



DePaul University Labor Education Center

*2023 Annual
June Fundraiser*





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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Labor Education Center

Promoting a Transformational Labor Movement





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and the
Chicago Workers Collaborative

Recipients of DePaul University Labor Education Center's

**Friends of the Center and Solidarity
Awards at the 2023 Annual June
Fundraiser**



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OF ILLINOIS WORKING WOMEN & MEN

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**Building power to improve
workers' lives**



For over two decades, Chicago Workers Collaborative (CWC) has uplifted the voices of temporary workers, who represent more than a million individuals in the Illinois workforce and are essential to the state's economy, all while operating in the shadows.

**CHICAGO
WORKERS
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Land Acknowledgement

We are on the occupied traditional homeland of many Native tribal nations, including the Potawatomi, Ojibwe, Odawa, Ho-Chunk, Myaaamia, Menominee, Illinois Confederacy, and Peoria nations. The European invasion of the Americas ruptured these sacred homelands. In 1493 Pope Alexander VI promulgated the Doctrine of Discovery, which seized Native lands and resources with impunity.

This doctrine has been used by countries throughout the Americas, including the U.S., to legitimize colonial policies of displacement and genocide toward Native peoples and to justify colonial legacies of white superiority and global capitalism.

Today Chicago is home to the sixth-largest urban Native population in the United States. To our Native siblings, we reaffirm our commitment, both as an institution and as individuals, to help make our community a more equitable, decolonized, and just place for all.

In Memoriam

We honor all those in our communities and worldwide that we have lost this year. In particular, we want to remember three labor siblings that are missed:

Demetrius Hardy, Teamsters Local 705

Gail Wyatt, Ironworkers Local 63

Sean Noonan, CCCTU Local 1600

As Mother Jones said, let's

“Pray for the dead and fight like hell for the living!”

Who we are

The roots of what is now the DePaul University Labor Education Center go back to 1948. Since then, 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 people.

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, training, public events, awareness building, consultations, resource sharing, and research.

Programs

Labor Education and Training

Our center provides classes and training led by highly trained instructors with actual world labor and organizing experience. We strive to support labor activists, members, stewards, officers, and staff to take on new levels of leadership.

- **Labor Leadership Certificate Program** - Includes 6 classes on stewardship, labor law, union communications, labor history, economics, organizing, bargaining, and arbitration. Register for upcoming courses at <https://tinyurl.com/DePaulLECClasses>
- **Tailored workshops and training** - These are available for local unions, worker centers, & community-based organizations on various topics upon request. They can be held at DePaul, your office, or virtually.

- **ALUM Network** (Alumni Leaders Uniting Movements) - A group run for and by Certificate, Fellowship, and Internship alums to regularly meet to continue their education, networking, and solidarity building together.
- **Worker Educator Certificate** - This two-part instructor development program allows our Labor Leadership Certificate alumni and other experienced labor leaders to become educators in their unions, caucuses, community organizations, university centers like ours, and other labor-related venues.

Public Events and Awareness Building

Our center also conducts public programming to promote a broader understanding of the labor movement and issues affecting poor and working-class people. In addition, we facilitate 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

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 the labor market and movement trends, labor rights, campaigns, policy, and member-focused projects.

Youth Programs

Youth Programs

To foster a multi-generational labor movement, we provide programs to develop pipelines for youth involvement & leadership development.

- **College Fellowship for Worker Justice** - A labor leadership training and mentorship series for a cohort of ten local college or university students who have recently been employed. It aims to educate and engage young workers about the labor movement, their rights, and leadership skills to help them stand up for such rights. It is also meant to connect Fellows with future paid & other opportunities in the movement.
- **Breving-Rosenberg High School Summer Internship Program** - Participants train on social justice and labor issues while placed with local unions, worker centers, and community-based organizations in the Chicagoland area to get hands-on organizing experience.

