

Micah Burdick Kansas City, MO

I'm a singer/songwriter/multi-instrumentalist/producer(local music)/studio engineer/music appreciator.

I'm now 22 and I've been serious about music since I started playing the guitar at age 14. In almost nine years I've learned to play the instrument proficiently as well as the electric bass and mandolin. While playing music in original acts, some small national acts, and my worship team at Lakeland Community Church I've learned much about music theory, chord construction, and ear training. I've learned how to write songs with hooks and compelling musical structures. I've done serious study and transcription of several hundred hit songs. After a few years in music retail, I've become a guitar instructor at a local music dealer. Right now, I'm finishing mastering on my record which should be available on the internet by 2005.

I grew up listening to the radio. The radio was a big part of my coming of age in the mid-to-late 90's. I feel like we've seen an enormous decline in the display of talent on local radio in Kansas City. I feel that the radio works hard to promote mostly what the industry produces because we have a grotesque lack of support for the arts in our area.

Kansas City in large has worked hard to keep the rich old folks pleased. Mostly so some local representatives can keep themselves in office for another term. And with this, the arts here suffer. The nightlife is awful. Mostly kids that are bored and can't think of much more to do than get some kicks from substances. So, local music venues rely on drink specials and national talent to keep the doors open. Rock clubs that haven't already are opening up "dance nights".

96.5 and 90.9 are the only two stations I know that specifically show case local talent. These stations are regularly struggling to keep on the air.

I've sent my work to 96.5 on three occasions(one being in-person), and I've never heard anything about it. Even after requests by our fans were made.

I'm certain that 90.9 is the only station here that works for musicians and opens the people to new talent.

Local programming should be defined! People here don't even know what's going on in the music world. I lived in Chicago for a while and up there, they play everyone. Local and national. There are tunes by national acts that played everywhere but Kansas City. They don't even have a chance here.

Our city can only pick what's put before it.

I think programming could be well done at a local level if stations aren't prodded by funding from major labels.

All types of programming should appear on the radio stations.

The big stations here will show up to the local gas stations to fill that requirement. I don't see that as a valid fulfillment of the expectation.

I wasn't aware of the practice of voice-tracking. Local DJ's make regular public appearances. I think it should be addressed.

Our "localism" is in shambles. This is something that needs some help. The community is almost completely broken down.

I think the whole concept of LPFM is fantastic. If we can have more, we should get them.

Thank you for hearing my voice in the matter.