

Southern California Community Calendar

DECEMBER 2015

Listings subject to change. Contact sponsor to verify date, time and venue. Check online for full late listings, recurring events, & resources

Nov. 30 - Dec.4

KPFK Local Station Board on-air candidate forums, 7-9p, 90.7 FM or www.kpfc.org (streaming or archived). Two one-hour panels of 4-5 candidates each night discussing their views about the future of the listener-sponsored Pacifica station. For more info: www.elections.pacifica.org or listen to KPFK. **KPFK Ballot return date has been extended to January 4, 2016 by the National Election Supervisor.**

Dec. 1 -Tue

World AIDS Day Event, 4:30p, Mark Taper Auditorium at LA Central Library, Fifth & Flower, downtown LA. www.lapl.org www.facebook.com/events/1023020464396663/ Empowered: Getting to Zero - a generation free of AIDS.

Isabel Allende—in Conversation with Susan Orlean about *The Japanese Lover*, 8p, Skirball Cultural Center \$28 plus tax includes ticket and signed copy of book. www.booksoup.com 310-659-3110.

Dec 2 - Wed:

Delegation: Venezuela Elections: Dec 2-12. To Learn more and hold a spot, email cbalbertolovera@gmail.com, revolucionalimentaria.wordpress.com/2015/06/22/witness-venezuelas-elections-this-december-6-2015.

Joel Taylor Jazz Trio performs annual holiday program, 6-7:30p. Altadena Library, 600 E. Mariposa St, 91001. 626-798-0833 or www.altadenalibrary.org



Health Care for All-CA
San Fernando Valley

Healthcare For All: 7p, Van Nuys. 1st Wed. San Fernando Valley chapter. Improved Medicare (single-payer health care) for all Californians. Bernardi Community Ctr, 6514 Sylmar Ave. 818.766.7318. <info@hca-sfv.org>. <healthcareforall.org> (click on "local chapters"), <[facebook.com/hcasfv](https://www.facebook.com/hcasfv)>.

Palestine, Israel & the US Empire: 3-Part Liberation School Session: 7p, "From the Birth of Zionism to Al-nakba." 2936 W 8th St, LA 90005. See also Dec. 9, 16. This class series is based, in part, on "Palestine, Israel & the U.S. Empire" by Richard Becker, published by Party for Socialism and Liberation. Purchase a copy via http://store.pslweb.org/Palestine-Israel-and-the-US-Empire_p_10.html or during class in person. For more info email la@pslweb.org.

Panel: Thriving in a Hotter Los Angeles, 7:30p, Hammer Museum. Achieving 100% water sustainability by 2050 is a goal of the UCLA Grand Challenge Team. Join experts in climate change, water quality, public policy, law, and more to discuss the feasibility of

the goal, ways to get there, and the importance of local water self-sufficiency. Panelists: UCLA faculty members Mark Gold, Eric Hoek, Alex Hall, and Liz Crosson, Water Policy Advisor for the Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti. Wilshire @ Westwood. hammer.ucla.edu

Dec 3 – Thu:

Convergence for Climate Action Now, 11:30a, Pershing Square (5th & Olive, LA). <https://www.facebook.com/events/1669535226634491/> Join us as the Climate Summit convenes in Paris to demand urgent action against global warming and climate change.

Golden Age of Radio with SAG-AFTRA: Gene Autry's Melody Ranch Christmas Party, 3p. Autry Museum in Griffith Park. Info: www.theautry.org

White People for Racial Justice general meeting, 7-9 p, at the Eco-Village, 117 Bimini Pl., L.A., 90004 (near First & Vermont). Planning actions, education and fundraising as allies of Black Lives Matter. whitepeople4racialjustice@gmail.com

Dec 5 – Sat:

21 millas por 21 años de Resistencia - Paseo Ciclistico de Resistencia 8a-1p, San Diego, Union del Barrio. <<https://www.facebook.com/events/719755084822500/>> The purpose of the bike ride is to

denounce the escalating war on our people, and to reject all laws and policies that for the past 21 years- since the implementation of NAFTA and Operation Gatekeeper- have militarized our barrios, systematically killed thousands of migrants at the border, has separated millions of families, and has incarcerated tens of thousands of workers in concentration camps called prisons. Info: www.uniondelbarrio.org 619-923-3685.