- **Regina V. Polk High School Programs** - These are made possible by the generous 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 33. The Center pays tribute to her 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.
 - **Collective Bargaining Role Plays** are conducted in local high schools where students are partnered with volunteer coaches and our staff to simulate contract negotiations.
 - **Union Summer School** introduces youth to the labor movement, history, and their rights as they enter the workforce. This summer's school will run from July 17-21. To sign up and learn more, go to <https://tinyurl.com/2023DLECsummerschool> by June 23!



College Fellows

We are so proud of this year's cohort of the "College Fellowship for Worker Justice!" The activists below spent significant time and energy learning more about their rights and how to stand up for them; for themselves and others. We look forward to continuing to support their growth and involvement in the labor movement!

Congrats to this next generation of labor leaders:

- Maria Fantozzi
- Skylar Lim
- Emely Lopez
- Bear Matthews
- Karen Munoz
- Saale Pearson
- Isabella Pereira Nikel
- Cam Perry
- Umang Regmi
- Brianna Zuñiga

Get involved!

To get involved in our programs, receive our weekly newsletter, or learn more, visit go.depaul.edu/LEC or email LEC@depaul.edu



Staff

Dr. Jessica Cook-Qurayshi, Director

Jessica became the Director in August 2016. She joined the labor movement as an organizer and staff union steward at the UNITE HERE International from 2006-2009. She spent 7 years as a leader and steward with the Graduate Employees Organization (IFT-AFT Local 6297) while an instructor in Sociology at UIC, where she earned her PhD. During that time she worked closely as a volunteer and researcher with multiple Chicago-based worker centers. She is a founding board member of [Temp Worker Justice](#), and an Advisory Committee member of the [Labor Research Action Network \(LRAN\)](#).



Lisa Avila, Associate Director

Lisa has committed their life path to supporting social justice movements. Before joining the Labor Education Center, Lisa worked in family services, philanthropy, civil rights and exonerations, events, and high school-to-college initiatives. In addition, Lisa holds two Master's in American Culture Studies and Public Relations and Advertising. Outside the office, Lisa works to create spaces of joy and resilience for queer Latinx communities.



Staff

Maria Fantozzi, Program Assistant

Maria has a BA in Political Science from Syracuse University and is pursuing her Master's in Public Policy at DePaul. Her commitment to social justice and workers' rights is evident in her experience as a Starbucks Workers United organizer and her participation in the Center's 2023 College Fellowship for Worker Justice. Maria also works with DePaul's Egan Office for Urban Education and Community Partnerships, helping support community-led initiatives fighting displacement and gentrification. Maria hopes to continue her work in the labor movement by working in labor policy. Maria enjoys scrapbooking, spending time at the beach, and trying different coffee shops across the city!



Emmanuel Flores, Program Assistant

Emmanuel joined the staff as a Program Assistant in July 2022. Born and raised in multiple neighborhoods bordering Chicago, Emmanuel is a DePaul undergraduate majoring in Public Relations and Advertising, with a minor in Community Service Studies. He has advocated for language and racial justice and focuses on making events and communication accessible for people with disabilities. Emmanuel is a 2021 College Fellowship for Worker Justice alum.



Instructors

Our instructors bring real-world labor and organizing experience to our courses. They are committed to helping students improve and prepare them to take on new levels of leadership.

Thank you for making our classes so engaging & educational!

- **Betty Boles**, retired from SEIU Local 73
- **Dr. Jessica Cook-Qurayshi**, DePaul Labor Education Center
- **Richard de Vries**, Teamsters Local 705
- **Jessica Espinoza**, Make the Road States
- **Cathleen Jensen**, retired from UIC and SEIU Local 73
- **Meg Lewis**, AFL-CIO Central Region
- **Khris Parker**, Teamsters Local 705
- **Alex Tillet-Saks**, Teamsters Local 705

Advisory Committee

Our Advisory Committee is comprised of former students and other labor leaders committed to supporting the Center and its programming. They are the heart of our work and the only way we can do this work!

Thank you for all the time, financial support, and energy you give to keep our Center running!

