

— SEPTEMBER 2021 —

# POWERED BY YOU

## EVERY DAY ALL DAY



**Houston Public Media**

A SERVICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON



# THE DIFFERENCE YOU MAKE

## PEOPLE SERVED



**6MM HOUSTONIANS**  
Public Safety Support  
& Weather Alerts



**Spelling Bee**  
2021

**70K FAMILIES / 790 SCHOOLS**  
2021 Spelling Bee



**376K+ USERS**  
PBSKids.org



**790K+ LISTENERS**  
News 88.7



**2.9MM+ VIEWERS**  
TV 8



**431K+ USERS**  
HoustonPublicMedia.org

## SERVICES POWERED BY YOU



**24/7**

Programming from PBS,  
NPR, BBC, APT, PCX,  
American Public Media  
and More



Two Local Weekday Radio Shows  
Driven by Information the  
Community Needs

Texas Station Radio  
Partnership Covering  
Regional News



**13**

Person Local  
Newsroom

Local Weekly Radio Show  
for the Purpose of  
Connecting Communities



**PARTY  
POLITICS**

Local Podcast  
Recapping the  
Week's Biggest  
Political News Stories

## DID YOU KNOW WHAT ELSE IS POWERED BY YOU?

### ACCOUNTABILITY JOURNALISM

Our recent series on workers in Texas being exposed to extreme heat prompted federal action to help save lives. The Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration announced that it will prioritize inspections on hot days, target high-risk industries nationally, and, as reported earlier this summer, begin developing a federal rule to protect workers from heat-related illnesses. The Texas newsroom contribution to the Columbia School of Journalism Investigation, NPR Investigation, and the California newsroom helped illustrate how big the problem has become with worker heat deaths doubling since the early 1990s. It takes a village of top-notch reporters, editors, hosts, and producers to make this reporting possible, and it is all **powered by you**.

# AN INFORMED, EDUCATED, AND SAFE COMMUNITY

## AUGUST'S MAJOR NEWS THEMES



### A LOOK AT THE MONTH'S LOCAL COVERAGE

#### ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

##### Power Slowly Returns as Greater Houston Begins Nicholas Cleanup

Power was restored to nearly all CenterPoint Energy customers by Wednesday morning in the wake of Nicholas, which moved through Greater Houston and has since been downgraded to a tropical depression. As of 8:46 a.m. Wednesday, just over 81,000 customers were still without power across the region, from Spring down to Galveston Island, stretching east to west from Sealy to Mont Belvieu. That number was as high as 460,000 early Tuesday morning.

SEPT. 13 READ THE FULL STORY AT  
[HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG](http://HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG)

#### POLITICS

##### Texas Planned Parenthoods Granted Restraining Order Against Anti-Abortion Group Over New Law

A Travis County Judge granted three Texas Planned Parenthood affiliates a temporary restraining against Texas Right To Life Friday evening, blocking the anti-abortion rights group from suing them under the state's new restrictive abortion law. The law allows private citizens to sue anyone who performs or helps someone get an abortion after roughly six weeks. If successful, the plaintiff could be awarded at least \$10,000. In her ruling, Judge Guerra Gamble said the order was given to maintain the status quo while the courts determine if the law is valid.

SEPT. 3 READ THE FULL STORY AT  
[HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG](http://HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG)

News 88.7

## inDepth



#### 9/11 ANNIVERSARY

##### Post-9/11 Veterans Reflect On The 20th Anniversary Of The Terrorist Attacks

Bryan Escobedo, Mia Garcia, and John Smith —Marine Corps Veterans of the Iraq War— now all work for the Houston-based veterans' organization Combined Arms, helping veterans adjust to civilian life. Bryan Escobedo was 16 years old and attending League City's Clear Creek High School in the fall of 2001. He was heading to second period when a classmate whose parents worked for the government said the country was being attacked.

SEPT. 10 READ THE FULL STORY AT  
[HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG](http://HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG)



# A CONNECTED AND INSPIRED COMMUNITY



## Houston Public Media Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Heritage Month is observed nationally from September 15 to October 15 by celebrating the cultures and contributions of both Hispanic and Latino Americans. In 2020, Houston Public Media launched our Hispanic Heritage Month page, and this year we updated the page to feature new TV 8 programming, streaming content on the PBS Video App and Houston PBS Passport, learning resources, special segments on Houston Matters and Town Square, and a Houston Latino icons spotlight. Our programming highlights the voices and rich diversity of the communities we serve.

#HispanicHeritageMonth #MiHistoria

VISIT OUR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH PAGE AT  
[HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG](https://HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG)

## COMMUNITY CATALYST SPOTLIGHT

*Houston Public Media is working with select partners to solve some of Greater Houston's biggest challenges.*

### 100 YEARS OF HOUSTON (1927 – 2027), Episode 1: Phyllis Randolph Frye, LGBTQ Pioneer (1977 To 1987)

Born in Texas in 1948, Phyllis Randolph Frye would face many decades of challenges from the conservative norms of the day to outwardly express her inner feminine identity. The fight to live her true life would be a fight for gay and transgender rights that would lead from an Engineering and Army career to Attorney-at-Law and Social Advocate. None of this would have been possible without the love and support of her wife Trish. It also highlights Judge Frye's contributions to lasting legal principles that began with her time at UH Law Center in the 70s and 80s.

WATCH THE EPISODE ON  
[HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG](https://HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG)



## ARTS & CULTURE

### ENCORE HOUSTON, Episode 171: Houston Chamber Choir

On this episode of Encore Houston, the Houston Chamber Choir performs works by Houstonians, including several world premiere performances! Music in this episode features David Ashley White: The Blue Estuaries, Karim Al-Zand: A Measure in Trance, Marcu Maroney: Im Grase, and more. New episodes of Encore Houston air Saturdays at 10 PM, with a repeat broadcast Sundays at 4 PM, all on Houston Public Media Classical.



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE ON  
[HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG](https://HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG)

# BY THE NUMBERS

SEPTEMBER 2021



14

LOCAL  
PODCASTS

134

UNIQUE  
NEWSMAKERS  
INTERVIEWED



400+

HOUSTON PBS  
PASSPORT  
PROGRAMS



52

LOCAL  
NEWS  
STORIES



“

*During Covid-19 our supporters stepped up with funding that had, just the year before, allowed us to purchase new equipment that allowed us to present studio-quality sound from anywhere with strong wi-fi. We had been using it for some live remotes all over town, and now we were using it to broadcast Houston Matters from my home. It became the template that allowed our other shows and newsroom to largely operate remotely for nearly 15 months. And it all started with donor support.”*

**Craig Cohen**

Host, *Houston Matters* with Craig Cohen

“

*Hey Craig! Just wanted to tell you how much I love Houston Matters. The podcast is a daily ritual for me. I learn so much about my adopted city from what you put together. Great job!”*

**Dr. Sunjay Devarajan**

**This month's impact report is made possible by our community of donors, foundations, and partners.**