

Rise and Resist General Meeting - Zoom Edition - 10.20.2020

Rise and Resist Contact Information

- Website: www.riseandresist.org
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 - 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: Sandy and Jay **Notes:** Alexandra

REPORT BACKS

10/15 - 5pm EVERY VOTE COUNTS / COUNT EVERY VOTE at Staten Island Ferry Terminal

<https://www.facebook.com/events/378790386584700/>

Donna: Small group, great signs and banner. People were happy to see us. We gave out a QR Code that voters could use to figure out their voting options; people were interested in learning that they could vote early.

Question: Can we have the QR code? Jamie put the flyer with the QR code in the Chat

10/17 Democracy Dies In A Police State at WSP

Stu: This action fit into the DSA action: Powerful photos of police violence around the country; many people taking photos. WPIX was there but didn't make it to the news. One person told us they had been present at the incident photographed where the police were pulling a woman's hair.

Kevin: Big crowd; many eyes on the banner and the photos

Question: Is the goal to be part of other actions, or be on our own? Stu: We are going to improvise based on social distancing, location, crowd. There were many actions running at the same time.

10/18 in Central Park: GOTV; Every Vote Counts Count Every Vote

Jackie: very successful, people interested, feeling of camaraderie. One of our few GOTV actions RaR has done; we should do more.

RAR Members in Philadelphia GOTV

Tom G.: Work was organized by the Working Families Party. We were at City Hall, Tilden Hall, a school. Great turn out. People waited for 3 hours to vote, some in wheelchairs; determined to vote. Very diverse crowd; everyone was knowledgeable about the issues.

Leon: We were working to reduce the lines by offering information to voters ahead of time. The WFP party was very helpful and well organized.

Livvie: Not so much getting new voters, but more diffusing the fear and worry, helping people feel we are all in this together.

Tom: went with Muslim women into laundromats and private spaces. She was very assertive and insisted that people vote. Tom saw these same people voting the next day!

Q: would it be helpful to bring stuff? A: YES! Masks. WFP bought pizza and water. Anything that conveys community rather than chaos is very helpful. Helped people hang in there and take the time that they did not really have.

Alvin: Saturday we trailed the women's march and we felt that what we did was very helpful.

UPCOMING ACTIONS

Thursday 10/22 at 12pm - COUNT EVERY VOTE and VOTE HIM OUT at NBC Studios in Rockefeller Center

Robert: Action is falling into place; Lorenzo has done great posters; Elka has sent drawings from Vienna; unfortunately all the speakers are men. We have reached out to several women. Posters focus on voting; jobs, Immigration, healthcare, housing?.

Speakers: Jay, Rev. Luis, Tod Fernandez: Climate Crisis Policy; Justin Hendrix, Jawanza Williams: VOCAL NY; Mark H: maybe Judy Sheridan Gonzalez, who is the head of the Nurses' Union.

Needed: Spread the word; invite your friends from FB page. a lot of people for a press conference; people to livestream. Press release will go out tomorrow.

Mark H: we need gender diversity.

Friday 10/23 Say Their Names 96th St. / Broadway 5pm

Jenny: planning to meet as usual. We may need to meet at 4:30 cos it is getting dark earlier.

Thursday 10/29 hold the date for a pre-election banner action TBD

Jamie: Instead of our every other week's immigration action, we will focus on Count Every Vote, Every Vote Counts on the last Thursday before the Election. This will be developed more tomorrow.

March For The Dead - Virtual action for Oct 18th and March on Nov 1

Jay: The virtual action was quite successful with people using the hashtag #marchforthedead to talk about how COVID has affected their lives.

We will finalize plans for November 1 march tomorrow and will bring it to General Meeting next week. #MyCovidStory -

https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=366416617745203&ref=watch_permalink

Anti - trump / PBA demo on Tuesday, October 27 at 4pm 125 Broad St. Form a contingent with Democracy Dies In A Police State.