Outfest UCLA Legacy Project: Wigstock/The Movie, 7:30p, Billy Wilder Theater, UCLA Hammer Museum, Wilshire @ Westwood, West LA. Info: www.cinema.ucla.edu 310-206-8013 or 310-206-FILM.

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10TH ANNUAL FAIR TRADE & CONSCIOUS GIFTS

Holiday Bazaar

SATURDAY DECEMBER 5TH, 11AM TO 4PM

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, 2936 W. 8TH ST, LOS ANGELES

HOSTED BY: CALIFORNIA

Fair Trade & Conscious Gifts Holiday Bazaar, 11a-4p, First Unitarian Church - Channing Hall, 2936 W. 8th St. Free parking, refreshment. Hand-made and affordable gifts, local and international fair-trade crafts. 9to5 LA. Info: www.9to5.org/California or 213-201-7029.

Rally to Defend Bolivarian Revolution, 1p. CNN Building, 6430 Sunset Blvd., LA 90028. Hands Off Venezuela. Info: answerla@answer-la.org (323) 285-6545

Socialist Party Los Angeles Business Meeting, 2p, 2617 Hauser Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA. <https://www.facebook.com/events/910104515752545/>

New Era, New Media: MPAC Convention: Opportunities for Change: 3-5p, Long Beach Convention Center, 300 E Ocean Blvd, Long Beach. Tickets: www.mpac.org/convention/new-era-new-media.php. Speakers: Shahed Amanullah, Co-founder, Affinis Labs, a Virginia startup incubator for businesses with positive impacts in global Muslim communities; Megan Garvey, LA Times Deputy Managing Editor for Digital, having broad responsibilities including presentation of online projects; and Tiffany Smith-Anoa'i, Vice President, CBS Diversity & Communications. Information: convention@mpac.org. 323-258-6722.

Dec 6 - Sun:

Talk: A Path Appears, 2p, Skirball Cultural Center. Jennifer Arnold, writer-director of the HBO doc *A Small Act*, talks about her film and how storytelling inspires social change. Listen as experts provide first-hand accounts of how they have helped improve conditions for underserved communities. www.skirball.org

A New Way of Life Re-Entry Project 17th Annual Gala, 5p Reception, 6p Dinner & Awards, Omni Los Angeles Hotel at California Plaza, 251 S. Olive St., LA. Host Margaret Prescod of KPFK's *Sojourner Truth*. honorees include Piper Kerman, author of *Orange Is the New Black*. Cocktail attire. Info on reservations and ticket or table prices, Claire Arce, 323-563-3575, claire@anewwayoflife.org.

Subversive Cinema & Live Music: 7p, Venice. Free. Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd. 310.306.7330. <suzy@aol.com>. <laughtears.com>.

Dec 8 – Tue:

Drone-Free LAPD Actions! 9 a, LAPD HQ, 100 W. 1st St., L.A., 90012. Join the Stop LAPD Spying Coalition and other grassroots organizations as we demand an end to the use of drones and the police state! (See also Dec.10). <www.StopLAPDSpying.org>

Southern California Community Calendar continued...

<stoplapdspying@gmail.com>
424-209-7450

Dec 9 – Wed

Palestine, Israel & the US Empire: 3-Part Liberation School Session: 7p, "1948-1993 – Decades of Palestinian Resistance." 2936 W 8th St, LA 90005, near Vermont. See Dec. 2, 16. For info: la@pslweb.org.

Film: East Los Angeles and the Chicano Moratorium-selected works, 7:30p. UCLA Film & TV Archive, Billy Wilder Theater in Hammer Museum, Wilshire @ Westwood. www.cinema.ucla.edu 310-206-8013 or 310-206-FILM.

Dec 10 – Thu:

PEACE SUMMIT, International Human Rights Day, 7-8:30p
Holy Faith Episcopal Church, 260 Locust Street, Inglewood. Hear from peace activists returning from 70th Anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Japan. Learn more about the Japanese Peace Movement and Veterans for Peace activists. Slide Show... Music... Sign Pledge To Abolish Nuclear Weapons. Sponsored by Holy Faith Episcopal JAMS – Justice & Mercy Commission – for info, call Cathy Deppe 408-206-7992



