

# WBAI's JUSTICE & UNITY CAMPAIGN

A truly multiracial, anti-racist, majority-women slate



**Omowale Clay**  
(December 12th Movement; National Rally for Reparations)



**Evan Tobias**  
(27-year-old activist; Rockland Peace & Justice; LSB Outreach Ctte. Chair)



**Lisa Davis**  
(People's Organization for Progress/New Jersey; POP Reparations Ctte.)



**Sara Flounders**  
(International Action Center; resistance organizer; author)



**Berta Silva**  
(Chicana/Latina community activist; labor organizer with Local 1199)



**Nick Martielli**  
(Progressive musician; Long Island WBAI activist; WBAI Mgr. Search Ctte.)



**Marian Borenstein**  
(WBAI Local Advisory Board; Black Radical Congress)



**Ed Marshall**  
(Black community activist; LSB Mgt. Eval. and Programming Cttes.)



**Cheryl Ife Griffin**  
(Progressive attorney; Bed-Stuy Community Legal Services Corp.)

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

## The Struggle for the Soul of WBAI Continues

### Your Voice and Vote Are Needed

It's your station. For years WBAI has been the true voice of inclusion, resistance, and education for social change. As Bush consolidates power, WBAI is again under threat by those who hope to alter its mission. The WBAI Justice & Unity Campaign is a multiracial, progressive, anti-racist slate in the upcoming Local Station Board (LSB) election which resists this attempted takeover. Protect WBAI — along with your voice in community media — with a vote for nine Justice & Unity candidates.

### Protect WBAI's Legacy

Half the 18 listener seats on the Local Station Board are up for election and your vote counts. The **Justice & Unity Campaign** holds 4 continuing seats, but with your help could become a **genuinely progressive majority**. Its diverse, majority-women slate of respected activists is committed to Pacifica's mission of giving voice to the voiceless, and covering issues ignored by corporate media.

### How to Fill Out Your Ballot

There are 9 board seats to fill, and you are allowed — but *not* required — to rank up to 25 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. **Please rank ONLY the 9 Justice & Unity candidates, and in the precise order below:**

- |                       |                         |                             |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>1 Omowale Clay</b> | <b>4 Sara Flounders</b> | <b>7 Marian Borenstein</b>  |
| <b>2 Evan Tobias</b>  | <b>5 Berta Silva</b>    | <b>8 Ed Marshall</b>        |
| <b>3 Lisa Davis</b>   | <b>6 Nick Martielli</b> | <b>9 Cheryl Ife Griffin</b> |

### Ongoing Justice & Unity LSB Members

(not on current ballot; elected in Feb. 2004 for 3-yr terms)

#### Listener

Father Lawrence Lucas  
Michael Tarif Warren  
Ray Laforest  
Mariana Gaston

#### Staff

Tiokasin Ghosthorse  
Bob Lederer

#### Staff Candidates

(for ref. only; only staff vote for staff)

**Margareth Dominique**  
("Haiti: The Struggle Continues")

**Vajra Kilgour**  
("Housing Notebook")

### Our Vision to Safeguard WBAI

With the support of thousands of loyal WBAI listeners and activists like you, WBAI's **Justice & Unity** hopes to:

- ✓ Make WBAI a powerful, progressive organizing hub for the entire tri-state area.
- ✓ Implement anti-racism training and strong affirmative-action policies.
- ✓ Enhance democracy, transparency, worker rights & local decision-making as Pacifica policy.
- ✓ Broadly diversify grassroots, community-based programming and governance.
- ✓ Involve the full range of communities based on race, nationality, class, gender, sexuality, disability and age.
- ✓ Harness the Internet and video to expand the global reach of WBAI's cutting-edge programming.
- ✓ Strengthen innovative, non-corporate, off-air fund-raising.

**The full Justice & Unity platform can be found at [www.justiceunity.org](http://www.justiceunity.org)**

### Knowledge Is Power: Stay Informed

Watch "The Battle for Progressive Media" on public-access TV. Manh.: MNN, Ch. 34 & RCN Ch. 107. Bklyn: 11/24, 1pm, TW ch. 34/CV ch. 67; 11/24, 3:30pm, TW ch. 35/CV ch. 68. Also: Jersey City, Ossining, Paterson. Schedule: [www.justiceunity.org](http://www.justiceunity.org) or (212) 591-2111.

**DEADLINE EXTENDED: BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 29**

The Justice & Unity Campaign is endorsed by: 1199 Peace & Justice Comm., ACT UP/NY, Black Radical Congress/NYC, Bronx Greens, Central NJ Coal. for Peace and Justice, Community Justice Center, Free Mumia Abu-Jamal Coalition, Haiti Progrès, Int'l Action Center, Met. Council on Housing, Peoples Org. for Progress, ProLibertad, Queers for Peace & Justice, 8 former WBAI Local Advisory Board members, and Juan Gonzalez, co-host, Democracy Now!.

