

VOA Music Programs

Throughout its history the Voice of America has presented numerous music programs in English and in a number of its broadcast languages. From Willis Conover's Jazz Hour to Music time in Africa hosted by Leo Sarkisian, music programming has always been part of VOA's history. Currently it serves as a way to tell America's story and engage with new audiences.

Current Programs and Features

AFRICA DIVISION

- **Music Time in Africa** – features fresh and exclusive music, original music videos and news about pan-African music. Hosted by ethnomusicologist and African music specialist Heather Maxwell.
- **Farafina Foli Waati** (Music Time in Bambara) -- a one-hour weekly interactive cultural radio live talk show hosted by Modibo Dembele, airing every Wednesday from 0800 to 0900 AM EST and repeated on Saturday, Sunday and Monday at the same time. The host interviews artists on topics related to culture and listeners get a chance to interact with the invited stars or cultural experts through Facebook and other social media platforms.
- **ABYH** -- a 22-minute radio music show airing on Saturdays, covering a mixture of African and western music enhanced with artists' interviews. Hosted by Grace Alheri Abdu, it is a light-hearted entertainment show with music, funny story telling and a listeners' forum. (Hausa)
- **RM Show** -- a fun, lively interactive issues and entertainment show with host Roger Muntu, heard every Monday through Friday from 2000 UTC in French and on Wednesdays it also airs in English. Muntu uses music and chat to entertain and discuss serious social issues with mostly young listeners from across the continent.
- **African Beat** -- showcases the latest and greatest of contemporary African music. From Benga to Juju, Hip Life to Bongo Flava, Bubu to Soukous and more, host David Vandy has his finger on the pulse of the hottest African music and related issues today. (English)
- **Dususuruke** -- a 30-minute music by request show airing every Friday night in Burundi and Rwanda. The audience calls or emails with song and dedication requests. (Kirundi/Kinyarwanda)

EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC DIVISION

- **Music from Overseas** -- a weekly program showcasing popular American music and, occasionally, music from the Lao diaspora in the U.S. It is hosted by Vannasone Keodara. (Lao)
- **Music of the Times** -- a 15-minute weekly program airing every Saturday and Sunday. Hosted by Hyun Jee Shim, the show describes how American popular music has changed over time. (Korean)
- **Movie Town** -- a 32-minute weekly program airing on Sundays. Hosted by Woonyoung Lee, the show presents American society and culture through American movies and their soundtracks. (Korean)

- **Music Showcase** -- a 33-minute weekly program airing on Saturdays. Hosted by Won Woo Cho the show introduces different genres of western pop music. (Korean)
- **VOA Top 10 Country Countdown** -- a weekly countdown of the top ten country music hits in the U.S. based on Billboard charts. It is hosted by Leonard Triyono. (Indonesian)
- **VOA Hits of the World** -- a weekly half-hour music show based on hit makers/chart-toppers or important events (awards, collaboration, hall of fame induction, deaths, new releases/albums etc.) from the music industry. It is hosted by Metrini Geopani Weaver. (Indonesian)
- **VOA Jazz Corner** -- a weekly jazz music themed show highlighting jazz-related moments in time (new artists, important events and musician profiles) while showcasing some of jazz music's most notable hits of the past and today. It is hosted by Lea Johannes. (Indonesian)
- **VOA Direct Connection** -- a one-hour variety show airing three times a week (Thursday thru Saturday) filled with music hits of today, chart toppers and flashbacks based on a variety of music charts infused with informational segments on pop culture, technology, science, health and American stories. It is based on VOA's Border Crossing hosted by Larry London, and is hosted by Gandira Pratama & Oliver Prasetyo. (Indonesian)

SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA DIVISION

- **Chartbusters** -- a listener's choice music show with live calls and messages. Host Faiza Bukhari conducts interviews with artists and invites her audience to call in and ask questions. (Urdu)
- **Da Neemo Shpo Sandaray (Midnight music)** -- a weekly one-hour show that airs on Mondays at 1800 UTC. It is hosted by Sardar Ali who is a musician himself. The program showcases old folk music, as well as Pashto songs that are popular in the region, engaging the audience with a variety of tunes, ranging from older to newer music. (Deewa)

VOA ENGLISH

VOA1 is a 24/7 English music channel featuring:

- **Border Crossings** -- Since 1996 the program has been reaching millions around the world featuring requests and dedications, interviews with today's biggest stars, and prize giveaways. Join host Larry London at 1500UTC all week for VOAs only all request hour, Border Crossings.
- **Today's Hit Countdown** -- a weekly show counting down the top 20 pop songs in the U.S.
- **Country Hits VOA** -- a place to hear chart-topping country hits, entertainment news, artist interviews and more.
- **Jazz America** -- a weekly show that offers the best in jazz, present and past. The program, hosted by Russ Davis, includes interviews with prominent jazz musicians and features music from their latest recordings.
- **Soul Lounge** -- hosted by The Lady DJ, Shawna Renee, the program includes music, interviews and performances from some of the best Neo-Soul and conscious Hip-Hop artists in the world. It also includes Classic Soul from legendary musicians who have inspired the new generation of groundbreaking artists.