Lost River Sessions

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Lost River Sessions, the award winning WKU Public Broadasting television and radio series has exploded in popularity over the last three years.

Amy Bingham explains how the WKU-PBS hit came about in this week’s View from the Hill.

Folk, Bluegrass and Americana music from the region’s best singer/songwriters and acoustic musicians has struck a chord with audiences around the world and here at home.

Seth Pedigo says it’s been three years since an audio engineer first approached his bluegrass trio, Dead Broke Barons about doing a video.

“He said hey I’ve got this idea ya’ll want to record this album, do you mind if I bring these students to film it and lets see what happens. Lost River sessions might be a thing, it might not.”

Even the producer wasn’t sure.

“We didn’t know what the piece would be. Thought it would be filler for the station between shows, just a segment.”

Instead Lost River Sessions became an emmy award winning television show for WKU PBS and a year and a half later was broadcast on WKYU Public radio.

“We’re always trying to find ways PBS can work with NPR and vice/versa and in terms of content, that audio was just sitting there just waiting to be used in that format.”

Then, beginning last fall, the concept evolved again.

“As it grew in popularity in both TV and radio we decided to try it with a live audience and that’s where the idea for Lost River Sessions live came from.”

“We also were the first live show here so we’re kind of the guinea pigs I guess but we don’t mind it and are very honored.”

The monthly concerts feature music with deep roots in the southern and Appalachian region.

“We’ve really tried to focus the show on musicians people wouldn’t hear in a main stream format.”

Moffit says an added bonus is a whole new set of listeners.

“One of the great things is seeing people at these concerts who say I didn’t really listen to the station until I heard these concerts, now I’m a listener on an everyday basis.”

For the second year in a row, Lost River Sessions is sponsoring the Kentucky Acoustic Music Festival this Saturday night at seven pm at the Capitol Arts Center. Tickets are 15 dollars a person.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

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