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ALL FOR BETTER



Thank you to the DePaul Labor Education Center for everything you do for the women and men of the labor movement!



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Local Union No. 1

Donald Woods President Beth Zavala Secretary-Treasure



Rochelle Ross Recording Secretary

And the Executive Board

proudly supports the DePaul University Labor Education Center on their dedication to educate Students, Labor Leaders, and the Community

Congratulations SEIU Local 73 and AFSCME Council 31



From IAFF Local 2340







The roots of what is now the DePaul University Labor Education Center go back to 1948. Since that time, we have served as a resource for students, labor activists, academics and community leaders seeking a deeper understanding of labor issues and tools to gain economic justice for poor and working-class peoples. At our center, we challenge each other to consider #WhatElseMustBeDone to promote a transformational labor movement. Guided by this mission, we build the capacity of unions, worker centers, and community-based organizations through adult and youth labor education, trainings, public events, awareness building, consultations, resource sharing, and research.

Center Programs

Labor Education and Training

Building on students' existing knowledge and skills, our center provides classes and trainings led by highly trained instructors with real world labor and organizing experience. We strive to help labor movement activists, members, stewards, officers, and staff improve their skills and prepare them to take on new levels of leadership. Specifically, we offer weekly in person and online classes during the fall and winter which comprise our Labor Leadership Certificate Program. This program consists of six classes on topics including stewardship, labor law, union communications, labor history and economics, organizing, bargaining, and arbitration. We also provide tailored workshops and trainings for local unions, worker centers, and community-based organizations on these and many other topics, as requested. Such workshops can be held at our office, your office, or virtually.

Public Events and Awareness Building

Our center also conducts public in person and online programming to promote a broader understanding about the labor movement and issues affecting poor and working-class peoples. We offer regular educational events, workshops, and webinars for students, community members, and labor leaders throughout the year to facilitate learning, open discussions, and new initiatives.

Consultations, Resource Sharing, and Research

In addition, our center provides strategic consultations for those seeking support in organizing, capacity building, and other needs. We also strive to be a clearinghouse of information, contacts, and resources regarding labor issues. Finally, we conduct scholarly independent and collaborative research with unions, worker centers, and community-based organizations on labor market and movement trends, labor rights, campaign,policy, and member-focused projects.

Center Programs

Youth Programs

To foster a multi-generational labor movement, we provide multiple programs aimed at developing pipelines for youth involvement and leadership development.

Our **Regina V. Polk High School Programs** includes the *Collective Bargaining Role Plays* and *Union Summer School*. The *Collective Bargaining Role Plays* are conducted in local high schools where students are partnered with volunteer coaches and our staff to simulate contract negotiations. Our *Union Summer School* introduces youth to the labor movement, history, and their rights as they enter the workforce.



Center Programs

These programs are run in celebration of the legacy of Regina V. Polk and thanks to the generous support of the Regina V. Polk Scholarship Fund for Labor Leadership. Regina's life was sadly cut short in 1983 when she was killed in a plane crash at the age of 33. The Center pays tribute to Regina's trailblazing work – from organizing and supporting displaced workers, to efforts to expand opportunities for women in the labor movement – by educating and seeking to inspire a new generation of labor leaders.

Youth that have actively participated in our *Union Summer School* are invited to apply the following summer for our **Breving-Rosenberg High School Summer Internship Program**. Our internship trains participants on social justice and labor issues, and places them with local unions, worker centers, and community-based organizations in the Chicagoland area to get hands on organizing experience.

In addition, we provide ongoing programming for DePaul University and other local college students to learn about and get involved in the local labor movement. This includes guest speakers and panel discussions in collaboration with other DePaul departments and local Universities, workshops, and facilitating connections with local organizations for internship and volunteering opportunities.

Visit our website go.depaul.edu/LEC or email us at LEC@depaul.edu for more information on our programs and how to get involved!

Staff

Staff

Dr. Jessica Cook-Qurayshi, Director

Jessica's work with the Center began when she became the Lead Instructor in January 2016. She then became the Director of the Center in August 2016. Jessica joined the labor movement as a staff organizer and staff union steward at the UNITE HERE international from 2006-2009. She then spent 7 years as a leader and steward with the Graduate Employees Organization (IFT-AFT Local 6297) while working as an instructor in Sociology at UIC, where she earned her PhD. She has also worked closely as a volunteer and researcher with multiple Chicago based worker centers since 2010. Jessica has a PhD in Sociology from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her doctoral research focused on the labor movement, worker centers, mass incarceration and criminalization, immigration, citizenship, race and ethnicity, civil society, precarious work, and labor market restructuring.

