



KPFA 2015 LISTENER CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

ALL BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 4, 2015.

You may cast your ballot by returning the enclosed ballot in the mail or cast your ballot online.

VOTE ONLINE

<https://pacifica.simplyvoting.com>

In order for quorum to be met (10%), approximately 1,630 votes need to be returned. For more information about the candidates, the campaign schedule and more, visit the official campaign website at elections.pacifica.org

LISTENER CANDIDATES

Sharon Adams
Marilla Arguelles
Virginia Browning
William Campisi
Mario Fernandez
Sasha Futran
Yuri Gottesman

Richard Hart
Sorey Hilmon
Janet Kobren
David Lynch
Don Macleay
Jeremy Miller
Brian Oakchunas

Scott Olsen
T.M. Scruggs
Leland Thompson
Tom Voorhees
Barbara Whipperman
Margy Wilkinson

Para leer las declaraciones de los candidatos, las instrucciones de como votar y para elegir su voto en español, visite el sitio <https://pacifica.simplyvoting.com>

DISCLAIMER: Opinions and facts in the Candidate Statements belong to the author of the statement only and should not be assumed to be true or to reflect the editorial stance or policy of the Pacifica Foundation or the opinions of its management, the Pacifica National Board, the Local Station Boards, the staff of the stations or the other listener members.

SHARON ADAMS

When KPFA management abruptly cancelled the Morning Mix program during a pledge drive, I, Sharon Adams, became involved. The Morning Mix was produced locally with a variety of hosts addressing issues of local, regional and national concern. The controlling majority on the KPFA Local Station Board supported replacing the Morning Mix with a recorded production from LA, arguing the recorded production would generate more revenue. The LA-produced show has failed to increase revenue, while cancelling the Morning Mix removed local voices from one of the prime drive-time listening hours. KPFA and its parent, Pacifica Foundation, have amazingly bad basic accounting methods that appear to be standard operating procedure. A required audit from 2013 was just finalized, while the 2014 audit remains unfinished. I was on the Board of Directors for the National Lawyers Guild-San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, from 2007 until 2014, while the economy suffered a major recession. The NLG is a non-profit, membership organization, similar to Pacifica/KPFA. We kept the NLG financially solvent by responding appropriately and in a timely manner to the financial challenges. Please vote for me and the entire United for Community Radio slate, www.unitedforcommunityradio.org, to bring effective oversight to KPFA programming and finances.

MARILLA ARGÜELLES

I, Marilla Argüelles, have developed, provided, and advocated 30 years for services to combat trauma, deprivation, and stigma. An artist and teacher, I've battle bureaucratic obtuseness and lack of funding with creativity and Socratic obstinacy. In 1983 Barbara Lubin and I co-founded the East Bay's first integrated, accessible children's recreation program. In 1984 I founded Consensus, California's first nonprofit head injury rehab program to receive Adult Ed funding. As Community Colleges became more inclusive, our focus morphed into media projects at underachieving high schools. Students created Powerpoint presentations on child slavery, criminal injustice, agribusiness, and The Patriot Act. In 1993 Flashpoints led me to the California Prison Focus, where Bato Talamantez graciously allowed me to edit letters from the SHU at Pelican Bay into an anthology lauded by Adrienne Rich, Carlos Muñoz, June Jordan, and the BBC. I've spent equal time and heartache serving on Union Contract Negotiations and Executive Boards. As former president of SEIU 616's IHSS providers, I'm keenly aware of the need for fiscal vigilance, transparency, and resilience. I'm joining UnitedForCommunityRadio (RadioUCR.org) to replace corporate obsessions of profit, growth, and technology with local democratic economies geared towards Justice and Survival.

VIRGINIA BROWNING

Virginia Browning – Incumbent board member, former radio programmer, activist. Previously, KPFA Election Committee. Currently, Pacifica National Programming and Governance committees. I joined many in the 90s taking back KPFA & Pacifica from an unaccountable national board. New bylaws, listener and staff-crafted, were adopted. Bylaws oversights allowed for a new hierarchy. Change is again essential for Pacifica's survival. VOTE UNITEDFORCOMMUNITYRADIO.ORG Pacifica is license-holder to KPFA and four other stations. Successes and failures of each station affect all others: Most of Pacifica's Texas audience had no signal for over a year. Pacifica's auditor, owed \$55,00, can't begin a year-behind audit required for funding millions of dollars. KPFA spends thousands on new carpets. KPFA revenue decreased \$406,000 since 2012. Expenses increased \$51,000. "Community Radio" broadcasts a range of progressive views. Strengthen new voices to speak for themselves, not filtered only through a cream-top few. A recently-deceased world-renowned KPFA programmer, seldom-promoted here, said collaboration produced his best work. We can work together! In light of massive conglomeration of media everywhere, we must vote to keep Pacifica alive and strong. RadioUCR.org, and "Daniel's Free Speech Zone." Rank ONLY UCR candidates. Many endorsers including Bruce A. Dixon, Michael Parenti, Barbara Lubin, Ramsés Téon Nichols