Jamie: Savitri from Church of Stop Shopping Choir contacted us re anti-trump, anti-PBA action. Goal to tie trump and police together and not let them off the hook. It will be a theatrical, visual, peaceful demo held between several privately owned public locations. So, no civil disobedience.

Stu: we really want to support this. The PBA has endorsed trump.

Tom: Black PBA has come out for Biden

A lot of tension and activity are expected; there is a lot of news coverage on this.

Rick: signage needed to invite police not to toe the line of the largely White PBA

RAR voted unanimously to endorse this action.

Why vote on the Working Families Party line instead of Democratic Party Line

Livvie: WFP was formed in 1998, very progressively oriented to push back on the Dem Party. WFP has supported people like Jumaane Williams, and was a driving force, with financial and organizational support, behind anti-IDC work. Cuomo has tried to squelch WFP: he created a commission to study public financing of elections, with the goal of eliminating third parties. Trebled the number of votes needed by WFP and others. It is on us to make sure that they continue to exist.

Q: Susan: Did they screw Zephyr Teachout? A: Yes they did. Q: Maybe not that trustworthy. They are an important counterbalance to Cuomo. An alternative is DSA or ranked-choice voting. It sends a message to Cuomo as to where the electorate is at. Mark H: Several people left WFP to work for Zephyr Teachout, and she got 1/3 of the vote 4 years ago. Two years ago, Cuomo threatened the unions if they supported Zephyr, and they retreated. They have new leadership: a brilliant young Black woman, the leadership will move it back to the left. It has taken a lot of organization to get voters in small counties across NY; very labor-intensive. It gives you a more progressive voice. This is not like voting for a separate party like the Green Party.

On the ballot, vote on Column D on the presidential ballot, but make sure to not miss voting for some candidates are not on the WFP line at all.

We need numbers, numbers, numbers.

Rise and Resist voted to encourage members and friends to vote on the WFP line.

Early voting in NY starts October 24.

Report back on the Protect The Vote coalition and plans. 4 pm Weds. Nov 4 on the Steps of the Library and march in the streets.

Jamie: Justin Hendrix and others are involved in coalition preparations

We go out on the streets to ensure that the vote results are recognized. We have worked with JH in the past in various actions.

- Logistics committee,
- coalition-building committee: Donna,
- photography committee: Wrolf.

This group will be planning further actions on subsequent days if trump refuses to concede and should do so.

Rick: spread the word.

Alexis: **De-escalation training in partnership with Greenpeace Weds night, October 20. protecttheresults.com**

Marshall signup link: <https://forms.gle/NRAAkULNnRZqPzxn9> Training Weds. 10/21 at 7 pm.

Alexis: from Justin Hendrix "There is a training session tomorrow night, (Wednesday 10/21, 7 pm EST) on De-escalation & Safety Tactics. We know that our best way to win in a Protect the Results scenario is to plan large, non-violent mobilizations. And we also know that bad actors on the right are likely to try and incite violence across many of our communities. Come learn important de-escalation and safety tactics in partnership with our colleagues at Greenpeace. Whether in rural or urban areas, we will keep ourselves safe."

Sign up here. https://indivisible.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QCSiloeZT2e-i6Pr7TkOIA

Donna: proposes that notice of this action should go out to all of our members. Volunteers are needed to spread the word to hundreds of groups. If interested in making calls to spread the word about this big coalition action, **call Donna: (212) 366-9279**

Stu: If you get on this list, you will be informed: of all actions as they arise.

Tom: concerned about the possibility of increased police presence. Should we make a statement about how the police are supposed to be neutral?

Jamie: questions about where we will be needed – here in NYC or in DC? Can we shut NYC down, DC? We should be thinking about the risks we are willing to take given the pandemic. The statistic is that 50% of coups fail. It is up to the populace to make sure that trump fails and concedes.

Motion to modify meeting on Nov 3 to focus on Protect The Vote and Every Vote Counts actions:

Purpose: to have a shorter meeting on Nov. 3 which will focus on what our planning is going to be following the election.

