

OpenMicColorado.org

Colorado's free guide to open mics, jams,
and song circles.

*Helping Coloradans find stages, audience,
and community.*

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Colorado's creative scene is real. Finding it isn't.

The scene is real, but it lives in places that fade in algorithmic black holes: social media posts, scattered calendars, word of mouth.



Information goes stale.

Events change, get canceled, or move.
People can't keep up.

Events are lost in Fading Notices

Listings disappear because the algorithm prioritizes online over in-person content.

Venues and hosts lose performers.

People seeking community need a trusted place to filter event listings to their needs.

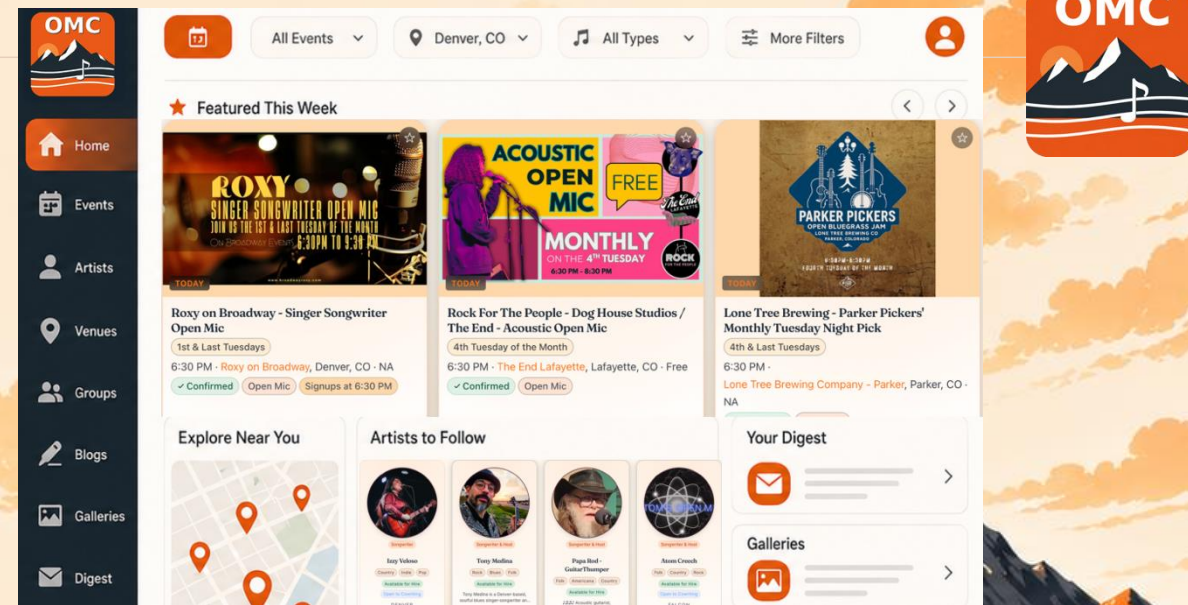
Generic platforms don't fit.

Facebook and IG are built to keep you online, while Meetup is way too expensive.

The result: a creative scene that exists, but is harder to enter than it should be.

One trusted place to find a stage.

Our comprehensive community website, loaded with 251 verified recurring events, is already live and working for the community.



Event Discovery

Searchable directory of open mics and other creative events across Colorado.

Artist Profiles

Bios, playlists, photos, tip links, and socials — artists building an audience and finding collaborators.

Weekly Digest & Social Media

Newsletters and posts keep everyone up to date and part of the community.

AI Event Concierge

Add new events and update existing event listings with screenshots.

Already real: the platform exists. The nonprofit structure is what makes it permanent.



Already live. Already useful.

Early traction is organic and pre-funding.
This is what's true today, with one founder and no marketing campaign.

3,659
visitors

Past 5 months

15,719
page views

Organic only

1,423
peak month

May 2026 so far

251

event series

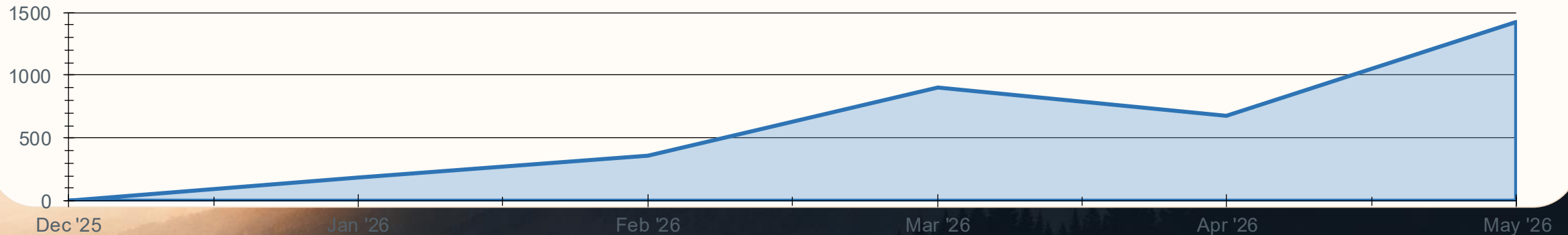
Statewide coverage

40

artist profiles

Rich, self-built

Monthly visitors to openmiccolorado.org



The trend: from 0 to 1,423 visitors a month and growing - all organic, in under 6 months. The peak was due to a local influencer organically sharing the site once.



The Non-profit Answer: Protect Trust and Accessibility.

How do you fund discovery without corrupting it?

The Original Idea

Trust-first monetization

- Paid plans, premium ranking, ads, sponsor placement.
- Adds friction for the public, limiting accessibility.
- Creates pressure to favor paying venues.
- Hard to do without compromising neutrality.