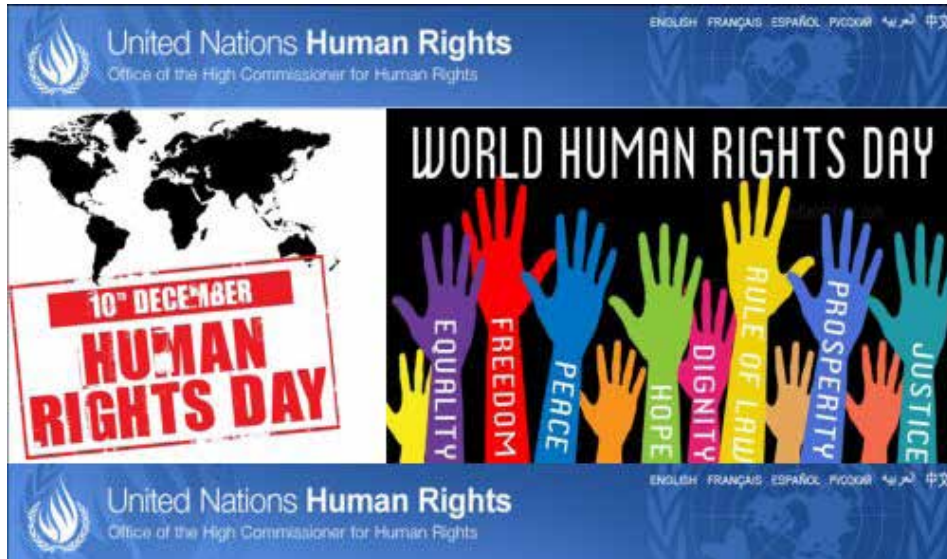
Drone-Free LAPD Actions! 6 p, LAPD HQ, 100 W. 1st St., L.A., 90012. Join the Stop LAPD Spying Coalition and other grassroots organizations as we demand an end to the use of drones and the police state! (See Dec.8) <www.StopLAPDSpying.org> <stoplapdspying@gmail.com> 424-209-7450

Dec 11 - Fri:

Herbal Baños w/ Mama Maiz: 7-9p, Alhambra. Baños have been used for many generations to heal body & spirit. We gather to discuss different traditional herbs for physical & spiritual health. \$25/each. Mujeres de Maiz. Florecimiento Ancestral, 2311 El Paseo Ave. <info@mujeresdemaiz.com>. <mujeresdemaiz.com>.

Dec 12 – Sat:

Holiday Gift and Book Sale: 10a -4 p. Presents at affordable prices. Books include progressive literature, new and used, fiction and non-fiction. Coffee and tea provided. Solidarity Hall, 2122 W. Jefferson Blvd., L.A.90018. Wheelchair accessible. Proceeds to benefit Radical Women and Freedom Socialist Party. For info: 323-732-6416, radicalwomenla@earthlink.net, RadicalWomen.org.



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Vote for Grassroots Candidates for Local Station Board! REBUILD KPFK FOR THE 21st CENTURY!

Endorsed by Cynthia McKinney, Lynne Stewart, Jim Lafferty, Frank Tamborello of Hunger Action, Hamid Khan, Preston Wood, John Parker, Aris Anagnos, Sherna Berger Gluck, Peggy Lee Kennedy, Rodrigo Argueta, Shakeel Syed, Jack Van Aken, ANSWER, Anti-Racist Action-LA, BAYAN-USA, International Action Center, Peace & Freedom Party LA and San Diego chapters, Puerto Rican Alliance, SEIU Local 721 Latino Caucus, Venice Justice Comm., and numerous other programmers, groups and individuals.

Don't buy the lies of the slate that backs discredited former iED Summer Reese, who laid off most of the staff at sister station WBAI and then never sent their withheld taxes in to the government. When their faction had the national majority, they postponed the Bylaws-scheduled 2013 elections with no provision for how or when to hold them.

Now, with new management, KPFK is building for the future. Under current GM Leslie Radford, KPFK has paid down more than \$70,000 of the debt it incurred during the three previous managers, and most of its remaining debt is owed to other units of Pacifica.

Through short term reductions of staff and management who had more than half-time hours (scheduled to end Dec. 31), the new GM protected the jobs of lower paid staff, maintained everyone's union status, and allowed the station to retain staff, while positioning itself to rebuild quickly. In addition, management made it possible for staff whose hours were reduced to receive a subsidy from the CA unemployment insurance fund "work-sharing" program, designed to prevent more costly layoffs.

Under the new GM, KPFK has developed training programs to rebuild the local news department. The station is running what looks to be the first successful election since 2010.

