continues in multiple music styles and formats to this day. This live station ID from the late '50s is from one of WHRB's Live Folk Orgy broadcasts. (1958, English)

1960's – Present



Arnie Ginsburg Cruisin' 1961

Boston DJ Arnie "Woo Woo" Ginsburg of WMEX radio participated in a compilation album in the early '70s. Full of the '50s and '60s biggest Top 40 hits all interspersed with DJ introductions, jingles, commercials, and other artifacts of 1960s AM pop radio, this collection targeted Baby Boomers' nostalgia. (1961, English)

"No Particular Place to Go"

Chuck Berry's "No Particular Place To Go" celebrates the freedom of the open road, driving around in the car listening to the radio while on a date. It's a quintessential piece of Americana that celebrates the mobility that comes with tuning in pop radio in one's automobile. (1964, English)

Donna Halper on WRVR

Donna Halper playing jazz music on WRVR in New York during the late 1970s. (1970, English)

"Roadrunner"

Jonathan Richman's anthem to driving around the Boston area at night, "Roadrunner" was an underground hit and inspired both garage

rockers and punks in the 1970s. A campaign to make "Roadrunner" the official rock song of Massachusetts is ongoing. (1974, English)

"Radio Radio"

Elvis Costello and the Attractions released this single, its lyrics pointed in their criticism of the tyranny of middle-of-the-road radio. Costello played this song on Saturday Night Live in late 1977 against the wishes of show producers and his record company, leading to a decade-long ban from the program. (1977, English)

Donna Halper on WBET

Donna Halper plays music on WBET in 1981. (1981, English)

Strong Women's Musical Menu from International Women's Day 1982

An assortment of musical selections broadcast on International Women's Day by Boston Women's Community Radio in 1982. (1982, English)



The Nightfly

Steely Dan's Donald Fagen released *The Nightfly* in 1982, a series of songs that recalled his youth listening to New York City radio in

the 1950s and '60s. On the title track, Fagen's narrator discusses being a DJ bringing "jazz and conversation" to his audiences. (1982, English)

WHRB Music Promos from 1983

A pair of WHRB program promotions for the *Music of America* and Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* from the Harvard airwaves in 1983. (1983, English)

Voces de Ayer y Hay: Music

This mix of music from Puerto Rico was broadcast on International Women's Day on the radio in Boston, presented by the Puerto Rican Collective. (1985, English)

“I Can't Live Without My Radio”

A different kind of mobile freedom was enshrined in the first single off of LL Cool J's 1985 album, *Radio*. The boom box was the broadcaster of the American streets in the early 1980s, playing the latest hip hop, soundtracking life on the streets, and the rapidly growing art of breakdancing.
(1985, English)

Women in Jazz

This musical program featuring jazz selections from women artists was broadcast in 1987 during International Women's Day on MIT radio, WMBR. (1987, English)



**Selections of
Hopi Music from
KUYI Radio**

KUYI Radio was founded in 2000 to serve the Hopi people throughout Arizona and on Hopi reservations. Broadcasting traditional music like these excerpts is a large part of KUYI's mission.
(2000, English)

Faint Earth Murmur

is a sound art installation commissioned for and inspired by the Radio Contact exhibition. It aims to resurrect the long since lost in the internet age excitement and anticipation of physically tuning a radio dial to discover new stations and new sounds. *Faint Earth Murmur* brings gallery visitors on an unpredictable aural journey of the past 100 years of radio via the themes outlined in this program guide.

Concept, Design & Creation
Halsey Burgund, sound artist

Content Design & Curation
Michael Grasso

Radio Electronics Design & Hacking
Brandon Stafford

Program Guide Design
Samantha van Gerbig

