
EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE STATEMENT

Introduction

WHKA FM 87.7 Inc. is a nonprofit educational organization incorporated in 2023 and organized to provide noncommercial radio broadcasting and webcasting services. We will operate in the public interest with programming that will advance the educational and charitable ideals of the Storrs-Mansfield, CT community.

Our educational mission is to promote 21st century journalism and a diverse dial through broadcasting news and information pertinent to the local population in addition to music and entertainment programming. Over the years, our people have partnered with a wide range of nonprofit organizations, schools, and community media centers in other parts of CT to serve as a model for civic activism and nonpartisan newsgathering.

The proposed Low Power FM radio station will advance this educational mission by:

- Educating listeners in the communities being served about current events, our local government and school systems, emergency information, and public affairs programming that affects them.
- Broadcasting music and entertainment programming that features local talent, arts and cultural work from a variety of local and regional organizations, and overall fostering community connections.
- Providing broadcast opportunities for grassroots community organizations, community members, as well as partnering with schools, seniors, and other special interest groups to teach media production.
- Establishing a reliable community resource for the free and open access to truthful information and reporting without commercial motives, programming interruptions, or political biases whatsoever.

The Tolland and Windham regions are distinct in Connecticut because of their relative remoteness, allowing for a large residential community in addition to agriculture and education in the "Quiet Corner." As well, the proposed service area is nearby both the University of Connecticut and Eastern Connecticut State University.

These populations are currently underserved by local and regional media outlets, a fact we want to change.

As an independent public service, WHKA FM 87.7 aims to promote the values and considerations of the communities being served, provide a forum for neighborhood dialogue and artistic expression, and enhance first-amendment activities through programming to serve the public interest - radio for our community.

Sample Programming

- Community Spotlights - Feature stories highlighting unsung heroes, local initiatives, and community success stories regularly and working with one-of-a-kind local businesses to build awareness.
- Fine Arts and Culture - Presenting a rich array of fine arts, music, dance, and theatre available in "our backyard" including promotion of the programs offered by UConn. Many are free to the public.
- Local Sports - Live and tape-delayed broadcast of the community's favorite sports, including unique commentary and analysis, opportunities for live production by students and community members.
- Democracy Now - A daily independent news hour including a variety of news topics, interviews, and diverse perspectives from around the world. Also, forever noncommercial and audience-supported.
- Senior Programming - Discussing topics that are important to our older generation and local concerns.