

History of IV: Podcast by Christina McDermott

The six-episode limited series explores the history, housing dynamics, community life, and development issues of Isla Vista, California. The podcast *Welcome to Isla Vista Podcast* was written, voiced, and produced by Christina McDermott, who is a housing reporter and Mickey Flacks Fellow for The Santa Barbara Independent.

Here are the titles and dates:

1. **Welcome to Del Playa Drive** – January 8, 2026 An introduction to I.V.'s early history and development. <https://www.independent.com/2026/01/07/welcome-to-welcome-to-isla-vista>
<https://www.independent.com/2026/01/08/welcome-to-isla-vista-episode-1-welcome-to-del-playa-drive/>
2. **Student Stories, 1954–2016** – January 15, 2026
Housing and life from mid-century through recent decades.
<https://www.independent.com/multimedia/welcome-to-isla-vista-episode-2-studentstories-1954-2016>
3. **The Near–Then and the Now** – January 22, 2026 How post-COVID shifts shaped the community.
<https://www.independent.com/multimedia/welcome-to-isla-vista-episode-3-the-nearthen-and-now>
4. **Political I.V.** – January 29, 2026
Politics, parks, and the Community Services District.
<https://www.independent.com/multimedia/welcome-to-isla-vista-episode-4-political-i-v>
5. **The Quiet(er) Corner** – February 5, 2026
Focus on long-term residents and lesser-told perspectives.

<https://www.independent.com/multimedia/welcome-to-isla-vista-episode-5-the-quietercorner>