



WBAI 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 814 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

John Brinkley
Jim Dingeman
King Downing
Eugene Hamond
Jonathan Logan

Carl Makower
Eve Moser
Pauline Park
Ralph Poynter
Dacio Quintana

James Sagurton
Alex Steinberg
Bob Young

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.

JOHN BRINKLEY

I'm seeking re-election to the Local Board with the Justice & Unity Campaign--endorsed by Amina Baraka, CEMOTAP, and Bayan (progressive Filipinos)--because I want to continue working to get WBAI through these hard times. Supporting WBAI since the 1970s, I've long been active in grassroots organizing, especially with People's Organization for Progress (N.J.), and have held multiple professional-level positions. In 2010, I was elected to the LSB. Although part of the Justice & Unity minority on the board, I was elected chair in 2014 and re-elected unanimously in 2015. I've brainstormed WBAI fundraising ideas and helped develop a detailed sustainability plan. To prevent eviction of our Empire State transmitter, I helped secure a union phone bank and coordinated volunteers who called members to raise money for a transmitter fund established through a Justice & Unity motion. After much delay, a search for a permanent Program Director has begun. The ideal candidate will understand WBAI's responsibility to air progressive voices reflecting our region's rich, diverse cultures. Please vote for all the Justice & Unity candidates, including writing in Lynne Stewart's name and ranking her #1. For unknown reasons, her online membership didn't register. Her statement's at www.justiceunity.org johnbrinkley@justiceunity.org

JIM DINGEMAN

My name is Jim Dingeman. I have served on the WBAI Community Advisory Board for over six years and am currently its chair. In the early nineties I served as the elected public affairs member of the WBAI Program Council for two years. I also served one year on the Local Advisory Board as an elected staff representative. For the past three years Pacifica and WBAI have not received hundreds of thousands of dollars from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. This failure has been deliberate, and I want to see to my utmost that we again receive hundred thousands of dollars per year from the CPB. This money is due us. It lessens the strain on our listeners during tough times. After three years of incompetence by senior Pacifica management and leadership, enough is enough. My media background is extensive. Since the seventies I have worked in print, radio and television broadcast outlets. For several years I was on-air host of an alternative media TV show, the INN World Report. I have covered international politics, domestic issues and cultural affairs. My experience ranges from covering the liberation wars in Southern Africa to current mass culture and cinema.

KING DOWNING

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I'm running for the WBAI Board as an advocate, analyst, and educator. My adult life has been committed to human rights and justice: as a lawyer, Harlem resident, and member of several progressive organizations, including the Ferguson Legal Defense Committee and National Police Accountability Project. I'm also a principled mediator and conciliator, with the ability to really hear what people are saying, even those "across the table." You can't change what you can't manage. WBAI must have a permanent Program Director--to ensure that programs reflect the new youth, people of color, and Spanish-language movements--and a permanent Development Director--no major non-profit funds its needs without one. You can't manage what you don't measure. Management must be given regular performance evaluations and should create mechanisms to evaluate programs on appropriate goals. Management, programmers, the board and its committees should solicit and utilize listener feedback through on-air call-ins, reinstated town hall meetings, and listener surveys. Please vote for the entire Justice & Unity slate, endorsed by Michael and Evelyn Warren, Father Lawrence Lucas, and CEMOTAP. For unknown reasons, Lynne Stewart's online membership didn't register. Please write in her name and rank her #1; her statement's at www.justiceunity.org.

EUGENE HAMOND

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I've been a WBAI listener/supporter for many years, and spent hundreds of hours taking pledges, mailing

premiums, and working on the Community Bulletin Board. I'm active in the NYC Labor Chorus, volunteer with the Beacon Sloop Club (part of Hudson Clearwater) and IFCO/Pastors for Peace, and am working to stop the proposed Pilgrim Pipeline. I'm running for the Board with the Justice & Unity Campaign because WBAI must continue as a progressive voice addressing everyone's needs and rights in our area--and serious changes are needed to keep it alive. Near-constant on-air fundraisers, often commercial-sounding, turn listeners away. WBAI must expand its reach and income by exploring more off-air fundraising avenues. The station needs to redevelop a news department and cover more events. I favor a project to train young people and other community members as reporters and producers. The board needs to find a Program Director who will traverse our region's diverse communities and movements, seeking voices needing to be heard. Please vote for the entire Justice & Unity slate (see Ralph Poynter's statement), including writing in Lynne Stewart's name and ranking her #1. For unknown reasons, her online membership didn't register. Her statement's at www.justiceunity.org

