

CHICAGO INDEPENDENT MEDIA GUIDE⁰⁴



This is the second edition of the Chicago Independent Media Guide (CIMG), brought to you by an informal and enthusiastic coalition of volunteers from *Third Coast Press*, Chicago Indymedia, and Chicago Media Action. We believe that a strong and supported independent media is essential to a better life in Chicago. In this time of impending media deregulation, which will put our precious airwaves in the hands of a mighty few, it's more important now than ever to aggressively support free thought by reading, watching, and listening to media outlets beyond the reach of those hands. Information is power.

It's time to take that power back.

The resources listed in the CIMG were chosen for the following reasons:

- They are mostly based in the Chicago area
- They are primarily non-profit, non-commercial outlets
- They are primarily left-of-center
- The volunteers had some personal familiarity with them
- The volunteers liked them.

We're certain we have missed things that are worthy of inclusion, and don't pretend that the guide is exhaustive or complete. Feel free to contribute your ideas for the 2005 edition of the CIMG. Please email: thirdcoastpress@yahoo.com

This guide is available for download in a PDF format here:

Chicago Media Action: www.chicagomediaaction.org

Community Media Workshop: www.newstips.org

Chicago Indymedia: chicago.indymedia.org

3 third coast press

Radio

WZRD 88.3 FM

Northeastern University, 100 watts
Northwest side of Chicago; secondary from
Evanston to the Loop, Oak Park to Park Ridge

Democracy Now

MONDAY-FRIDAY, 11 AM-NOON

The Pacifica network's morning news show includes important harrowing and uplifting information. Recent examples include a report on the first Green Party mayor just elected in New Paltz, NY, and a speech given by Rachel Corrie's mother at Olympia State College on what would have been her daughter's graduation day, had she not been crushed to death by an Israeli bulldozer in the Gaza Strip.

Free Speech Radio News

MONDAY-FRIDAY, 3:45 PM-4:15 PM
Pacifica Radio's afternoon news show

Thursday Night Live

THURSDAYS, 10:30 PM-MIDNIGHT
WZRD's live music showcase

WZRD also airs a number of regular radio shows at various times during the week. These shows include:

Alternative Radio

Counterspin

Labor Express

Making Contact

TUC Radio

Voices Of Our World 51%

www.zap.to/wizard_wzrd
773/442-4586
5500 N. St. Louis Ave.
Chicago, IL 60625

WHPK 88.5 FM

WHPK, the community radio station of the University of Chicago, bills itself as "The Pride of the South Side."

Sergio Mims: The Bad Mutha Film Show

MONDAYS, 3 PM-4 PM

From crewing on *Penitentiary* in 1979 to programming controversial films series today, Sergio Mims has spent the last 25 years on

the front lines of black cinema. Join Sergio and his guests (filmmakers, scholars, and fans) as they analyze, criticize, and gossip about the state of African-Americans in mainstream and underground film today.

whpk.uchicago.edu

Studio: 773/702-8424

Office: 773/702-8289

Reynolds Club

5706 S. University Ave.

Chicago, IL 60637

WLWU 88.7 FM

Loyola University, 100 watts

From the Loop to the northern suburbs, from the lake to the Tri-State (I-294).

WLWU is a community radio station that generally runs news/talk/public service programs in mornings, middays, and weekends; alternative music programming in afternoons, nights, and overnights.

Free Speech Radio News

MONDAY-FRIDAY, 6 PM-6:30 PM
Pacifica Radio's afternoon news show

From the Trenches

FOURTH MONDAY OF THE MONTH,
9:30 AM-10:30 AM

News and public affairs from the official radio show of the Chicago Independent Media Center.

Live from the Heartland

WEDNESDAY, 9 AM-10 AM;

SATURDAY, 9 AM-10 AM

Wide-ranging discussion live from the Heartland restaurant in Rogers Park.