While on the LSB, Grassroots Community Radio Coalition members voted for a Development Task Force, a Fundraising Committee of the LSB with a goal of off-air fundraising, and bylaws changes to increase the efficiency and lower the cost of the national board.

Our slate reflects the racial, social and political diversity of listeners and staff, including the youngest and oldest board members and folks with "Chicanos for Bernie," Greens, social democrats, progressive Democrats, socialists, and anti-authoritarians.

We unite to oppose "humanitarian" war, racism and all oppression, destruction of the environment, and austerity, and we stand together for a community-oriented radio station. We have a proven record of coalition building and unselfish service to KPFK. We include non-profit fundraisers and board members and a retired accountant.

We have a plan for building on that experience to grow the audience, integrate a new generation of programmers, increase engagement and interactivity with listeners, and ensure a mission-driven station that can advance the cause of peace and understanding. Read our concrete program and platform at www.gcrc-socal.org and vote for the whole slate in your order of preference on your ballot for listener delegates to the KPFK LSB!

Paid for by Grassroots Community Radio Coalition, and any facts or assertions represent its views, not those of the Pacifica Foundation, its management, staff, or governance or that of any of the 5 Pacifica stations.



Top row: Chuck Anderson, **write-in** Kelly Barnes, Lydia Brazon, Jaye Cho, Michael Corral, Rose Elizondo, Aryana Gladney, Nancy Lawrence, Richard Macias; **Staff:** Jose Benavides, Tej Grewall
Bottom: Brenda Medina, Diana Medina, **write-in** Jack Neff, Michael Novick, Reza Pour, Schyna Pour, Lawrence Reyes, Alise Sochaczewski, Ron Spriestersbach; **Staff:** Charlene Muhammad, Fernando Velazquez

Dec. 12 - Sat, continued

Common Peace Race Relay: 1030a-1p, Culver City. Join us as we listen, learn, share, and motivate each other in our ongoing dialogue about race relations. Peace Center, 3916 Sepulveda Blvd. 310.390.7278. <commonpeace.org>. Dial 22 for entry.

MoveOn.Org Brunch 12-2p, Los Feliz, Los Angeles, CA 90027. Come join us for brunch and progressive discussion. Bring your friends and family, a dish to share, and your thoughts about what we can do to make our city, our state, our country a better place. (We'll send you the full address when you sign up.) http://pol.moveon.org/event/events/event.html?event_id=145457

Building Blocks Against Climate Change! SoCal Shout-Out to Paris 2015, 1-4p, Wilshire Blvd between Vermont & Western. Pick a corner! Pick a block! Sign up for your location on Wilshire: <http://againstclimatechange.org/> Launched by the Converging Storms Action Network. Sponsored by all participants.



Film screening: The Cowboys, 1972 (John Wayne), 1:30p. Guest Speaker: Andrew Nelson, Asst Prof of Film History at Montana State Univ. The Autry Museum in Griffith Park. Info: www.theautry.org

MESS (Media Ecology Soul Salon) Interviews: 4-6p, Santa Monica. LA performance artist/comedian/actress/filmmaker April Hava Shenkman (aka HAVA). Her performances blend theatre, comedy, & art through the eternal spirit of the Clown. www.aprilhavashenkman.com/ Free. Unurban Cafe, 3301 Pico Blvd. 310.306.7330. <pfsuzy@aol.com>. <laughtears.com>.

Black Lives Matter LA Fundraiser, film screening and panel, "Anne Braden: Southern Patriot," 5-7:30p, Neighborhood Unitarian Universalist Church, 301 N. Orange Grove Blvd. Pasadena, 91103. Braden was a white anti-racist in the civil rights and Black Power era. Panel featuring Patrisse Cullors (co-founder, Black Lives Matter) and Jason David (co-founder AWARE-LA), Suggested \$10 Donation. www.facebook.com/events/1060666740645999

Celebrate 18 years of Youth Organizing, 6p-12m, Youth for Environmental Justice, Communities for a Better Environment, 4063 East Gage Avenue, Bell CA 90201. Join us for dinner and program, special performances and dancing through the night. Tickets & Register at: <http://bit.ly/YouthEJ18>

Dec 13 - Sun:

Onionaires Holiday Concert, 10:30 a, The Onion (Sepulveda Unitarian Universalist Society), 9550 Haskell Ave., North Hills, 91343.

