

WFMP: Forward Radio Media Training.

WFMP: Forward Radio is a non-profit media collective working to develop a more effective model for community sourced and community relevant media in Louisville, Ky. Our primary focus is to build community wide support for our Low Power FM community Radio station WFMP. In laying the groundwork for the station, we are seeking to create a network of community partners that are motivated towards the goals of education, community development, and social justice. This network of individuals and organizations will be the cornerstone of our station, providing media content that is both locally relevant and that facilitates a higher level of community wide education and collaboration on projects that seek to better our community.



Community Media

What would locally produced, locally relevant community media look like? Take a moment to imagine our diverse city, a large community comprised of many smaller communities. We all have our own hyper-local interests, such as the issues that affect the neighborhoods we live in, issues that affect our families, schools, and community organizations. Many of us are also involved with groups that address issues that cross local interests, widening the boundaries of

community to include matters that impact us on a larger scale. Imagine a media-model in which stories and reports were coming right from the source, produced on the ground by the people who are most knowledgeable, and most affected by the issues at hand.

We want local voices sharing, and local ears listening. We want media to once again be a method of community information and communication. We want the people to create a new model of media that *directly* represents us and our interests.

We hope that you come away from this training having built the capacity to effectively create and use media to ensure that your voice is heard.
Forward is the

So what makes good community media content? To answer this you only need ask another question. What is important to you? Every individual, group, and community has issues that need addressing as well as stories and successes that need to be shared with the wider community. They only need to be identified, recorded and shared.

Basic Materials needed:

Access to a computer that is connected to the Internet.

Microphone(These are included in most laptop computers, or can be purchased inexpensively to connect to your desktop computer).

A free account registered with **SoundCloud.com**

Supplementary Materials:

Headphones

Audio Production Software(Programs such as Audacity can be downloaded free of charge at <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/download/>).

