Your Voice, Your Stories

FEBRUARY 2023 MONTHLY IMPACT REPORT

Houston Public Media
A SERVICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
I have listened to All Things Considered for many years but my favorites are: Houston Matters with Craig Cohen, Texas Standard and Town Square with Ernie Manouse.”

Jennifer and Matt Esfahani, Always Members

Just wow! I got to listen to the first episode of I SEE U with Eddie Robinson today and I was blown away. You took a piece of our city’s history and dropped it right in the middle of today’s issues. This episode opened the door for some great conversations at our house and showed me that I’ve got so much more to learn about the city where I grew up. I can’t wait for the next episode.”

Angela Bishop, BOD Member & Visionary Leader

LOOKING AHEAD

Houston Matters with Craig Cohen is now in its tenth year as the gold standard for excellence in local radio talk programs. Addressing issues through a unique lens, the show helps Houstonians navigate by being the region’s essential daily guide to people, places and ideas that define Greater Houston. This April, host Craig Cohen and the Houston Matters team look forward to celebrating this milestone of serving our many communities with a special event at Saint Arnold Brewing Company with commemorative glasses and other positive takeaways to come.
DID YOU KNOW WHAT ELSE IS POWERED BY YOU?

Houston Public Media launched the Young Leaders Council in May 2018, bringing together a diverse group of young professionals with a personal connection to public media. The council is an ambassador program for young Houstonians who treasure Houston Public Media’s unique position in the media landscape and work to spread its mission. This initiative was established to engage the next generation of public media supporters and bring them closer to the content they cherish daily. While thriving on deepening community relationships and engaging future generations of all backgrounds, the Young Leaders Council represents a cross section of the communities Houston Public Media serves...and it is all Powered by You.
SPORTS
Houston preparing to host 2023 Final Four, 2026 World Cup and other major events in the coming years

Events like the Final Four bring conversations of economic impact as Houston, for the fourth time, will host the NCAA Men’s Basketball Final Four tournament finals. Janis Burke is CEO of the Harris County, Houston Sports Authority who says money from these events has helped the community with various things like the new playground equipment at Tidwell Park. The Final Four and the World Cup in 2026 are two of the larger events coming up, but the city could be the host of other major events.

EDUCATION
Houston-area students take top honors in RodeoHouston art contest, with hefty auction payments to come

Two Houston-area high school students each will receive tens of thousands of dollars from an upcoming art auction after earning the top honors in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo’s annual school art competition. Each of the 72 students whose artwork will be featured in the auction is guaranteed to receive at least $1,500. Their works will be displayed throughout rodeo season in the Hayloft Gallery in the lobby of NRG Center.

POLITICS
State comptroller freezes Harris County’s ability to raise taxes, saying its 2023 budget unlawfully cut funding to constables

The state comptroller ruled Harris County leaders broke the law by passing a 2023 budget that reduced funding to the county constables. The ruling could extend the county’s budget difficulties into the indefinite future. Commissioner Rodney Ellis released a statement accusing state leaders of “distorting Harris County’s record on law enforcement for their own political gain even if it costs Harris County residents the safety and services they expect and deserve.”

FLOODING
Addicks and Barker Reservoirs homeowners have limited options

Homeowners within the Addicks and Barker Reservoirs recently won a judgment against the federal government for letting their homes flood during Hurricane Harvey. The government has appealed the judgment, and a final ruling isn’t likely until sometime in 2024. But even if that ruling favors the homeowners, it will come at a cost: residents of those neighborhoods will have limited options if their homes flood again.
HOUSTON CULTURE
Houston Public Media Celebrates Black History Month

Black History Month is a time to reflect and celebrate the achievements of Black Americans. In 1976, this once-a-week celebration became month-long recognizing contributions of African Americans in American history. Partnering with PBS and NPR, we celebrate Black History giving our community access to stream new and beloved programs celebrating Black excellence. Whether its history, music, documentaries, science or genealogy, we are your destination. Houston Public Media proudly honors and celebrates the contributions of our Black community now and year-round.

ARTS & CULTURE
Houston donates $250,000 to artists impacted by Winter Street Studios fire

The City of Houston announced a $250,000 donation to the Houston Arts Alliance Emergency Relief Fund for artists impacted by the Winter Street Studios fire last December. Over 100 artists’ work was destroyed during the fire that caused $2.5 million in damages. Some artists are still struggling to rebuild their careers and Mayor Sylvester Turner said he hopes the city’s contribution will help the artists back to their livelihoods.

PUBLIC SAFETY
Ike Dike gate design could cause problems for ships in port, Houston-area study shows

The Ike Dike is a $34 billion project that was approved by Congress, but has yet to be funded. The project is a proposed coastal barrier that would protect Galveston Bay and provide a barrier against Gulf surges into the bay. The Bureau’s president Captain Bill Diehl said under current designs, some ships might not be able to get through the Houston Ship Channel.
IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Houston Public Media thanks you for all of your support throughout the year 2022. Through your voice and your stories, we takes pride in making this community of Greater Houston one that we can be proud of and excited to share through our history and within all the pillars of our mission. We hope you see how important your contributions and more importantly support of Houston Public Media is to ALL of us here. View your 2022 Annual Impact here.

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

SHARE IN THIS IMPACT WITH YOUR GIFT TODAY.