

August 24, 2020

Open Letter to PRX Leadership from Members of the PRX Podcast Garage Community:

We stand in solidarity with Palace Shaw, the Black women who came before her, and employees who remain at PRX who are calling for change.

We are angry PRX has perpetuated systemic racism, especially because nurturing and amplifying diverse voices is central to PRX's mission. We are angry that your actions drove Palace, and Black women before her, out of the company.

Further, when Palace's letter became public, your public responses, and in particular the Moving Forward letter from Kerri Hoffman, did not address Palace's specific experiences and echoed so many other corporate-speak responses. We expected better.

We believe it's vital that your path forward heavily factors in feedback from your staff, including the document "In Response to Kerri Hoffman's Letter." by Eric Dhan and Se'era Spragley Ricks.

As members of the Garage community, we volunteer, attend events, lead workshops, and network at maker mingles. We also help promote the Garage to newcomers and offer support through event fees, workshop fees, and membership dues. We have loved and benefitted from the Podcast Garage, the work its staff has done, and its community. For many of us, the Garage has been our audio home and social clubhouse.

Because the Podcast Garage means so much to us, we're watching how you move forward, and we expect change that directly and quickly addresses systemic racism within the organization. Without noticeable change and rebuilt trust, we simply won't be able to support the Garage, PRX, or its affiliates as we have in the past.

Respectfully,

Lori Mortimer, Paul Kondo, Galen Beebe, Cherie Louise Turner

With added support from:

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Morgan Jaffe

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