

# The Insider

## Coming up....

### SEUSS SCIENCE DAY

*Save the date!* The Cat in the Hat is coming back to Springfield's Discovery Center on **Saturday, February 16** for OPT's Seuss Science Day! We'll be reading some of your favorite Dr. Seuss books, including *Fox in Socks* and *Green Eggs and Ham*, as well as doing special science demonstrations. You'll also get a chance to meet and have your photo taken with The Cat in the Hat himself!

Admission is \$7 per person. (Children under 2 and OPT Kids Club Members get in **free!**) More event details can be found at [optv.org](http://optv.org).



### PBS KIDS WRITERS CONTEST

Sharpen your pencils: the PBS Kids Writers Contest is now in full swing for 2019! The contest encourages children in grades kindergarten through third grade to celebrate creativity by submitting their own original stories and illustrations. The deadline for entries for this year's contest is Friday, April 26th.

Contest rules and entry form can be found on [optv.org](http://optv.org), as well as links to helpful activities for brainstorming, writing, and story revision.

## From the Desk of... Jessica Balisle, Administrative Specialist and *Studio Live* Host



Last fall, KSMU leveled up our popular *Studio Live* program and launched a new companion series: *SoundCheck*. The show features in-depth musician interviews in brief sound bites to give listeners a taste of what's in store for *Studio Live* later in the week.

*Studio Live* airs every second Friday of the month at noon and features a local band or musician performing in KSMU's studio. The radio show is followed by Studio Live Social Hour the same evening from 6-8pm at Alamo Drafthouse's bar, The Backlot. During Social Hour, our listeners have a unique opportunity to get out and see the

musicians they just heard on-air in a fun, live music setting. Now, *SoundCheck* kicks off each *Studio Live* week with an exclusive audio profile of that month's featured musicians. It's a great way for our listeners to get a sneak peek into what it takes to be a performing musician here in the Ozarks. You can catch *SoundCheck* on the second Tuesday of every month at exactly 4:44pm.

When *SoundCheck* began in October, we looked at how local band The HigLeeWils blend their voices in a three-part harmony. November's installment profiled Failing Minnesota and the new album they spent nearly a year producing. In December, songwriter Joe Dillstrom shared his post-war Americana inspirations. 2019's first *SoundCheck* took us on a tour of the Ozarks with Sunset to Burns.

Coming up on February 8, *Studio Live* will feature some of the musicians performing on the KSMU Acoustic Stage at the Sertoma Chili Cook-Off. We'll have The Shandies and Justin Larkin live in the studio with us, along with proud Sertoman Ken Childers. Don't miss KSMU's *SoundCheck* preview of this special group of local musicians on Tuesday, February 5!

We are so lucky to have such a vibrant music community right here in the Ozarks. We created *SoundCheck* to help enrich that experience even more for our listeners. For more information, visit [www.ksmu.org/studiolive](http://www.ksmu.org/studiolive).

### ***SoundCheck* and *Studio Live* Schedule—Spring 2019**

#### **Sertoma Chili Cook-Off KSMU Acoustic Stage Preview**

*SoundCheck* preview: Tuesday, February 5, 4:44pm  
*Studio Live* performance: Friday, February 8 at 12:00pm

#### **Ruell Chappell**

*SoundCheck* preview: Tuesday, March 5 at 4:44pm  
*Studio Live* performance: Friday, March 8 at 12:00pm

#### **The Random Strangers**

*SoundCheck* preview: Tuesday, April 9 at 4:44pm  
*Studio Live* performance: Friday, April 12 at 12:00pm

#### **Keltic Knot**

*SoundCheck* preview: Tuesday, May 7 at 4:44pm  
*Studio Live* performance: Friday, May 10 at 12:00pm

## Legacy Circle — Lori Street, Membership Manager

Is planning and organizing on your to-do list for 2019? The beginning of the year is always a perfect time to get things in order—whether it’s decluttering, healthier meal planning, or financial planning. Whatever the topic, plans empower us to feel better about the future. For your upcoming financial discussions, here is a tip that may be helpful: When updating your life insurance policy, you may name a spouse, child, or even a charitable organization such as ours as a beneficiary.

*For more information on how you can help Ozarks Public Broadcasting further its mission through planned giving, contact Lori Street at (417) 836-3506 or [LoriStreet@MissouriState.edu](mailto:LoriStreet@MissouriState.edu).*

## Student Spotlight: Claire Kidwell



*KSMU is proud to serve as a training ground for the journalists of tomorrow. Missouri State senior Claire Kidwell—a Global Studies major with a minors in Music and Math—is a familiar voice to many listeners, as she has been doing on-air work at KSMU for several years now. Originally from Jackson, Missouri, Claire has been a lifelong public radio devotee.*

**What made you want to work for OPB?** Growing up, NPR was constantly on both at home and when we traveled. It was one of the few constants in my life. Saturday mornings in my mind are for *Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me!* and homemade pancakes. In high school, I won awards for Radio Speaking on my Speech and Debate team. Then, during my first semester at MSU, I found out about KSMU’s internship opportunities from my Speech teacher—and here I am today!

**What do you do at the station, and what do you find most challenging?** I work as an announcer, and I do work in news as well. I've written on a variety of topics, from local opera productions to Springfield during WWI. The thing I find most challenging is patience! Sometimes it’s hard to connect with the right people for an interview after I get an exciting story idea. The waiting period can really drive me nuts.

**What do you do in your free time?** I'm involved with several organizations across campus, including Model United Nations, MSU Aerialists, and The Kindness Commission. I'm also a member of the MSU Chorale, and that keeps me traveling domestically and internationally.

**What’s the best thing about working at OPB?** Meeting people from all over our community and getting the chance to share their story. People are so interesting when you get to know them, and I love getting pushed outside my comfort zone and learning new things and ideas just by talking to people.

**What are your plans for the future (post-college)?** I'm working on a series of internship applications (NPR in D.C. being one of them). I'm also starting my application for the Peace Corps, after which I will either pursue a graduate degree in Economic Development or stick with journalism...I'm open to almost anything!

**What is something listeners/viewers might be surprised to know about the daily operations at the station?** Not every student who works here studies journalism, even though we are passionate about it. I think my degree influences my work at KSMU, and vice-versa. I also think listeners would be surprised that announcers are not live all the time—I record my breaks when I can around my classes.

## Need to Know

### THIS MONTH ON OPT PASSPORT

#### The Royal Collection

Learn more about the royal family, traditions and residences seen in *Victoria* in this special collection featuring the following programs:

- [Victoria and Albert: The Wedding](#)
- [Tales of the Royal Wardrobe](#)
- [Tales of the Royal Bedchamber](#)
- [Margaret: The Rebel Princess](#)



#### Currently most popular on OPT Passport...

- [Poldark](#)
- [The Durrells in Corfu](#)
- [Downton Abbey](#)



#### Expiring soon!

- [Austin City Limits: Angeliqe Kidjo](#)  
(March 1)
- [The Vietnam War: Episodes 1-10](#)  
(March 1)
- [Mark Twain: Episodes 1-2](#) (March 10)



Learn more about OPT Passport at [optv.org/opt-passport](http://optv.org/opt-passport).