



Alysa Liu took figure skating gold as the first American woman to win it in 24 years after walking away from the sport in Beijing and deciding she wasn't done.

Jessie Diggins won bronze in cross-country skiing with bruised ribs, collapsed at the finish line, and called herself the happiest bronze medalist in history.

Elana Meyers Taylor, 41, became the oldest woman to win gold in Olympic bobsled history, taking monobob by 0.04 seconds for her first gold after five previous Olympic medals and cementing her status as the most decorated Black Winter Olympian in Team USA history.

And the U.S. women's hockey team beat Canada 2-1 in overtime, with Hilary Knight, in her fifth and final Olympics, setting the U.S. record for career Olympic points along the way.

In a stretch where it feels like we've never been more divided, it was nice to have something to root for together.

That same impulse, shared cause, same room, same side is part of why we created The Current.

cover your assets



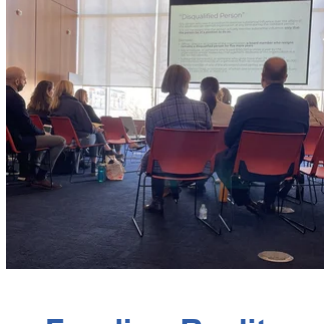
This month, we held the inaugural session of our peer network for Virginia nonprofit leaders, The Current. We'd originally planned a January launch, but winter weather had other ideas. Leaders showed up anyway.

The session was called Cover Your Assets: Essential Nonprofit Compliance, and it was exactly as fun as we could make a conversation about 990 governance and IRS scrutiny. George Costanza made an appearance in the slide deck. We have range.

We covered the nonprofit risk landscape, financial stewardship, fundraising compliance, insurance, internal controls, executive compensation rules, and what the IRS actually expects from your board.

Especially right now, with House Ways & Means publicly pushing for a "new approach" to nonprofit oversight, federal agencies investigating fraud cases, and funders running more due diligence before they write checks.

a few things worth knowing



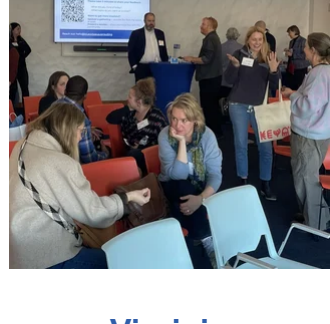
Funding Reality Check

34% of nonprofits experienced federal funding disruption in 2025, and pauses are expected to continue. The instinct is to chase harder. The smarter move might be to diversify with memberships, individual giving, and partnerships.



Your 990 Is Public Narrative

People are looking at your 990. Not just the IRS. Funders, donors, watchdogs, potential employees, prospective board members. Your governance section, your compensation documentation, your policies are all telling a story.



Virginia Gives

Virginia is the #1 state in charitable giving and ranked 5th most charitable overall.

That's good news. It means generosity is part of the culture here, and worth remembering when you're making the case for support.

yes, you can (and should) say that



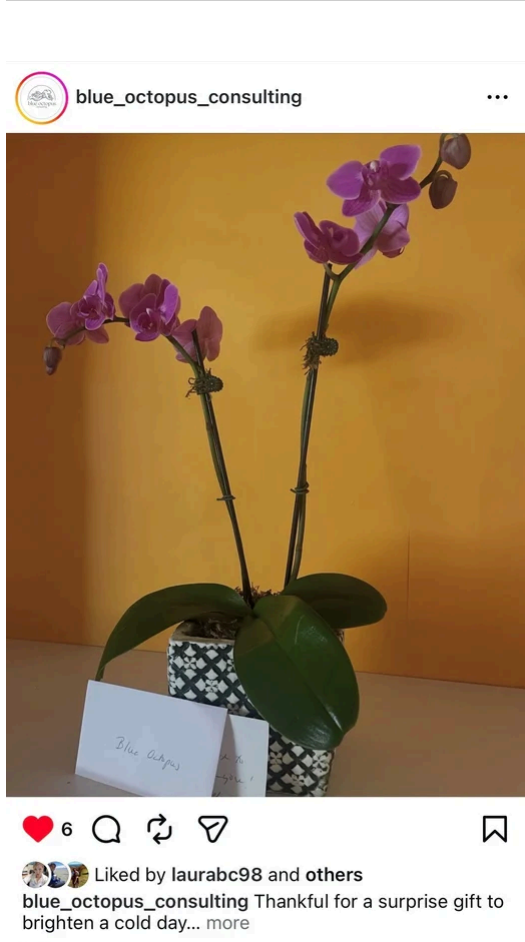
Ever stopped mid-sentence and wondered, "Are we allowed to say this?" Join us for the next session of The Current - Thursday, March 26 at 5pm:

Yes, You Can (and Should) Say That: Advocacy & Lobbying for Nonprofits

Led by Anne McDonnell, award-winning nonprofit leader and advocate, this session breaks down what advocacy and lobbying really mean for nonprofits, what's fair game, and how and when to speak up.

Come for the practical guidance, stay for happy hour and conversation with people who get it.

we saved you a seat



what else we've been up to

February was a heads-down month across the board.

We've been interviewing finalists for our Giving Tuesday giveaway, we're deep in Salesforce, strategic plans, development collateral, and social media strategy for clients across the Commonwealth.

Not all of it makes the newsletter. Most of the work that holds organizations together doesn't. That's kind of the point.

what's in the net?

You don't medal without recovery, perspective, and a little inspiration. Here's what's in the net this month:

Laura: How to Get to Heaven from Belfast on Netflix. Northern Irish humor is a very specific frequency and she is fully tuned in.

Shelley: Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt. A story about connection, unlikely partnerships, and an octopus with opinions. Highly recommend the audio version because Marcellus deserves to be heard.

Quillin: Memoir writing workshops at the VMFA, a home recording studio for wacky music, and a general creative awakening. Art is where the magic lives.

That's February. Short month. Strong bench. See you March 26.

