

## About Community Access Television

Community Access Television is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that is authorized by City of Erie ordinances to manage the personnel, equipment, facilities, and other assets of public access as provided for in the franchise agreement between the City of Erie and Spectrum Cable. As a resource for the community at large, we have always received substantial funding from the City of Erie. Since our founding in 1997, we have also received grants from a variety of other sources. The interests of the community, CATV's members, the City of Erie, and Spectrum are represented on the Board of Trustees.

## Staff

Jacob Bartko, Executive Director

[jbartko@catverie.org](mailto:jbartko@catverie.org)

Chris Diem, Production Coordinator

[csdiem@catverie.org](mailto:csdiem@catverie.org)

## Business Hours

Monday:	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday:	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday:	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday:	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Friday:	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Open four evenings weekly for classes and production. All appointments must be scheduled one week in advance and are subject to staff and facility availability. Anyone interested in membership should call us at 814-454-2226 and inquire about the next scheduled orientation.



Channel 1021  
Spectrum

142 West 12th Street  
Erie, PA 16501  
814-454-2226  
Email: [info@catverie.org](mailto:info@catverie.org)  
[www.catverie.org](http://www.catverie.org)

## Community Access Television

*How can they  
show THAT on  
Channel 1021?!!*



*Empowering Community  
Voices and Visions*

## How Can They Show THAT on Channel 1021? *A Message from the Executive Director*

The two most important words in our name are “community” and “access.” Community Access Television is just what the name implies, an electronic forum for anyone who wishes to become a member and take the appropriate classes.

What you see on our channel is determined by our members. Most of our programming is actually produced by them—either private individuals or community-based organizations.

Sometimes viewers tell me, “There ought to be a law about what I saw on Channel 1021 last night!” There *is* a law; the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, and its guarantee that “Congress shall pass no law abridging the freedom of speech....” Basically any member of Community Access Television, is free to say or do anything he or she wants on their own CATV program, provided that they can assure us that their program does not contain any illegal content. This illegal content is defined by our agreement with Spectrum Cable and the City of Erie.

We have agreed to maintain a public forum for the free expression of ideas – even ideas you or I might despise! – as long as we prohibit all of the following types of content in programs:

- Commercials or advertising
- Libel or slander
- Obscenity and pornography
- Any violation of copyrights, publicity rights, or invasion of privacy
- Any violation of FCC regulations
- Any violation of any local, state, or federal law.

If you see something on this channel which does not fall into one of the above categories, but which upsets you anyway, you have the right to join us at Community Access Television, and learn how to produce your own program or message on the channel, to counteract the programming that upsets you. As Supreme Court Justice Brandeis said: *“The appropriate response to repugnant speech is not less speech, but more.”*

If you would like to know how the FCC defines obscenity, and the very different type of content

called “indecent,” you may read their Consumer Fact Sheet at :

<http://www.fcc.gov/search/results/indecency>

While Community Access Television is not directly regulated by this FCC policy, which is applied to broadcasters like the local network stations, we do follow this policy, especially the scheduling of so-called adult programming after 10:00 p.m.

If you have any question about our programming or policies, you may call us at 814-454-2226, or write us at:

Community Access Television  
142 West 12 Street  
Erie, PA 16501

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