JONATHAN LOGAN

Independent candidate for the LSB. As a shared community resource and as a voice of the people, WBAI needs to be supported and defended – and brought to a larger audience. Few other cities have anything remotely like it, and if lost it will be gone forever. As a long-time listener/sponsor I became directly involved in the year 2000, as now a time of peril to the station, which was then under attack by a self-appointed national board seeking to mute dissent, silence Amy Goodman, and entertaining sail of the station. My part was advancing the Listeners' Lawsuit, which successfully wrested governance of Pacifica forever away from that unaccountable, corporate-dominated board and replaced it with a democratically elected national board chosen by listeners and staff. I am a cancer research scientist at an academic center. My activist focus has included antiwar organizing, racial justice, independence for East Timor, reproductive rights, animal welfare and defending the rights of the Palestinian people – work informed very often by the infusion of information and insight provided by Democracy Now and the many other resources for which we turn to WBAI.

CARL MAKOWER

I am Carl Makower, listener, supporter and CAB member. I am very concerned about the direction and future of WBAI. As a member of a number of social action boards and committees, it has been my experience that these bodies work cooperatively to advance and achieve their goals. My knowledge of the current LSB is that factionalism and discord obstruct progress rather than advancing it. For those of us who have supported WBAI for many years it is discouraging to experience the sad state of the LSB, the continuing loss of listeners and finances. We need change. Why haven't we seen real efforts to drastically change programming that would attract new listeners? Why has WBAI not received hundreds of thousands of dollars in CPB monies? Why has the LSB been unresponsive to CAB suggestions for increasing our listener bas as well as, many fund raising ideas? We need transformation.

EVE MOSER

I care about WBAI because I believe in the Pacifica mission's educational, cultural, and social promise and its pledge to be "as nearly self-sustaining as possible". It's perfectly possible to do both, but we haven't been doing either. The radio programming needs to be as good as the mission. The better the programming, the more listeners; the more listeners, the more financial support. The local and national boards need to keep Pacifica INTACT and true to its purpose. It's done through responsible hiring and evaluating of staff and scrupulous oversight of the money. Everything must be timely, transparent, and accountable. My priority for the WBAI LSB? Do the work already! GO Indy!

PAULINE PARK

I'm running for the WBAI Board because I believe passionately in the crucial role that the station can continue playing with the right leadership. In 21 years of activism, I've co-founded several LGBT organizations: the NY Association for Gender Rights Advocacy (the state's first transgender advocacy organization); Queens Pride House (an LGBT community center--I was later its director); Iban/Queer Koreans; and Queers Against Israeli Apartheid. I bring significant executive and board experience and a strong commitment to social justice. I share the Justice & Unity Campaign's vision of a community-based progressive station. The current LSB majority has blocked movement on finding a permanent Program Director, evaluating the General Manager, and investing in off-air fundraising. I understand the difference between governance and management. I'd work to make the LSB much more useful. I'd also be the first openly transgendered woman of color on the LSB. Help Justice & Unity move WBAI beyond conflict and vilification toward collaboration and long-term sustainability! Vote for our complete slate--endorsed by ACT UP and Bayan USA (progressive Filipinos). For unknown reasons, Lynne Stewart's online membership didn't register. Please write in her name--rank her #1; her statement's at www.justiceunity.org. Visit: paulinepark.com

RALPH POYNTER

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You may know me as the persistent leader of the Free Lynne Stewart campaign. After organizing thousands in Lynne's support, we won! Now we're both here fighting another important struggle: saving WBAI.. We want to use our 50+ years each of movement experience to help save WBAI. Changes must be made: the board must find a Program Director committed to more creative and progressive programming and helping develop the next generation of broadcaster-activists. The board must focus on evaluating management and scrutinizing the budget. We believe we have the strength of will and intellect to help protect our station from co-optation. No station sale, no signal swap! Please support the entire Justice & Unity slate--endorsed by Bernard White, Charles and Inez Barron, and many others--in this order: 1-Lynne Stewart – WRITE HER IN AS #1, 2-King Downing, 3-John Brinkley, 4-Ralph Poynter, 5-Pauline Park, 6-Dacio Quintana, 7-Eugene Hamond. For unknown reasons, Lynne's online membership didn't register. Please write her in. Read her statement and questionnaire: www.justiceunity.org Lynne was elected to the station board in 2009 but then imprisoned. She says, "I survived my prison ordeal and now want to help restore WBAI to greatness."