Counterspin

WEDNESDAY, 10 AM-10:30 AM

Media news and analysis from FAIR (Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting)

Abstract Science

THURSDAY, 10 PM-2 AM

Independent Music

Labor Express

SUNDAY, 7 PM-8 PM

Local labor news and interviews

Something Else

SUNDAY, 11 PM-2 AM

Full service experimental and avant-garde

music filling station

www.whuw.org

773/508-8080

6525 N. Sheridan Rd.

Chicago, IL 60626

WONC 89.1FM

North Central College, 1,500 watts

Aurora/Naperville/Wheaton area

Local Chaos

WEDNESDAY, 8 PM-10 PM

Showcase local ska, punk, metal, and rock

The Vinyl Destination

EVERY MONDAY FROM 5 PM-7 PM

Feeling nostalgic? Do you long for the days when you attended Rock 'n' Roll High School? Well, you can get lost in that day-dream nation every Monday night at 8 PM. Join your host Aaron Ottinger for two hours of classic punk and alternative music from the '70s, '80s, and early '90s. It's the *Vinyl Destination*, every Monday night at 5 PM on FM 89.

www.wonc.org

630/637-8989

30 N. Brainard St.

Naperville, IL 60566

WNUR 89.3 FM

Northwestern University, 7,200 watts

Lakefront from Highland Park to North Ave.;
West to near the Cook/DuPage border.

This Is Hell

SATURDAY, 9 AM-1 PM

Political discussion, humor, interviews

The Lit Show

SATURDAY, 7 PM-7:30 PM

The Lit Show is a half-hour program featuring live authors reading their own creative work, be it fiction, poetry, plays, creative non-fiction, or translation. Guests have included published authors from the Northwestern community and elsewhere around the country, as well as undergraduate and MFA students in writing.

www.wnur.org

847-491-7101

1905 Sheridan Rd.

Evanston, IL 60201

WRTE 90.5 FM

*Mexican Fine Arts Center, 73 watts
Pilsen and near west side of Chicago.*

Radio Arte, a youth initiative of the Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum, is an educational radio station that has served the Pilsen/Little Village neighborhood of Chicago for over six years. Radio Arte trains, motivates and encourages youth to develop self-expression through the broadcast medium. It provides a forum for young people to be creative and responsible to the largest Mexican community in the Midwest as the only bilingual (Spanish/English), youth-operated, urban community station in the country, Radio Arte is committed to training young people (ages 15–21) from the Chicago metropolitan area in the art of broadcasting. Radio Arte's unique two-year provides our youth with special courses on Writing for Radio, Journalism, voice training, FCC regulations, as well as basic computer skills, production skills, and on-air training.

Homofrequencia

MONDAY, 8 PM–10 PM

Homofrequencia is a live radio program in Spanish that is created by and for young GLBT Latinos. This production of Radio Arte 90.5 FM Chicago intends to educate and sensitize the Latino community regarding various issues of sexuality and gender identity. The show has an entertainment format and tries to provide information in a truthful and objective manner. There is a different topic each week that is exposed to the public in combination with pre-recorded segments, live discussions, interviews with professionals, public opinions, and conversations with GLBT activists in the United States and Latin America via telephone. *Homofrequencia* presents personal testimonies, and puts together segments related to health, politics, religion, and entertainment. E-mail us at homofrequencia@radioarte.org.

Democracy Now

MONDAY–FRIDAY, 6 AM–7 AM;

MONDAY–THURSDAY, 10 PM–11 PM; SATURDAY 12 AM–1 AM

www.wrte.org

312/455-9455

401 W. 18th St.

Chicago, IL 60608

info@radioarte.org

WDCB 90.9 FM

College of DuPage, 5,000 watts

DuPage County; secondary Cook County

WDCB is known for its eclectic music programming, primarily jazz, folk, and classical, and nostalgia music/radio shows.

Dialogue

MONDAY, 6:30 PM–7 PM

Structural and historical aspects of issues, rather than straight news analysis, are the basis of *Dialogue*. This perspective distinguishes it from other broadcasts dealing with the effects of major issues on foreign countries.