Jackie: Don't we want to be on the streets on the 3rd? This question goes to Actions.

Jamie: we need to check in with each other, and have a last check-in.

RaR members voted to modify the meeting to focus on Protect the Vote and Every Vote Counts actions

Hold the Line Guide to Defending Democracy: <https://holdthelineguide.com/>

Waging Non Violence:

<https://wagingnonviolence.org/2020/09/10-things-you-need-to-know-to-stop-a-coup/>

Ways to win a democracy:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rGmWzFhn80D8wLhxqO_gAY9Sedd3htDP7nqzjibZe3o/e/dit

Discussion about how folks are feeling / what they are thinking 2 weeks before the election.

Jamie: Many people are doing GOTV work, texting, phone banking, and heading down to PA. We are living with the fear that trump will pull Barr in to subvert the election. "I have never felt this way before". We need to hear others.

There is a lot of risk here with confusional mind control techniques. Several people said it was a very difficult day today.

The Senate is key, and we are fucked if we do not take the Senate. We are fucked about lower court decisions which are permanent because they are tied to the Constitution.

People expressed terror, worry, a feeling of not knowing how to manage. "I feel more afraid about the state of our country than ever before." The SFJ interns have been so hardworking, but there are so many articles out there that cause worry. Sandy is choosing not to post them on the SFJ channel. There will be two sessions for the mentors this Friday.

Source of anxiety: today is exactly two weeks away.

Rules are changing daily for PA: Supreme Court finally voted that people can be registered on the day that they vote. Worries about the Supreme Court and Amy Coney Barratt who will push the vote to 6/3.

Some expressed hopefulness about our ability to respond.

"It is possible that we are going to win very big."

Across the country, we can work together to prevent an attempted coup.

Deeply mixed and conflicting feelings: the power of the people; the system that will fight all this activism; the movements: BLM; all these things done to help people. This room will keep me together. There are so many activist groups all over the country;

An expert who predicted trump's win last time sees trump winning again.

The power of the people.

Self-care:

"Doing stuff for my mental health".

“We need to reach out to each other”.

Alexis has offered to run errands for others “chicken soup and pie and meds and other necessities” with her new second-hand car. alexisdanzig@gmail.com

“I am trying to not let imagination run away from me.”

“This group has been a beacon of hope.” “Gratitude for this group.”

“I try to focus on pc’ing, calling”.

Great to turn off the news. The news is designed to sell toilet paper.

Being in the now. it is really helpful.

Take time to do things in your personal life.

Starhawk’s Magical Activism Democracy Protection Magic

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/magical-activism-online-ritual-series-w-starhawk-tickets-119700518473?aff=starhawkemail&mc_cid=b9ad645f4e&mc_eid=0e431067ae

Go through this with all the joy that we can muster.

Remember this is the long game. November 3 is the end of the first phase.

Special Finance Report

Save it for next week; Mary is not here tonight.

Voter Suppression of Election Day and volunteering for SeeSay2020

Sandy: SeeSay2020 is a mechanism to identify and act on voter suppression. If you want to do something on Election Day, this a good thing to do. Report incidents of voter suppression, scour social media, scour local communities. Lawyers lined up.

Here is a link to join the slack workspace. Training is actively underway for several different kinds of roles. Check it out if you are interested. Volunteers will be particularly important for election day.

https://join.slack.com/t/seesay2020/shared_invite/zt-i3u49a69-_rgEy6pSAWOTaD_Fwkaojw

Non Rise and Resist announcements.

Katrina: **Friday: NYC continuum of care 9:30 to 12 noon.** To discuss the impact of covid on homeless and formerly homeless people. Zoom and breakout rooms:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-nyc-coc-open-public-meeting-tickets-115759560963>

Weds: “No Hugs No Handshakes” Boycott the Vote in front of Schumer’s house at Grand Army Plaza.

Livvie: Housing Works and various groups. Shake him up

RISE AND RESIST