

# SONGS IN THE KEY OF DAVE

*A Storytelling Series, Punctuated by Music*

*Songs in the Key of Dave* is a unique series that blends intimate father-son conversations with the music that shaped their lives.

What begins as a weekly call—shared over a glass of wine, 1,200 miles apart—becomes a carefully crafted audio experience. Each episode weaves personal stories, family history, and cultural memories together with songs from the '50s, '60s, and '70s (and beyond), creating something that feels both deeply personal and universally relatable. The result is a warm, reflective program about the stories families tell, the places that shape us, and the music that brings those memories back.

## Why It Works

At its core, *Songs in the Key of Dave* isn't just about one family. The stories may be personal, but the emotions are shared: growing up, family, change, and the soundtrack that follows us through it all. Listeners often say the show reminds them of conversations with their own parents and grandparents — proving that everyone's life has a soundtrack worth hearing.

## FAQ

### Who are Bruce and Dave?

Bruce Janu is a long-time educator. He taught social science for over 32 years, and is now a high school librarian and archivist. He is also a filmmaker and lifelong music enthusiast based in the Chicago area, with quite a collection of records (shellac and vinyl), plus several music players from Victrolas to 8-tracks tape players.

Dave Janu is Bruce's octogenarian father. He grew up in Chicago's Old Town neighborhood and later lived in Mt. Prospect, Illinois. A retired tool and die maker, he now lives in Florida where he brings decades of memories and stories to the show.

Also on the show, you may hear Lynn Janu, the matriarch of the family, and Lori, Bruce's sister.

### Why would anyone want to listen to conversations between a father and son? Aren't these conversations specific to them?

The details may be personal, but the themes are universal. Listeners hear their own families in these conversations — their childhoods, relationships, memories, and soundtracks. The show resonates for the same reasons programs like *StoryCorps*, *The Moth*, and *This American Life* resonate: specific stories reveal universal truths. And of course, Dave is delightful and has an innate ability to recall vivid details from the past.

### What makes this show different?

The heart of the show is authenticity — real conversations between a father and son who genuinely enjoy each other's company. But the music is what makes *Songs in the Key of Dave* unique. Each episode features a curated blend music to match the mood and storytelling. The music often includes familiar songs, forgotten gems, deep cuts and rare finds.

It's part storytelling, part music documentary, part memoir — all woven into a warm, intimate audio experience.



## Format

Length: Typically 50-57 minutes

Structure: Narrative segments + full songs

Tone: Warm, nostalgic, reflective, occasionally humorous

Delivery: Broadcast-ready audio (MP3/WAV)

Flexibility: Suitable for full-hour blocks or specialty programming

## Programming Fit

- Weekend programming
- Storytelling blocks
- Nostalgia or heritage programming
- Music-focused stations looking for spoken-word crossover content

## About the Producer

Bruce Janu is a teacher, broadcaster, filmmaker, and storyteller who specializes in music-driven narratives. He is the founder of Vinyl Voyage Radio and the creator of multiple original audio programs rooted in vinyl and history. He is currently producing the documentary *Ginny & Juel*, uncovering the story of *The Ingenues*, a groundbreaking all-female band of the 1920s.

Full episodes of *Songs in the Key of Dave* can be heard at [Bell, Book and Camera Productions](#)

[Bruce David Janu](#)  
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