

KBRP Community Radio

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KBRP RADIO AND BISBEE MINING AND HISTORICAL MUSEUM LAUNCH PROGRAM

Bisbee is a town rich in history from the city's mining heritage to the current creative class. On Tuesday, October 2nd, KBRP Community Radio and the Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum, a Smithsonian affiliate, will bring this varied past to the airwaves through a new collaboration. This program, The Copper Chronicle, will record and archive the stories that make this rich history relevant to our citizens and visitors.

The launch of The Copper Chronicle, hosted by Bisbee native Charles Bethea, reveals a distinctive narrative created through extensive research in the library of the Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum. Mr. Bethea, a member of the Museum's governing board of directors who has recently returned to his hometown after a successful arts administration career, conjures a sound that is reminiscent of storytellers familiar to listeners of public and community radio.

"Bisbee is rich with history and great stories and the tradition of great storytelling is a cornerstone of public radio. I hope The Copper Chronicle captures listener's imagination the way good stories should. A good story should make you listen to the end and say "I didn't know that!" And you should want to not miss the next one," said Bethea.

At the beginning of this year, KBRP Station Director Ryan J. Bruce approached Museum Director Carrie Gustavson about bringing these stories to the airwaves. After a brainstorming session, Ms. Gustavson brought in Mr. Bethea to produce this content, which resulted in the program that will debut on Tuesday. All three individuals will also serve as executive producers of the program.

"The Copper Chronicle has exceeded all expectations. This program will be a real community asset allowing us to pass along our history to our residents and archive the information for future generations. In addition, the program will be distributed regionally to non-commercial community and public stations in an effort to use this history as a unique and critical marketing tool," said Bruce.

The Copper Chronicle, a tip of the hat to the old Bisbee High School newspaper, also features local original music composed and performed by artistic luminaries Judy Perry and Nancy Weaver.

"We couldn't have put this program together without the artistic contribution from our local music scene. When we make a program available for podcast or distribute it to other stations, it is important that we have licensing for the music, so Judy and Nancy's musical contribution was necessary and beneficial on a number of fronts," said Bruce.

The program will be aired on 96.1 FM on Tuesday and Thursdays at 12:50 PM. The program will be rebroadcast on Fridays at 7:50 AM and on Saturdays at 11:50 AM. The program will also be available for podcast and on-demand audio at <http://www.kbrpradio.com> and iTunes.