



2026 EDITORIAL CALENDAR



JANUARY 5

Space 12/12 Art 12/15

Executive of the Year & Top 20 Digital Sellers/Managers

Who is the one executive who has had the biggest impact on the industry in the previous 12 months? Who made the boldest moves and the biggest decisions in 2025? Our editorial board digs deep into the year's many successes and puts the highest achiever on the cover. It's Radio Ink's Radio Executive of the Year, and we highlight that individual with a special cover story and testimonials from their C-Suite colleagues.

Now in its third year, Radio Ink's Top 20 Digital Sellers/Managers, recognizing radio's top digital professionals.

Bonus distribution: Top 20 Digital Sellers/Managers



FEBRUARY 9

Space 1/23 Art 1/26

Radio's African American Leaders

This is the fourteenth year we'll be putting out the call for future industry leaders in the African American radio community. And as always, we'll find them on the air, on the streets selling, in the GM's office, and running markets. Who are they and what insights can they offer on achieving success in our industry?

Bonus Distribution: African American Leaders List



MARCH 9

Space 2/20 Art 2/23

Christian Radio's Champions

While the rest of radio searches for answers, Christian broadcasters have become the industry's quiet behemoth. From CCM to teaching and even Hip-Hop, Christian radio isn't just surviving; it's writing the industry's biggest acquisition checks and celebrating incredible growth. Their mission is spiritual. Their success is undeniable. And their insights? Every broadcaster needs to hear them.

List: 2026 Christian Radio Champions



APRIL 13

Space 3/20 Art 3/23

Radio's Top 20 Leaders

Now in its ninth year, this list has become a reader favorite. A big part of its popularity is that our online readers get to vote for those they believe are the top leaders in the industry. Considered an essential step to making the radio industry's most prestigious list, the 40 Most Powerful People in Radio, see who resides in the upper echelon on their way to the pinnacle.

Bonus Distribution: NAB Show 2026, April 19-22



2026 EDITORIAL CALENDAR



MAY 11

Space 4/24

Art 4/27

Radio Ink's Hispanic Radio Conference & 2026 Medallas de Cortez Finalists

Now in its 17th year, the Hispanic Radio Conference unites Hispanic radio broadcasters and examines how radio can continue to take advantage of the growing U.S. Hispanic population. How is Hispanic radio selling, how does it compete, who's best at executing this programming, and what role does digital play? What are advertisers saying, and which companies are leading the way?

This issue also features the 2026 Medallas de Cortez Awards finalists: The best sales professionals, program directors/brand managers, market managers, and on-air talent in Hispanic radio.

Bonus Distribution: Hispanic Radio Conference 2026



JUNE 15

Space 5/29

Art 6/01

Most Influential Women in Radio

A "who's who" of women in leadership, the Most Influential Women in Radio list has been the basis of mentoring groups for industry women and is an important place for radio suppliers and companies to show support and enhance brand loyalty among this distinguished group.

Bonus Distribution: 2025 Most Influential Women



JULY 20

Space 7/2*

Art 7/6

The 40 Most Powerful People in Radio

Since 1996, Radio Ink's 40 Most Powerful People in Radio list has been the most read and widely distributed issue of the year. You'll hear about, and hear from, the people who move radio forward, yesterday, today, and tomorrow. The annual "Top 40" list profiles the most powerful executives who influence the industry, and it remains on desks and in offices for months. We also include Bumped from the List, Top 40 Companies by Revenue, the Top 40 Radio Advertisers, Nielsen's Top 40 Markets, the 20 people who have been on the list the longest, and several other lists, in addition to our regular articles and columns.

Bonus Distribution: Top 40

** early deadline due to holiday*



AUGUST 17

Space 7/31

Art 8/3

Most Successful Program Directors & Brand Managers in Radio

This programming-heavy issue reviews the most successful and in-demand program directors and brand managers who are creating radio's best content. You can hear it on their stations, and it shows in the ratings. What does it take to be a great program director or brand manager? What makes them successful? Who do they admire and want to work with? How do you pay your dues and make it to the top? Because of high programmer/ management/marketing readership, this is an excellent place to make stations aware of format and program options.

Bonus Distribution: Best Program Directors & Brand Managers



2026 EDITORIAL CALENDAR



SEPTEMBER 14

Space 8/28

Art 8/31

The Best Managers in Radio

What makes the best radio managers the best? As this issue is watched closely by group heads for promising management talent and future executive stars, it's an ideal place to reinforce awareness of products and services.

Bonus Distribution: Best Managers

OCTOBER 5

Space 9/18

Art 9/21

Radio Wayne Finalists

It's now 34 years since our first Radio Wayne Awards! We recognize the best of the best in sales in this annual feature: radio's top market managers, GMs, directors of sales, sales managers, and salespeople. We also hear from these star sellers and managers: What is the secret to their ongoing successes?

Bonus Distribution: Radio Wayne at NAB Show New York



NOVEMBER 9

Space 10/23

Art 10/26

24th Annual Forecast Conference

We look ahead to 2027, interviewing analysts and financial experts. As radio's money men and women gather in New York to discuss the financial future of the radio industry, this issue offers details on the advertising landscape. Where is radio headed in 2027? How should CEO's plan?

Special Reports: Brokers Speak Out & Analysts' Insights

Our annual interviews with brokers and analysts on issues such as the future of the economy, the future of financing in radio, the future of station trading, what about international funding or private equity?

Bonus Distribution: Forecast 2027



DECEMBER 7

Space 11/20

Art 11/23

30 and Under Superstars

Who is the future of radio? Open this issue and find out. Our 30 and Under Superstars list spotlights salespeople, on-air personalities, promotions directors, and young managers who all love radio, represent the industry well, and are leaving their mark on both the local and national levels.

Bonus Distribution: 30 and Under Superstars



**Issue content subject to change



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President/Publisher

Deborah Parenti

610-321-0281

dparenti@streamlinepublishing.com

Director of Sales

Josh Gertzog

609-647-3994

jgertzog@streamlinepublishing.com



Advertising/Marketing Consultants

Mario A. Christino

410-903-7875

mchristino@streamlinepublishing.com



Carl Marcucci

703-772-5504

cmarcucci@streamlinepublishing.com

Rob Winston

310-801-2518

rwinston@streamlinepublishing.com



George Wymer

937-609-6778

gwymmer@streamlinepublishing.com



STREAMLINE PUBLISHING, INC.