



Department of Records
& Information Services

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WNYC Broadcast Studio, July 1924

NYC Municipal Archives

NYC Municipal Archives Celebrates WNYC Centennial at 13th Annual Photoville Festival

New York, NY – On June 1, the NYC Department of Records & Information Services (DORIS) will debut a photography and audiovisual exhibit joining archival photos, artwork, and ephemera with historical audio recordings at the 13th annual Photoville Festival. [“100 Years of WNYC”](#) celebrates the 100th anniversary of WNYC, among the nation’s earliest municipally-owned radio and television stations.

WNYC made its inaugural radio broadcast from a studio at the top of the Municipal Building in July 1924. The Photoville exhibit combines historical images with unique audio recordings from the Municipal Archives collections highlighting the sights and sounds of a city and a nation through a century of transformations, tribulations, and triumphs in the voices of presidents, dignitaries, world leaders, artistic revolutionaries, musical geniuses, luminaries of the literati, and cultural icons. Highlights include Bob

Dylan's first radio broadcast, Nelson Mandela at City Hall in 1991, as well as reporting from WNYC after it became independent from the City, including coverage from September 11, 2001, during the attack on the World Trade Center.

The exhibit combines content from the WNYC Archives and the Municipal Archives to showcase both the radio station and its sister television station, WNYC-TV, which operated from 1949 to 1997. WNYC received funding for the digitization and preservation of the New York Public Radio/WNYC Archives from the Leon Levy Foundation, the National Foundation for the Humanities, and the Donald A. Pels Charitable Trust.

"We are pleased to showcase the historical treasures of New York City's Municipal Archives through this display featuring vintage images paired with evocative audio recordings. We hope this innovative use of historical materials will both inform and inspire others to explore our rich heritage," said **Pauline Toole, Commissioner, DORIS.**

"We're excited to preview our Centennial celebration with this exhibit of WNYC's history at Photoville," said **Andy Lanset, New York Public Radio (WNYC) Archives Director.** "This audiovisual display illuminates our rich legacy of public service to the people of New York. We're honored to partner with the Municipal Archive - the repository of so much of our venerable history as a formerly City-run radio station - to tell this story."

Curated by DORIS Operations Manager Michael Lorenzini and New York Public Radio Archives Founding Director Andy Lanset, "100 Years of WNYC" will be on display from June 1-16 at the Emily Warren Roebling Plaza in Brooklyn Bridge Park. The Photoville Festival is free to attend, and DORIS's exhibit will be open from 12-6pm Tuesday through Thursday and 12-8pm Friday through Sunday.

For more information on the Photoville Festival, visit <https://photoville.nyc>.

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About the Department of Records and Information Services (DORIS): Established in 1977, the Department of Records and Information Services (DORIS) preserves and provides public access to historical and contemporary records and information about New York City government. We operate the Municipal Archives, the Municipal Library, and the Records Center. Learn more at <https://www.nyc.gov/site/records/index.page>.

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