



Asheville Radio Museum Bestowed Extensive Vintage Radio Collection

Gift Includes More Than 50 Unique Radios Ranging from the 1920s-1940s

Please Note that the museum will be closed until further notice following A-B Tech's updated COVID policy to protect students and outside guests. The museum will announce when this situation changes. Thank you for your understanding.

ASHEVILLE, N.C. – Feb. 2, 2021 – The [Asheville Radio Museum](#), home to North Carolina's premier teaching museum and collection of historic radios, is pleased to announce the acquisition of the Allan Erdmann Collection of more than 50 diverse and notable radio receivers built from 1920 through the 1940s. Biruta Erdmann of Snow Hill, North Carolina, bequeathed the radios to the museum in memory of her late husband.

A highlight of the collection includes a Latvian-built 1930s receiver, carried by friends of Ms. Erdmann's family during a perilous escape from Nazi-occupied Latvia. During their post-war stay in various refugee camps, the radio remained with the family and accompanied them to the U.S. The collection also includes a rare, pristine [Atwater Kent](#) cathedral receiver plus other significant radios such as a [Freshman Masterpiece](#) and a late 1920s [Kolster AC powered radio](#).

"We are very thankful and honored by this amazing donation from Ms. Erdmann," said Stuart Smolkin, Asheville Radio Museum's secretary and curator. "It's plain to see by the breadth and caliber of the collection that her husband, Allan, not only had a keen eye for historically important radios but that he also was dedicated to ensuring they remain in good condition for future generations. The Asheville Radio Museum's members give their heartfelt thanks to Ms. Erdmann for her generosity."

Part of the collection is now on display at the museum, in addition to the permanent amateur and commercial radios exhibited. Ms. Erdmann expressed great pleasure that the radios would be on display in a college, where students would appreciate and learn from them.

About The Asheville Radio Museum:

Founded in 2001, the Asheville Radio Museum provides visitors of all ages with a personalized learning experience about the technological, economic and cultural impact of radio. The museum houses more than 100 vintage amateur and commercial radios, representing the technology from its genesis through the mid 20th century. A registered non-profit corporation, the museum is located on the campus of Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College. The museum offers small group tours and appointments outside of regular hours for out of town visitors. For more information, including directions and operating hours, please visit avlradiomuseum.org.

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Note for Editors: Photos of the Erdmann Collection or the museum are available upon request.