Riverwalk, Live from the Landing

SATURDAY, 10 AM–11 AM;

REPEATED SUNDAY, 6 PM–7 PM

Hosted by David Holt and Jim Cullum, *Riverwalk, Live from the Landing* celebrates the lives and music of America's top jazz musicians, past and present. Each week, the Jim Cullum Jazz Band salutes these jazz pioneers in live performances featuring classic jazz and swing music, as well as fascinating stories that bring to life remarkable moments in the history of jazz.

www.cod.edu/wdcb

630-942-3708

425 Faxwell Blvd.

Glen Ellyn, IL 60137-6599

WVON 1450 AM

The Voice of the Nation, WVON is a part-time radio station that airs talk-show programs from 10 AM–1 PM daily.

The Cliff Kelley Show

MONDAY–FRIDAY, 6 AM–10 AM

A native Chicagoan and attorney, Kelley has been active in Chicago's political arena for more than 30 years, including 16 years in the City Council. Kelley has been the host of WVON's popular morning drive talk show, *The Cliff Kelley Show* for more than six years. He makes numerous guest appearances on issue-oriented programs on both local and national television, and is a frequent contributor to public television's *Chicago Tonight*.

www.wvon.com

3350 S. Kedzie

Chicago, IL 60623

773/247-6200

Print

The Baffler

"The Baffler was our attempt to restore a sense of outrage and urgency to the literature of the Left and simultaneously to unmask the pretensions of the lifestyle liberals."

www.thebaffler.com

P.O. Box 378293

Chicago, IL 60637

Catalyst

Catalyst is an independent newsmagazine created in 1990 to document, analyze and support school improvement efforts in the Chicago Public Schools. It is published by the Community Renewal Society, a faith-based organization founded in 1882 that works to create racially and economically just communities in metropolitan Chicago. The Society also publishes *The Chicago Reporter*, an award-winning newsletter created in 1972 to investigate issues of race and poverty.

www.catalyst-chicago.org

332 S. Michigan Ave., Suite 500

Chicago, IL 60604-4302

312/427-4830

Chicago Defender

Founded in 1905, the *Chicago Defender* is the only daily black newspaper in America.

www.chicagodefender.com

2400 S. Michigan

Chicago, IL 60616

312/225-2400

editorial@chicagodefender.com

The Chicago Flame

The *Chicago Flame* has been the University of Illinois at Chicago's student newspaper since 1988.

www.chicagoflame.com

chicagoflame@chicagoflame.com

Chicago Free Press

"A Common Voice for a Diverse Community." "Local, national and international news, weekly health coverage, business and technology reports, news and lifestyle commentary, sports, community events, calendar, community news and resources, and vibrant photography. Provocative, in-depth feature stories, theater, film and book reviews, a comprehensive automotive page, cutting-edge lifestyle features, celebrity and community profiles, and HomeStyle. Restaurant features, a weekly nightlife photo essay, music column, 'On-The-Town' style column, bar listings, special events calendar, an expansive personals section, and adult services/phone ads."

www.chicagofreepress.com

3714 N. Broadway

Chicago, IL 60613

773/325-0005

Chicago Jazz Magazine

Bi-monthly, covering Chicago's jazz scene.

www.chicagojazz.com
P.O. Box 737
Park Ridge, IL 60068

Chicago Journal

Community news for the South Loop, Near West and West Loop.

141 S. Oak Park Ave.
Oak Park, IL, 60302
312/243-2696

Chicago Reader

"Published since 1971, the *Chicago Reader* is widely recognized as one of the leading alternative weeklies in the U.S. It specializes in features rather than news, with emphasis on urban issues and politics, arts and culture, and literary journalism that seeks to capture the spirit of contemporary city life. It has won numerous journalistic awards and honors, both local and national, and is well known as a showcase for Chicago's most talented writers, critics, photographers, and illustrators.