Jessica Espinoza, Associate Director

Jessica joined the Center in the fall of 2019 as the new Associate Director. Her journey in labor started off as a union state employee while earning her Bachelor of Arts in International Studies and Political Science from Portland State University. Upon completion of her undergraduate degree, she spent the next decade working for various unions organizing workers across a variety of industries including state sector, healthcare, janitorial, as well as communications. Supplementing her union staff experience, Jessica has volunteered over the years with various labor education organizations focused on building & developing leadership among rank and file community and labor organizations. She is also currently pursuing her Masters of Science in Labor Studies at UMass Amherst.

Steve Grossman, retired Associate Director

Steve joined the Center in August of 2017 as the Associate Director, bringing more than 20 years of experience as both an educator and union leader. In addition to teaching high school students for 27 years, Steve began working in union leadership in 1997 and has served as the President of the North Suburban Teachers Union, IFT-AFT Local 1274, since 2010. He is also one of 40 elected Vice Presidents of the IFT and serves on its Executive Committee. He retired in December 2019 but has stayed involved by joining the Center's Advisory Committee.

Steve - Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication these past few years - first as staff, and now as an Advisory Committee member! We appreciate all you do for the Center and Labor Education!

2019-2020 Advisory Committee Members

Guest Instructors

Jaquie Algee, SEIU HCII Tim Bell, Chicago Workers' Collaborative Juan Campos, Teamsters Local 705 Jack Canniff, Iron Workers Local 63 Steve Grossman, IFT Local 1274 Ana Guajardo Carrillo, Centro de Trabajadores Unidos Mea Lewis. AFSCME Council 31 John Lodewyck, Elk Grove Village Professional Firefighters Association Local 2340 Bob Przybylinski, IBEW Local 21 Frank Rodriguez, IBEW 134 member Paul Thompson, Iron Workers Local 63 Eddie Vallejo, Teamsters Local 705 Jannelle White, Chicago Workers' Collaborative Delores Withers, IFT Local 1708 Paul Wright, IBEW Local 21 Beth Zavala, BCTGM Local 1

Susan Schultz, Librarian DePaul University Libraries

Meg Lewis, Advisory Committee Member AFSCME Council 31

John Lodewyck, Advisory Committee Member Elk Grove Village Professional Firefighters Association Local 2340

Jannelle White, Advisory Committee Member Chicago Workers' Collaborative

The Center thanks it's 2019-2020 Guest Instructors and Advisory Committee members for all they do for the Center and Labor Education!

HS Volunteer Coaches

Thank you to all the coaches involved in this year's Regina V. Polk High School Program Collective Bargaining Role Play!

Volunteer Coaches

Horacio Arce, IBT 705 Al Barraza, Painters DC 14 Dave Bernt, IBT 705 Pat Chrisp, IBT 705 Ben Cline, IBT 705 Anthony Doughty, IBT 705 Rosa Delgado, IFT Local 1708 Shawntee Ellis, IBT 705 Karen Englehart, Allison, Slutsky, and Kennedy Sean Fulkerson, UE Daniel Ginsberg, IBT 705 Tonia Havard-Dew. IFT David Hogdahl, IBT 705 Kristen Jefferson, IBT 705 Nekshia Jordan, IBT 705 Zach Koutsky, UFCW Local 881 Meg Lewis, AFSCME Council 31 John Lodewyck, Elk Grove Village Firefighters Union Local 2340 Brett Lyons, IBEW Local 1220 Sammy Marinez, IBT 705 Carol Martin, IBT 705 Jack Metzgar, retired Director of the Labor Education Center Dave Murray, Iron Workers Local 63 Jon Nadler, IFT Liesl Orenic, Dominican University

Khris Parker, IBT 705 Mike Prete. IBT 705 Jerry Rankins, IBEW Local 21 Cinthya Rodriguez, Centro de Trabajadores Unidos Jane Russell, West Suburban Teachers Union. IFT Local 571 Stacey Seals, IBT 705 David Sehring, IBT 705 Patrick Sharpe, Sprinkler Fitters Local 281 Kathy Shaevel, IFT Adam Shils. retired IEA Doug Simpson, Elk Grove Village Firefighters Union Local 2340 **Cameron Sweeney, IFT Deb Takehara**, *IFT* Pat Thomas, IBT 705 Alex Tillet-Saks, IBT 705 Steve Unterfranz, IBEW Local 1220 Eddie Vallejo, IBT 705 Al Wimunc, IBT 705 Sara Zaleta, Centro de Trabajadores Unidos Beth Zavala, BCTGM Local 1

HS Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone that donated to this year's High School Program Fundraiser!

Contributors

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Of course, we could not do this work without the generous financial contributions and volunteer time of so many of you!

Bob Casto, Business Representative *IBEW Local* 134

"The DePaul Labor Education Classes helped me to understand the struggles and victories labor has endured in the past, and provided me with valuable knowledge to be a better leader in the future."



