

■ ■ ■ ■ LILLIAN AND ALBERT SMALL CAPITAL JEWISH MUSEUM

Media Advisory

CAPITAL JEWISH MUSEUM RECENTLY ACQUIRED A RECORDING KIT FROM LEGENDARY RADIO PERSONALITY SUSAN STAMBERG UPON HER RETIREMENT

Washington, DC, November 6, 2025—The Lillian and Albert Small Capital Jewish Museum is pleased to announce the **recent acquisition of a professional recording kit from Susan Stamberg**, which has become part of the Museum’s permanent collection. Stamberg (September 7, 1938-October 16, 2025), one of NPR’s “Founding Mothers,” began her NPR career in 1971 and donated the kit upon her retirement in early September 2025. Included in the kit is the Marantz PMD620 handheld solid-state recorder, Sony microphone, Sony headphones, travel pouch, and Stamberg’s official NPR name tag.

Stamberg was a long-time Jewish resident of the Greater Washington region. Working out of member station WAMU-FM, she was one of the trailblazing female reporters to launch her career during the nascent years of public radio in the 1970s. During her lengthy tenure at NPR at shows such as *All Things Considered* and *Weekend Edition*, she often covered arts and culture, including museums.

“We are delighted to acquire this modest object with monumental symbolism,” stated **Bea Gurwitz, Executive Director**. “This recording kit represents the voice of one of our region’s most high-profile citizen whose local work had national impact. It represents the heyday of public media and its work to tell the story of all Americans. And it represents the professional successes achieved by women who launched careers during the feminist movement of the 1970s.”

Stamberg delivered her collection to the Museum personally, proudly declaring that she traveled to all 50 states for her work. She emphasized the importance of NPR, noting that there is no other media organization that can offer its level and depth of reporting. Stated highlights of Stamberg’s radio career include interviewing Joan Baez, Cab Calloway, and Sarah Vaughn.

ABOUT THE MUSEUM’S COLLECTION

The Capital Jewish Museum’s collection is composed of historic artifacts, personal and family papers, as well as archival documents and photographs that provide a rich,

multifaceted glimpse into Jewish life in Washington DC, suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia from the 1850s to the present day. It is a collection which reflects a history that is at once local, national, and international. The collection—a valuable tool for researchers and a strong foundation for the Museum’s exhibitions—includes more than 24,000 digital and print photographs, 1,050 objects, and 800 linear feet of archival materials, including personal papers and business and organizational records. The collection is accessible by appointment to scholars, genealogists, students, and other researchers.

ABOUT SUSAN STAMBERG

Susan Stamberg was one of NPR's "Founding Mothers" (she also coined the phrase). She joined the network at the time of its inception in 1971, and her career at NPR spanned more than five decades. In 1972, as a host of *All Things Considered*, Stamberg became the first woman to anchor a national nightly news program. She has since won every major award in broadcasting and has been inducted into the Broadcasting Hall of Fame and the Radio Hall of Fame.

Stamberg served as a host of NPR's award-winning newsmagazine *All Things Considered* for 14 years and, following that, went on to host *Weekend Edition Sunday*. Later in her career and until her retirement in 2025, she reported on cultural issues as a Special Correspondent for NPR covering the arts.

Stamberg was well known for her conversational style and knack for finding an interesting story. Her thousands of interviews include conversations with Laura Bush, Billy Crystal, Rosa Parks, Dave Brubeck, and Luciano Pavarotti.

Prior to joining NPR, she served as producer, program director, and general manager of NPR Member Station WAMU-FM/Washington, DC. Additionally, Stamberg authored two books and co-edited a third.

A native of New York City, Stamberg earned a bachelor's degree from Barnard College, and was awarded numerous honorary degrees including a Doctor of Humane Letters from Dartmouth College. She served as a Fellow of Silliman College, Yale University, and on the boards of the PEN/Faulkner Fiction Award Foundation and the National Arts Journalism Program based at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism.

ABOUT THE CAPITAL JEWISH MUSEUM

The Capital Jewish Museum explores the Jewish experience in the national capital region and inspires visitors to connect personally and collectively, reflect on the relevance of the past to today, and act on behalf of their communities and values. With

its experimental spirit, the Museum connects the past to the present through thought-provoking exhibitions and dynamic programming, and creative public experiences.

Admission to the Museum and ongoing exhibitions is free with a suggested donation. The cost of admission to the current special exhibition, *LGBTJews in the Federal City*, is \$12 for general public, \$10 for students & seniors, free for Members and children ages 12 & younger.

The Museum is open Wednesday through Sunday, from 10 am to 5 pm, with extended evening hours on the first Wednesday of each month, from 10 am to 8 pm.

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