

# Youth Beat Radio: The Voice to Empower

## **Purpose**

Youth Beat Radio is a weekly radio program aired on Columbus Community Radio Station WCRS 102.1/98.3 FM. It is produced by Central Ohio youth and features stories of youth leadership, community involvement, and action. It is designed to be of interest to youth and adult audiences and covers a broad range of topics including community issues, environment, health, relationships, sports, current trends, and the arts.

## **Impact**

The program has aired since 2009 and over 120 shows have been produced. A diverse group of students have participated as producers and as interviewees.

Students learn technical skills using recording equipment and editing software. Some of the students have been involved in training other students on radio production.

Students report on issues affecting youth, community organizations, and community needs. The program provides a unique experience that allows youth voices to be heard by a public audience.

## **Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved**

College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences  
School of Environment and Natural Resources  
OSU Extension

## **Community Partners Involved**

Upper Arlington High School  
Fort Hayes Metropolitan Education Center  
Eastmoor Academy  
Linden McKinley STEM Academy  
Columbus Alternative High School  
Columbus International High School  
City Year Columbus  
Barack Community Recreation Center

## **Funding Partners**

Puffin Foundation West



## **Contact**

**Kristi Lekies**  
Assistant Professor  
College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences  
School of Environment and Natural Resources  
[lekies.1@osu.edu](mailto:lekies.1@osu.edu)  
<http://youthbeat.osu.edu>



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

