

Issues Programs List
WECI 91.5 Radio Station
October 1- December 31, 2023
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Section I: Issues

WECI has identified the following issues as significant and relevant to the local communities and listening audience:

COVID-19 Pandemic/Public Health

Climate/Environmental Issues

Economics

Education

Politics

Social Justice

Israel and Palestine War

Section II: Responsive Programming

COVID-19 Pandemic/Public Health

Tuesday, December 12, 3pm. Duration 60 minutes

Democracy Now! Texas Woman Denied Abortion for Nonviable Fetus, Flees State, “One of Thousands” in Similar Position

A Texas woman has had to flee to another state to have an emergency abortion after the state Supreme Court ruled against her. Kate Cox fled Monday after she had petitioned a judge to get an exemption from the state’s near-total abortion ban when her fetus was diagnosed with a fatal condition and doctors warned her carrying to term could endanger her fertility. “Unfortunately, it’s one of hundreds, if not thousands, of comparable stories,” says Dr. Bhavik Kumar, an abortion provider in Texas. “While these politicians say there are exceptions, somebody really has to be at death’s door before we can reasonably act in their favor.”

Climate/Environmental Issues

Friday, December 22, 3pm. Duration 60 minutes

Democracy Now! Sônia Guajajara, Brazil’s First Indigenous Peoples Minister, on Climate Crisis & Protecting the Amazon

Sônia Guajajara is Brazil’s first Indigenous cabinet minister and the country’s first-ever minister of Indigenous peoples. Democracy Now recently sat down with Guajajara at the COP28 summit in Dubai to discuss the role of Indigenous communities in the rapidly developing climate crisis.

She discussed her work within the administration of Brazilian President Lula to stop Amazon rainforest deforestation and to wrest back Indigenous governance from extractive industry. “We have little time left,” Guajajara warned. “We’ve lost more than 60% of our native plants in the forest. So climate change is not just a problem of the future. We’re experiencing the consequences right now.”

Monday, December 18, 3pm. Duration 60 minutes.

Democracy Now! “Tragically Historic”: The Guardian’s Nina Lakhani on the Failure of Yet Another U.N. Climate Summit

After some 200 countries at COP28 agreed to phase down fossil fuels, nations are facing pressure to block new oil and gas projects. A growing number of Democrats are calling on President Biden to stop massive new fossil fuel developments, and climate groups in the U.K. filed a lawsuit to block a massive new oilfield in the North Sea, saying it violates obligations to target net-zero carbon emissions. “Without means of implementation, these are just words,” says *The Guardian’s* senior climate reporter Nina Lakhani, who covered COP28. She says the COP28 deal continues a tragic history of powerful, polluting countries denying their responsibility for climate change and refusing to support those most impacted. “Equity is not anywhere to be seen in that final document that we got.”

Thursday, December 7, 3pm. Duration 60 minutes

Democracy Now! “Green Colonialism”: Nigerian Climate Activist Nnimmo Bassey Says Africa Is Being Sold Out at COP28

Longtime Nigerian activist and poet Nnimmo Bassey joins Democracy Now at COP28 in Dubai to discuss how “false climate solutions” like carbon trading markets are hurting efforts to reduce emissions and prevent catastrophic global heating. “People are making deals rather than talking about how to cut emissions at source,” says Bassey. “We’re seeing a sellout of the African continent.” Bassey is director of the Health of Mother Earth Foundation and received the Right Livelihood Award in 2010 for his environmental activism.

Economics

Saturday, October 28, 3pm Duration 59 minutes.

Commonwealth Club

How to Protect Yourself from Cybercrime

Carrie Gates, Senior Vice President, Bank of America in Global Information Security in Conversation with Gerald Anthony Harris, Chair of the Technology and Society Member Led Forum.

Education

Wednesday, October 25, 3pm. Duration 50 minutes

Democracy Now! "A Man of Two Faces": Author Viet Thanh Nguyen on New Memoir, U.S. Imperialism, Vietnam & More

Democracy Now is joined by the Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Viet Thanh Nguyen to discuss his new book, *A Man of Two Faces: A Memoir, a History, a Memorial*. Last week the 92NY, a major cultural institution in New York City, canceled an event with Nguyen after he joined 750+ writers in signing an open letter calling for a ceasefire in Gaza. His memoir explores his family's personal history as refugees from Vietnam dealing with the impacts of U.S. imperialism.

