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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KMUW - The Great Gatsby Music Tasting

WICHITA, Kan. – October 30, 2012 –

KMUW, Wichita Public Radio, in partnership with the Wichita Public Libraries presents a BIG READ Music Tasting: *The Music of Gatsby*, Thursday, November 8, 7-9pm, Abode Venue, 1330 East Douglas. Tickets are available at kmuw.org, click on Music Tasting.

There has been much written about F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic novel, *The Great Gatsby*, but one intriguing and little discussed fact is that he wrote his own soundtrack into the book. The songs Fitzgerald chose for *Gatsby* not only echoed developments in the story, they were also some of the biggest hits of the day.

The Big Read event, *The Music of Gatsby* with KMUW music host Chris Heim, presents these songs as performed by the original artists of the Twenties. The songs are also excellent examples of a new American popular music and American musical that were emerging during this time. It was also a time of amazing new technologies - especially radio and records. This was a new way to convey music and it would dramatically reshape how people thought about music and were able to hear it, and what would make a song a *hit*. The era of *Gatsby* was an enormously influential time in America's music and media history. This BIG READ event offers a unique and entertaining look at that time and the music, artists, and media that would shape it and, in the process, help create the new modern America that was being born in the Jazz Age.

Core to the mission of KMUW is partnering with community organizations and businesses. The BIG READ Music Tasting event is a joint partnership with Wichita Public Libraries, Larkspur Bistro and Bar, Beyond Napa, and Abode Venue. Partners are donating their services.

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