The Better Answer

Public-interest funding

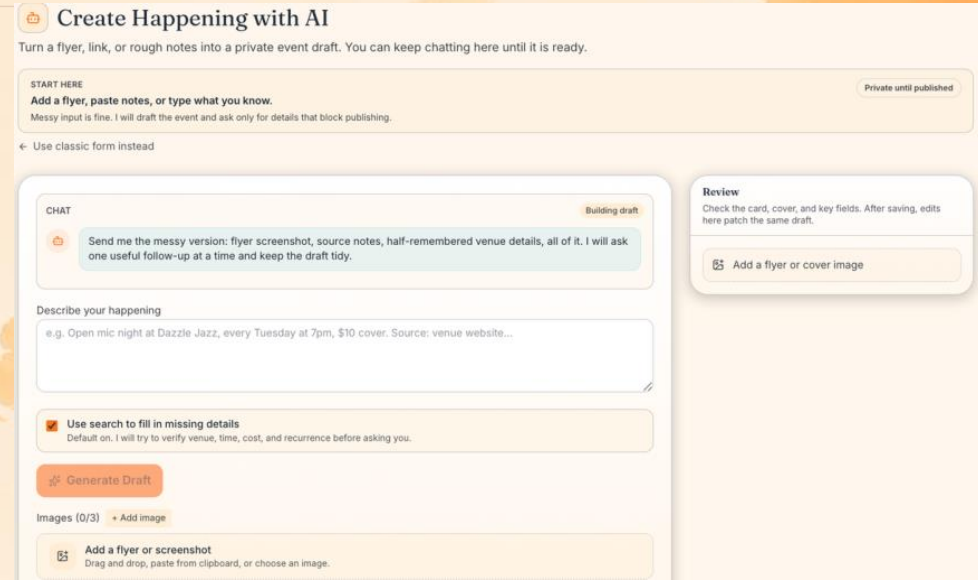
- Donations, grants, sponsorships.
- No paywalls. No pay-to-rank. Sponsors acknowledged, never placed.
- Neutral listings funders can trust.
- Durable beyond any single founder.

The line we hold: Sponsors are acknowledged and thanked, but never sold ranking, placement, or given editorial control.



AI scales accuracy. People keep it trustworthy.

AI does the heavy lifting. People keep it trustworthy.



1 Capture

Copy/Paste a flyer, screenshot, link, or caption from a public source.

2 Draft with AI

AI quickly extracts event details and flags missing fields in the event form.

3 Verify

Humans (and hosts) confirm the listing before it goes live.

4 Trust

Verified event data becomes a durable community listing.

The balance: AI drives access and accuracy. It does not replace community relationships.



Keep the lights on. Improve the data.

Year one stays narrow and disciplined. Everything else is a pilot.

Verified listings

Audit and label events as active or stale, with a public correction process.

Host & Venue Outreach

Invite hosts to claim and update their pages. Build a real participation base.

Weekly Digest

Email + social rhythm keeping artists and audiences informed.

AI Concierge

Quickly helps people keep the events verified and up to date using screenshots or links.

Pilot Showcase Events

1-2 small showcases for visibility. No artist pay-to-feature, ever.

Optional Web Show Pilot

Educational programming. Sponsor acknowledgement only, no ad reads.

Discipline: Core programs go first. Pilots only after the directory is stable.



We're not untested. This model works.

This isn't unproven. Three models already work in other cities.

MODEL 1

Local Music Infrastructure

Nonprofit support for a regional scene

- Music Export Memphis
- MusicOregon / MusicPortland
- Austin Music Foundation

MODEL 2

Public-Access Stage Culture

Open stages as community institutions

- Nuyorican Poets Cafe
- The Moth
- Youth Speaks

MODEL 3

Discovery → Showcases

Listings that grow into events

- Houston Music Classifieds
- Friends of Noise

Closest peer: Houston Music Classifieds — a directory that grew into nonprofit showcases and festivals.



Keep the strategy accountable.

Directional Year-1 targets, backed by lean governance with real guardrails.

Modest Year One Goals

- 500** Newsletter subscribers
Up from ~85 now
- 150+** Verified Hosts Providing Updated Data
Active / stale / paused
- All** Colorado cities covered
- 12h** Event correction turnaround
- 1-2** Pilot showcase events
- Year 1** Supporter growth & Clean Reporting

How the nonprofit is Governed

Colorado Nonprofit

Open Mic Colorado, Inc., domestic, non-member structure.

3 Unrelated Directors

Low-burden but documented; action by CO statute-compliant written consent.

501(c)(3) Path

Form 1023-EZ if attorney/CPA confirms eligibility; full 1023 otherwise.

Founder + IP transition

Website, data, brand, domains, and mailing list transferred by written assignment.

Honest Framing: Targets are directional, to be set by the board after Q1 with updates and accounting reported to funders at each monthly meeting.



Our 90-Day Roadmap to Launch

From incorporation and board formation to the first donor asks with every milestone dated.

01

Board + Counsel

Recruit 3 directors.
Review clauses,
bylaws, 1023-EZ
fit, IP transfer,
founder/family pay.

02

Formation

File CO Articles
(\$50). Get EIN.
Organizing
meeting. Open
bank account.

03

Tax + Solicitation

File 1023-EZ
(\$275) if eligible.
File CO solicitation
(\$10). Await
approval before
public campaign.

04

Funding Packet

Updated deck,
one-pager,
budget, board
bios, donor FAQ,
transparent
finance page.

05

Outreach + Asks

50 individual asks,
15 business
sponsor asks, 5
community
foundation
conversations.

Current status: Open Mic Colorado is in formation. We are recruiting founding directors, engaging attorney/CPA review, and preparing nonprofit, 501(c)(3), and Colorado charitable solicitation filings.