

Crisis at KPFA & Pacifica FORUM SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2-6 PM NORTH BERKELEY SENIOR CENTER

*1901 Hearst Avenue at Martin Luther King Way, across from KPFA
close to Berkeley BART. AC Transit buses 15, 43, 51*

■ Recent elections corrupted and sabotaged ■ Interim Management consolidates power and extends regime; degrades elected station board, Program Council and volunteer staff organization; gags staff forum and stalls General Manager selection ■ What happened to democracy, transparency and accountability? ■ Pacifica finances falter, fund-raising replaces free speech and peace mission ■ Other community radio programming and staff issues... *(more on other side)*

***Is it time to take back KPFA (again)? Come to the forum to hear
and discuss news and views of the KPFA/Pacifica crisis.***

Speakers and panel discussions, including:

LaVarn Williams - former LSB/PNB member, Finance Committee Chair

Richard Phelps - LSB Chair 10/05 to 12/06; former AM & FM announcer

Steve Zeltzer - KPFA Labor Collective member, producer, Labor Video Project

Les Radke - Coalition for a democratic Pacifica, former Nat'l Election Supervisor

Joe Wanzala - Local Station Board and Pacifica National Board member

Maria Gilardin - TUC Radio, former KPFA staff, board member, Take Back KPFA

Speakers from KPFA staff

Small group strategizing / proposals for actions / your questions and input

FREE / donations accepted • FOOD available • Wheelchair accessible

More information available at fair_elections@yahoo.com & www.peoplesradio.net

Event Sponsored and Endorsed by: KPFA Fair Elections Committee, Coalition for a democratic Pacifica (CdP), Peoples Radio, Voices for Justice, Oakland Tenants Union, Peace and Freedom Party of Alameda County, TUC Radio, Current and former KPFA Station Board members: Tracy Rosenberg, Sureya Sayadi, Akio Tanaka, Henry Norr, Anthony Fest, Richard Phelps, Stan Woods, Attila Nagy and others to be confirmed.

HIGHLIGHTS OF PACIFICA/KPFA CRISIS

- Former election supervisor Les Radke called the recent board election the worst he's seen in bylaws and fair elections violations.
- Pacifica interim Executive Director (iED) Dan Siegel illegally advised listeners not to vote for one KPFA candidate slate; a popular programmer used station facilities to lobby for the pro-management slate; he and management ignored the election supervisors' remedies for this violation; management blocked and censored timely candidate information on the air and website.
- The interim General Manager Lemlem Rijio decertified the Unpaid Staff Organization, right before the Board election, compromising the volunteer staff voting list.
- Shared program decision making declared irrelevant: The Interim Program Director (iPD) Sasha Lilley reduced the Program Council (PC) to advisory status, selected new programs without PC evaluation and input; hired then summarily fired a program host, ignoring the PC and alternative suggestions.
- Pacifica's New York station is unable to fulfill its fund drives, is heavily and increasingly in debt, and is drawing funds from KPFA and the other stations to meet its expenses, potentially threatening the entire foundation.
- Yet the iED blocked Directors from examining the books, violating the Bylaws and state law, although a previous protracted struggle had re-affirmed Directors' inspection right.
- The KPFA General Manager Search Committee & Local Station Board, after two years of work found and recommended only a single available but eminently qualified candidate, but is now required by the interim Executive Director to begin a second search – thereby extending KPFA's unpopular interim management.
- The Gag Rule is back – the March 21 forum by staff, community organizers and media activists was prevented from being broadcast, at the last minute, by management, which also forbade them to speak about it.
- KPFA membership has declined as volunteer, community based public affairs and arts programming and the Folio have been replaced by "Healthy Station" NPR model program grid of "professional" sound and 65% music.

This is just a sampling of recent problems – which taken together point to an ongoing attempt to circumvent the democratic governance hard-won after the attempted 1990's takeover by forces hostile to the mission of progressive community radio.

The bylaws and democratic institutions of the network are all under attack by the current administration, and power cliques at the stations are not being controlled in the interests of democracy, transparency, and accountability.

We need to stop this trend and reclaim our station and network again, as we did before. You can help!