Finding Humor in the Holidays writing/storytelling workshop, 10:30a-12:30p, \$45. Beyond Baroque Literary Arts Ctr. 681 Venice Bl., Venice CA 90291. Pre-reg. req. 310-281-3175, www.creativerites.com, terrie@creativerites.com

Hanukkah Family Festival - Celebrating Our Light, 11a-4p. Skirball Cultural Center, www.skirball.org. Noah Shalom, Bazaar Ensemble, S.H.I.N.E. Mawusi female dance and drum collective from W. Africa, Lisa Loeb and others.



Family Flicks: The Sound of Music, 11a. Free. Billy Wilder Theater, UCLA Hammer Museum, Wilshire @ Westwood. www.cinema.ucla.edu 310-206-8013 or 310-206-FILM.

Anti-Racist Action general meeting, 2-5p. Report from TORCH Anti-fascist Network international gathering last month in Philadelphia, discussion of recent rise in open and veiled white supremacist activity in southern CA, and distribution of new issue of "Turning The Tide: Journal of Inter-communal Solidarity". Harriet Tubman Center, 5278 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles. Info: 323-636-7388, antiracistaction_la@yahoo.com.



Holiday Concert: Home for the Holidays, College and Philharmonic Choirs at Los Angeles Valley College, 7p, Recital Hall of the Music Building (Room 106), 5800 Fulton Ave., Valley Glen 91401. Tickets are \$15 general and \$10 for students and seniors.

Dec 14 - Mon:

PXL THIS 25: 7p, 9p, Santa Monica. 6p: pre-show. Festival features films made with the Fisher-Price PXL 2000 toy camcorder. "Poor tools require better skills." Pixelators from across the globe hoick up inventive approaches to the unassuming throw-away of consumer culture. These low-tech hi-jinx films come through loud and clear by reframing a new cinema language. Free. Unurban, 3301 Pico Blvd. 310-315-0056. laughtears.com.

This is the City film series: Los Angeles in the Newsreels, 7:30p. Billy Wilder Theater, UCLA Hammer Museum, Wilshire @ Westwood. www.cinema.ucla.edu 310-206-8013 or 310-206-FILM.

Dec 15 - Tue:

Stop LAPD Spying Coalition General Meeting, 6:30p, Downtown UCLA Labor Center, 675 Park View St, LA 90057, adjacent to MacArthur Park. <www.StopLAPDSpying.org> <stoplapdspying@gmail.com> 424-209-7450



KPFK LSB Finance Committee meeting, 7:30-9p, KPFK, 3729 Cahuenga Blvd. West, Studio City; . Info: 323-636-7388. Review station finances.

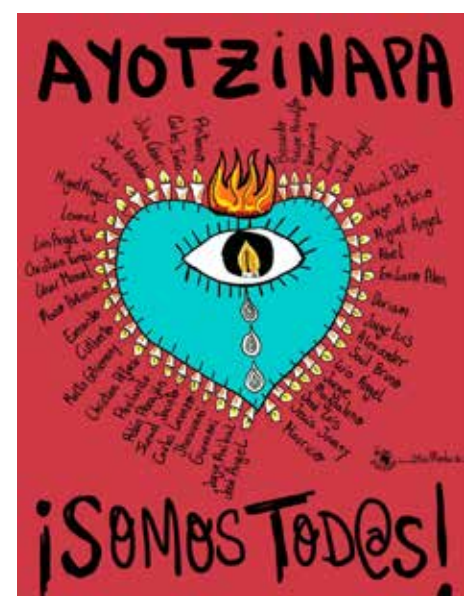
Dec 16 - Wed:

3-Part Liberation School Session: Palestine, Israel & the US Empire: 7p, "Oslo's Failure, BDS, and the Present Intifada- The Potential Defeat of Israel." 2936 W 8th St, LA 90005. See Dec. 2, 9. For more information email la@pslweb.org.

Dec 17 - Thu:

White People for Racial Justice, 7-9 p, at the Eco-Village, 117 Bimini Pl., L.A., 90004. Please join us for the next general meeting. whitepeople4racialjustice@gmail.com

Public Works Improv Theater: "Under Milk Wood," 7:30p. Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Bl, Venice 90291. \$10. Concert reading of Dylan Thomas classic.



