

PEOPLES' VOICE



www.peoplesvoicecafe.org

Judson Memorial Church Assembly Hall
Entrance at 239 Thompson Street,
between West 3rd and West 4th Streets
New York, NY 10012
Fully Wheelchair Accessible

The Peoples' Voice Cafe is an alternative coffeehouse offering quality entertainment. We provide a space for the artistic expression of a wide variety of humanitarian issues and concerns.

The cafe is run as a not-for-profit collective, and is not affiliated with any political organization. New participating members are always welcome. The Peoples' Voice Cafe's 2025–2026 season is supported in part by the generosity of the Folk Music Society of New York and Judson Memorial Church. The Peoples' Voice Cafe is alcohol free.

SATURDAYS at 8 pm sharp

Doors open at 7:15

Suggested Contribution **\$20**

\$12—Friends of Peoples' Voice Cafe
 \$12—Judson Memorial Church Members
 \$12—Folk Music Society of NY Members
 \$12—Students and Youth

More if you choose, less if you can't
 (Nobody turned away for lack of money.)

1/3

Lucas Maehara Rotman
In-Person Only

Brooklyn based singer-songwriter Lucas Maehara Rotman is a storyteller of the human experience. His lyric-driven Mosaic Americana blends the whimsical and the profound, creating a sound as diverse as the influences that have shaped his journey. Word craft and poetic imagery run through Lucas' lyrical universe, with an arc that bends towards social justice, lending weight and depth to his storytelling. Lucas' music connects hearts and souls through the expressive artistry of his poetic imagination, storytelling prowess, and the intensity and playfulness of his live performances. Award winning songwriter, Lucas Maehara Rotman is excited to introduce new music from his upcoming album "Lost and Found." lucasmaehararotman.com

1/10

The Ranzo Boys (In-Person Only)
Supported by Folk Music Society of NY

The Ranzo Boys - **Lafayette Matthews** (he/him), **Jules Peiperl** (they/them), and **Lindsey Smith** (they/she) - are traditional folk singers putting the queerness back into maritime and folk music. Formed in NYC in 2020, they have performed at the Connecticut Sea Music Festival, the Portsmouth Maritime Folk Festival, NEFFA, and the South Street Seaport Museum, and recorded eight songs for public radio later broadcast as a national NPR special. Listen for buzzy English harmonies, Appalachian ballads, sea chanteys, drone instrumental backing, and any song that can be remotely construed as queer. theranzoboy.com/

1/17

Martin Luther King Celebration! In-Person and Livestream

Featuring Atiba Kwabena Wilson with Kiyoko Yamaoka-Layne, Thelma Thomas, and
Guests: Elijah Dixon Owens, Bracha Lieberman, Judy Gorman, Gary Allard and Lindsey Wilson

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR FULL PROGRAM!

1/24

People's Music Network
2026 Hybrid Winter Convergence

Peoples' Voice Cafe will be closed Saturday, Jan. 24, but we urge you to attend the 2026 Winter Convergence of our sister organization, the Peoples' Music Network, Jan. 23-25.

The live gathering will be in New York City at the Central Park East II School. (The main entrance is located at the intersection of First Avenue & E. 101st Street in Manhattan.)

To register: peoplesmusic.org/event-6424814

Facebook Page: facebook.com/events/707586728738342

Coming in February:

Feb 7: **Lindsey Wilson; Jendog Lonewolf**

Feb 14: **Vincent Cross; Mike Lee**

Feb 21: **Rod MacDonald with Mark Dann**
Special Guest Lisa Klotz

peoplesvoicecafe.org

1/31

lisa roma & friends
In-Person and Livestream

lisa roma, aka ElektrikGoddess, is a singer-songwriter of jazz-infused folk and pop songs that embody the human experience, love, our etheric connection to Nature, and the search for peace. Inspired since childhood, influenced by Rodgers & Hammerstein, Debussy, Jobim, The Beatles, The Everly Brothers, Buddy Holly, The Beatles, Young, Billie Holiday, Carole King, Laura Nyro, Joni Mitchell, Coltrane, Armstrong and others, lisa began composing and writing original songs and poetry, recording since the early 1970s, and writing prose and performing since the early 1980s, and over the years at local venues around NYC. She has performed with Poetic Notion, and her own ElektrikGoddess, along with Barry Kornhauser, and her own ter Pasco, the late Bob Lepre, Paul Decoster, and others. soundcloud.com/electrikgoddess

COVID-19 Policy: Masks
available but not required.

