Davis Media Access

News Nov. 2009

Amy Goodman Benefit for KDRT, KDVS



Amy Goodman will appear in Davis on Friday, Nov. 20 as part of a nationwide tour to promote her new book, "Breaking the Sound Barrier." The event takes place at 8 p.m. in PLACE and is a benefit for KDRT-LP 95.7 FM and KDVS 90.3 FM, both of which carry Goodman's "Democracy Now!"

Goodman is an award-winning investigative journalist, columnist for King Features Syndicate, author, and the host/executive

producer of "Democracy Now!" airing on nearly 800 stations worldwide. She is the first journalist to receive the Right Livelihood Award, widely known as the "Alternative Nobel Prize" for "developing an innovative model of truly independent grassroots political journalism." With her brother, iournalist David Goodman, she is the co-author of three New York Times bestsellers: Standing Up to the Madness, Static, and The Exception to the Rulers.

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Notes from the Executive Director

It's probably no surprise that the past eight years in Washington, D.C weren't among the most favorable to local media. With the change of administration in January, and in particular the new faces and policy directives at the Federal Communications Commission, it's as if someone pulled the public policy stopper and everything's happening at once.

On Oct. 8, 2009, Congresswoman

Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) introduced the Community Access Preservation (CAP) Act, or HB 3745, to address the challenges faced by public, education, and government (PEG) TV channels and community access television stations across the country. Our representative, Congressman Mike Thompson, D-CA has signed on to this legislation as a co-sponsor and we are heartened by his staunch support for community media.

Nationwide, many community access television stations have been forced to shut down or severely limit operations as a result of a combination of state law changes and FCC decisions, which cable television operators are claiming permit them to eliminate funding and important in-kind support they have traditionally provided to local community access television channels.

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20/20 Campaign Success!

DMA has wrapped up the 20/20 Campaign, which celebrated 20 years of community media in Davis. DMA's partnerships with the City and school district provide the base for many of our operations and staffing, but we raise funds dircetly to support a wide variety of services, inlcuing KDRT-LP 95.7 FM, youth media projects, ongoing technical assistance for volunteers, local election coverage, Open Media Sessions and more.

We set a goal of reaching \$20k in donations and ended up reaching \$22,400. A complete list of supporters is available at http://davismedia.org.

We thank everyone for their generous and enthusiastic support for DMA's mission and services. DMA

will launch its next fund raising campaign soon and we look forward to working with our community to 'Keep the Story Unfolding."



For more information, please email autumn@davismedia.org.

Notes, continued...

In addition, several video providers have begun to carry PEG channels differently than commercial channels, broadcasting them in reduced resolution and in a way that makes it impossible for subscribers to select or record them like other channels.

The Alliance for Community Media (ACM) is coordinating a nationwide grassroots campaign working for passage of the CAP Act. DMA is a longtime member of the ACM and an active participant in this campaign.

On Oct. 15, 2009, the House Energy and Commerce Committee passed the Local Community Radio Act. By repealing restrictions that drastically limit channels available to Low-Power FM radio stations (such as KDRT), the Act would allow hundreds of community groups nationwide to access the public airwaves. It's a bill that's been moving through Congress for the better part of nine years, but now this bipartisan legislation is on the fast track to becoming law.

And finally, Congress and the FCC are also tackling Net Neutrality—the concept that the Internet must remain free from blocking, censorship and discrimination. I recommend this link from Free Press for an excellent primer on the subject: http://www.freepress.net/policy/internet/net_neutrality

More information on all of this is available at http://davismedia.org.
--Autumn Labbe-Renault

For Your Calendar



General Orientation

Tues., Nov. 24, 7 p.m.

DMA Board Meeting, Nov. 5, 2009, 6 p.m. @DMA

Open Media Sessions, Tuesdays, 7 p.m. davismedia.org for info.

We're going paperless

Like many other non-profits, DMA is trying to use our limited resources wisely. Some of our supporters are easier to reach electronically than others, and we've continued to do paper mailings for some. This, however, will be the last paper version of this newsletter.

We will email an update to our supporters each time a new newsletter is ready. To opt out, please email karen@davismedia.org. Otherwise, we'll do our best to keep you e-briefed on DMA's offerings!

Amy Goodman, continued

"Breaking the Sound Barrier" is a collection of essays and articles profiling voices typically excluded from main-stream media. From community organizers in New Orleans, to the courageous American soldiers who've said "No" to Washington's wars, to the victims of torture and police violence, we are given the extraordinary opportunity to hear ordinary people standing up and speaking out.

The event will also feature Denis Moynihan, CEO of Free Speech Television, who serves as editor for Goodman's syndicated columns and for her latest book. Tickets are \$15 general/\$5 students and are available at Freeborn Hall. We thank Amy & Co. for their support of grassroots media nationwide and look forward to bringing her to Davis.

CONTACT US

Davis Media Access 1623 Fifth Street Davis, CA 95616 (530) 757-2419 (530) 792-1648 KDRT Studio http://davismedia.org Facebook: Davis Media Access Twitter: @davismediaccess

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