



VOLUNTEER VOICES

DEC 2025

As I write this, we are amid the season of giving—the busiest time of the year for non-profits. We were instructed to avoid scheduling meetings for the first full week of 2026; however, I had already scheduled some volunteer shifts. When I asked if I should cancel so that staff could focus, and the response was "No! They are essential!"

You are essential to Nine PBS, and no amount of busyness will deter us from welcoming you, setting up your work area, and making sure you are part of the team. We can do the work we do because you are right here with us, connecting with our members, viewers, and neighbors.

We know the time you volunteer at our studio is just part of the time you give. We recognize the time it takes to block off your calendar, write in your planner, explain to friends and family that you have a commitment to Nine PBS, find childcare (for some), and, of course, travel time. I sincerely thank you all for your dedication to public media. The Individual Giving team has a message of thanks.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hkVspyvgNCo>

Service Anniversaries

Thank you for spending all these years with Nine PBS!

13 Years - Sharon Bower

8 Years - Jane Thal

1 Year - Sharon Hoffmann

Welcome to Glen Austin and Katie Falk!

Nuggets of Information

- We're hosting a volunteer-exclusive State of the Station on January 13, 2026, from 4-5 pm. Email cindyla@ninepbs.org to reserve your seat!
- Our Giving Tuesday efforts resulted in \$83,972!
- [Behind the scenes at the Nine PBS Tornado Town Hall](#)

Volunteer Projects in November & December

- A tour for Hazelwood Northeast Middle School students
- Business After Hours with the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Masterpiece Legacy Luncheon
- Masterpiece Torchlight Holiday Party
- Winter storytime
- Year-end thank-you and holiday cards
- Major gift support

Impact

The Early Education team held multiple winter storytime events across the St. Louis region in December. Volunteers assisted with the Ferguson-Florissant event, and the turnout was greater than expected! We engaged with 35 parents and 53 kids. The families expressed their satisfaction and gratitude for the volunteers present to Briahni Adams, Wittcoff Community Engagement Fellow, who said, "The families loved them."

This year we welcomed over 300 new Torchlight Members who were invited to our annual December Masterpiece events in appreciation. Guests said staff and volunteers make them feel so welcome, it's like they're spending time with family. Events like this are not possible without your warm greetings, hospitality skills, presence at every corner, and overall kindness in every interaction—thank you!

Value of Volunteer Time in November and December

\$10,529.34

Being able to calculate the value of your time is essential to our grant-writing process! Having an accurate number shows how involved our community (which includes you!) is with Nine PBS, which leads to better support.

NOTE: When recording your time in [VicNet](#), we recommend including travel time as it more accurately reflects how much of your free time you are giving to Nine PBS.

For Your Situational Awareness

Road Construction in Grand Center

- The Compton Bridge will come down next summer and remain closed until fall 2028 or early 2029.
- Grand Avenue repaving will begin in 2026, with anticipated impact to the Grand Center Arts District during the summer. This timeline is weather-dependent.

"Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow." — Melody Beattie

Get To Know Dave Roberts

Here's a little about Dave.

Q. Do you collect anything? If so, what is it?

Coffee mugs! I started collecting them in Boy Scouts as a kid.

Q. What book changed your life?

Jonathan Livingston Seagull by Richard Bach.

Q. What is on your bucket list?

I'd like to see the Sequoia National Forest. I've made it to the Grand Canyon, and that was impressive!

Q. What movie could you quote by heart?

Either "The Quiet Man" or "It's a Wonderful Life"

Q. Do you have a fun story related to Nine PBS?

It seems like every time I go there, I go to work but I end up having fun.

Cindy La

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