Ecosocialist Solstice

Artists Showcase and Zoom Party

20 December 2020
Katherine and Bo Aelias created The Katherine Aelias Band (KAB) in 2000. Since then they have written and performed hundreds of songs and released five albums (you can find them online, CD baby, iTunes, etc). KAB has toured all over the USA and played many venues in Costa Rica. Their music has evolved over the years but has consistently featured sonically effected strings (mandolin, bass, guitar, more) and Katherine’s captivating vocals. They have written many songs about today’s social, political, and ecological issues.

Katherine Aelias Band

Wrexie Bardaglio hails from Nebraska, where her prairie heart still dwells although it has expanded to embrace the beautiful Finger Lakes region of New York, where she has lived for the past decade and a half. She has spent her life working in politics. Her passion is water and its protection.

Janet Burgan started her musical career as a singer, trombonist, and pianist. She moved to New York and added electric bass, acoustic guitar, and frattoir to her instrument arsenal. She has played with Dwight Yoakam, Dave Alvin, Marcia Ball, Tracy Nelson, Marshall Crenshaw, and others. She wrote “No Fracking Way” in 2011; it has been used around the world as an anti-fracking rallying cry. Janet is active in progressive politics. She divides her time between Pennsylvania and New York City.

janetburgan.com
youtube.com/user/janetburgan
facebook.com/JanetBurganMusician
**Asha Canalos** is an interdisciplinary artist, writer, environmental justice advocate, educator, and herbalist. Her creative practice addresses social and environmental injustice; relationships between plants and people; and resilience/resistance. Canalos’s writing and art develops through research and collaborative exchanges, often resulting in amplification projects for and with frontline communities and ecologies. Her artwork has been shown at galleries and museums across the U.S., including The Bronx Museum, White Box Gallery, Pace University, and the Santa Fe Art Institute. Increasingly, her work draws on her herbalism studies to help address issues of healing, self-care, and sustainable strategies for activists.

[asha-canalos.squarespace.com](asha-canalos.squarespace.com)  
[greaterchacoartzines.org](greaterchacoartzines.org)  
[www.frackoffchaco.org](www.frackoffchaco.org)

**Kimberlyn David** is passionate about rethinking how and why we innovate, since building a sane world that works for all of us (and this precious planet we live on!) calls for that. Along these lines, she hosts a monthly conversation about reclaiming leisure, purpose, and meaning in a society obsessed with productivity. Her main art these days is the inner action of disentangling worth from capitalistic values. Kimberlyn is a US citizen who hangs her hat in the Netherlands.

**John Foran** is a college professor on most days and a climate justice activist on the existential plane. He hopes to channel all the forces of the cosmos into bringing about a peaceful global intersectional eco-socialist revolution. He’s a wide-eyed poet, and his mom thinks he’s a brilliant singer and guitar player.  
[iicat.org/john-forans-iicat-research-portal](iicat.org/john-forans-iicat-research-portal)
**Kim Fraczek** is a Brooklyn-based artist, eco socialist, and positive trouble-maker. Her hobbies include making cantastorias, music, watching the bugs, birds, and plants, and shutting down fossil fuel infrastructure with her decade-old org called Sane Energy Project.

[saneenergyproject.org](http://saneenergyproject.org)

**Will Fudeman** has spent most of his life in upstate New York, with a dozen years in northern California during the late ‘70’s and ‘80’s. An acupuncturist and social worker, he’s been a musician and songwriter and activist for peace, justice, and our planet for over 50 years. Will is also a member of the band *RESONATE* and the acoustic klezmer string band *Mel & Sol*.

[willfudeman.com](http://willfudeman.com)

[YouTube - Will Fudeman](http://YouTube - Will Fudeman)

**Rafael Jesús González**, professor emeritus of literature and creative writing, was born and raised biculturally/bilingually on the border of El Paso, Texas, USA and Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, Mexico. Rafael taught at various universities before settling at Laney College in Oakland, California, where he founded the Department of Mexican and Latin-American Studies. He was poet in residence at Oakland Museum of California and Oakland Public Library, 1996. Four times nominated for a Pushcart Prize, he was honored further for his writing by the National Council of Teachers of English, 2003, and with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his writing, art, teaching, and social activism by the City of Berkeley, 2015. In 2017 he was named Berkeley’s first Poet Laureate.

Photo by Jesús M. Medina

[rigonzalez.blogspot.com](http://rigonzalez.blogspot.com)
**Ben Grosscup** sings about the ideas and values of the revolutionary social movements he’s part of. Drawing upon activist folk traditions, he brings new songs to the rallies, strikes, picket lines, and virtual events where they’re relevant and leads purposeful group singing that raises political consciousness. Ben’s also executive director of the People’s Music Network for Songs of Freedom and Struggle, a diverse community of singers, artists, and activists that cultivates music and cultural work as catalysts for a just and peaceful world. PMN hosts regular online song swaps involving artists nationwide.

[www.youtube.com/c/BenGrosscup](http://www.youtube.com/c/BenGrosscup)
[peoplesmusic.org](http://peoplesmusic.org)

**Louise A. Hammonds** writes what she terms “socio-anthropological” poetry, which she says means to excavate the bones of social issues and give them flesh. She is the author of the collection *To Soothe a Teething God*, which was just published by The Thera Books. She resides in Oakland, California.

[thetherabooks.com/products/to-soothe-a-teething-god](http://thetherabooks.com/products/to-soothe-a-teething-god)

**Sam Husseini** is a Jordanian-Palestinian writer and artist who writes for independent media CounterPunch, antiwar.com, The Nation, Salon, Consortium News, FAIR.org, etc. He’s a senior analyst with the Institute for Public Accuracy and founded VotePact.org to break the two-party bind. His artwork contrasts and reconciles themes of natural/artificial, visible/hidden, valueless/priceless, image/object, temporal/permanent, using unusual materials and natural elements such as snowflakes, rain, flora, and fauna. His upcoming show in Baltimore is “Organic Destruction.”

