

— DECEMBER 2021 —

POWERED BY YOU

EVERY DAY ALL DAY



Houston Public Media

A SERVICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON



THE DIFFERENCE YOU MAKE

PEOPLE SERVED



7MM HOUSTONIANS
Public Safety Support
& Weather Alerts



Spelling Bee

2021

70K FAMILIES / 790 SCHOOLS
2021 Spelling Bee



376K+ LOCAL 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, PRX,
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?

Breaking News from the Houston Public Media Newsroom Politics and Government Reporter, Andrew Schneider, was able to get a critical story on our website late in the evening in early December. As a result, we were the first in the country to report that Texas' social media censorship law was on hold because Andrew knew the ruling was coming and was able to put together the post hours before it came in. Then, he broke the news on social media, and we posted the full story to our website within minutes. Our local reporters can report essential, timely information to our community because of your support. Breaking news is **powered by you**.

AN INFORMED, EDUCATED, AND SAFE COMMUNITY

THIS MONTH'S MAJOR NEWS THEMES

OMICRON
VARIANT



HOLIDAY
SEASON



ARTS &
CULTURE



A LOOK AT THE MONTH'S LOCAL COVERAGE

CLIMATE CHANGE

Social justice and labor rights activists protest the international energy conference

As leaders from the biggest oil and gas companies gather in Houston for the World Petroleum Congress, others took to the park outside the convention to demand action on climate change and better labor practices. Black and Indigenous leaders in Houston are calling on the fossil fuel industry to do more in the fight against climate change, as the world's biggest oil and gas companies meet for the 23rd World Petroleum Congress at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

**DEC. 7 READ THE FULL STORY AT
[HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG](https://houstonpublicmedia.org)**

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

A former Houston police captain was indicted for trying to prove voter fraud conspiracy theories

A Harris County grand jury indicted a former Houston police captain for assault after he was accused of running a man off the road and pointing a gun at his head in an attempt to prove a bogus voter fraud conspiracy. Mark Aguirre is charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and could face up to 20 years in prison. Aguirre was arrested after prosecutors say he ran his SUV into the back of the truck of an air conditioning technician. Aguirre allegedly told police he believed the victim was behind a massive voter fraud scheme and that there were 750,000 fraudulent ballots in his truck.

**DEC. 14 READ THE FULL STORY AT
[HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG](https://houstonpublicmedia.org)**

News 88.7

inDepth



HEALTH & SCIENCE

Seafarers in the port of Houston avoid medical care for fear of retaliation

New research from the University of Texas Medical Branch found that Filipino seafarers—who make up a third of the workforce that transports goods from around the world into the Port of Houston—often avoid or delay medical care when they get injured or sick for fear of workplace retaliation. The research, which was done through interviews with seafarers in the Gulf of Mexico, found many Filipino seafarers seek off-the-books medical care. The interviewed workers repeatedly mentioned the risk of getting fired or passed over for future contracts if they wanted to see a doctor.

**DEC. 22 READ THE FULL STORY AT
[HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG](https://houstonpublicmedia.org)**

A CONNECTED AND INSPIRED COMMUNITY



80 years after the attack on Pearl Harbor, a son tells his father's story

As we remember Pearl Harbor Day, where the Japanese attacked the U.S. fleet in Hawaii and launched America into World War II, one of the men who survived the attack was Vaughn Hamberlin, who served aboard the U.S.S. Tennessee. Some 35 years later, in 1976, he revisited the site of the attack and was moved to write an account of that day and his feelings for his fallen comrades. His son, Cliff, shares his father's memories.

**DEC. 7 READ THE FULL STORY AT
HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG**

COMMUNITY CATALYST SPOTLIGHT

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

Reality Check Episode 6: The Effects of Poor Mental Health

Traditional measures of poverty do not capture the magnitude of people who are struggling financially. *Reality Check*, in partnership with United Way of Greater Houston, is a series that makes the invisible visible by shining a light on the true number of families struggling in Harris County and across the U.S. In Episode 6 of *Reality Check* we explore some of the situational factors that can lead to diminishing mental health and how those scenarios can further push a family deeper into a cycle of poverty and duress.



**WATCH THE EPISODE ON
HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG**



ARTS & CULTURE

I SEE U with Eddie Robinson, Episode 28: Storytelling Art of The Dirty South

Guest host, Dr. Melayne Price, chats with 'The Dirty South' currently on display at the Contemporary Art Museum of Houston until February. Exhibit's curator, Valerie Cassel Oliver, as well as Houston artists Nathaniel Donnett and Mel Chin about what happens when contemporary art merges with the roots of Southern hip-hop culture. Dirty South now represents a shortcut for understanding the perspectives of creatives who were raised or procured their work in the South—through music, art, fashion, and other forms of

cultural products that possessed a specific, Southern lens.

**LISTEN TO THE EPISODE ON
HOUSTONPUBLICMEDIA.ORG**

BY THE NUMBERS

DECEMBER 2021

MISSION AMBASSADORS



347

120

UNIQUE
NEWSMAKERS
INTERVIEWED



35

COMMUNITY
CATALYST
EPISODES



66

LOCAL
NEWS
STORIES



“

I was listening on December 10th when I heard your discussion about a holiday house lit up with almost 700,000 lights. Upon further research I learned I would be 60 miles away from the house on a recent trip to New York. Not only did I decide that I had to see this display, but I also convinced my 102-year-old mother to come along with me. Although the video and photos from the car do not do justice to the wonderful lights, the memory of this experience and sharing it with my mother will be a treasure for me for a long time to come. Thank you for this report. It is why I am a new supporter of Houston Public Media. It is the reason why I listen regularly to your station. Wishing everyone at Houston Public Media a very Happy Holidays.”

Peter Fixler, *Houston Matters with Craig Cohen* listener



I had to go to the Washington County Fairgrounds in Brenham today to scope out the facility for a veterinary event. When my colleague and I checked in at the front desk, the gentleman asked, 'Are you THE Dr. Teller who's on Houston Matters?' When I said yes, he said that he loves the segment because it's 'just so down to earth.'"

Dr. Lori Teller

Houston Matters with Craig Cohen guest host

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