

Rise and Resist General Meeting - Zoom Edition - 2.28.2023

Rise and Resist Contact Information

- Website: www.riseandresist.org
 - Email list signup <http://eepurl.com/cCzq1X>
 - Twitter: www.twitter.com/RiseandResistNY
 - Facebook: www.facebook.com/RiseandResistNYC/
 - Instagram: www.instagram.com/risenresistnyc/
 - General email: info@riseandresist.org
 - Press email: media@riseandresist.org
 - Meetings: Every Tuesday at 7pm on Zoom. To sign up for the Zoom meeting [click here](#)
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Facilitators: Karin and Stu **Notes:** Alex

If you want to donate to RAR: <https://www.riseandresist.org/donate>

New process for non RAR announcements or to put other things on the agenda:
Use rar.facilitation@gmail.com before 3PM on Monday!

Good News!

- The truth keeps coming out about FOX and the Dominion voting machine story and the trial has not even started.
- Rupert Murdoch had to admit to his involvement (sort of).
- RaR actions have been covered in the NY Times, Washington Post, LA Times, Guardian, German papers, NBC. Rise and Resist's name has been mentioned in a couple of news sources.
- Jackie: This news is still hot and is building. Massive coverage today.

FOX Report Back and media updates

- The signs are crisp and clear, the messaging is excellent.
- Great thanks to Julie!
- Great thanks to Jon for the truck! And the great narrative he created. It will be coming out next Tuesday, weather permitting.
 - Though it broke down the press picked it up and images from the truck were all over.

New York For Abortion Rights – Hennessy is our invited speaker.

Saturday, March 4, 8AM join NYFAR at Old St. Pats (Prince and Mott St.)

- <https://abortionrights.nyc/>
- Hennessy works as a marshal at these monthly actions – a tough job!
- NYC for Abortion Defense
 - We use controversial tactics to interrupt two awful groups.
 - “Witness for Life” impersonate escorts and intimidates people seeking abortions at Planned Parenthood.

- We encourage covering your face cos these events are covered by right-wing press.
- Two alternatives:
 - 1) Be at clinic with umbrellas which block the “witness for life” folks.
 - This is less stressful way to intervene.
 - 2) You can be part of the blockade, which is higher risk, and you can choose to be at the front or the rear of this group.
- Jamie: RaR has felt most comfortable being at the clinic, where we can de-escalate more effectively. We are more committed to non-violence as a practice, and some of the activists at Old St Pats are more confrontative and tend towards escalation. Testosterone levels are high among activists and police.
- We discussed other ways to engage around this for those who do not want to be in person at these actions:
 - Write testimony re SRG in advance;
 - Hennessy will get back to Wendy B. with other ideas.
 - Hennessy called this “a good start”, and strongly supports coalition building
- Hennessy provided this training manual:
 - https://www.instagram.com/p/CgzQ--ZOxEc/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link
- Much info in this week’s newsletter on clinic defense:
 - <https://mailchi.mp/d07c41030623/join-a-fox-protest-in-nyc-or-the-dc-area>
- **We should ALL gather at Old St. Pats at 8 am, and those of us who want to go to the clinic will leave from there.**

Upcoming Actions

Wednesday March 1, 9AM, City Hall, SRG (Strategic Response Group) Rally before City Council Hearings

- A few of us showed up last month when SRG canceled for the second time.
- SRG has canceled once again, and the City Council has decided to go ahead.
- Banner: DEMOCRACY DIES IN A POLICE STATE
- 11 Council members have signed, and 9 more recently.
 - Eric Bottcher has not signed up. We need to contact him.
 - Ebottcher@council.nyc.gov

Upcoming Drag Story Hours

- **Saturday March 4, 11am:** Drag Story Hour for Neurodiverse Kids, with Professor Lionel Longlegs; Andrew Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library, 40 W 20th St #1
- **Wednesday March 8, 11:30am:** Drag Story Hour with Flame, Yorkville Library, 222 E 79th St
- **Tuesday March 14, 10am:** Bilingual Drag Story Hour 58th St Library, 127 E 58th St
- **Wednesday March 15, 3:30pm:** Drag Story Hour at Central Library, Brooklyn Public Library, 10 am.

Sunday, March 5, 12noon join NYCAN and GAG at St. Pats For All (Queens) 43rd St. & Skillman Ave.

- **March ends at 58th Stree and Woodside Ave.**
- Robert: This march started 22 years ago in response to LGBTQ community being excluded from the St Pat’s March
- <https://www.stpatsforall.org>
- We will be marching with NYCAN and Gays against Guns
- Directions: R train to 36th St., 7 train to 40 St. Lowery St.
- Contact Robert rcroon@gmail.com to further coordinate.