Blogging at [https://husseini.posthaven.com/](https://husseini.posthaven.com/)
Art at [https://bethatempty.org/about](https://bethatempty.org/about)
**Dave Jones** is a writer, laborer, organizer, and activist located in western Montana, where he guided trout fishermen for 35 years. He has focused primarily on ending coal extraction, export, and burning. Dave is an active member of System Change Not Climate Change as well as Zootown Zapatistas and DSA Ecosocialist Working Group. He blogs at [climateandcapital.blogspot.com](http://climateandcapital.blogspot.com).

**Colleen Kattau** is a bilingual vocalist and songwriter who stirs listeners with her clear voice, collective spirit, and rhythmic sensibility. Her music is featured on Democracy Now!, and she performs at Phil Ochs nights. Her compositions are full of nature, social movements, and Latin American nueva canción. Last summer, she was invited to Italy perform at the International Ritmi y danze dal mondo Festival and at the European Ecovillages Conference. Besos/Kisses is her 2020 release. [www.colleenkattau.com](http://www.colleenkattau.com)

**Hanna Leigh** is a singer/songwriter who draws deep inspiration from the ineffable beauty of the natural world, and aspires to contribute beauty to the web of life through her music. She is also an organic farmer, doula, herbalist, and massage therapist, currently living and learning in Oregon, USA. [hannaleigh.bandcamp.com](http://hannaleigh.bandcamp.com)
Bonnie Lockhart is a Northern California singer/songwriter, recording artist, educator, and organizer who believes in the transformative power of music in the lives of individuals and communities. On her first recording with the antiwar folk-rock quartet, the Red Star Singers, in her work in children’s music, and in her current work with the song-leading quintet, Occupella, Bonnie creates participatory, community-building music with people of all ages. She has performed at venues from the Vancouver Folk Festival in British Columbia to an international jazz festival in Managua, Nicaragua. Hear Bonnie at tinyurl.com/BonnieLockhartYouTube

Synnika Alek-Chizoba Lofton is an award winning performance poet, educator, and recording artist based in Virginia. He is the author of 17 books and more than 170 spoken word albums, Eps, singles, and digital downloads. Synnika teaches literature at Chesapeake Bay Academy and composition and public speaking at Norfolk State University. Find some of his works at iamguerrilla.com/officialsynnika

Muayad Muhsin was born April 19, 1964 in Babylon, Iraq. He recalls becoming fascinated by color and line and beginning to draw at the age of 4. As a child, Muayad saw the road and spaces between home and school as a heaven for studying objects, birds, cats, his family’s old couch, the school yard, and the dumpster place. Frequently advised by others who did not understand the arts, Muhsin was told to forget about drawing because it was no good and wouldn’t earn money. Instead he was admonished to look for something else which might be used to fill the stomach. He holds a Master of Painting from the University of Baghdad. Before 2003
David Rovics is a songwriter, musician, blogger, and podcaster based in Portland, Oregon. Since the 1990s, David has been touring throughout North America, Europe, and occasionally elsewhere, playing on stages large and small, at protests and festivals as well as in squatted social centers and folk clubs. He has recorded dozens of albums and had millions of his songs viewed, streamed, and downloaded. He hosts two regular podcasts — Song for Today and This Week with David Rovics — and writes regularly for Dissident Voice, Counterpunch, and Fifth Estate.

https://www.davidrovics.com
https://www.youtube.com/drovics
https://davidrovics.bandcamp.com
https://soundcloud.com/davidrovics

Nichole Spain is a Philadelphia-based actor, comedian, teacher, and personality. She was raised in foster care and group homes. Nichole currently is working on self-improvement and creativity.

tinyurl.com/NicholeSpainComedianActress

Lisa Ann Wright is a singer-songwriter and actor born and raised in the Finger Lakes region of New York, currently residing in Virginia. She is one-half of the Snarky Sisterz, which hosts a weekly songwriters’ online showcase. Lisa thinks art and nature must be revered, preserved, and nurtured.

lisawrightsongs.com
tinyurl.com/YouTubeSnarky
is a network of ecosocialists who believe capitalism is incompatible with prospects for a decent life for future generations on planet Earth. Most of us are based in North America, but our perspective is internationalist and anti-imperialist.

The imperative of building an ecosocialist movement is more now urgent than ever, with the existential threats we face at this perilous time. We’d love to have you join our unfunded, grassroots, idealistic, pragmatic, activist, thoughtful numbers who don’t agree on everything, but we do indeed agree on these Points of Unity, among them these:

• We are for building a multi-racial, multi-ethnic left united against the ecological destruction spawned by capitalism. Movements for sustainability and against ecological degradation must be led, to the fullest extent possible, by those who are most directly affected.
• We recognize that the exploitation and destruction of the planet is intricately linked to the exploitation and oppression of human beings. We oppose all forms of oppression including racism, sexism, xenophobia, homophobia and transphobia.
• We are for workers’ power and sustainability, for a society that is free, just, and equitable, that fosters human creativity and productivity while healing the rifts generated by capitalism.

Please visit our [website](#) to browse through the vast library of news, analysis, videos, and other materials housed there. They’ll give you a more thorough picture of the many intersectional topics that we think and activate about.

Then read all our Points of Unity, and if you agree with them, please consider joining us.

Click [here](#) and let us know if you’d like to write for our media or otherwise get involved with System Change Not Climate Change, for a just, equitable, livable future.