WILLIAM CAMPISI

My name is William Campisi Jr. Since the early 70's I have been a- KPFA member, listener and supporter. I am running to become a Board member because I believe that, working cooperatively with others on the Board, I can help KPFA to continue its important work giving a voice to unheard points of view and unheard individuals in our community and society. 'In my youth I was a restaurant worker, a union house painter and a carpenter, for the last 30 years I have been an attorney who specializes in representing medical malpractice victims. I view myself as an advocate for the provision of safe and high quality medical care for patients. Litigating on behalf of individuals against large and powerful medical corporate entities requires a tremendous amount of consistent effort and patience. It's a complex activity. I think my years doing this work will help me to work productively, patiently and cooperatively with other Board members and staff at KPFA. My general view is that the Board must work as cooperatively as possible to help the professional staff and volunteers at KPFA do the daily work of running the station.

MARIO FERNANDEZ

Salutations! I'm Mario Fernandez, a Bay Area Native and a KPFA community listener for over 20 years. I am excited for the opportunity to be part of the Local Station Board. Programs like Hard Knock Radio and La Onda Bajita are part of this amazing institution that represents a community/culture that sits aside from mainstream media. KPFA isn't alternative news or music; it is community generated content. The KPFA motto is exactly the view from which I will govern: Listener Supported, Community Powered. Thank you to the United for Community Radio (UCR) group for their endorsement of my candidacy. Both mine and their views overlap for a more sustainable, responsible, and community connected station. As a representative of the KPFA community, I will work to provide transparency for the process and sustainability of the station budget. Resource improvement for staff—paid & unpaid—is necessary to the improvement of the station in terms of technology and interpersonal relationships. For the community, the re-establishment of the program council would engender a stronger connection with the station and generate more grassroots content. Please feel free to contact me through the UCR (www.RadioUCR.org) website or my Facebook: www.facebook.com/awesomemario -- In Solidarity, G. Mario Fernandez

SASHA FUTRAN

Sasha Futran, a media worker in both print and broadcasting, I bring a commitment to expanding KPFA's programming, audience, and reach. We must also be inclusive in developing new voices and programs. More people need to learn the truth about our country's "top-and-nothing-trickles-down" reality and the systems in place and in the control of a few. Mainstream media isn't going to do it. KPFA must. And we must do it better and get immersed in ever expanding digital media. The word "professionalism" is often disparaged, but our sound needs to be as good as all other radio. I believe it can be. There is no reason that talent can't be found, mentored, developed. I want to spend my time working to that end. It's what I understand and can do for the station. I served on the KPFA board from 2006-12 and was a rebel on the then-elected KQED board from 1992 - 98. Please vote for me, Sasha Futran, and all the SaveKPFA candidates: SaveKPFA.org -- Partial List of Endorsers: Brian Edwards-Tiekert, Host "Upfront" , Aileen Alfandary, News Director, Philip Maldari, Host, "Sunday Show"

YURI GOTTESMAN

My name's Yuri Gottesman and I am running for the KPFA Local Station Board to help ensure KPFA's long-term viability as a place for radical, community radio. With many years experience as a Union organizer and Union attorney, I believe I bring a skill and energy that can have a positive effect on the station. In 2001 I started listening to KPFA and was saddened, angered, and inspired by the brave reporting on many issues, and in particular on the reporting of Occupied Palestine, which led me to the West Bank to support non-violent resistance on the ground. I believe we can 1) increase membership and funding by continuing to appeal to a

diverse audience from around the Bay Area 2) listen to and support, rather than fight against, KPFA's incredible staff and volunteers, who do such an amazing job with limited resources; and 3) minimize infighting to foster a collaborative tone in KPFA's leadership. I believe that as a community, we should support powerful, well-done radio, free of corporate money and influence. Please vote for me and the SaveKPFA slate (www.saveKPFA.org) so that we can do whatever it takes to help maintain and foster such a vital resource!