2020 Labor Leadership Graduates



Kristen T Jefferson, UPS- Package Handler Teamsters Local 705

"As a rank and file union member I know the importance of being part of an organized group and just how many people are soldiers of a much larger movement. I could not be more proud to belong to such a committed cause. I never expected to be thought of as a "leader" in the labor movement. The DePaul Labor Leadership program has strengthened my belief in myself that I can lead others to fight for what we deserve, for what others have fought for and continue to fight for the working class."



2020 Labor Leadership Graduates

Marc Greenwood, Former public sector steward

"I encourage people to join this program and finish it out because you learn everything from public speaking, to arbitration and writing grievances, to different laws. There's definitely a lot of history behind how far we've come with the labor movement. That's definitely important and I think that's something everyone should know. Also we taught high schoolers and that was an exciting program. So I just want to say thank you. I'm very proud of myself and the other graduates who have done it. Thank you and in solidarity."





Ryan Madiar, Business Representative

IBEW Local 134 Manufacturing and Miscellaneous Agreements "I became a Union Representative in 2017. While I had some general background in the laws and regulations that affect us as working people, it was clear to me that I needed more knowledge so I could provide the best possible representation. The DePaul Labor Education Program exceeded my expectations. The education and training I received have been immensely helpful. The Program has also opened the door to networking with others in Labor. The Labor Education provided at DePaul should be used as a model by Labor Unions for Member Education."



Michael R. Prete, UPS Feeder Driver, Union Steward *Teamsters Local 705*

"The DePaul Labor program has been instrumental in helping me advance my skills and knowledge as a union steward. I've met many great people and learned a great deal about labor law and organizing. I'm looking forward to advancing within my union, to further serve the membership and put this education to good use. I'd like to thank Teamsters Local 705 and the Leadership for giving me the opportunity to grow as a Union Steward through this program. I'd also like to thank my teachers, Steve Grossman and Jessica Cook-Qurayshi, for the outstanding job they did. We were not just lectured to. There were some great discussions where we could share our experiences and learn from each other. If anyone is given this opportunity, I highly recommend it, as the lessons learned and the knowledge gained, is invaluable."



2020 Labor Leadership Graduates



Elbert Walters III, Business Representative International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local no. 134 Director of Powering Chicago

"Students of DePaul University's Labor Leadership course are afforded an intimate opportunity to gain insight into the structure, history and impact of organized labor in our society. As a student, taking part in this program provided details and strategies that can be implemented throughout all aspects of my career; from organizational skills to arbitration and so much more. The knowledge gained from the instructors and class material had an immediate impact with those I represented as a Business Representative. As a Union member, participating in the curriculum instilled a sense of pride. Learning of the resolve exemplified by those leaders past and present to represent the working class and offer a sense of dignity is outright inspiring. I urge anyone who dares enter the working arena to take this course."

2020 Labor Leadership Graduates



Jake Scaramuzzi, DHL Global Forwarding Driver/Dockman Assistant Business Agent *Teamsters Local 705* "This program has taught me essential skills to be a more knowledgable Union activist."



2020 Honorees

2020 Honorees

"Solidarity Award" to the SEIU Local 73 CPS strikers who successfully struck, made important contract gains, and stood by their CTU sisters and brothers in solidarity on the picket line until they won too. **"Friends of the Center Award"** to AFSCME Council 31, who has shown incredible support and commitment to our Center throughout the years.





"SEIU Local 73 represents more than 29,000 workers, primarily in public service and publicly funded positions in school districts, municipalities, social service agencies, and many other job classifications in Illinois and Indiana. Our members keep our buildings and communities safe and clean and our families healthy, they care for our children and our elderly, and keep our cities and states running." "Over the last 15 years Council 31 has grown to 75,000 members and expanded its presence in the political and legislative arena. AFSCME is now a leading voice for working families in the state of Illinois. Today the union is organizing public service workers and winning new benefits for the employees it already represents"

Thank You!

Thank you so to everyone who made a financial contribution this year. Your support is critical and extremely appreciated!

ADC 1 of Illinois, Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Adam Shils AFGF **AFSCME** Council 31 AFT Local 604 Al Wimunc Associated Steel Erectors BCTGM Local 1 Benefits Management Group, Inc. Beth Zavala Bob Brevina Chicago Building Trades Council Chicago Federation of Labor (CFL) Dawn and John Lodewyck Debra Takehara DePaul University SCPS Ed Dziedzic Eddie Vallejo Elbert Walters III Elk Grove Village Professional Firefighter's Union Local 2340 Emilv Rosenberg FCCTP IFT Local 1708 **IBEW** Local 9 **IBEW Local 134** Illinois Federation of Teachers (IFT) IFT Local 504 IFT Local 571 Iron Workers Local 1 Ironworkers Local 63

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Thank You!

Thank you so much to our Advisory Committee members, Don Villar and the CFL, DePaul University SCPS Dean Don Opitz, & Ryan Madiar for helping put on this year's event.

