

ATTENTION:

Important voting information enclosed for the WBAI Local Station Board election. Ballots must be received by Nov. 15. OPEN IMMEDIATELY!

Justice & Unity Campaign
c/o Ray Laforest
AFSCME DC 1707
75 Varick St., #1404
New York, NY 10013

NOT an Official WBAI-Sponsored Mailing

All WBAI members have the legal right to reach other members through a mailing house that keeps names confidential. WBAI neither sponsored nor paid for this mailing — listeners made it possible through donated labor and funds. **Please help us defray costs.** Send checks payable to “Justice & Unity Campaign” to: Ray Laforest, c/o AFSCME DC 1707, 75 Varick St., #1404, New York, NY 10013.

WBAI NEEDS JUSTICE & UNITY... VOTE TODAY!

WBAI Justice & Unity Campaign • (212) 591-2111
www.justiceunity.org • info@justiceunity.org

labor donated

Help Keep WBAI an Activist and Anti-Racist Station

Since the victory over the 2000–02 nationally-instigated coup at WBAI, Pacifica has been in fierce struggles over maintaining inclusion of disenfranchised communities and an activist focus. A loose coalition of listeners and staff defeated racial/gender-based affirmative action for Pacifica’s boards. Now some in this group at WBAI, including board members, seek to reverse the incorporation of hard-hitting (allegedly “anti-white”) programs by and for communities of color — particularly Black people. Several board members have campaigned to fire progressive Program Director Bernard White and purge anti-racist programmers. Re-election candidates Paul DeRienzo and Carolyn Birden have called for conservative hosts on WBAI.

Some of these board members have also tried to slash the budget and thus the skeletal paid staff, attacked the staff’s union rights, and opposed holding board members accountable for racist and sexist conduct. Two re-election candidates have made particularly outrageous statements (details at www.justiceunity.org):

- Steve Brown has waged a long-running vicious public email campaign attacking Black progressive WBAI staff in racist, vitriolic terms. Brown has singled out Bernard White for extreme abuse, using false charges and calls for violence (such as “you should have been at her side whacking Bernard with a baseball bat”). The board voted to disassociate itself from these attacks.
- Paul DeRienzo (a “Christmas Coup” supporter) was suspended by the board after a series of “racist, sexist, anti-Semitic, and personal attacks” on colleagues at meetings.

The board must continue WBAI’s legacy as the place where the voices of ALL the voiceless can be heard and where racism is firmly opposed. Help us move these struggles forward by supporting the Justice & Unity slate!

Multi-channel Proposal

Justice & Unity proposes to create a new WBAI channel in phases over five years. First, utilizing the existing unused side-band channel and a simulcast on a new Internet stream.

Eventually, simulcasting this channel on a new frequency using HD digital radio technology. Purposes: pilot new shows for more communities, play more national programs, and rebroadcast existing shows such as *Democracy NOW!* Details at www.justiceunity.org.

Vote Justice & Unity!

Maintain strong programs by and for communities of color
Stand against racism
Broaden off-air fundraising

How to Fill Out Your Ballot

There are 9 board seats to fill, and you are allowed — but *not* required — to rank up to 23 candidates. If you rank candidates you don’t fully support, you could help elect them. Do *not* give the same ranking to more than one candidate — it divides and dilutes your vote among them. We’ve developed rankings to maximize the rollover benefit of your vote — these do not reflect our appreciation or valuation of any of our candidates. **Please rank only the 10 Justice and Unity candidates in the precise order listed to the right:**

Justice & Unity listener candidates:

1. Father Lawrence Lucas
2. Nia Bediako
3. Berta Silva
4. Ray Laforest
5. Marianela Tricoche
6. Bernadette Ellorin
7. Samia Halaby
8. Sam Spady
9. Imani Henry
10. Tibby Brooks

Knowledge Is Power: Stay Informed

For more on the WBAI election, watch “The Battle for Progressive Media” on public-access cable TV. Manh.: MNN, Ch. 34 & RCN Ch. 83, 10/21, 11/4 & 11/18 (10:30–11PM). Also: Bklyn, every Fri. noon, TW/Ch 34 & CV/Ch 67. Also in Ossining, NY & Paterson, NJ. Check schedule at www.justiceunity.org or (212) 591-2111.