## PROTECT WBAI — WITH JUSTICE & UNITY

WBAI Justice & Unity Campaign • (212) 591-2111 • [www.justiceunity.org](http://www.justiceunity.org) • [info@justiceunity.org](mailto:info@justiceunity.org)

# You Deserve an Inclusive, Progressive WBAI

The Bush win cements the power of those wanting to roll back 40 years of civil-rights advances. Meanwhile, at WBAI, since the first Local Station Board election, the current board majority — supporters of the List-Prog slate, plus colleagues of health programmer/ entrepreneur Gary Null — have been trying to reverse decades of work that has made WBAI anti-

racist, diverse and responsive to communities of color and vital progressive movements. Most distressing has been a barrage of hostility and unsubstantiated allegations against progressive managers by certain board members. When elected, **Justice & Unity** candidates will protect WBAI's mission by working respectfully with other board members, staff and management.

## Inclusion — Not Racist Behavior

**“Examine the background of virtually all the newly hired. Blacks and friends of the management. It is time we recognized that you have accepted the station’s trajectory into hell.”**

—Luanne Pennesi, LSB Member, endorsed by List-Prog, in a public letter to General Manager Don Rojas

**“The closest thing I can compare [WBAI] to right now is Fascism in the 1930s.”**

—Luanne Pennesi

### The LSB majority:

- ✎ **Failed** to confront board member calls to slash activist programming and give programs to conservative hosts.
- ✎ **Didn't** repudiate either Steve Brown's (List-Prog) public claim that new, unnamed, WBAI programs are “anti-white” or Luanne Pennesi's first comment above.
- ✎ **Ignored** its mandate to review the diversity of committees, candidates, and station staff.

### 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-racist action with zero-tolerance for racist speech.
- ✓ **Embraces** strong affirmative-action program and anti-racist training; will assess staff, board, committee and candidate diversity.

## Cooperation — Not a Board Takeover

**“Relations between the LSB and staff have reached a crisis point. Management and staff feel like they are under siege, resulting in plummeting staff morale. We do not accept the notion that the boards are overlords and the staffs are underlings.”**

—General Manager Don Rojas, two weeks before resigning

### The LSB majority:

- ✎ **Won't** stop trying to micromanage WBAI.
- ✎ **Harassed** General Manager Don Rojas to the point of resignation.
- ✎ **Distorted** an evaluation survey to try to get Program Director and 20-year WBAI veteran Bernard White fired.

### JUSTICE & UNITY:

- ✓ **Will** fight for a progressive, anti-racist new General Manager.
- ✓ **Will** implement a fair evaluation process for managers.
- ✓ **Will** work cooperatively and respectfully with management.

## Full Funding — Not Budget Slashing

**“If we [the LSB] are spending our time fundraising, we really will fail in the governance.”**

—Patty Heffley, LSB and List-Prog member, opposing a motion to commit the board to raise modest funds

### The LSB majority:

- ✎ **Refused** to commit to raising \$25,000 this year, though most nonprofit boards raise substantial funds.
- ✎ **Maneuvered** unsuccessfully for a \$450,000 cut out of a \$4 million budget, which would have meant 6 layoffs.
- ✎ **Won't** repudiate call by LSB member Luanne Pennesi to “just stop supporting the station.”

### JUSTICE & UNITY:

- ✓ **Intends** to organize major LSB fundraising activities for WBAI.
- ✓ **Advocates** sufficient funding levels be set to maintain optimal station operations.
- ✓ **Supports** full disclosure of station finances to inform LSB budget decisions.

## Pro-Worker — Not Anti-Union

**“The era of the backroom deal between labor and management at WBAI is over.”**

—Alex Steinberg, List-Prog LSB member, attacking the right of workers to negotiate their union contracts without LSB interference

### The LSB majority:

- ✎ **Disrespected** WBAI workers, their unions and contracts.
- ✎ **Excluded** paid and unpaid staff unions from input into management and programming evaluations.
- ✎ **Condone**s calls to override union contracts and minimize worker input in manager selection.

### JUSTICE & UNITY:

- ✓ **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.

## Pay Close Attention: Vote with Care

It's easy to talk about diversity, accountability, etc. When you vote, be sure to look at a candidate's background. Are they involved in real community activism? Some candidates and their allies in the current board majority talk progressive values but meanwhile wage attacks against grassroots activist programmers such as Bernard White, Errol Maitland, Eddie Ellis, Ayo Harrington, Mimi Rosenberg, Bob Lederer and others. Be careful when you vote.

Justice and Unity believes the following candidates — endorsed by members of List-Prog and/or Gary Null — could hurt the station:

Mitchel Cohen, Andrea Fishman, David S. Goldman, Patty Heffley, Luanne Pennesi, Harry Lichtenstein, Patricia Logan, Berthold Reimers, James Ross, Alice Shields, Alex Steinberg, Shohreh Tehrani.

**Your vote for WBAI's Justice & Unity could give true progressives a board majority. Act now.**

## Donations Much Needed

List-Prog has access to substantially more funding. Help us get out the word about our candidates and our visit.

Send checks payable to “Justice & Unity Campaign” to:

Justice & Unity Campaign  
Manhattanville Station  
PO Box 337  
New York, NY 10027