Tuesday, November 28, 3pm. Duration 60 minutes

Democracy Now! Remembering Pablo Yoruba Guzmán, Young Lords Co-Founder, Afro-Latino Leader, Legendary NYC Journalist

Democracy Now remembers the legendary activist and journalist Pablo Yoruba Guzmán, who died from a heart attack Sunday at age 73. Guzmán was the former minister of information of the Young Lords Party, the revolutionary social justice group led by Puerto Ricans in the 1960s and '70s. He later became a beloved print and television reporter, known for his street reporting. Guzmán was the "first great public relations expert of the Latino community," says *Democracy Now!* co-host Juan González, also a former Young Lord. "He was one of the first Afro-Latino people in the media," adds Johanna Fernández, associate professor of history at the City University of New York's Baruch College and author of *The Young Lords: A Radical History*. She says Guzmán "brought to the Young Lords a theorization of race in Latin America" and built "common cause with Black Americans."

Sunday, November, 12, 11am. Duration 59 minutes

Commonwealth Club

Ken Burns, Rosalyn laPier and The American Buffalo

Ken Burns, Film Maker, Director, *The American Buffalo* in conversation with Rosalyn LaPier, Indigenous Environmental Historian and Ethnobotanist, and Greg Dalton, Founder and Host, Climate One

Saturday, December 9, 3pm. Duration 59 minutes

Commonwealth Club

David Brooks: How to Know a Person

David Brooks, Op Ed Columnist, The New York Times; Author, *How to Know a Person: The Art of Seeing Others Deeply and Being Deeply Seen* in Conversation with Ray Suarez Host, KQED's "On Shifting Ground"; Author, *We are Home: Becoming American in the 21st Century* (forthcoming)

Politics

Tuesday, November 7, 3pm. Duration 60 minutes

Democracy Now! Trump Lashes Out at Judge, Attorney General in Fraud Trial That Could End His Real Estate Empire

Former President Donald Trump lashed out from the witness stand at the judge and prosecutor in his New York civil fraud case Monday. He could be forced to dissolve much of his real estate empire and bar his family from doing business in New York. “The scene was pretty incredible to witness,” says Lauren Aratani, reporter for the *Guardian US* who is covering the trial. The court is now determining how much the Trumps must pay in damages as the case enters the penalty phase.

Thursday, November 30, 3pm. Duration 60 minutes

Democracy Now! Historian Greg Grandin: Glowing Obituaries for Henry Kissinger Reveal “Moral Bankruptcy” of U.S. Elites

Henry Kissinger is dead at the age of 100. The former U.S. statesman served as national security adviser and secretary of state at the height of the Cold War and wielded influence over U.S. foreign policy for decades afterward. His actions led to massacres, coups and even genocide, leaving a bloody legacy in Latin America, Southeast Asia and beyond. Once out of office, Kissinger continued until his death to advise U.S. presidents and other top officials who celebrate him as a visionary diplomat. Yale historian Greg Grandin says those glowing obituaries only reveal “the moral bankruptcy of the political establishment” that ignores how Kissinger’s actions may have led to the deaths of at least 3 million people across the globe.

Sunday, November 26, 11 am. Duration 59 minutes

Commonwealth Club

Heather Cox Richardson: Democracy Awakening

Heather Cox Richardson, Professor of History, Boston College; Author, *Democracy Awakening: Notes on the State of America* in Conversation with T.J. Stiles, Biographer; Historian; Author.

Saturday, December 23, 3pm. Duration 59 minutes

Commonwealth Club

Jonathan Karl: Donald Trump and the End of the GOP

Jonathan Karl, Chief Washington Correspondent, ABC News; Author, *Tired of Winning: Donald Trump and the End of the Grand Old Party* in Conversation with Jonathan Swan
Political Reporter, The New York Times

Social Justice

Monday, November 20, 3pm. Duration 60 minutes.

Democracy Now! Palestinian Activist Remembers Vivian Silver, Israeli Canadian Peace Activist Killed in Hamas Attack

Israeli and Palestinian peace activists are mourning 74-year-old Canadian Israeli peace activist Vivian Silver after she was confirmed killed on October 7 during the Hamas attack on Kibbutz Be'eri, where she lived. She was previously thought to be held hostage. Silver co-founded the Arab-Jewish Center for Equality, Empowerment and Cooperation, sat on the board for the human rights group B'Tselem and was an active member of Women Wage Peace. Silver's friend and colleague Samah Salame, a Palestinian feminist activist, says Silver would have pushed for dialogue to find a peaceful solution to the conflict. "This was her legacy, and this is what we have to march for and fight for after her death."