"The *Reader* is also well-known for its indispensable guides to Chicago theater, film, arts, and music, and for an extensive classified advertising section that focuses on the needs of young urban adults."

www.chicagoreader.com
11 E. Illinois
Chicago, IL 60611
312/828-0350

The Chicago Reporter

The *Chicago Reporter* was founded by John A. McDermott in 1971, a time when Chicago, as the rest of the nation, struggled to come to terms with the gains of the civil rights era and the resistance that followed. The *Reporter* continues to cover Chicago's streets, neighborhoods, and institutions, winning dozens of awards. Its pioneering use of computer-assisted reporting has also allowed it to scour the city's databases and computer disks, carrying on as gumshoes in the computer age. Used by legislators, policy makers, academics, and individuals nationwide, the *Reporter* continues to break the news and influence the agenda in Chicago.

www.chicagoreporter.com
332 S. Michigan Ave., Suite 500
Chicago, IL 60604
312/427-4830

Conscious Choice

Monthly, good source of local info about how to use your consumer power to make a better world and for finding healthy restaurants and other green businesses. A recent news story focused on Governor Blagojevich's environmental appointments.

www.consciouschoice.com
920 N. Franklin, Suite 202
Chicago, IL 60610
312/440-4373

Evanston Roundtable

Weekly small-town newspaper.

www.evanstonroundtable.com
1124 Florence Ave.
Evanston, IL 60202
847/867-7749

F Newsmagazine

Publication of the School of the Art Institute. *F* is a monthly newsmagazine open to submission from anyone in the school community.

www.artic.edu/webspaces/fnews
37 S. Wabash
Chicago, IL 60603
312/899-5230

Gay Chicago magazine

GLBT News and Entertainment publication, 26 years young.

www.gaychicagomag.com
3115 N. Broadway
Chicago, IL 60613
773/327-7271

Hasta Cuando

Bilingual Spanish/English paper based in Pilsen. Anarcho-punk edge with many Mexican punkers. "We try to be a quarterly bilingual publication and manage to get published once in a while, when it's not so hot and when we aren't too distracted and furious about the state of things."

1840 S. Racine
Chicago, IL 60608
773/274-6726
Hastacuando@postmark.net

Heartland Journal

The *Heartland Journal* is a quarterly publication of progressive news, commentary, politics, arts, and activism, published by the Heartland Café in Chicago's Rogers Park.

7000 N. Glenwood
Chicago, IL 60626
773/465-8005
fatback@aol.com, koyangmi@aol.com

Illinois Entertainer

Illinois entertainment guide and music review publication.

www.illinoisentertainer.com
124 W. Polk St., Suite 103
Chicago, IL 60605
312/922-9333

Illinois Issues

Illinois Issues magazine is dedicated to providing [a] fresh, provocative analysis of public policy in Illinois. With a special focus on Illinois government and politics, the magazine pays close attention to current trends and legislative issues, and examines the state's quality of life.

The magazine also engages its readers in dialogue, enhancing the quality of public discourse in Illinois. A not-for-profit monthly magazine published by the University of Illinois at Springfield, *Illinois Issues* also sponsors and promotes other appropriate public affairs educational activities.

illinoisissues.uis.edu
Illinois Issues HRB-10
University of Illinois at Springfield
One University Plaza
MS HRB 10
Springfield, IL 62703-5407
217/206-6084
illinoisissues@uis.edu

In These Times

"*In These Times* is a news, opinion, and culture magazine committed to extending political and economic democracy and opposing the tyranny of the marketplace over human values.

"*In These Times'* editorial content is shaped by a commitment to providing the news, analysis, and perspective that is essential to developing a national and global movement for democracy and justice."

www.inthesetimes.com
2040 N. Milwaukee Ave.
Chicago, IL 60647
773/772-0100

Lumpen magazine

"Lumpen Media Group was founded in 1990 to create distribution outlets for independent and underground entertainment, news, and opinion.

"Lumpen magazine remains focused in providing critical cultural and political information to our readers. We still believe that the "freedom of the press belongs to those who own one." As we witness the further consolidation of media outlets, the mechanization of the war of terror, and the ascendancy of friendly fascism worldwide, we remain committed in providing distribution outlets for independent views to those seeking a radical and independent media."

www.lumpen.com/magazine
1542 N. Milwaukee Ave., 2nd floor
Chicago, IL 60622
773/837-0145

Mouthtomouth

We are independent, conversational, and, at times, irreverent—the art world has a sense of humor, and we think we should, too. We are not full of glossy images or slick design, because we believe interesting, readable editorial content is its own reward. And we are distributing the magazine for free—in galleries and nearby businesses throughout town—because we immediately want to reach as broad an audience as possible.

www.mouthtomouthmag.com
P.O. Box 180078
Chicago, IL 60618-0078

N'DIGO

N'DIGO is Chicago's largest African-American weekly publication and offers its diverse readers a new view on contemporary culture. N'DIGO is a must-read in the African-American community, particularly by the black middle-class and progressive types who find its original editorial content relevant, hard-hitting, and fresh.

