

CML 

& MAB Bozeman

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Social Connection Hour—December 12, 2024

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About Us:

- Founded in 1962 by philanthropist **LuEsther T. Mertz**
- Based in Port Washington, NY
- 5 staff
- CML's mission: “charitable, literary, and educational,” to empower people with print disabilities by giving them access to the same information and literature that sighted individuals enjoy
- Provided free in a range of formats



LuEsther T. Mertz

CML Vision Statement

Choice Magazine Listening seeks to address the problem of limited access to information and literature for people with blindness or print disability.

We aim to solve this problem by providing a free audio magazine that allows our listeners to stay connected to current events, literature, and the arts.

We seek to emphasize writings that are **insightful, humane, thought-provoking, enlightening, possibility-driven, candid, persuasive, and vital**—we want to capture the full range of what people can be, do, and imagine with words.

About our publication, Choice Magazine Listening:

- A **free** talking book anthology of the best in **literary and magazine writing**.
 - **12 hours** of listening, released **quarterly**
 - Drawn from a list of nearly 100 outstanding periodicals
 - Professionally recorded by Talking Book Publishers in Denver, Colorado
 - Includes all forms of writing—
 - Fiction [*Hernan Diaz, Louise Erdrich, Wendell Berry*]
 - Nonfiction [*Dan Barry, Fintan O'Toole, David Wallace-Wells*]
 - Poetry [*Jorie Graham, Sharon Olds, Yusef Komunyakaa*]
 - Interviews [*Mel Brooks, Ray Kurzweil, Maya Angelou, John le Carré*]
 - Essays [*Richard Russo, Barry Lopez, Jon Mooallem, Ishion Hutchinson*]
 - We want to provide something for **everyone**

(Just some of) our sources:

- The New York Times
- The New Yorker
- Harper's
- The Atlantic
- Smithsonian
- The Paris Review
- Brick
- Granta
- Zoetrope
- The Sun
- Audubon
- AGNI
- The Believer
- Commentary
- Condé Nast Traveler
- Creative Nonfiction
- Esquire
- Five Points
- Foreign Affairs
- The Hudson Review
- The Kenyon Review
- McSweeney's
- n+1
- National Geographic
- Nautilus
- Outside
- Oxford American
- Sports Illustrated
- Texas Monthly
- WIRED

Our Subscribers:

CML is a publication for a **general audience** of **adult readers** with blindness, low vision, or any other print disability, as defined by the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (**NLS**):

Any resident of the United States or American citizen living abroad who is unable to read or use regular print materials as a result of temporary or permanent visual or physical limitations may receive service through NLS. This includes those who are blind or have a visual, physical, perceptual, or reading disability that prevents them from reading or handling print materials.

We seek listeners with a passion for literature, the arts, and the life of the mind.

Listeners' eligibility is attested to by a certifying authority and validated by the NLS network.

Listeners' equipment is provided and maintained by the state or regional Talking Book Library in their area. All you need is membership in the NLS BARD program.

Our subscribers hail from **every US state and territory**. We'd like to be read worldwide!

Our formats:

There are several ways to get your quarterly CML subscription.

- Digital Download
 - Available immediately
 - Either **through our website**, choicemagazinelisting.org [format NISO 39.86-2002] or the **NLS BARD program**
 - Requires a USB thumb drive to operate with NLS Digital Talking Book player
 - Nothing to return, easy to store
- Digital Talking Book Cartridge
 - Shipped by USPS's Free Matter for the Blind
 - Returned by subscribers and recycled for future issues
- Cassette Tape (legacy format)

CML “Extras”

The CML Archives:

- With every new issue, we release a year’s worth of archival back issues
- Winter 2025: back issues from 1974, including Watergate, Stevie Wonder, short stories by Arthur C. Clarke, poetry from Pablo Neruda, and much, much more

The CML Newsletter:

- We alert subscribers and friends of CML as soon as a new issue is available for download
- Released four times a year—we will never re-sell or share your information with third parties
- The absolute fastest way to get CML

CML & You:

- We want to know if you have a book club! Every issue of our publication includes a range of literary fiction, nonfiction, essays and poetry suitable for discussion.

Questions?

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