RICHARD HART

I'm Richard Hart. I advocate the UCR platform (RadioUCR.org), please vote for me and the UCR team for unity and co-operation KPFA needs now. I came to live in Berkeley some years ago. My Family and I have been listening to Pacifica, WBAI NYC for over 50 years. We're passionate adherents of truth, justice and peace and have been working for and supporting Pacifica. Here KPFA is a most important voice for our community. I've co-produced with Robert Knight a solar energy and technology show and have worked the KPFA Crafts Fair. In NYC I owned a natural foods store in Greenwich Village. I've a strong interest in alternatives to enable people to be healthier and free from unnecessary infirmity. I'd like to see more practical informative health shows on KPFA for said reasons if it appeals to the listenership. If elected, I commit to aiding the quest for cooperation at KPFA, a now urgent element of our station's health. KPFA needs to heal the divisiveness hampering our potential. I intend to make a difference in this respect thus it will be important for me to be on the board. That will be my purpose.

JANET KOBREN

My name is Janet Kobren. I am currently a member of the KPFA Local Station Board (LSB), a director on the Pacifica National Board and PNB Secretary, elected by acclamation. I stand for LOCAL, GRASSROOTS, COMMUNITY, and ACTIVIST RADIO: I believe in grassroots activism and have worked to get issues such as student debt, our debt economy and privatization of public resources on KPFA's airwaves. I formed the Strike Debt Radio Collective that has produced nine segments on KPFA. I support direct KPFA coverage of such movements as climate change initiatives, protests against police terror and murder of people of color, Occupy, Palestine solidarity (I was a 2010 Gaza Freedom Flotilla passenger), and real-time livestreaming of local actions. I stand for ATTRACTING NEW LISTENERS and KEEPING CURRENT LISTENERS: If elected to the LSB as an incumbent, I will continue to serve KPFA from a UCR perspective (see UnitedForCommunityRadio.org), working to rebuild our membership base and advocating for program reviews and the creation of an innovative mechanism to revitalize existing programs and produce new programs audiences want to hear. Please vote for me and my fellow UCR candidates as we work together to represent you on the KPFA LSB.

DAVID LYNCH

Hello, I'm David Lynch, a gray-beard software engineer, and I'm running for the KPFA Local Station Board. The disastrous Bush Administration drove me to listen to Pacifica with riveted attention, because mainstream media had completely dropped the ball. Programs like Larry Bensky's Sunday Salon and Ian Master's Background Briefing provided a precious glimpse of reality to counter the lies being fed to us by the war-mongering corporate media. I see Pacifica and KPFA as sacred. My views on station governance are aligned with SaveKPFA, whose members include Brian Edward-Tiekert, Mitch Jeserich, Mark Mericle, Aileen Alfandary, Philip Maldari, Kris Welch and Larry Bensky. I'm moved by the words of Noam Chomsky, Chris Hedges, Naomi Klein and Alan Watts. If elected, I'll make pragmatic decisions that will help put the network on solid financial footing but without selling our soul. I'll bring my engineering background to bear to help modernize the network as need be. I'll do everything in my power to ensure that KPFA will continue to serve as a lifeline of precious objective information. I wholeheartedly support the remarkable KPFA news team. You can learn more about me by reading my posts on the Facebook Pacifica Radio Supporters group.

DON MACLEAY

Don Macleay, United for Community Radio candidate for KPFA station board. The community needs our community radio station to thrive and do quality journalism. With newspapers going out of print, investigative journalism running out of funds and big business buying up what media remains, our local community owned and operated radio stations have become more needed than ever. Getting more people to listen, join, and become dues-paying members and more members of the community to volunteer and be part of making our own media, will make our station stronger. Using the people and resources we already have, we should be the number one source for local news. I would like to see better coordination, more responsiveness and more relevance in our on-air presence. We need to support all of our people and build up our sense of community and teamwork. As a board member, I will have two key priorities: 1 Bring in more listeners. 2 Improve the quality of what is on the air. And I will work cooperatively, respectfully and appreciatively with all other members of the board, from whatever faction, to move forward on these two goals.

