
SALUTING THE NATION'S TOP BLACK COLLEGE RADIO STATION: FISK UNIVERSITY'S WFSK-FM

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a very special organization in my hometown of Nashville, WFSK-FM, the radio station of Fisk University. Fisk is recognized nationwide for its outstanding academic programs as well as the world-famous Fisk Jubilee Singers--a group we recently honored here in Congress with the introduction of a special Congressional Resolution. Now, Fisk is also celebrating another outstanding accomplishment. WFSK-FM was just named the Nation's top black college radio station in the annual awards from Black Press Magazine and the Historical Black Press Foundation.

WFSK-FM broadcasts from its home on the campus of Fisk, but it informs and entertains a growing audience throughout the Middle Tennessee area. On air since 1973, WFSK has long been recognized for its diverse and innovative programming. The current format reflects the diversity and interests of the greater Nashville area. Music programs showcase smooth jazz classics, reggae, Haitian, African and gospel, as well as vintage funk and soul recordings. Public affairs programming includes in-depth news reporting, talk shows that focus on issues of concern to the community, and features on art and culture events. According to Sharon Kay, General Manager at WFSK for the past year, the station prides itself on offering the community "an opportunity to hear shows and events from a cultural perspective and viewpoint that is unique in this marketplace."

On October 6, WFSK will kick off a major fund-raising effort with a non-stop, 48-hour on-air celebration of their heritage and their commitment to future growth. Under Sharon Kay's direction, WFSK is undertaking a major renovation and expansion, with plans for a new transmitter and new antennae, as well as upgraded digital equipment. I am honored to be joining the entire team at WFSK, as well as other community leaders and music professionals, for this important event.

WFSK is a powerful and important voice in Nashville. I am proud to salute them on their latest achievement, being named the Nation's top black college radio station. And I wish them continued success with their upcoming fundraising event and in the years to come as they expand their presence in our community.

Jim Cooper

Member of Congress

