

# VAB Voice | Wednesday, June 16, 2021



## In This Issue:

- Virtual Annual Meeting @ 1pm Today
- Production of the Year Competition
- VAB Convention Save The Date!
- Kwame Dankwa Joins 95 Triple X
- Free Webinar for TV Talent 6/17
- Free Webinar for Managers 6/17
- Webcast Royalties Decision Released

## VAB Annual Meeting Wednesday 6/16 @ 1:00PM

# ANNUAL MEETING



CONNECTION • INSPIRATION • RECOGNITION

To Be Held Virtually Via ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89738356593>

Official business includes the election of VAB Board Members, the approval of the budget and the presentation of the Annual Report.

If the station you are employed by is a member of the VAB, than so are you and all members are welcome to attend.

## Production of the Year Competition Announced



[Read Rules & Enter Here](#)

### Entries Due By July 8, 2021

The VAB is excited to honor the outstanding television and radio commercials, promos, PSAs and digital content that has been created by Vermonters and aired on Vermont stations and/or digital platforms over the last 12 months!

Each station or Production Company/Marketing Agency may submit up to (2) entries per category that aired between May 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021.

Entries will be scored on Creativity, Production Value, Copy-writing and the Ability to Evoke Response. Awards will be given to the entries with the highest score in 16 "Outstanding" categories!

## Save The Date! 65th Annual VAB Convention Wednesday, August 18th in Waitsfield!



Lareau Farm in Waitsfield is the site of this year's VAB Convention 8/18!

After having to cancel the Convention in 2020 due to COVID-19, the VAB is thrilled to announce we will be holding the 65th Annual VAB Convention and Production of the Year Award Ceremony Wednesday, August 18, 2021! Our new venue, Lareau Farm Inn, is home to the original American Flatbread in Waitsfield, VT and features two outdoor covered pavilions where we'll spend the day learning, laughing and socializing again! Details, including the schedule, are being worked out and will be announced soon. For now, save Wednesday, August 18th from 8AM-2PM for the 65th Annual VAB Convention!

## Kwame Dankwa Joins 95 Triple X



VOX AM/FM has hired Kwame Dankwa as PD and afternoon drive talent at 95 Triple X (WXXX-FM).

Dankwa was most recently Brand Manager and did afternoon drive at Townsquare Top 40 WJBQ in Portland, ME. Before that, he programmed iHeartMedia Top 40 WRTS in Erie, PA and the former KPWK in Seattle, WA. And before that, he was at Pamal's Top 40 WZRT in Rutland, interspersed with a stint as APD/night jock at iHeartMedia Top 40 KWNW in Memphis, TN.

John Mullett, VOX AM/FM VP of Operations/Station Manager, commented, "We couldn't be more excited to have Kwame join our team at VOX. His knowledge, experience and infectious energy are going to be an incredible asset to 95 Triple X."

## Free Webinars for TV Talent & Managers 6/17

### For Reporters, Anchors & Meteorologists



### ***"Don't Be a Garden Gnome: Little Tips to Help Your Standups Stand Out"***

Thursday, June 17, 2021  
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
with Joe Little,  
Reporter, NBC7 San Diego

NBC 7 San Diego Reporter and Director of Storytelling Joe Little is known for maximizing his time on camera when he's live or recorded. He'll share his tips to make your time on camera matter, move the story forward, and simply look better.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87588910466>

### For HR Directors & Managers:



### ***"Addressing the Recruiting Challenges within a Changing Media Industry"***

Thursday, June 17, 2021  
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.  
with Ty Carver, Carver Talent

Effectively recruiting top media professionals in today's changing media landscape may be the most difficult in the history of our industry. This session will address the challenges of Acquisitions, downsizing, OTT/streaming, contracts/non-competes, people leaving the industry and give real-world tips and tricks to help you hunt and hire top talent.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87964094406>

# VOSHA Workplace Safety Memo

VT Department of Labor/VT Occupational Safety and Health Administration (VOSHA) just released a memo on workplace safety tips relating to COVID-19, offering 10 things to think about as the state lifts all mandates & restrictions.

[READ THE MEMO](#)

## Webcasting Royalties Decision Released

Late last week, the Copyright Royalty Board (CRB) released its decision on streaming royalties for 2021-2025. The new rates and rules can be found [here](#). These new rules apply to all noninteractive webcasters including broadcasters who are simulcasting their over-the-air signals on the Internet. Payments under these new rates likely will be retroactive to January 1 of this year.

In short, the minimum per channel fee is going up to \$1000 for each channel that any party streams. For each entity that is relying on this compulsory license, their aggregate minimum fee is \$100,000. That means that, each January, a company relying on this license will have to pay \$1000 per channel (commercial or noncommercial) up to \$100,000. These yearly up-front payments will be credited against actual usage fees. These minimums are an increase from \$500 per channel minimum and a \$50,000 up-front maximum payment that were in effect prior to January 1 of this year.

The per performance royalty increases to \$.0021 for non-subscription streams, up from the current \$.0018. For subscription streams, the fee increases to \$.0026 per performance. A performance is one song played to one listener. So, if a streaming service plays one song that is heard by 100 listeners, that is 100 performances.

Noncommercial webcasters will be subject to the same minimum fees. However, a webcaster who is a nonprofit entity is permitted to stream on any channel up to 159,140 aggregate tuning hours per month for the yearly \$1000 minimum fee paid for that channel. That permits a nonprofit webcaster to average approximately 200 simultaneous listeners without having to pay more than the minimum fee. Many small nonprofit webcasters and simulcasters will not exceed that threshold. If they do exceed that monthly listening limit on any stream, royalties will be paid on all overages at the commercial per performance rates. CPB-funded webcasters are not subject to these rates as CPB has negotiated with SoundExchange, the organization that collects royalties, a blanket agreement that covers member stations.

The full decision with its reasoning will not be out for several weeks, as the attorneys for the parties to the case first have the opportunity to review it to have sensitive business information redacted. After its release, the parties have a short time to ask for review and correction of a limited set of issues. The Copyright Office can also review the decision for legal errors. Otherwise, the decision is appealable to the US Court of Appeals.

For an idea of the rate proposals that had been presented to the CRB for consideration, see our [article here](#).

This summary was provided by the attorneys at Wilkinson Barker Knauer LLP in Washington DC (<https://www.wbklaw.com/>).



Every week, the attorneys at [Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP](#) in Washington D.C. provide a summary of the regulatory and legal actions of significance to broadcasters within the FCC. They also provide links to information about how these actions may affect your operations. Read this week's summary as well as summaries from past weeks at:

<https://vab.org/this-week-at-the-fcc>

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