JEREMY MILLER

My name is Jeremy Miller and I am running for KPFA's LSB as a listener candidate. Sad to say KPFA has declining listenership. I believe there are two main causes. First, despite quite an array of programming, there is room for more diversity. As an LSB member I would push for the "de-centralizing" of programming decisions. Second, fiscal mismanagement has frustrated listeners. This needs critical attention. We need to be more creative with the resources we have thanks to all of the listener supporters. Finally, KPFA has a paid staff, and a volunteer army, who through hard work, deliver the amazing radio we love. I advocate increasing solidarity among the Pacifica affiliates and greater representation/compensation for KPFA's unpaid staff. I'm an independent journalist. I've hosted "Heterotopia" on Mutiny Radio (formerly on Pirate Cat Radio) for eight years. I write for the SF BAYVIEW NEWSPAPER and POOR NEWS NETWORK. I am also Program Director of the IDRISSE STELLEY FOUNDATION, which provides direct services for victims of Police/State Violence. I'm running on the UCR slate (RadioUCR.org) and my candidacy's been endorsed by Bruce Dixon (Black Agenda Report), Michael Parenti (author), Laura Wells (Green Party), and Willie and Mary Ratcliffe (SF Bayview).

BRIAN OAKCHUNAS

I am an English teacher at Newark Memorial High School and a community activist. KPFA and the information they bring to light not only benefits me personally but by proxy, it also benefits my students as I pass on what I learn and even share audio clips. I am also a published baseball analyst. I am very good with numbers and economics. These are integral skills for a board member. We must combine our commitment to truth with sensible economic decisions that will help the station thrive. I lived in the Bay Area for ten years before learning that KPFA even existed. I appreciate that KPFA practices what it preaches and a reluctance to use donations on advertisements certainly fits that mold, but the board needs to find ways to get the word out. We need to explore ways to take the station to places where it's not just visible to the choir of loyal listeners. As a listener and educator, I have made hundreds of teens aware not only of social issues but also of the power of KPFA all without the benefit of paid advertisements. As a board member I hope to do that for thousands.

SCOTT OLSEN

I'm Scott Olsen, the Iraq War veteran shot by Oakland Police at Occupy. KPFA was a vital support for me, and Iraq Veterans Against the War then. I appreciate KPFA's diversity, music, and news and want to help protect it as a crucial media source. I work in communications. I currently serve on the board of Iraq Veterans Against the War. I'm familiar with non-profit governance and FCC regs. In the military I worked with radio. These experiences can help me contribute to KPFA's LSB. I support: · Unionization for KPFA's unpaid staff · More KPFA internships · Community recordings of local events. · Station wide planning for major events. · Listener input through a KPFA Program Council · Expanding internet listenership with electronic inter-communication at KPFA

meetings · New programming possibilities with the Pacifica Network. We need truth telling: about the economy, environment, wars, murders of people of color, church burnings and accurate coverage of protests. I ask for your vote for me and the United for Community team. Help us expand KPFA and Pacifica to Liberate Media Together. RadioUCR.org -- Endorsed by: Veterans for Peace, East Bay Chapter 162, Barbara Lubin, Michael Parenti, Cynthia Johnson, Laura Wells

T.M. SCRUGGS

My name is T.M. Scruggs, Listener Candidate for the KPFA Local Station Board. I am an educator, musician, and long time social activist involved in community/non-profit media since the mid-1970s. My various forms of organizing and cultural work have proven to me that media is the crucial battleground for providing information and framing issues that determines the political direction of a society. I am a founder of TRNN-TheRealNewsNetwork (thenewnews.com), and also on the Board of Advisers of truthout.org. KPFA and Pacifica can strengthen its use of the internet/newer technologies and its internship program to increase youth participation. In my second career in finances I created a successful, growing non-profit. A top priority is straightening out the financial mess that plagues KPFA and Pacifica. I speak fluent Spanish with a history of activism, including community media, in US Latino communities and in Latin America. I have volunteered at community radios in every city I have lived in since high school. United for Community Radio (RadioUCR.org) best represents my views. Frankly, I've never encountered such factionalism in community media, and I pledge to be open minded and creative. Endorsers: Bruce Dixon; Ed Holmes; Marilyn Langlois; Barbara Lubin; Michael Parenti.

