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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KMUW Community Investment Pays Off

KMUW's recent expansion of local services is paying off in the form of statewide recognition in 13 areas of journalism and outreach from the Kansas Association of Broadcasters. The most prestigious of the awards is for Kansas major market "Radio Station of the Year," for the second year in a row. In the past nine months, KMUW 89.1 has increased news staff from three reporters to six reporters to tell the stories of Wichita. The station has also created an Engagement Department in anticipation of moving the radio station to Old Town and getting even more involved in community conversations.

The honors from KAB are in several areas, including Feature Enterprise Reporting, where Wichita's NPR station swept all three places, 1st, 2nd and Honorable Mention! Other areas of recognition are Editorial Commentary, Public Service Announcements, Spot News Coverage, Public Service and Music DJ's. Some of the winners' names are quite familiar to regular NPR listeners, including Carla Eckels, Aileen LeBlanc, Chris Heim, Sean Sandefur, Abigail Wilson, Deborah Shaar and Kate Clause.

General Manager Debra Fraser says, "KMUW is investing in Wichita and moving to Old Town to engage the community in matters important to Wichitans. So far, it's working. Plus, we have much more planned in the coming year. We want to help make Wichita one of the best places to live, work and play!"

This is a complete list of the awards categories and placements for KMUW:

- Large Market Radio: *Station of the Year*
- 1st place
 - Feature "Former Wichitan Finds Bipolar Disorder Life-Changing," by Carla Eckels
 - Commentary "Why Music Is Greater Than the 'Mozart Effect,'" by Mark Foley
- 2nd place
 - Feature "Taps: The Hardest 24 Notes," by Abigail Wilson
 - Spot News "Ongoing Relationship Between WPD and Homeless," by Abigail Wilson
 - PSA "Working on Prairie Sunset Bike Trail," by Kate Clause
 - Public Affairs Program "KMUW Remembers Tanya Tandoc," by Aileen LeBlanc
 - DJ Personality "Soulsations," with Carla Eckels
- Honorable Mention
 - Feature "No Ferguson Here," by Sean Sandefur
 - Spot News "Hesston, 25 Years After F5 Tornado," by Deborah Shaar
 - Commentary "America is Still Singing," by Zack Gingrich-Gaylord
 - DJ Personality "Global Village," with Chris Heim
 - KMUW's Station Website, by Beth Golay and Hugo Phan

As an outreach arm of Wichita State University, KMUW plans to be fully engaged in the innovations coming to Wichita. They hope it will give even more meaning to the term "listener supported."