

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. (English)
- **Farafina Foli Waati** (Music Time in Bambara) -- A one-hour weekly interactive cultural radio live talkshow 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. (Bambara)
- **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 entertainmentshow 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. (English and French)
- **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

- **My Jukebox** -- A 55-minute weekly broadcast hosted by Sungmin Do. This program, which airs every Saturday, is dedicated to showcasing the beauty of classical music and providing updates on related news, spanning from Bach fugues to contemporary operas. (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 Yoni Puspadi. (Indonesian)

SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA DIVISION

- ***Song and Chat*** – The bi-weekly half hour TV music show provides a small window to Pashto music after Taliban's ban on music in Afghanistan. Pashto music and artists are living in a state of fear in Pakistan since Taliban's comeback in neighboring Afghanistan. The Taliban's ideology has far reaching consequences for Pashtun regions in Pakistan where the group's franchises have already disapproved music, calling it *HARAM* (forbidden) in Islam. The show features Pashtun artists, musicians and their best performances. (Pashto/Deewa)
- ***Deewa music jukebox*** – The daily four hour radio/audio Pashto songs, punctuated with evergreen packages and brand's promos, is available to listeners in the target region on radio. The music jukebox features VOA Deewa's original and copyrighted songs. The program showcases new and old songs in Pashto.

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 VOA's 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 from the Heart of America*** – A weekly show that offers the best in jazz, present and past. The program, hosted by Daniel Bindert of WDCB-FM in Chicago, Illinois, features music, news, and interviews with some of the world's most prominent jazz musicians.
- ***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.