If you would like to make a donation to the Peoples' Voice Cafe, you may do so through our website, or send it to: Peoples' Voice Cafe, c/o Campbell, 252 W. 91st St. #64, New York NY 10024. For more information or if you'd like to volunteer, call 212/787-3903.



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**January
2026
(continued)**

1/17

Martin Luther King Celebration!

(In-Person and Livestream)

ATIBA KWABENA WILSON & KIYOKO YAMAOKA-LAYNE

Atiba Kwabena Wilson is a musician, published poet, storyteller, and the founder/artistic director of both the Songhai Djeli Folkloric Ensemble and the Befo' Quotet Rhythm 'n' Dues Band. He has been a featured artist for several National Association of Black Storytellers festivals, the International African Arts Festival and at FESTAM International Music Festival, Inc. in Dakar, Senegal. Atiba also served as the artistic director of the Music Meets Poetry series at Bedford-Stuyvesant Restoration Plaza from 1999 to 2009, and wrote a poetic narrative for, and performed in, Harlem School of the Arts' presentation of the Kwanzaa Nutcracker from 1996 to 2002. He has also recorded with Burnt Sugar The Arkestra Chamber. Atiba can be contacted at befoquotet@hotmail.com

Kiyoko Yamaoka-Layne is a classically trained pianist from Kyoto, Japan. She was a member of the well-known Japanese Gospel Choir the Naniwa Black Peppers and later moved to the US to study Jazz and Gospel at the Berklee College of Music, where she earned a degree in Jazz Composition. Since moving to Harlem in 2008, Kiyoko has performed in numerous jazz clubs, in the house band at the Jazz Foundation of America's Monday Night Jam, and at United Nations Plaza, while also working as music librarian for the Duke Ellington Orchestra and teaching. Her first CD, "Kiyoko in Harlem," came out in 2009. facebook.com/kiyoko.yamaoka.

THELMA RUFFIN THOMAS

Thelma Ruffin Thomas is the artistic director of Pearls of Wisdom, a touring ensemble of elder storytellers. She has brought her lively, spirited, authentic presentations to Tanzania, Brazil, Ghana, Costa Rica, The Gambia, South Africa, Russia, Australia, Kenya, and Cameroon, continuing the tradition of elder folk art stories. facebook.com/profile.php?id=100004383556400

FREEDOM IS A CONSTANT STRUGGLE, featuring:

Spoken word: Elijah Dixon Owens is a 2019 graduate of Earlham College. He spent three years teaching various grades in Japan and then taught history and English Language Arts to 5th-grade students at a Bronx middle school. Elijah loves music and was a member and leader of an a cappella group in college, amongst other activities. He also loves debate, politics, and public speaking. For several years, Elijah served as a volunteer for the Central Brooklyn Martin Luther King Commission -- a non-profit organization founded by his grandfather, the late Congressman Major R. Owens (D-NY). Elijah is interested in urban planning and public transportation.

Reading: Bracha Lieberman, a social worker and career counselor, is President of the Peoples' Voice Cafe Board of Directors and has also served on the Steering Committee of the People's Music Network. She sings with the Walkabout Clearwater Chorus, does some songwriting, studied acting at Circle in the Square and HB Studios, played a variety of roles in community theater productions. She believes that community counts. She is dedicated to taking action to make the world a better place. Her personal motto is "Start your day off with an act of kindness!" facebook.com/bracha.lieberman.1

Song: Judy Gorman's singing and guitar work are infused with blues, folk, and jazz. She has performed for the UN, festivals, universities, clubs, and concert halls, and at peace, environmental and human rights events around the world. Judy has shared stages with Pete Seeger, Odetta, Harry Belafonte, Whoopi Goldberg, Sweet Honey in The Rock, Suzanne Vega, and Richie Havens. judygormanmusic.com/

Freedom Song Sing-along, led by:

Gary David Allard is a soulful contemporary singer-songwriter. He continues to build his unique sound by extracting inspiration from a plethora of genres including pop, folk, gospel, R&B, and Caribbean music. He composes his lyrics from his own personal and social experiences, striving to connect with his audience through tender yet powerful emotional singing. facebook.com/gary.allard.92

Lindsey Wilson is an NYC singer-songwriter with a flair for nostalgia with her memorable mix of 70's style urban folk rock and conscious lyrics. Her repertoire includes love songs, protest tunes and lyrics of empowerment. Her songs "Stand for the People" and "The People Shall Rise" have caught the attention of culturally diverse audiences throughout the country. Lindsey's influences stem from a myriad of musically conscious voices such as Odetta, Richie Havens, Joni Mitchell, and Joan Armatrading. lindseywilsonmusicnow.com/

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