

MAPB PUBLIC MEDIA IMPACT AWARD 2024 NOMINATION

WNMU-FM, Public Radio 90 is nominating William “Bill” Hart of Marquette, MI. for a 2023 Public Media Impact Award.

Bill Hart is the former News Director and Operations Manager for WNMU-FM, Public Radio 90. He spent most of his career working for and advancing WNMU-FM’s mission to serve the public. He never wavered from this mission and even after retiring some 20 years ago, has continued to support the station in every way that he can.

Bill’s dedication to WNMU was demonstrated in 2008 when the station lost it’s Media Meet host and needed someone to fill in quickly—Bill immediately stepped in and hosted the show for both TV & FM through 2019 even though he had already retired.

Bill Hart is also a very talented musician and blues music historian, who frequently travels to Louisiana and Mississippi to perform with his trio: *Hart, Harp, & Bones*. He has volunteered his talents and band to do live on-air performances around the local Bluesfest and even hosted an additional show in the blues genre called *House of Blue Lights*. Bill accomplished all of this after he officially retired. His passion for quality programming and for Public Radio 90 has never waivered and he always says yes when he is needed.

Even now, in full retirement, Bill always comes in to help pitch during our pledge drives. His deep connection with our listeners helps to drive member donations and add-gifts and of course, Bill is a member of the station and quite frequently gives additional gifts himself. He has said on many occasions: “The Upper Peninsula is so lucky to have this service and I will do everything that I can to make sure it not only survives, but thrives.”

Bill embodies everything good about public broadcasting employees and volunteers. As the former news director, he saw everything through an integrity lens and worked hard to ensure that all staffers recognized the great responsibility entrusted to us. He has never waivered on that position of trust. As a volunteer, he embodies everything good about continuing to serve the community through the use of his voice and time.

WNMU-FM, Public Radio 90 is proud to submit the nomination of William “Bill” Hart for the Public Media Impact Award.