Immigration Vigil Thursday, March 9, at 5PM, Grand Central in the Main Hall

- Important to keep up the pressure. (See Report Backs)

Rikers Vigil Monday, March 6, 5PM Times Square Subway Station

- Times Square subway station between 7th Ave. and Broadway on the concourse in the “paid zone” of the station between the Shuttle and 1,2,3 train platform entrances.
- We decided in Actions to hold the Rikers Vigil on a regular basis, first Monday of every month.
- We get positive responses, and people are very interested to learn more and share their stories.

Friday March 10 - Roger Stone at the NYYRC event more details to follow

- Worst political club in the city; a fascist club supporting authoritarianism not democracy.
- Roger Stone was key in the Jan 6 Insurrection.
- Jamie will send you an email.

Elevator Action Group - MTA Board Meeting protest March 29

- Will be discussed at the next RaR meeting

Climate Action March 21 10:30 am - Major climate action starts at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza

- Stu: Third Act, founded by Bill McKibben to draw in older people to activism (!), and Stop Shopping Choir will be there. More info to follow.
- **Climate Meetings are every other Thursday, including 3/2/23 at 2:30**
 - Contact Stu for further info: Waldman@mikaya.com

Elections Committee update 5 pm every Wednesday

- For info about Elections: Elizabethmann.livvie@gmail.com
- Major story in NYT by Ross Barkan about the disaster going on in the Democratic Party
- Brian Lehrer interviewed Ross Barkan; Stu asked a great question.
- We packed the phones, which Lehrer commented on as being very unusual.

Amirah Alwagih (she/her) City College head of non-profit, NYPIRG found us through one of our flyers.

- Many of our concerns overlap with RaR's. Can we network with you?
- Junior at CCNY: Major focus: make CUNY free.
- We discussed specific ways to coordinate.
- Amirah's email: amirahalwagih6@gmail.com

Report Backs

Immigration Vigil 2/23 at Grand Central

- Lot of leafleting, intense discussions, good vigil. No major hecklers.
- 100 immigration organizations are getting together to fight the Biden Administration's efforts to keep immigrants out.
- Very international awareness. Valuable discussions.

Say Their Names canceled due to weather. Every Friday at 4:30PM 96th/Broadway

- Jenny: We hope to be present this Friday

- Reviewed the mission of STN and the 700 names we read of Black people and people of color murdered by the police.
- Started July 2020
- Discussion of police reaction: white privilege and age protects us, but we get “mostly white male” hecklers.

2/24 Climate action at AIG headquarters

- Organized by Climate Families, Insure our Future
- If these installations are not insured, they cannot run.
- AIG will insure the longest pipeline in Africa taking oil to France:
 - Displaced peoples, major environmental impact; send more oil to the post-industrial world.
 - Much suffering from climate change
 - No indigenous benefit from the oil.
 - Colonialism and capitalism gone amok
- Kids made black slime to show what oil spreading will look like.
- Speakers, several from Uganda, were excellent
- We learned a great deal.

Drag story hours 2/24 at Jackson Heights QPL* Next action and sign up

- Two RaR members attended: Jay and...
- Kids love Drag Story Hour
- Counter resisters: anti-vaxxers, religious wing-nuts, Trumpies.
- We work with a group that organizes
- Recent action: large number of people. Laurie Arbeiter brought signs. Songs, chants, and very few anti's were there.
- **Next drag story hour is Saturday March 4**

Feb 28 Bannon Court date at 100 Centre St. 8:15AM (Court at 9:00AM)

- We got there at 8:15, it was rescheduled for 2:15; we returned.
- We were penned in by police but photobombed it.
- Bannon walked in very swiftly, rather than sauntering.
- Great signs by Julie, “DEADBEAT”; and a lot of press were there.
- Vince was seen on Ari on MSNBC!
- Bannon is changing his lawyers: judge is fighting this delaying tactic. Another court date end of May.
- Hot off the presses!
<https://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/nyc-crime/ny-steve-bannon-manhattan-court-appearence-fraud-20230228-hdmfymn52nb7no6edzf5oecls4-story.html>

Non-RaR announcements

- **Fridays for the Future 3/3/23:** <https://www.facebook.com/fridaysforfuture.nyc/>
- Wendy's **Indivisible Activate Newsletter**: register to subscribe!
<https://indivisibleactivatenyc.us20.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=b0ff5ba7f2c72c38a9df9e0e5&id=b4e3b6c230>
- Here is this week's Newsletter:
<https://mailchi.mp/d07c41030623/join-a-fox-protest-in-nyc-or-the-dc-area>