N'DIGO tells the stories that others have mistold, forgotten, or just didn't know. N'DIGO tells the most interesting stories on business, religion, entertainment, food, politics, fashion, the arts, movies, and much, much more. N'DIGO provides fresh views via commentaries on social issues.

www.ndigo.com
19 North Sangamon
Chicago, IL 60607-261
312/822-0202

NewCity

We offer up a fresh take on culture and city flavored by a lifelong love of the metropolis we cover. With a combination of in-depth reporting, vivid profiles, and sassy commentary on the issues that keep Chicago percolating, *NewCity* lives as a kind of collective urban diary and tour guide. When readers climb between our provocative covers, they find a waking dream of film, theatre, art and concert reviews, previews and features—as well as the city's most comprehensive and user-friendly arts and entertainment calendar. *NewCity* captures provocative, stop-motion snapshots of the City on the Make, giving natives and visitors a view of Chicago they can't get anywhere else. And *NewCity* is easy to find, with 70,000 copies distributed to more than 1,350 points in Chicago and nearly 50 suburbs every week. Add the spunkiest comic strips around, an insatiable literary appetite, thoughtful notes on the art of eating and some of the city's liveliest and best-read classifieds, and you'll see why Chicago can't get *NewCity* out of its heart, or head.

www.newcitychicago.com
770 N. Halsted, Suite 306
Chicago, IL 60622
312/243-8786

Punk Planet

Bi-monthly, well-designed, well-written, passionate discussion of music, politics, and other topics. "We're fiercely independent and dedicated to living outside the mainstream."

www.punkplanet.com
4229 N. Honore
Chicago, IL 60613
773/248-7172

La Raza

Spanish-language monthly publication with hard-hitting news and editorial.

6001 N. Clark St.
Chicago, IL 60660
773/273-2900

Roctober Comics & Music magazine

For more than 10 years, *Roctober* magazine has presented in-depth, well-researched profiles of some of the most dynamic, unjustly obscure figures in music history. The magazine also features thousands of indy reviews a year and showcases the work of some of the most unique underground cartoonists in the world.

www.roctober.com
1507 E. 53rd St., #617
Chicago, IL 60615
editor@roctober.com

Stop Smiling magazine

"Described as 'The magazine for high-minded low-lives,' *Stop Smiling* continues to push the envelope of gonzo journalism à la *National Lampoon*, *Spy*, or *Oui*."

www.stopsmilingonline.com
PO Box 577595
Chicago, IL 60657
773/342-1124
info@stopsmilingonline.com

Third Coast Press

Third Coast Press is a broad, alternative monthly publication for the Chicago area. It is released on the first of every month. We concentrate on local features and news of progressive interest, alternative arts and culture, and coverage of notable community businesses. *Third Coast Press* is committed to supporting the businesses, creative endeavors, and the individuals who invest their energy, resources, and passions to help make Chicago the vibrant cultural and commercial center it is.

Currently, *Third Coast Press* is 24 to 32 pages with a print run of c. 7,000, with an estimated readership of approximately 20,000 every month. We anticipate a distribution base of 10,000 to 12,000 copies by late 2004, with an audience of over 30,000.

Third Coast Press is currently distributed to more than 200 locations in Wicker Park, Rogers Park, Evanston, Lakeview, Lincoln Park, Roscoe Village, Hyde Park, Andersonville, Lincoln Square, the South Loop, and a number of college campuses throughout the city of Chicago, as well as to other areas.