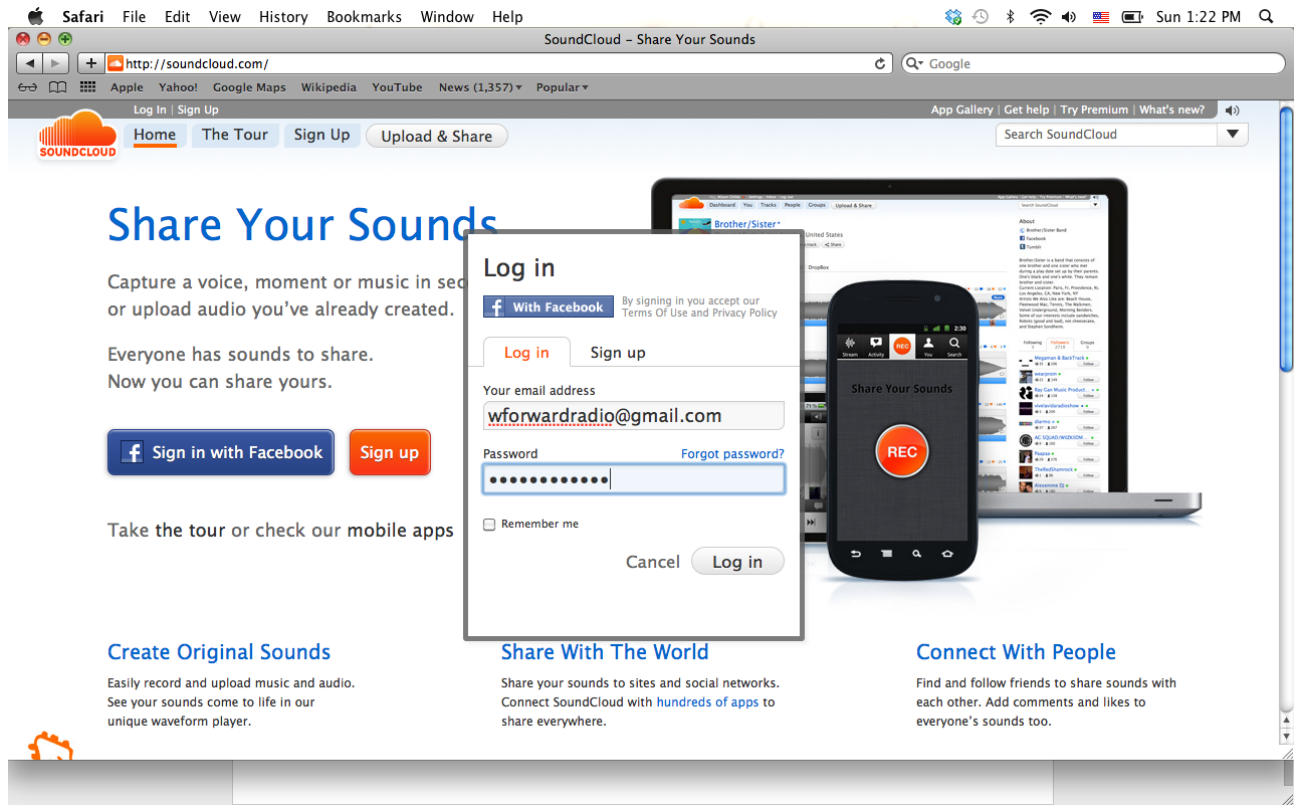
Recording Audio with SoundCloud

Soundcloud is an amazing website that allows you to easily record, upload, and share audio content. You will be able to record your own sound files with any computer that has Internet access and a microphone. You can then easily share the recordings on your own social media/websites or put them in Forward Radio's Soundcloud DropBox to send them to us for further editing and production.

Once you have your free SoundCloud account you are ready to begin recording content.

Step 1. Login

Log into Soundcloud.com with your registered email username and password.



Step 2. Record

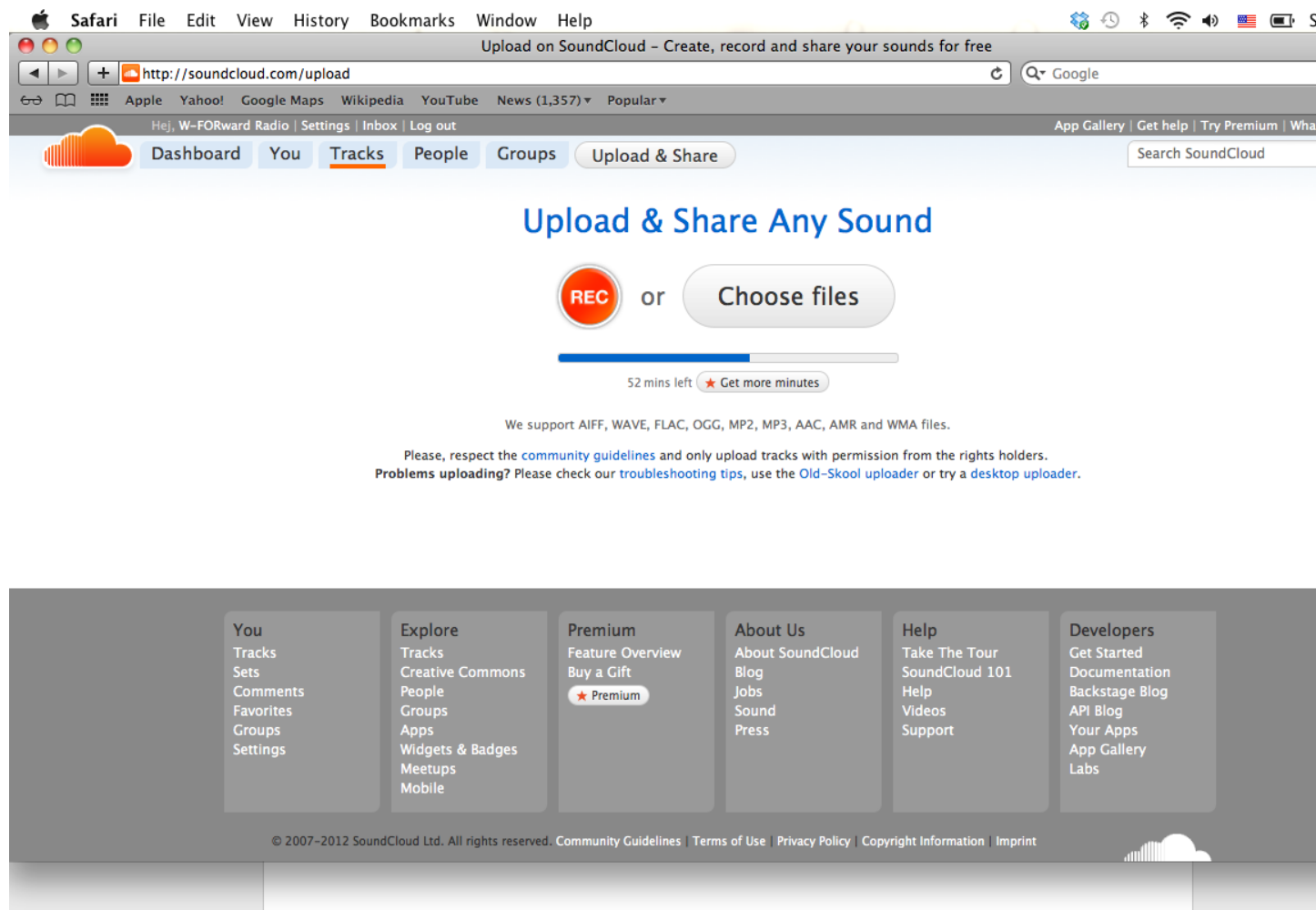
Click the “Upload and Share” button at the top of the page.