In recognition of organizations that go above and beyond in providing financial support to the Center, we are pleased to announce and thank this year's sponsors:

Bronze Level \$2500 Teamsters Local 705 Bronze Level \$2500 SEIU Local 73





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Labor Education Center

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TEAMSTERS FIGHTING FOR THE FUTURE Congratulations to our 2020 De Paul Labor Education Graduates





CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

FROM THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF SEIU LOCAL 73:

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Labor Education Center Promoting a Transformational Labor Movement

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL UNION 21 Proudly Supports The DePaul Labor Education Center

We Congratulate the 2020 Graduates and Honorees SEIU Local 73 CPS Strikers – Solidarity Award AFSCME Council 31 – Friends of the Center Award "The history of the labor movements needs to be taught in every school in this land. America is a living what free men and wo men organized in free democratic trade unions can do to make a better life.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DEPAUL UNIVERSITY LABOR EDUCATION CENTER ON ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR!



2020 Honorees

Solidarity Award

Friends of the Center Award **AFSCME COUNCIL 31**

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Congratulations Solidarity Award winner, SEIU Local 73 CPS Strikers

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Labor Education Center Promoting a Transformational Labor Movement





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We at Local 1708 would like to express our profound gratitude, for another year of continued support, sharing of knowledge, and providing training, for all of our members that have attended the DePaul Labor Education Center.

A Union of Professionals

We also would like to congratulate all the 2020 graduates from DePaul Labor Center, for three years of dedication and hard work. You are our future Labor Leaders. Local 1708 salute your accomplishments. We also offer our continued support to Rosa Delgado, as she progresses in her training in leadership, as a part of the current class at the DePaul Labor Center.

Always, In Solidarity!

Delores Withers, President Audrey Butler, Exec. Vice President Sherina Collins, Vice President/FT Claudia Brown, Vice President/PT Teresa Walker, Treasurer Yolanda Townsend-Smith, Secretary

Brent Michalak, Sargent-at-Arms & Grievance Chairperson

"I am not afraid of the pen, or the scaffold, or the sword." Mary Harris Jones (Mother Jones)

The Illinois Federation of Teachers is proud to support the **DePaul Labor Education Center** and its efforts to build the capacity of union and worker organizations.



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In Memoriam

Mike Andel Chief Steward, IBEW Local 21





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Thank you DePaul University Labor Education Center for supporting Chicago's Workers!

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Best Wishes and Success From the Officers and Members of Local 134

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Moment of Reflection

The past few months have been filled with devastating loss and hardship. It has also been a time of inspiring and historic organizing for justice for all.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen our communities devastated with illness, death, unemployment, and social isolation. Meanwhile, many greedy employers and political leaders have not protected workers nor compensated them for the risks they are taking on. Furthermore, the workers considered essential during the shelter in place orders are disproportionately Black, Latinx, Indigenous, other people of color, and people from lower socioeconomic backgrounds. Thus these groups have had to face greater exposure to the pandemic, while also dealing with pre-existing health and financial challenges from structural racism and inequality. As we transition to an economic "re-opening," without safety enforcement or public financial support, we fear these losses and hardships will continue and escalate.

On top of this we are grieving and enraged from yet more murders recently of Black people by the hands of police and racist vigilantes, including George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Tony McDade and many others. And as people have risen up to protest these injustices the past few weeks, there has been further harm from oppressive police violence against protestors and journalists, incitement and escalation of racial tensions, as well as with the militarization of our streets. These are hard times and we feel the same tiredness, confusion, worry, and anger reverberating across the country and world. But we also feel the same determination to fight back that we have seen by so many. We feel hope and energy from the mass multi-racial organizing, anti-racist consciousness raising, and demands for justice for victims of racist and police brutality. We are also uplifted by the broad strikes and actions taken by workers across the country to demand safety and dignity for themselves, their families, and those they serve. We stand in solidarity with everyone in these fights locally and worldwide.

These unprecedented challenges we are facing will not likely be resolved soon. We also know that when we stand idle, working people suffer. So this year we encourage each of us to think about #WhatElseMustBeDone to promote a transformational labor movement. Here at the Center, we strengthen our resolve to expand our reach in providing labor education, organizing tools, and support to our movement. This is so we can be better equipped to fight against racist and police brutality, white supremacy, structural racism, state violence, inequality, exploitation, and oppression in our workplaces, unions, worker centers, and communities. Given the new realities we are facing, we call on our community to also recommit to working diligently towards racial, economic, and social justice for all.

Until next year, let us all act as Mother Jones told us to: "Pray for the dead and fight like hell for the living!" Onward, in solidarity!

The Niles Township Federation of Teachers and Support Staff would like to thank the DePaul University Labor Education Center for another year of bringing an authentic labor education experience to our students.





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