

WLAE Community Representation Statement

(The Communications Act requires the Corporation for Public Broadcasting to support diverse non-commercial educational content for unserved and underserved audiences and to make public media's content available for free to rural and urban audiences throughout the United States. Locally owned and operated public media stations are uniquely connected to America's communities and positioned to reflect and serve the diverse and varying populations of their communities.

CPB encourages stations to continue to reflect and include their communities in station employment, membership on boards primarily responsible for station governance, community advisory boards (if required) and to provide educational, informational, and cultural content that meets the need of the community populations they serve. Station activities and practices in support of these objectives must be consistent with the Equal Employment Opportunity provisions in the General Provisions and with other applicable federal and state laws.

To affirm this ongoing commitment, stations are required to adopt a "Community Representation Statement" that documents their support of these goals and how they plan to achieve them. The Community Representation Statement must be posted on the station's website or made available at its central office. Stations must biennially review their Community Representation Statements with their governing body and modify them as necessary to reflect significant changes in their communities' populations served and their strategies to serve them.)

As a public television station licensed in New Orleans, LA, WLAE has a responsibility to reflect the issues, cultures and lives of residents of Southeast Louisiana. WLAE is an award-winning member of the media in our community providing nonpartisan educational, informational and inspirational programming content across a variety of digital platforms.

WLAE is known as a market leader in the production of documentary films highlighting the diverse people, culture and history of our city. Our documentaries on **Fats Domino, Allen Toussaint, Leah Chase and Battlegrounds – The Lost Community of Fazendeville** have been recognized with Emmy, Telly, and Gabriel Awards as well as numerous citations from the Press Club of New Orleans.

WLAE is an equal opportunity employer, and includes a staff with a wide range of backgrounds. We also offer internships geared toward developing a pipeline of talent for public media. The station participates annually in job fairs and other outreach and engagement activities.

We seek to create a work environment that is inclusive, respectful and equitable, and to hire and employ the talents of people with different backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives to accomplish the mission of WLAE.

Our Goals:

Develop a multi-cultural management team providing leadership throughout the staff.

Continue to offer formal diversity training for management, supervisory personnel and staff to provide the tools necessary for creating a workplace that embraces diversity, inclusion and engagement.

Seek to reflect our community in total with candidates for our Board of Directors and Community Advisory Board through attributes of diversity, including race, ethnicity, gender, age, geographic and diversity of subject matter expertise. Our boards provide advice and direction on community issues and the station's public service strategy.

Address the community priorities of Healthcare, Education, Crime, Culture and Economic Development with rich content through a variety of productions deemed most important for our viewing audience in Southeast Louisiana and the Greater New Orleans community. This includes content in Spanish for the ever-growing Hispanic population and French language.

We will remain committed to increasing our representation of our community, reflecting their makeup through management, staff and advisory boards.

Approved by the WLAE Board of Directors 8/21/2024

