

Rise and Resist General Meeting - Zoom Edition - 3.12.2024

Rise and Resist Contact Information

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- Meetings: Every Tuesday at 7pm on Zoom. To sign up for the Zoom meeting click [here](#).

Facilitators: Jay and Livvie **Note Taker:** Alex

For non RAR announcements or to add other items to the agenda:
Email rar.facilitation@gmail.com before 3PM on Monday!

DONATE TO RISE AND RESIST: <https://www.riseandresist.org/donate>

GOOD NEWS.

- Peter Navarro (Trump advisor) ordered to report to prison for 2 counts of criminal contempt of Congress.
- The Republican rebuttal of Biden's SOTU speech was really bad.

Here is Wendy's Newsletter for this week:

<https://mailchi.mp/206c79ba3636/tell-congress-no-national-abortion-ban>

UPCOMING ACTIONS

Wednesday, March 13, 1PM-2PM No Dictators/No Immunity at Trump Tower

- New signs, and we have banners.
- Erik McGregor and Gina Randazzo will be there.

Trump's first criminal trial starts with jury selection on March 25 8:30 am

- We are planning this early morning action on March 25, but will have later in the day actions on other dates.
- Election interference, Stormy Daniels
- We are working with Public Citizen at 10 am.
 - o Press will not be waiting for trump at that point, and will be available for press conference.
 - o We will go from the court to Foley Square and will support them.
 - o This will be a press action, but not hecklers. They don't want a circus.

Elections Committee

- How do we help Democracy in this country?

- First step is to support Jamaal Bowman – terrific congressman, a member of the Squad, and one of the first Congress people to call for a Cease Fire
 - AIPAC is coming out against him, big time, and is supporting his opponent, George Latimer, who has been a State Senator and is well known is County Executive.
 - **We will go to COOP City this Saturday 3/16 from 12-3 to petition for Bowman. Dreiser Loop and Defoe Place, last stop on train line.**
 - Bus stop from 23rd Street and Madison. This is an MTA bus (BM 7) and it goes straight to the stop in COOP City. (Busses leave every half hour.)
 - We will aim for the 11:10 bus that will arrive at 12:10 at Dreiser Loop and Defoe Place, last stop on train line.
 - Petitioning is at main Greenway, moves into the Community Center if it rains.
 - AOC will be there, and it will be outside if weather is good enough.
 - Campaign petition sign up :
<https://secure.ngpvan.com/p/8S7fwCngqkShGPk9eM14Ug2>
 - Calendar of Campaign's Upcoming Petitioning events;
<https://secure.ngpvan.com/p/8S7fwCngqkShGPk9eM14Ug2>
 - Redistricting has changed Bowman's district: indications are that Republicans will not be challenging him.
 - Bowman's district is primarily people of color. We can postcard POC from Bowman's lists. We will have lists with zip codes, and more info in the future.
- All 8 members of the squad are being attacked by AIPAC.
 - AOC is relatively safe. The others are not.
- **Reject AIPAC coalition is forming:** JVP, WFP, Sunrise Movement are forming it.
 - They will not generate all the money AIPAC has access to.
 - AIPAC is recruiting opponents to progressives, who are all Black and brown.
 - AIPAC has routinely funded right-wing congresspeople.
 - Reject AIPAC link: <https://www.rejectaipac.org/>

Discussion: Reactions to Biden's State Of The Union address.

- I went from Camp Biden to Genocide Joe...It is really hard to work my way back.
- How do we push him on Gaza/Palestine, Israel, and also immigration?
- This is not a vote about policy, this is a vote about democracy. And policy can interfere with democracy, but I think the key is voting for democracy.
- The difference is not between good and bad, but between bad and getting shot in the head.
- Heavily skewed audience of SOTU address on Fox: waiting to see Biden fall apart. It did not happen.
- We should all be very worried if there is no cease fire.
- Immigration: Biden's policies are worse than ever. Immigrants are being held in solitary confinement. There is indication that someone has committed suicide in solitary confinement. What about ICE?
- No other president would have behaved differently. This is about this country and this country's dehumanization of Palestinian people and people of color. This country has been colonialist and white supremacist since its inception.