DACIO QUINTANA

Warmest greetings to all WBAI members! ¡Mis más cordiales saludos a todos! I'm running for the Local Station Board with the Justice and Unity Campaign--endorsed by ProLibertad and the May 1st Coalition--because WBAI is one of the Left's most precious resources--we must make it stronger! I've organized around social justice issues including school reform, workers' rights, ending violence against women and children, and solidarity with Puerto Rico and Latin America. I also volunteer with the capacity-building Strategies for Social Change. These experiences have prepared me to offer important skills to the WBAI Board. I've been a WBAI member for 20+ years and have witnessed mismanagement and unproductive dissension that has weakened this precious resource. We need to: develop a strong, diversified fundraising plan, using the detailed proposals developed by Justice & Unity and others, invest in long-term strategic planning, increase programming that will spark the interest and activism of youth and the many diverse communities WBAI serves. Please vote for the entire Justice & Unity slate (see Ralph Poynter's statement), including writing in Lynne Stewart and ranking her #1. For unknown reasons, her online membership didn't register. Lynne's statement's at www.justiceunity.org - dacio@justiceunity.org

JAMES SAGURTON

The survival of the network and especially WBAI is at stake. People are not listening to radio as much as they used to and young people almost not at all. Everywhere community radio stations are disappearing. Our average listener is 65+. When listenership falls, membership and revenue fall, layoffs follow, listenership falls further etc. If we survive, we should become a multi-media digital platform (Youtube channel, our own video streaming and multiple radio channels). Modern media technology should end the fighting for air time. We will become the vibrant, innovative, artistic outlet for multicultural and progressive programming we have been in the past and should always be. To that end the Community Advisory Board and the volunteers have been working diligently with management, producers, staff and interns to help the station. Collectively the CAB members and the volunteers have done thousands of hour of work. As both a volunteer and CAB member I have done hundreds of hours of volunteer work myself. Everyone cannot volunteer; many are tapped out for financially. It's hard to attract new talent with no money or support but we need some fresh new programs to increase audience.

ALEX STEINBERG

My name is Alex Steinberg and I am a listener candidate for the WBAI Local Station Board (LSB). I am a former member of the WBAI LSB and the Pacifica National Board. When I was on the LSB and the PNB I was able to make a number of significant contributions to the health of the WBAI and Pacifica. The reason I want to return to the LSB after a 3 year absence is because since I left Pacifica has gone through a crisis that threatens its continued operation and the operation of WBAI. Something is seriously broken. You probably know that Pacifica lost over \$2,000,000 in CPB funding because Pacifica Management failed to provide the CPB with an audit. This is unacceptable and the fault lies squarely at the feet of the Pacifica National Board which has acted recklessly in their appointments of a CFO who was unable to fulfill this simple task. The Justice and Unity slate that is running in this election has supported the actions of the Pacifica National Board majority. Make up your own mind who you wish to vote for. Vote for me Alex Steinberg. ELECT INDY CAUCUS 2015.

ROBERT "BOB" YOUNG

Elect Bob Young to WBAI LSB - FOLLOW the BYLAWS WORK for ELECTION REFORM - I have been a member of the LSB for the past three years. Members of the board requested that I get involved with the station while I was involved in the Occupy protests. I was elected LSB Chair immediately during the hard post Sandy year. With the layoffs and financial problems, it was a live or die year for the station. It is a very difficult job. For the last two years, I have been LSB Vice Chair. Most people do not realize that the LSB is empowered to do only certain things. Many things that listeners think we can do are outside the LSB job description. I have now taken the position that the LSB must execute its responsibilities as described in the Bylaws. As a group we have failed to do so. First we need our program director. We need monthly treasurer's reports. Both are happening as I encourage more delegates to execute their responsibilities. We need election reform. The petition process is flawed with limited interaction between candidates and listeners. If elected, I will fight for you and this station. ELECT INDY CAUCUS 2015