



2008 Annual Report

City of Erie Cable TV Access Corporation
Community Access Television
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A Message from Executive Director Jeanne Bleil

Celebrating Ten Years of Empowering Erie!

Everyone involved with Community Access Television has been proud this year to step back and take a look at our first ten years. That's right, we opened our doors on October 20, 1998, to a bare bones operation without finished ceilings or proper light fixtures, without signage or doors on most of our rooms, without enough field gear or many playback decks. But we opened, and we were functional. Ten years later, we would be barely recognizable to someone who had not entered our doors since 1998.

We have met many challenges, not the least of which has been coping with scant dollars to try to catch up with, let alone *keep up* with, technology. With the help of capital grant funds from various sources, we have been able to do just that, culminating in the conversion of our playback operations to digital server technology this past year.

We celebrated this ten-year milestone with a gala annual meeting in our studio decked with live trees, twinkling lights, flower arrangements, and mood lighting. We are now embarking on our second decade and we can't wait to see what comes next.



2008-2009 Board of Trustees

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Jan Cornwell, Vice Chair
Cindy Stone, Secretary/Treasurer
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Phil Fatica
John Nesbit
Al Richardson

Made up of representatives of our members, the community, the City of Erie, and Time Warner Cable, our Board of Trustees is a diverse group of community leaders dedicated to ensuring that people and organizations in the Erie area have the opportunity to produce and cablecast television programs with their unique messages. The board monitors our financial health through regular oversight including financial reports and an annual audit and meets bimonthly and at other necessary times. Our board approves and passes our annual budget, makes policy decisions, and makes sure that our staff has the support and resources needed to fulfill our mission.

Community Participation

As a nonprofit organization, Community Access Television occupies a unique place among the diversity of NPOs in the Erie area. A membership organization, anyone who lives, works, or belongs to an organization based in the City of Erie can become an individual member, and organizations based in the city can open up organizational memberships.



Since such a large part of our funding comes from city residents who subscribe to Time Warner Cable, in addition to the large amount of programming produced by our members, we return services to our neighbors by shooting two major festivals each year—the Erie Art Museum Blues & Jazz Festival and Celebrate Erie. We also produce political programming in the spring and fall called *Access to the Candidates*, which introduces candidates running for office to city voters.

An additional service open to any nonprofit organization, whether a member or not, is the free posting of nonprofit events on our community bulletin board, which scrolls in between other programming twenty-four hours a day.

Member Organizations

In 2008, 57 people joined CAT or renewed their memberships as individual members. Another 61 people registered as organizational members representing 30 organizational groups, government agencies, and churches listed below:

Achievement Center
AFL/CIO
Amazing Grays/Card Table Connection
Believers International Worship Center
Cathedral Preparatory School
Dafmark Dance Theater
EMTA/Lift
Erie City Mission
Erie Church of Christ
Erie Community Foundation
Erie County Department of Administration
Erie County Diabetes Association
First Church of God
Hamot Medical Center
Heavenly Pentecostal/Iglesia Mision Celestial

Hispanic American Council
Jesus Cares Full Gospel Fellowship
Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier
Mental Health Association
Ministry of the Spirit
Nettie Smith Ministries
New Life and Spirit
Northwestern Legal Services
Ophelia Project
Praise Cathedral Church of God
Shiloh Baptist Church
Trinity Lutheran Church
Triumphant Life Church
Victory Christian Center of Erie
Wellfit, Incorporated

Programming

In 2008, 1,770 programs aired for the first time on Channel 2. Of these, 495 were produced by members for a total of 323 hours. We also aired 580 programs, plus 674 satellite programs, that were produced by media sources outside the Erie area. These were sponsored onto the channel by members or by CAT staff. First run programs totaling 1,777 hours in 2008 have increased exponentially since 2000.

The grand total of hours of first-run and repeat programming run on Community Access Television, without counting impressive numbers of hours of community bulletin board, is 5,719 in 2008. This is an increase of about 7% since 2007, and 743% since we opened in 1998. We cablecast programming and community announcements 24 hours a day and seven days a week.



	# of first runs	Hours first run	Total hours
Member produced	495	323	3,011
Member sponsored	411	324	1,069
CAT produced	21	35	191
CAT sponsored	45	21	186
Import	124	72	260
Satellite	674	1,002	1,002
Total	1,770	1,777	5,719

Equipment/Facility Use

Our members continue to employ our resources at about the same level as in previous years, showing slight increases in field gear usage and slight decreases in facility usage. During this year our members enjoyed use of our five new, private edit booths, which eased up our scheduling considerably. Cameras and tripods continue to see the most usage of all of our equipment.



Facility		
	Total reservations	Total hours
Edit Booths	910	4,590
Studio	289	1,362
	1,199	5,952

Field Gear		
	Total reservations	Total hours
Audio gear	146	11,676
Cameras	373	32,514
Tripods	364	31,953
Light Kits	5	481
Production truck	6	387
Portable editor	43	4,079
	937	81080

It is helpful to translate hours into days for our field gear reservations. The total of 81,080 hours equals 3,378 days of usage.



CATalyst Volunteer Awards

Mayra Lozada	128 hours
Ed Whitbred	185 hours
Jim Globa	247 hours
Clarissa Stewart-Baker	460 hours
Paul Moore	847 hours

CATalyst Programming Awards (non-series programs)

Beary Clark	19 programs

CATalyst Programming Awards (series)

Amazing Grays	50 programs
Paul Moore	53 programs
Clarissa Stewart-Baker	75 programs

Feet First Awards

Veronica Barrett
John Everard
Louis Giordano
Art Goellner
Rodney Keefer
Mary Ann Kramer
William Jundzilo
James Pacileo
William Powell
William Yeager

Longest-Running Program

Around the Card Table/Amazing Grays

Standout Member

Lewis Prest

Production Training

Teaching the basics of television production is still at the heart of what we do, and new members are signing up all the time. Classes are taught on most Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, while orientations are held on the first or second Thursday of each month



Class	# of classes offered	# of certifications	No show/did not complete/cancelled
Orientation	11	89	52
Level I	7	63	14
Field Camera	7	27	17
Field Lighting	5	5	5
Level II	2	8	8

Financial Overview

Thanks to conservative budgeting and cautious spending, Community Access Television remains financially stable, once again returning a budget in the black at the end of 2008. Not reflected in the numbers below are capital funds expended during the year for leasehold improvements and equipment purchases totaling over \$35,000. These funds were received in 2007 from the Pennsylvania Department of Economic and Community Development. That grant enabled us to expand our editing capabilities and to finally upgrade our playback facility from analog to digital server.

Revenue by Source \$200,217

Time Warner Cable Franchise Fees	91%
Membership	3%
Production Fees/Development	2%
Class Fees/Interest/Miscellaneous	4%

Expense by Category \$183,731

Wages	62%
Benefits	12.6%
Employment Taxes	5%
Administrative	9%
Occupancy	6%
Production	.6%
Professional Services	5%