Dec 19 - Sat:

Film: Socialist Party LA Freedom School: Ayotzinapa documentary, 4p, 2617 Hauser Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA www.facebook.com/events/1098961370123761/ **Christmas Without Tears (Does This Tree Make Me Look Fat?)** Seats assigned at 6p; Doors open, 7p; Show 8p, No late entry. Largo at the Coronet, 366 N. La Cienega, L.A. Musician Judith Owen and her husband, actor and humorist Harry Shearer (The Simpsons, Spinal Tap) with a heartwarming house party, performers and surprise guests. Proceeds to charity. Tickets \$50, \$75.

Dec 20 - Sun

Western Music Association Showcase, 12n-3p, The Autry Museum in Griffith Park, Musicians and cowboy poets perform songs and stories of the old west. Hosted by Western Music Assoc. CA chapter. wmacc@westernmusiccalifornia.org Free with admission to museum, no reservations required.

Suzy Williams at West Side Jazz Forum: 2:30p, Santa Monica. Donations appreciated. Christian Institutes Community Room, 1308 Second St. <facebook.com/events/873476506071291>.

Christmas Without Tears (Does This Tree Make Me Look Fat?) 8p. Harry Shearer and Judith Owen charity show. See Dec. 19 for details.

Dec. 23 - Wed

Comedy documentary: "Where to Invade Next," Michael Moore's latest feature film. Opens in wide release, consult newspapers and Internet for listings.

Dec 26 - Sat:

Gene Autry double feature: Man from Music Mountain (1938), The Cowboy and the Indians (1949), 12n-2:30p. The Autry Museum in Griffith Park. www.theautry.org

Activist Support Circle: Last Fri 630p, Santa Monica. This group is seeking a new location so contact them with ideas or to check whether an event is scheduled. 310.399.1000. <activistsupportcircle@earthlink.net>, <activistsupportcircle.org>.

Southern California Community Calendar continued...

Jazz Funk Fest: 7-10p, Free. Santa Monica. Unurban, 3301 Pico Blvd. 310.315.0056, 310.306.7330. <laughtears.com>, <blackshoepolish.blogspot.com>.

Dec 27 - Sun:



Change-Links monthly distro potluck and planning meeting, 11:30a, Peace Center, 3916 Sepulveda Blvd, Culver City 90232. Dial 22 for entry. Info: changelinks2@gmail.com, 323-636-7388

Koszulinski Films: 7p, Venice. Experimental non-fiction filmmaker Georg Koszulinski (in person) screens films that meditate on the radical possibilities of the cinema as a hallucinatory space where a critical engagement with the past can inform alternative visions of the future. Free, donations appreciated. Beyond Baroque 681 Venice Blvd. 310.306.7330. <pfsuzy@aol.com>. <laughtears.com>.

Full Moon Coyolxauhqui Circle: 9p, location TBA. Talking Circle based on indigenous traditions for women & QTGNC. Mujeres de Maiz. <info@mujeresdemaiz.com>. <mujeresdemaiz.com>. **Dec. 31 - Thu**

New Year's Eve free concert, Grand Park, downtown LA, 7p-1a Jan1. Count down to 2015 with friends, sweeties, cousins, and neighbors in a New Year's Eve celebration with live music, food, photo booths, and huge projections that captivate the imagination. Come early - last year they overfilled the cordoned off park to see the live stage show and projections -- the Red Line was packed. www.facebook.com/events/492722737493010/#NYELA



Peace & Justice in 2016!

MOVE TO AMEND VIDEO RESOURCE: "A Question of Personhood" introduces the corporate constitutional rights issue and Move to Amend. 7 min 35 sec Search for "Personhood" on <http://youtube.com>

Send us your event listings, and let people know you saw their event in Change-Links! \$5 donation for each listing requested. See display ad rates on page 8.

-Paid Advertisement-

KPFK Members please VOTE in the KPFK Election!



Our Committee to Strengthen KPFK slate of candidates is endorsed by some of your favorite programmers and community leaders including: Roy 'of Hollywood' Tuckman, Lila Garrett, Betto Arcos, Jackie Goldberg, etc.

Here are our candidates as they are listed on your ballot:

Christian Beck
 Rolando Salmeron
 Mansoor Sabbagh
 Grace Aaron
 Myla Reson
 Marilyn Hebert
 Bruce L. Caukin
 Sandy Childs
 John Vollbrecht
 Fred Blair
 Rob Macon
 Kenneth Aaron
 Will Ryan
 Leslie Fox
 Stephen Frantz
 Jerry Van
 Ann Doneen
 Sharon Brown
 Barbara Marbach
 Michael Mora
 Roberta Eidman
 Steve Kaiser
 Jan Goodman
 J.L. Gomez
 Dorothy Reik (write-in)

KPFK needs a new board to solve financial shortfalls and increase listenership.

