

Champion Newsletter

Winter 2021



Message from Jennifer Ferro, President of KCRW



Hi Champions,

While business changed for so many of us in 2021, KCRW stuck to the core of what we do — producing fascinating stories, starting the conversation on important topics, and playing music from incredible artists.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude for you, our Champion — for supporting this vital service. Thanks to you, we closed out our year-end fundraising drive strong and can forge ahead into 2022 with the energy and confidence needed to keep this experiment in public radio we call KCRW going.

There are so many fabulous events, programs, and opportunities on the horizon and I can't wait for all that we will do together this year. Happy New Year Champions!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Ferro".

Message from KCRW Individual Giving



Hi Champions,

We are extremely full from the holidays... not just from the food and drink, but from all the love and support you showed us in the final stretch of 2021. We are beaming with joy as we reflect on the growth we made as an organization, as well as the truly special memories we made with you despite continued Covid uncertainty. It was so lovely to hear from many of you during our Season of Giving Back — expressing your passion and appreciation for the station through emails, letters, and phone calls. It's always such a treat for us to connect around this time of year because we are reminded that you

know KCRW better than most, which is an invaluable quality. Always feel free to reach out and share what you love about a KCRW host, DJ, segment, or experience. We are planning so many fun things for 2022 - from events and programs in LA, to national and international trips.

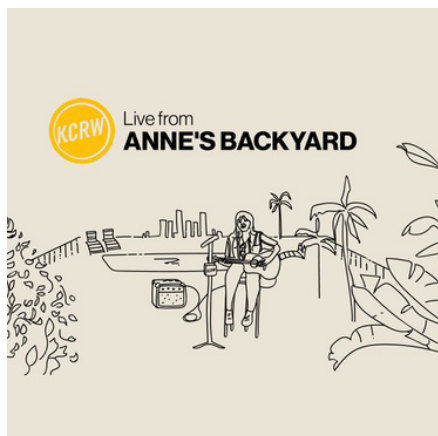
In this new year, we are thrilled to announce our new Head of Development, Jamie Cataldo, who comes to us from Inner City Arts in her role as Director of Individual Giving and Events. Jamie officially begins with the team in February and we are so excited for you to get to know more about her!

We are privileged to have you by our side and can't wait for all that is to come.

Your KCRW Individual Giving Team,
Ani Ohanessian & Anna Chang

Champion Events & Programs

KCRW Champions are invited to year round, behind the scenes programming and special events that highlight KCRW as a tastemaker in music, food, art, news, and culture. See some recent highlights below:



KCRW welcomed back live music with a special series called Live from Anne's Backyard. Aptly named for the venue — our intrepid Music Director Anne Litt's backyard, you can watch the first few sessions featuring unbelievable talent, [here](#). And keep an eye out for more shows coming soon!

We wrapped up the year with some festive events that reminded us of the joy of seeing your faces in person and enjoying a drink, a dance, and a laugh together.

National and international Champion travel is coming soon! We look forward to soaking up the beautiful culture, food, music, and scenery with you in these fantastic cities. Spots are still available but limited, so if you are interested in joining the Champion crew on either (or both) of these unforgettable trips, please contact Ani as soon as possible: ani.ohanessian@kcrw.org.



KCRW Projects & Programming



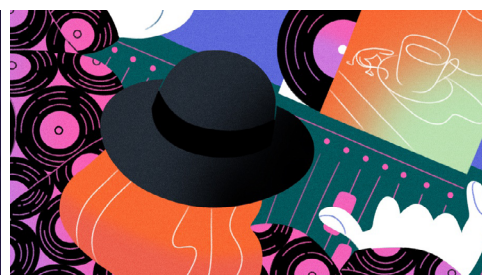
[KCRW's Best Of 2021](#)

Get some inspiration and joy from KCRW's recommendations on the music and books that we feel you must know, as 2022 kicks off. That includes Travis Holcombe's [wonderful essay](#) on KCRW's 2021 Breakthrough Artist, Gabriels.



[Josh Barro's final episode as host of Left, Right & Center](#)

It's a special episode with some of LRC's most frequent panelists to close out 2021 and Josh's seven-year run as host.



[Bent by Nature](#)

In the final episode of the 10-part documentary podcast "Bent By Nature," KCRW DJ Henry Rollins shares his remembrances of Deirdre: the DJ, tastemaker, and human being who changed his life irrevocably. You can now binge the entire series [here](#), or explore the [archives](#).

KCRW's Podcast Bootcamp



In November 2021, KCRW hosted our first ever Podcast Bootcamp, with the support of the Rosalinde & Arthur Gilbert Foundation. The intensive weekend-long course was a huge success, allowing participants to collaborate with KCRW experts and leaders across the industry to produce trailers and hone their pitch. Speakers included Pat Prescott from 94.7 The Wave, Van Lathan, and Lisa Pecot Herbert. The event wrapped with a pitch-style event judged by Alex Blumberg of Gimlet Media, Hernan Lopez of Luminary, and Rushion McDonald. We look forward to growing this program in the years to come.

The Development Department's very own Anna Chang helped out Press Play producer Angie Perrin, who planned and led the workshop. This is her experience in her own words:

KCRW's Podcast Bootcamp was so transformative! From the all-star lineup of expert speakers and instructors, the thoughtful and thorough array of topics covered, and Angie's vibrant energy and passion, this weekend had it all, and deserves the highest praise. Through working collaboratively and workshoping each other's podcasts, participants became invested in each other's work and witnessed collective growth. In addition to the wealth of knowledge gained about podcasting and broadcasting (from how to do an interview, best audio capturing practices, how to monetize your work, etc), each person walked away with their own trailer and an industry-ready pitch, which to me was the cherry on top of a phenomenal weekend.

Sonic Society

Interested in learning how to deepen your engagement with KCRW? Learn about Sonic Society [here](#).



Thank You!

We're always looking for feedback or to start a conversation! So hit reply and let us know your thoughts. Point out something that you loved from this newsletter, tell us something you're curious about, or let us know what you want to hear more of!

Questions about your support or want to know more? Email us at champions@kcrw.org.

Interested in deepening your engagement with KCRW? Consider joining our Sonic Society (Planned Giving), find out more [here](#).

Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).