

KJLH Radio

A heritage born in Long Beach



Radio Station Overview

102.3 Radio-Free KJLH is a cultural foundation in Southern California. It is an epicenter of African American and global culture. Currently owned by International Superstar Stevie Wonder, the station's beginnings are right here in Long Beach

The frequency 102.3 operated since the 1920's as KFOX-Long Beach. A country and western staple in the market. It later became KILB which stood for K (the FCC designation that id's the station as west of the Mississippi) IN LONG BEACH.



John Lamar Hill

In 1965, influential African American businessman John Lamar Hill – owner of the Angelus Funeral Home in Los Angeles purchased the frequency. By then the transmitter was located on the SW Corner of Long Beach Blvd and Anaheim.

He operated his station through automation set up on an upstairs room of Mottell's Mortuary in Long Beach which is now Lubjin-Dilday Funeral Home in Long Beach – while building his state of the art studios located at 3847 Crenshaw in Los Angeles.



Stevie Wonder

In 1979, music superstar Stevie Wonder purchased the station and through it, has been a beacon of community service for generations.

African American Communities in District 6, 8 and 9 can relate to the history of the station and its role in providing relevant information, empowering programs like the Women's Health Expo which is held at the Long Beach Convention Center and attracts thousands of women from all over the region to the City for a day of health and wellness information.

These activities underscore the consciousness of Stevie Wonder as he is well known as an ambassador for peace and love across humanity.



Current Times

Even as the station observes 60 years of vibrancy, 102.3 Radio Free KJLH remains a beacon of information and inspiration for communities across Southern California. We remain committed to communities in Long Beach and beyond as noted with the station's continued participation with the MLK Parade and festival, the Black Infant Health organization, the Long Beach Jazz Festival and dozens of activities that take place in the City.

The station's lineup of air personalities are still enjoyed by the people of Long Beach and deeply appreciate the support that allows us to flourish and continue our mission of community service and great music rooted in culture.