HILMON SOREY

Thank you for your commitment to KPFA and its leadership and election process. I have been a long-time listener inspired to membership by KPFA's new leadership under General Manager and Program director. Change and sustainability do not typically come easily to organizations but my background in board membership has been in fostering collaboration, transparency, and communication toward a goal of establishing healthy organizations. The health of an organization, in my experience, stems from adherence to its Mission in action, management and decision-making. In the last 15 years I have served on a number of a number of nonprofit and for profit boards in the Bay Area and I've developed a reputation as a board member who brings management expertise, an in-depth understanding of finance, fund development strategy, and accountability. If these are tools, which you believe will serve the mission of KPFA, I would be honored to have your vote.

LELAND THOMPSON

I'm Leland Thompson, born and raised in Oakland, CA. I have been a KPFA listener for the past 15 years. KPFA has been my resource for local programming, national and international news and music. My background is in management development and leadership coaching. I have spent over 25 years in retail and the technology industry training and developing teams. I also assist organizations through change initiatives and sustainability programs. I am in support and endorse the views of the other candidates for SaveKPFA. www.savekpfa. When you vote for me, please vote for the other SaveKPFA candidates. The goal of SaveKPFA is not only to save KPFA but, to ensure that KPFA is thriving and continues to bring quality programming to the community of both current and future listeners. My goal is to support and be part of a team in its efforts to bring about positive change, increase the listening audience, and more (diversity) inclusion in the programming offered. My fear as a listener is that we could lose a valuable treasure and the important news and messages it delivers. It's very important to me that KPFA remain an integral part of the community's fabric.

TOM VOORHEES

I am Tom Voorhees, a member of UnitedForCommunityRadio.org (www.radioUCR.org) and candidate for KPFA's local station board. I will work to restore the former high level of KPFA's news and public affairs programming necessary for listeners to understand critical issues requiring attention and action. KPFA's longstanding policy has been to sponsor vigorous debate from all viewpoints on controversial issues. Current management policy appears to avoid controversial issues via censorship. It has refused to air at least one program because of content. I am concerned about the dumbing down of my hometown radio station by KPFA management and the current local station board majority. For two years management has neglected to apply for millions of dollars in CPB grants, resulting in financial stress and degraded news content. I will work to restore proper financial auditing so this funding can be regained. I started in community radio through journalism and radio shop at El Cerrito High School. I was an engineering volunteer at KPFA in the 1960s. In the 1980s I was a consultant to the Sandinista civil infrastructure for radio broadcasting. I have built, and continue to build, many new community radio stations. Endorsers include Bruce Dixon, Michael Parenti and Ed Holmes.

BARBARA WHIPPERMAN

Barbara Whipperman, Listener Candidate for the KPFA LSB, currently serving as KPFA/LSB Treasurer. A listener since 1955, active supporter answering phones during fund drives, I marvel at how long KPFA supporters have kept it alive, even through difficult times. We've recently recovered some stability with new management. Turmoil is lessening, hopefully to be replaced by more cooperative efforts. We still have dissatisfaction among some staff and volunteers — and a situation I have seen in other “do-gooder” work places. Those of us working hard to fend off or change a corrupt or damaging society must develop good battle skills. But then some people continue to practice their battle skills inside the do-good organization, against those who actually are their comrades. I'd like to find a way for all KPFA lover/activists to adopt the motto “no battle skills in the house”. Off-air fundraising has been difficult for the LSB to accomplish. But I think with our new leadership, and if we can quiet interior battles, we should be able to develop some of the fundraising ideas that we, as a group, have talked about but not yet acted on. Please vote for candidates endorsed by SaveKPFA. www.savekpfa.org

MARGY WILKINSON

Margy Wilkinson, listener since 1960, member of the KPFA/LSB since 2011, and member of the Pacifica National Board since 2013; from July 2014, to May 2015, I voluntarily served as Pacifica's interim executive director. KPFA is a vital, irreplaceable resource for the left and progressive community locally, nationally and worldwide. While Pacifica has been through rough times recently, I believe we are finally moving in the right direction. At KPFA we have a permanent general manager and program director for the first time in many years. We need to expand our listenership by reaching out to a younger and more diverse audience, develop programming that makes both of these things possible, and raise money without wearing out the patience of our listeners. I support good radio prepared, produced and aired by well trained staff – paid and volunteer. The role of the LSB is to support our staff, raise money and look for ways to reach new audiences. I also heartily endorse the cross-factional Pacifica Unity Pledge, and commit to working on a consensus-building process to make our boards simpler, smaller, calmer, and more effective. Vote for me and candidates endorsed by SaveKPFA. www.savekpfa.org