The screenshot shows a Safari browser window displaying the SoundCloud user profile for 'W-FORward Radio'. The browser's address bar shows the URL 'http://soundcloud.com/you/tracks'. The page title is 'Your tracks on SoundCloud - Create, record and share your sounds for free'. The navigation menu includes 'Dashboard', 'You', 'Tracks', 'People', 'Groups', and 'Upload & Share'. The 'You' tab is active, showing 'Your things' with a link to 'View your public profile'. Below this, there are filters for 'Tracks (6)', 'Sets (1)', 'Comments (0)', 'Favorites (0)', and 'Groups (0)'. A search bar for tracks is present. Three tracks are listed:

- Possibilities of Public Space--Program Intro** by W-FORward Radio, uploaded 7 days ago. Duration: 0:00 / 1:30.
- Possibilities of Public Space--Street Artists on Public Art** by W-FORward Radio, uploaded 7 days ago. Duration: 0:00 / 18:13.
- Possibilities of Public Space--Patrick Piuma Interview.** by W-FORward Radio, uploaded 8 days ago. Duration: 0:00 / 1:30.

Each track entry includes a play button, a waveform, and a 'Radio' button. On the right side of the page, there is a 'Mini Update' section showing 'Plays', 'Downloads', and 'Profile Views' statistics, and a 'Halo 4 Remix Contest' promotion with a 'Get started' button.

You can either choose to record your material right there on the spot, or choose to upload a pre-recorded audio file stored on your computer.



If you choose “**Record**” you will be prompted to allow soundcloud to access your computer’s built-in microphone.

Once you have allowed access to your microphone you can press the Record button again and begin recording.

Once you’ve finished recording you can save the recording to your own SoundCloud page, where you can then share the file on your website or social media sites. You can also send it to Forward Radio where it will be combined with other stories from around our community to build programming on local issues.

Tips for recording.

With simple equipment you can record media content almost anywhere. However there are a few steps you can take to ensure the best possible recording.

It is best to record in a semi-quiet room. If possible turn off fans, air conditioners, or other devices that emit background noise. This will help with acoustics and the clarity of the recording.

When recording it is best to wear headphones to monitor the sound or record with your computer's speakers turned off. This will eliminate feedback(noise coming from your speakers and being picked up by the microphone).

If you are using an external microphone that does not have a soft filter around the microphone head, it is often useful to position the microphone slightly angled away from your mouth. This will eliminate the "pops" that occur in recordings as a result of air being expelled into the microphone when speaking aspirated letters such as "b" and "p". If you are using an onboard microphone included with a laptop, this step is not necessary.

Step 3. Share

Tips for sharing your sounds on social media.

With your SoundCloud account you can easily share your audio content on your social media sites.

To share on Facebook simply copy the url address of the desired SoundCloud audio file and paste it into the text input box when making a Facebook post. Facebook will automatically embed the media player allowing your content to be accessible in your post.

You can also click the **"Share"** button above each of your audio recordings to access various sharing options. From here you can select to instantly share on Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr, Pinterest or through email. You can also copy the direct link, the code for the Widget(embeddable media player), or a special code for uploading on Wordpress blogs.

Step 4. Stay Connected and Informed: We want to hear from you!

At WFMP: Forward Radio, we hope that more and more groups and individuals that are mobilized towards goals of social justice begin to grasp the power of media creation. Our dream is that as more folks begin producing social justice and education media in our city, we will begin to build an efficient network for sharing information to keep the public informed about pressing issues and what everyone can do to take action and help.

So keep recording and sharing your story and be sure to keep checking back in with WFMP to listen/learn about what others are doing to build a more just and peaceful community!

WFMP: Forward Radio
Louisville, Ky
www.forward-radio.net
wforwardradio@gmail.com