YOUR VOTE IS CRUCIAL! For more information see www.CandidateSlate.org

If you haven't received your ballot email nes@pacifica.org or for more info call (310) 286-1011 or (310) 458-7213

What's at Stake at the Paris Climate Summit As Marches Are Banned

by Naomi Klein (Excerpted from The Guardian, UK)

Whose security gets protected by any means necessary? Whose security is casually sacrificed, despite the means to do so much better? Those are the questions at the heart of the climate crisis, and why climate summits often end in acrimony and tears.

The French government's decision to ban protests and other "outdoor activities" during the Paris climate summit is disturbing. What preoccupies me most is the way it reflects the fundamental inequity of the climate crisis itself – and that core question of whose security is valued.

Here's the first thing to understand. The people facing the worst impacts of climate change have no voice in western debates about whether to do anything to prevent catastrophic global warming. Climate summits are rare exceptions. For two weeks every few years, voices of the people who are hit first and worst get a little space to be heard where decisions are made. That's why Pacific islanders and Inuit hunters and low-income people of color from New Orleans travel thousands of miles to attend. The expense is enormous, but being at the summit is a chance to speak about climate change in moral terms and put a human face to this catastrophe.

Even in these rare moments, frontline voices don't have enough platform in official climate meetings, where the mic is dominated by governments and well-funded green groups. Ordinary people are heard in grassroots gatherings parallel to the summit, in marches and protests, which attract media coverage. Now the French government has decided to take away the loudest megaphone, claiming securing marches would compromise its ability to secure the official summit where politicians meet.

Once again, the message is: "our security is non-negotiable, yours is up for grabs."

Some say this is fair against the backdrop of terror. But a UN climate summit is not a meeting of the G8 or the World Trade Organization, where the powerless try to crash the party. "Civil society" events are not distractions from the main event. They're integral to the process. So the French government should've never been allowed to decide which parts of the summit it would cancel.

Rather, after the attacks of 13 November, it needed to determine whether it had the capacity to host the whole summit – with full participation from civil society, including in the streets. If it couldn't, it should've delayed and asked another country to step in. Instead Hollande has made decisions that reflect values and priorities about who and what will get full security protection. Yes to world leaders, football matches and Christmas markets; no to climate marches and protests pointing out that the negotiations, with the current emission targets, endanger the lives and livelihoods of

millions if not billions of people. Should we expect the UN to follow suit and revoke the credentials of half the civil society participants?

It's worth thinking about what the decision to cancel marches means in real terms. Climate change is a moral crisis because every time wealthy nations fail to act, it sends a message that we in the global north are putting our comfort and economic security ahead of the suffering and survival of the poorest and most vulnerable people on Earth. Banning the most important spaces where the voices of climate-impacted people would've been heard is an expression of this unethical abuse of power: once again, a wealthy country is putting security for elites ahead of the interests of those fighting for survival.

I write these words from Stockholm, where I've been doing climate-related public events. When I arrived, the press was having a field day with a tweet sent by Sweden's environment minister, Åsa Romson. Shortly after news broke of the attacks in Paris, she tweeted her outrage and sadness at the loss of life. Then she tweeted that she thought it would be bad news for the climate summit, a thought that occurred to everyone I know who is connected to this environmental moment. She was pilloried for her supposed insensitivity – how could she be thinking about climate change at a time of such carnage?

The reaction was revealing, since it took for granted that climate change is a minor issue, a cause without real casualties. Especially when serious issues like war and terrorism are taking center stage. It made me think about something Rebecca Solnit wrote: "climate change is violence."

It is. Some is grindingly slow: rising seas that erase whole nations, and droughts that kill thousands. Some violence is fast: storms with names such as Katrina and Haiyan that steal thousands of lives in a single event. When governments and corporations fail to act to prevent catastrophic warming, that's an act of violence. It's violence so global and inflicted against so many ancient cultures, present lives, and future potential that there's not a word capable of containing its monstrousness. Using acts of violence to silence the voices of those who are most vulnerable to climate violence is more violence.

In explaining why forthcoming football matches would go on as scheduled, France's secretary of state for sport said: "Life must go on." Indeed it must. That's why I joined the climate justice movement.

Because when governments and corporations fail to act in a way that reflects the value of all of life on Earth, they must be protested.

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