

Dear WFIU Listener,

WFIU lost announcer Robert Samels in the tragic air accident on April 20th. He died with four fellow students from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Many of you have shared your condolences with us and asked what you can do to help commemorate Robert's work at WFIU.



103.7 fm • Bloomington  
100.7 fm • Columbus  
106.1 fm • Kokomo  
95.1 fm • Terre Haute

Robert was especially close to us, not only as a WFIU announcer, but also as the host and producer of the vocal music program *Cantabile*, a writer and frequent host of *Ether Game*, and as a talented musician whose knowledge was a wonderful resource. At the time of his death, Robert was planning the next episodes of his beloved *Cantabile*, and looking forward to preparing the program for national distribution.

Robert was our friend, our colleague, and part of our family. We will miss his gentle presence among us and on WFIU's airwaves. **WFIU would like to ensure that Robert's memory stays with us for many years to come, and that's why we're creating the Robert Samels Memorial Fund.**

The Robert Samels Memorial Fund will establish a yearly Day of Dedication for Robert and will support the station's training needs. Robert often took time to help train new personnel, patiently explaining the procedures and sharing his experiences. Though he can no longer reach his enormous potential, his legacy will inspire others to follow in his steps.

WFIU is proud to serve you, to be part of your lives, and to belong to such caring communities. **Members of our staff are providing the seed contributions** for the Robert Samels Memorial Fund, and **we invite you to join us by making a voluntary contribution.** Together we can preserve his memory and teach those who, like Robert, come to WFIU to learn the art and craft of public radio.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christina Kuzmych".

Christina Kuzmych, Station Manager

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**P.S.** If you would like to share your remembrances about Robert, please e-mail them to **wfiu@indiana.edu**, send a letter, or call our listener response line, **(812) 856-5352**. We will collect and forward remembrances to Robert's family and friends.

An NPR member station

