DEMONSTRATION TO TAKE BACK WBAI!!!

KEEP WBAI 99.5

ALIVE AND UNDER LOCAL CONTROL!



WEDNESDAY JUNE 17, 5-8pm @WBAI, 120 Wall St.

(corner of South Street)Trains: 2,3,4,5 to Wall St.

For decades, New Yorkers have relied on WBAI for radio that provides real news and perspectives not filtered by corporate media. Now, exploiting a real financial crisis, the station is under attack.

Drastic changes at the station are being imposed by the Pacifica Foundation without community input or due process. In recent months, Program Director Bernard White was fired and banned from the airwaves and building, and General Manager Tony Riddle was removed. Both have been replaced with Pacifica staff from California. There is an eery silence about the changes on the air, as staff has been warned by Pacifica Interim Director Grace Aaron that they will be removed if they discuss any topic that she deems a "risk" to Pacifica. Ayo Harrington, a producer of "On the Count" (criminal justice program) and a critic of new management, was summarily dismissed and banned with no explanation. The morning news broadcasts of Don Debar have been removed because of his reporting on the WBAI crisis. The new management, backed by the current majority of the Local Station Board, wants to change programming to bring in more revenue. They started by chopping an hour off local morning show, Wake Up Call. This is just the beginning in what will be a shift away from the issues of the disenfranchised and towards more well-heeled listeners.

Amy Goodman and Juan Gonzalez of Democracy Now! **EXCERPTS:** Criticize Recent Changes at WBAI

- -Regarding the broadcast of Democracy Now! at 8 AM, which shortens Wake Up Call hy one hour: "This decision disturbs us deeply and we ask that it be reconsidered."
- -Regarding the firing of Bernard White by the new regime:
- "Given Bernard's decades of dedication and devotion to 'BAI, the way he was treated lacked basic human consideration. ...we urge that the scheduling of Democracy Now (should) not be used as a weapon by the current management of WBAI against its opponents."

URGENT: BECOME A VOTING MEMBER OF WBAI NOW!

Go to www.wbai.org to donate at least \$25 to become a member. For more details, see back.

For more info: Call 212-561-7231 or go to www.takebackwbai.org, www.justiceunity.org www.wbixradio.org or Google "takebackwbai" to find us on Facebook.

COME DEFEND THE WBAI YOU KNOW AND LOVE.

Let's come together to rebuild the station we want.