

Pacifica Broadcaster Sonali Kolhatkar Joins KPFA Morning Drive Time Line-Up

KPFA is delighted to announce that award-winning Pacifica programmer Sonali Kolhatkar is bringing her hour-long program Uprising Radio to KPFA's morning line up at 8 a.m. For the past two years, Sonali has served as a co-host of KPFA's 7 a.m. drive-time program Up Front, with Brian Edwards-Tiekert. At the same time, she has produced Uprising Radio on our sister station KPFK in Los Angeles. KPFA is excited to now be able to offer our Northern and Central California audience a simulcast of her program on KPFK.

Sonali welcomed the move to KPFA, saying, "I'm thrilled that Uprising is expanding to KPFA and will strive to live up to the high standards that Pacifica listeners expect from their beloved station!"

The interim general manager of KPFA and KPFK, Richard Pirodsky said, "This week's broadcast of Uprising Radio on KPFA and KPFK during our spring on-air fund drive has produced spectacular results. We're pleased to bring Sonali's smart, progressive program to KPFA's airwaves – and to know that listeners will respond during our fund drive".

Uprising's move to KPFA comes as Sonali has just completed a successful crowd funding campaign to expand the reach of her program to Free Speech TV. Starting in July, her program will be carried on nationwide television, in a project endorsed by Amy Goodman of Democracy Now, as well as writers and activists including Chris Hedges, Robert McChesney, Arun Gupta, Antonia Juhasz, Erin Aubrey Kaplan, Blase Bonpane, Roberto Lovato, David Barsamian, Thom Hartmann, Mimi Kennedy, and Craig Aaron.

Sonali has broadcast Uprising Radio on KPFK since 2003. The Los Angeles Press Club nominated her three years in a row for Best Radio Anchor. Sonali has won numerous awards from community organizations such as the South Asian Network, the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, and the Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance. She is also a weekly columnist for Truthdig.com and the co-Director of the Afghan Women's Mission, a US-based non-profit that works in solidarity with Afghan women activists. In 2006, after a visit to Afghanistan, she wrote the book *Bleeding Afghanistan: Washington, Warlords, and the Propaganda of Silence* (Seven Stories Press, 2006) with James Ingalls.

Sonali has appeared as a guest expert on numerous media outlets including MSNBC, CNN, Al Jazeera, and Democracy Now. Her recent Tedx Talk was entitled "My Journey From Astrophysicist to Radio Journalist: Or How I Found Meaning In My Life." She has a Masters Degree in Astronomy, and lives in Southern California with her husband and two sons.

Uprising Radio is also produced by Bipasha Shom. She was recently nominated for an LA Press Club Award for her piece on the California Prisoners' Hunger Strike.

The broadcast of Uprising Radio on KPFA is but the latest collaboration between the Pacifica "Left Coast" stations KPFA-Berkeley and KPFK-Los Angeles. The popular Letters and Politics produced at KPFA by Mitch Jeserich airs on KPFK and the News Departments at KPFA, KPFK and KFCF Fresno collaborate to produce the Pacifica Evening News.

KPFA's morning line up will now start with Democracy Now at 6 a.m., followed by Up Front with Brian Edwards-Tiekert at 7 a.m., Sonali Kolhatkar's Uprising Radio at 8 a.m., Democracy Now at 9 a.m. and Mitch Jeserich with Letters and Politics at 10 a.m.