P.O. Box 577595
Chicago, IL 60657
773/525-6730
thirdcoastpress@yahoo.com

UR Chicago

Club and culture entertainment guide. Film, music, nightlife.

www.urchicago.com
655 W. Irving Park Rd., #209
Chicago, IL 60613
773/529-5100

Windy City Times

"The Voice of Chicago's Gay, Lesbian, Bi, and Trans community since 1985."

www.windycitytimes.com
1115 W. Belmont, Suite 2-D
Chicago, IL 60657
773/871-7610

LOCAL ZINES

Alternator
Americant
Bleach
Bomb Time for Bonzo
Caboose
Death by Puppies
Diatribes Zine
Floatation Device
Galactic Zoo
Judas Goat Quarterly
Porcelino
Retail Whore
Thought Bombs
War Against the Idiots
Worse Than Queer
Zine Guide (billed as "The Ultimate Independent Press Resource Guide")

Most of the preceding publications can be found in our favorite bookstores: Quimby's, Chicago Comics, and Bookworks. Please visit them. Tell them the Chicago Independent Media Guide sent you.

Television

Chicago Access Network Television (CAN TV)

Available on Comcast and RCN cable systems in Chicago.

SEIU Says

TUESDAYS, 7 PM-7:30 PM

CAN TV channel 21

This is a weekly call-in show organized by the Service Employees International Union.

LGBT Hotline

FRIDAYS, 6:30 PM-7 PM

CAN TV channel 21

A weekly call-in show where LGBT groups provide support and information for Chicago's LGBT population.

Chicago Independent Television

Chicago Independent Television is the monthly television show of the Chicago Independent Media Center.

Labor Beat

Thursdays, 9:30 PM, Fridays, 4:30 PM

CAN TV channel 19

Labor Beat is a weekly television show about labor issues, politics and organizing.
www.laborbeat.org

CAN TV provides a public space where Chicagoans can discuss local issues and celebrate local talent and initiatives. They often tape events held by Community Partners (community groups). Great past shows happened upon include an improv comedy show and an author reading from her novel at the Cultural Center. CAN TV is also an especially good source of local information during election cycles.

CAN TV19

Neighborhood news and community views. Community Partners Events until noon.

CAN TV21

Live call-in programs weeknights. Chicago Public Schools, other educational shows.

CAN TV27

Nonprofit community services bulletin board. Neighborhood news and features from the Illinois Labor History Society, *Chicago Reporter*, the Community Media Workshop, and Tom Tomorrow's comic strip *This Modern World*.

CAN TV36

Religious and spiritual programming.

CAN TV42

Local events, jobs, educational activities, nonprofit resources, and daily program information 24 hours a day on this interactive community bulletin board.

www.cantv.org
322 S. Green Street
Chicago, IL 60607
312/738-1400
fax 312/738-2519
info@cantv.org

Evanston Community Media Center

Evanston's cable access. Free intro class on studio video equipment on the first Monday of every month for Evanston residents.

Channel 6

Public Access

Channel 16

Government Access, City of Evanston

Channel 19

Educational Access

www.ectv.com
1285 Hartrey Ave.

Evanston, IL 60202
847/869-2510
comment@ectv.com

Free Speech TV

Dish Satellite Network #9415 (24 hours)

Seizing the power of television to expand social consciousness, *FSTV* fuels the movement for progressive social, economic, and political transformation. *FSTV* broadcasts independently-produced documentaries dealing with social, political, cultural, and environmental issues; commissions and produces original programming; develops programming partnerships and collaborations with social justice organizations; provides special live broadcasts from remote locations; and maintains an adjunct Website that hosts one of the Internet's largest collections of progressive audio and video content.

Democracy Now

(Dish Satellite Network #9415)

MONDAY-FRIDAY, 6 AM, 6 PM, 11 PM
CENTRAL

www.freespeech.org
PO Box 6060
Boulder, CO 80306
303/442-8445

C-SPAN 1 & 2

Comcast offers C-SPAN 1 only; RCN also offers C-Span 2. Check cable listings. Streaming video is also available on the Web at www.c-span.org.

C-SPAN has been called "what public television *should* be." Political junkies find it most addictive. C-SPAN tapes all manner of events and shows them in their entirety without editing or commentary. Recent shows include: the "Take Back America" Progressive Conference, the House International Relations Committee on Weapons of Mass Destruction, and FBI Director Robert Mueller addressing the ACLU.