- Jimmy Carter would not have behaved this way. He forced the terrorist Begin to come to recognize Egypt by threatening a cut off of arms. I also think President Bernie wouldn't have acted the same way. Biden backed Iraq, He's an old foreign policy warrior.
- The center of US politics has always been to the right of public sentiment. Unbalanced Senatorial system. Land has as much representation as people.
- Lesser of the two evils. A huge movement is pushing and pushing, and he is changing nothing.
- Book Recommendation: White Rural Rage: The Threat to American Democracy, by Tom Schaller and Paul Waldman.
- Israel is the US proxy, as Iran is Soviet proxy. The movement is making more headway in the last few months than in the past 17 years.
- As a young person, I voted for Eldridge Cleaver; others voted for Ralph Nader. We have to understand that AND we cannot afford to waste votes.
- It is crucial to keep the voting energy up.
- RaR messaging: we must acknowledge the fact that we are not saving democracy. US is an oligarchy. Citizens United is tragic. Things have declined since then. We are voting for Democracy in decline vs Democracy destroyed.
- Can you imagine trump would be doing in Gaza?
- Biden's budget proposal: fair amount of economic populism. 90% of Dems are in favor of economic populism.
- White House budget webpage:
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/03/11/fact-sheet-the-presidents-budget-for-fiscal-year-2025/>
- Further to Katie Britt's SOTU Response:
https://www.instagram.com/reel/C4U8gSAupbt/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==
- Only way Biden can win is for people to remember what a danger trump is. We are worried that young people are not terrified about the danger of trump. Project 2025 is what makes the danger clear.
 - Project 2025 will help make the case against trump! www.stopthecoup2025.org
- Biden is better for Gaza's, better for climate, better for everything. Not good but better. Yes tens of thousands of Gaza's killed. TFG - 500k needless covid dead. Wanted to send rockets to Mexico, Muslim ban, it goes on and on
- A nazi or a genocide enabling 'democrat'? The structure of a two-party system is killing democracy so hard to fight a structure but i see that as the enemy.
- I think we should also acknowledge that the US is truly an oligarchy now - a democracy in name only. So we have to pursue that fight - maybe the day after Biden gets sworn in.
- Israel's stated wish to eradicate people and culture and history.
- Desperately sad.

REPORTS BACK (AND UPCOMING)

Gaza/Ceasefire demonstrations

- Friday Gaza action with violent arrests. Police were kettling people. Videos of police throwing people to the ground, grabbing a woman's kafia and throwing her down.

- o Here is the news story:
<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/dozens-of-gaza-war-protestors-taken-int-o-custody-as-hundreds-march-across-nyc/ar-BB1jBCos>

- **Action 4 pm Friday March 15 for Aaron Bushnell who self-immolated, near the UN. US Mission to United Nations. 1st AVE b/t 44th & 45th**
- Witnessing: going to vigils and rallies and demonstrations. Wearing a kafia is a statement.
- Gaza action: JVP had a secret action and blocked Biden's trip to the State of the Union.
- **Weds March 13: real estate groups go to synagogues to sell land in West Bank occupied territories. Selling land @3 pm, 270 Avenue N, Brooklyn; cancelled b/c that sale was cancelled.**
 - o But there are many other such sales events going on in NJ.
- **Jewish Elders will carry shrouds. (Notes were not in chat.)**

Thursday, March 7, 5PM-6PM Immigration Vigil in Times Square Subway Concourse

- Great small action. Homeless man read every poster we held, and said he agreed.
- We are working on more new messaging.
- Gothamist article today charts how asylum seekers are forced to search new domiciles every 30 to 60 days. Goal is to make it so miserable for them that they leave the city.
- C2500 people a day are congregating at this processing center in Tompkins Square Park.
- Gothamist story on asylum seekers:
<https://gothamist.com/news/offered-tickets-to-depart-nyc-when-forced-to-leave-shelters-only-2-of-adult-migrants-accept>
- "Adams is Everything Abbott Wanted" is a follow-up to Mark's suggestion to focus on the mayor's actions re migrants — from the newsletter of immigrant solidarity group in Jackson Heights: <https://jhimmigrantsolidarity.org/jhisn-newsletter-03-02-2024/>

Friday, March 8, 9AM City Hall - Rally For A Close Rikers Budget

- Two RaR members went. Co-Chair of Freedom Agenda was excellent. 50 people turned out at 9 am.
- The goal is to highlight that money to close Rikers must not be funneled elsewhere.

Monday Monday, 4

- RaR member: I am speaking as an unexpected passerby commented on how moved they were by the Monday in Times Square: Close Rikers.

Truth Tuesdays at FOX every Tuesday at 12noon 47th St.& 6th Ave.

- Pushing back on trump's Migrant Crime hysteria.
- Message resonates with a lot of people.
- Lots of positive feedback.
- When people don't like the message, they hate it. The racist messaging is off the charts.
- Celebrity sighting: Jane Lynch gave us a thumbs up.
- All the press are playing into crime wave hysteria. MSNBC showed actually what happened. Cop jumped on a person and people went to defend him.

NON-RAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Wendy: Protests about putting the National Guard in the subway for "bag checks".

5:30 pm. Weds 3/13 GRAND CENTRAL MAIN CONCOURSE

- “Flash mob” to protest Hochul’s National Guard subway nonsense. Organized by Indivisible Brooklyn.
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeYTHU4VqoKArPDOqezoKjKQAESf2ntB3npO7_IQOyDEt225g/viewform
 - There will be singing (hit the road Jack)
 - Hochul is now telling guards not to be using rifles and other long weapons.
 - “Carry your bags full of sex toys!”
- Bill H: **New London/Groton**. Protest against construction of the Columbia Nuclear Sub March 4. We had 27 J Oppenheimer statues in wood.

RISE AND RESIST