Thursday, December 28, 3pm. Duration 60 minutes

Democracy Now! As Biden Pushes Trump-Like Border Policies, Blinken Meets with AMLO, Who Has Criticized U.S. Sanctions

As many as 10,000 people a day are being arrested in the U.S.-Mexico border as the Biden administration adapts the GOP's xenophobic anti-immigrant framework ahead of the 2024 election, says Laura Carlsen, director of the Mexico City-based think tank MIRA: Feminisms and Democracies. She joins Democracy Now as the U.S. secretary of state and homeland security secretary met Wednesday with the Mexican president. The U.S. and its policies south of the border, including sanctions and an exported drug war, are "actually causing the migration that they then try to contain — through these measures that are whipping up racism and also feeding into Republican campaigns," says Carlsen.

Friday, December 1, 3pm. Duration 60 minutes

Democracy Now! The Case Against Henry Kissinger: War Crimes Prosecutor Reed Brody on Kissinger's Legacy of "Slaughter"

Former U.S. secretary of state and national security adviser Henry Kissinger has died at the age of 100. He leaves behind a legacy of American statecraft that brought war, covert intervention and mass atrocities to Southeast Asia, South Asia and South America. "Few people have had a hand in so much death and destruction," says our guest, human rights attorney and war crimes prosecutor Reed Brody. By some accounts, Kissinger was responsible for the deaths of at least 3 million people. Democracy Now focuses today on Kissinger's actions in Cambodia, Bangladesh (previously East Pakistan) and East Timor, where, Brody argues, Kissinger ordered and oversaw U.S. actions that would make him "liable for war crimes." Brody also discusses the International Criminal Court and the ongoing war in Gaza.

Israel and Palestine War

Monday, October 30, 3pm. Duration 27 minutes

Democracy Now! "Not in Our Name": 400 Arrested at Jewish-Led Sit-in at NYC's Grand Central Demanding Gaza Ceasefire

Democracy Now brings you the voices of Jewish Voice for Peace and their allies who shut down the main terminal of Grand Central Station during rush hour Friday in one of New York's largest acts of civil disobedience in 20 years to demand a ceasefire in Gaza. The multiracial, intergenerational movement says about 400 people were arrested, including rabbis, famous actors and elected officials from the New York State Assembly and Senate and the City Council.

Wednesday, October 18, 3pm. Duration 60 minutes

Democracy Now! "Stop the War": Israeli Peace Activist Whose Parents Were Killed in Hamas Attack Calls for Ceasefire

Democracy Now speaks with Israeli peace activist Maoz Inon, whose parents Bilha and Yakovi Inon were killed in the surprise attack by Hamas militants on October 7 that killed over 1,300 people in Israel. He wants the war to end. "Let's call for peace. Let's call for hope. Let's call for a complete ceasefire. Let's call for building bridges," says Inon. "We must build the future, and this future must be based on equality, on partnership, on peace."

Friday, November 3, 3pm. Duration 60 minutes

Democracy Now! Boston Interfaith Rally Urges Senators Warren & Markey to Support Gaza Ceasefire

At least 23 people were arrested in Boston on Thursday as faith leaders and clergy led a peace rally to demand a ceasefire in Gaza. The interfaith protest targeted Massachusetts Senators Elizabeth Warren and Ed Markey to pressure them to stand up for Palestinian lives. Democracy Now shares footage and voices from the rally.

Wednesday, November 15, 3pm. Duration 50 minutes

Democracy Now! Rabbis for Ceasefire: Jewish Leaders Organize to Halt Israel's Bombardment of Gaza

Democracy Now speaks to Rabbi Alissa Wise, an organizer with Rabbis for Ceasefire and the founding co-chair of Jewish Voice for Peace's Rabbinical Council, about Tuesday's "March for Israel" in Washington, D.C., that was covered widely by the mainstream media and platformed antisemitic Christian Zionists. Wise sees a deep connection between Jewish religious principles and anti-Zionist activism and says accusations that anti-Zionists are antisemitic are a cynical strategy used to "shield Israel from accountability." She says Israel cannot be uniquely exempt from political and humanitarian critique. "Israel is not a Jewish person. Israel is a state. God forbid we should not be able to cry out when states are committing horrific genocidal violence in the name of Jewish people."

Monday, November 27, 3pm. Duration 60 minutes.

Democracy Now! "There Is an Alternative": Meet the Israeli & Palestinian "Combatants for Peace" Urging Nonviolence

With Israel and Palestine experiencing the worst violence in decades, Democracy Now speaks with two co-founders of Combatants for Peace, a group composed of people from both sides of the conflict who have committed to nonviolence and peaceful coexistence. Avner Wishnitzer is a former member of Sayeret Matkal, one of the Israel Defense Forces' elite commando units, and Sulaiman Khatib spent more than 10 years in prison after being arrested as a teenager for an attack on Israeli soldiers. The two recently co-authored a piece for *The New York Review of Books* on modeling a nonviolent path toward peace.