WTTW Channel 11

NOW with Bill Moyers

SUNDAY, 12 AM

Moyers has long been one of the best journalists in television. He was one of the first voices on TV to address the media ownership issue, and this show regularly takes on the biggest corporate interests, as well as highlighting interesting cultural and community developments. While WTTW refuses to run the show in primetime, it is available on Sunday at noon.

Online

Chicago Bloggers

Collection of Chicago-based and suburban bloggers, searchable by proximity to CTA and Metra stops.

www.chicagobloggers.com

Chicago Indymedia

The Independent Media Center (“indy-media” for short) is a grassroots organization committed to using media production and distribution as a tool for promoting social and economic justice. It is a cooperative effort of hundreds of independent media organizations around the world, some of whose efforts you can visit via the list of worldwide indymedia centers on the left-hand column of this Web page.

The Chicago Independent Media Center (“Chicago Indymedia” or “Chicago IMC”) is Chicago’s contribution to the growing Indymedia movement. Chicago Indymedia maintains a Website (chicago.indymedia.org) with an open publishing newswire, which allows anyone to publish their story or opinion and thereby quickly reach a wide audience. Chicago Indymedia also produces a monthly radio program, *From the Trenches*, and a monthly TV series, *Chicago Independent Television*.

chicago.indymedia.org
3411 W. Diversey
Chicago, IL 60647
imc-chicago@indymedia.org

Media Activism & Training

Chicago Filmmakers

Chicago Filmmakers is a 30-year-old media arts organization that fosters the creation, appreciation, and understanding of film and video as media for artistic and personal expression, as well as media of important social and community impact. Our mission is to provide an opportunity for artists to make films outside the mainstream marketplace, to distribute and exhibit this work, as well as building audiences and increasing media attention for it. Recognizing the impact of mass media in contemporary society, it is additionally our goal to provide culturally diverse audiences with alternative images to those reflected in mainstream media and to broaden access to media edu-

cation to include those typically left out of the process. It offers weekly screenings and classes, and also hosts Chicago Lesbian and Gay International Film Festival, the second oldest gay/lesbian film festival in the world.

5243 N. Clark
Chicago, IL 60640
773/293-1447
www.chicagofilmakers.org

Women in the Director’s Chair

Women in the Director’s Chair (WIDC) is a Chicago-based, international media arts/activist center which exhibits, promotes, and educates about media made by women, girls, and transgendered people that express a diversity of cultures, experiences, and issues.

We strive to expand and create new audiences for this work and to advance the use of alternative media for social change. It is our mission to raise the visibility of women media makers and to support the production of alternative media that defies demeaning stereotypes perpetuated by mainstream media.

We seek to encourage the development of strategies of resistance that combat inaccuracy with truth, and replace perpetual disenfranchisement with community.

It is our belief that educated viewers are critical viewers who become vocal and active participants in the social forces that shape our culture. WIDC also serves as a network where independent media artists share ideas, skills, and opportunities.

www.widc.org
941 W. Lawrence, #500
Chicago, IL 60640
773/907-0610
widc@sbcglobal.net

buddy

buddy is an artist run space, an effort in creating space for experimental music, performance, workshops, discussions, and exhibitions. Our goal is to foster a habitat and cultural space for emerging accidents, radical culture and intentional community organizing. We love you.

www.lumpen.com/buddy/yes.html
542 N. Milwaukee Ave., 2nd floor
Chicago, IL 60622
773/342-7332

Video Machete

Video Machete is a Chicago-based, inter-generational collective of cultural workers.