Video and audio versions on demand at www.justiceunity.org

WBAI's JUSTICE & UNITY CAMPAIGN

As always, a multiracial, anti-racist, majority-women election slate



Father Lawrence Lucas*

Author; lecturer; Black liberation theologian; chaplain on Rikers; Harlem activist



Nia Bediako

Chair, LSB Programming Comm.; certified financial analyst; Harlem neighborhood activist



Berta Silva*

Chicana/Latina community activist; labor organizer with Local 1199



Ray Laforest*

Elected member of Pacifica National Board; labor and Haitian community organizer



Marianela Tricoche

Bronx Latina organizer, Women Workers for Peace, WBAI program translator



Bernadette Ellorin

Coord., BAYAN USA — progressive Filipino alliance; 29-year-old documentary filmmaker



Samia Halaby

Member, Al-Awda (Palestine Right of Return Coalition); painter; writer



Sam Spady

President, NAACP/New Rochelle branch; civic leader; small business owner



Imani Henry

Organizer, Intl. Action Ctr.; Prog. Coord., TransJustice, Audre Lorde Project; playwright/performer



Tibby Brooks

Organizer, NY Free Mumia Coalition; Palestine solidarity activist

*Incumbent Local Station Board members

Note: IDs are past or present political/activist affiliations for identification purposes.

Accomplishments

Justice & Unity and its allies have:

- Raised thousands of dollars for the station, including the funds to launch the WBAI online audio archives.
- Recruited many new listeners and paid members through outreach at community events.
- Are responsible for passing the motion that established a Pacifica national daily Spanish-language news program on Latino issues.
- Fought to protect the autonomy of WBAI against top-down control from Pacifica.
- Defended the rights of WBAI workers to fair treatment and respect for their union contracts.
- Helped pass a Pacifica National Board motion to establish a committee to review charges of racism and sexism by board members (over the strong opposition of some of the LSB members now running for re-election).

Endorsers of slate (partial list—full list at justiceunity.org)

ACT UP/NY, Al-Awda (Palestine Rt. to Return Coal.)-NY, Asia Pacific Action, BAYAN USA (progressive Filipino alliance), December 12th Mvt., Free Mumia Abu-Jamal Coal., Haiti Supp. Ntwk., IFCO, Intl. Action Ctr., Jersey City Peace Mvt., NYC Labor Against the War, ProLibertad (Puerto Rican Polit. Pris. Freedom Cmpn.), Queers for Peace & Justice, Venezuelan Alberto Lovera Bolivarian Circle

Platform

Justice & Unity:

- Supports genuine grassroots, activist-oriented programming, especially by and for people of color and under-represented communities such as Latinas/os, Asians, and youth.
- Believes the board should be a model for anti-racism with zero tolerance for racist speech.
- Embraces strong affirmative-action program and anti-racist training; will assess staff, board, committee and candidate diversity.
- Supports and works on innovative *off-air* fundraising methods to reduce the pressure on the on-air pledge drives.
- Intends to organize major LSB fundraising activities for WBAI.
- Advocates that sufficient funding levels be set to maintain optimal station operations.
- Supports full disclosure of station finances to inform LSB budget decisions.
- Scrupulously respects union contracts for paid and unpaid staff.
- Supports worker participation in station hiring.
- Fights for staff/union involvement in all that affects them.

Future plans

Justice & Unity proposes the following initiatives:

- A capital campaign to acquire a WBAI-owned facility, so that, instead of paying rent, the station can have a permanent home
- Long-term multi-channel expansion of WBAI's programming using sideband, Internet, and digital HD radio (see details on reverse side)
- A Pacifica record label to showcase progressive cultural performers and raise revenue for the network
- Banning the corrupting influence of privately funded mailings in LSB elections
- Finding a humane, democratic alternative to Robert's Rules of Order — a way that doesn't serve as a mechanism for stalemate and is less tedious and manipulative
- Involving WBAI and Pacifica in grassroots efforts to oppose further media consolidation and demand FCC action to ensure more media control by communities of color.

visit us on the web:

www.justiceunity.org