We are activists, students, media artists—both youth and adult—who are all committed to cultivating images, ideas, and words that transform our communities, raise consciousness, and generate collective analysis and action. We use multimedia, video production, and alternative press to explore and document the stories and perspectives of communities that are erased and distorted by mainstream media. Video Machete is committed to producing cultural work that addresses real change in our communities and society.

www.videomachete.org
1180 N. Milwaukee, Floor 2
Chicago, IL 60622
773/645-1272
info@videomachete.org

Street Level Youth Media

Street Level Youth Media educates Chicago’s inner city youth in media arts and emerging technologies for use in self-expression, communication, and social change. Street Level’s programs build critical thinking skills for urban youth who have been historically neglected by government and mass media. Using video production, computer art and the Internet, Street Level’s young people address community issues, access advanced communication technology, and gain inclusion in our information-based society.

streetlevel.iit.edu
1856 W. Chicago Ave.
Chicago, IL 60622
773/862-5331

Chicago Media Action

Chicago Media Action is a Chicago organization devoted to media issues and the politics on media—everything from the FCC to lobbying and pressuring corporate and so-called public television and radio, to supporting independent media like public access TV and community radio. CMA maintains an active announcements list for sending a regular monthly e-newsletter and regular announcements, and organizes events on assorted media issues.

www.chicagomediaaction.org
P.O. Box 14140
Chicago, IL 60614
cma@chicagomediaaction.org

Community Media Workshop

The Community Media Workshop, founded by a journalist, Hank De Zutter, and a community activist, Thom Clark, is a small institution trying to link the two Chicagos by

encouraging the media to tell the stories of the other Chicago, the oft-neglected neighborhoods and back streets of Chicago, where the problems are felt most deeply and where solutions are most likely to be born.

The Workshop trains people working on these problems to tell their stories to the media, tips sensitive journalists to the importance of these stories, and tries to create better relationships between the media and the diverse communities that make up Chicago.

www.newstips.org/index.php
600 S. Michigan
Chicago, IL 60605
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Kartemquin

Films to Change the World. Founded in 1965, this project of progressive filmmakers has produced some of the most critically-acclaimed Chicago documentaries: *Hoop Dreams*, *Stevie*, *The New Americans*, protest films like *What the Fuck are These Red Squares*, and gentrification expose *Now We Live on Clifton Street*. The group has made more than 30 films focusing on social problems.

www.kartemquin.com
1901 W. Wellington Ave., # 1
Chicago, IL 60657-4029
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If you would like to be considered for a listing in the 2005 Independent Media Guide or would like to recommend a media resource, let us know: thirdcoastpress@yahoo.com



Four easy ways to improve reception of low power FM stations

By Slacker, Reprinted from the 2003 Edition

1. Home listening on a component FM tuner: Usually these are the most expensive FM receivers you can buy, but they always seem to come with the same crappy wire antenna.

First of all, take one end of the wire and hook it on something so that it is pointing straight up. This will usually improve your reception. If not, consider buying a cheap (<\$10) antenna from Radio Shack. DO NOT get an amplified antenna. They don't improve reception. Also avoid satellite dish or circular shaped antennas. The best performer will be a telescoping antenna or an antenna shaped like a bow tie. If it still doesn't

work, consider buying a roof mount antenna. Radio Shack sells a directional model for \$15. Mounting hardware will set you back another \$20 to \$40. If all else fails, you could move.

2. Home listening on a boombox tuner: The antennas on these are usually fixed telescoping antennas, so you can't replace them. Prepare to do some experimenting. First, set the boombox near a window that faces the location of the transmitter. Starting with the antenna pointing straight up, move it around a little bit. If you've got two antennas, angle them 90 degrees apart from

each other and rotate that way. I've also heard of people having good luck using aluminum foil creations wrapped around the antenna...just mess with it until it works.

3. Listening in a car: Make sure you've got a decent antenna on your car. The kind that's almost three feet long and telescopes out. You don't want a little "whip" antenna. Those are only good for picking up powerful commercial stations. Aside from that, there's really nothing you can do to improve reception except drive around.

4. Walkman? Good luck. The

antennas in these things are the headphone cords. Try to keep the cord straight and away from your body.

5. Anything else? Yes... If you've got about \$30 to spend, you could purchase a "weather radio."

The best models are made by GE. These little devils are small, portable, and notoriously good receptors. The higher end models also come with external antenna jacks. The reason these radios receive FM signals so well is because they're mono.

FM is always strongest on mono receivers. In fact, if you own one of the few receivers that can switch to mono, try that too. 📻