- **Jaquie Algee** - SEIU HCII
- **Juan Campos** - Teamsters Local 705
- **Roberto Clack** - Temp Worker Justice
- **Jessie Cruz Pineda** - National COSH
- **Lisa Czaplicki** - Ironworkers Local 63
- **Rosa Delgado** - FCCTP IFT Local 1708
- **Jessica Espinoza** - Make the Road States
- **Jose Frausto** - Chicago Workers Collaborative
- **Meg Lewis** - AFL-CIO Central Region
- **John Lodewyck** - Elk Grove Village Professional Firefighters Association Local 2340
- **Dave Murray** - Ironworkers Local 63
- **Bob Przybylinski** - IBEW Local 21
- **Frank Rodriguez** - IBEW 134 member
- **Pankaj Sharma** - Illinois Federation of Teachers
- **Eddie Vallejo** - Teamsters Local 705
- **Delores Withers** - FCCTP IFT Local 1708
- **Paul Wright** - IBEW Local 21
- **Beth Zavala** - BCTGM Local 1

Fall Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone that donated to this year's Fall Fundraiser!

We could not do our work without you!

- AFT Local 943
- Amalgamated Bank of Chicago
- Associated Steel Erectors
- Athena Clark
- BCBS IL
- Bill Silver
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- Brenda Rodriguez
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- Chicago Teachers Union
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- IFPE Local 4408
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- IFT Local 571
- Ironworkers Local 63
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- Janise Hurtig
- Jo Ann Marie Radja
- Joan & Donald Radtke
- Joel Thorson
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- Laborers' District Council of Chicago & Vicinity
- Laborers Local 1
- Laborers Local 393
- Laborers local 4
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- Shirley Bono
- Springfield & Central Illinois Trades & Labor Council
- Steve Grossman
- Teamsters Joint Council 25
- Teamsters Local 301
- Teamsters Local 705
- Teamsters Local 731
- Teamsters Local 743
- Tom & Kathleen McLaughlin
- Wanda Neely



Role Play Coaches & Schools

Thank you to everyone involved in this year's Regina V. Polk
High School Collective Bargaining Role Play program!

Volunteer coaches

- Adam Shils, retired IEA member
- Adriana Lopez Marin, Ironworkers Local 63
- Betty Boles, retired SEIU Local 73/DePaul Labor Education Center
- Bob Przybylinski, IBEW Local 21
- Bryan McCormack, IFT Local 571
- Cathleen Jensen, retired SEIU Local 73/DePaul Labor Education Center
- Daniel Ginsberg, Teamsters Local 705
- David Murray, Ironworkers Local 63
- Deb Takehara, Illinois Federation of Teachers (IFT)
- Debora Sutor, retired Association of Flight Attendants (AFA)
- Eddie Vallejo, Teamsters Local 705
- Elaine Barlos, AFT Local 943
- Elisa Redish, SEIU Local 73

Volunteer coaches

- Elisa Redish, SEIU Local 73
- Frank Rodriguez, IBEW Local 134
- Hector Rosa Jr., BCTGM Local 1
- Jackson Potter, CTU
- Jen Allison, IFT Local 571
- Jeremy Esparza, LiUNA! Local One
- Jessie Cruz Pineda, National COSH
- Jessica Espinoza, Make the Road States/DePaul Labor Education Center
- Jim Rodriguez, IFT Local 571
- Jim Rodriguez, IFT Local 571
- John Kaderbek, Teamsters Local 743 member
- John Lodewyck, Elk Grove Village Professional Firefighters Association Local 2340



Role Play Coaches & Schools

Volunteer coaches continued...

- Jose Silva, Teamsters Local 743
- Karen Engelhardt, Allison, Slutsky & Kennedy, P.C.
- Kevin Ballard, UAW Local 551
- Leah Fried, SEIU
- Mary Crayton, retired AFL-CIO
- Mia Korinke, Climate Jobs Illinois (IL AFL-CIO)
- Michael Smith, CTU
- Michelle Coleman, IFT Local 571
- Mike Laureto, IAFF Local 506
- Noah Glaser, UIC GEO Local 6297
- Pat O'Gorman, IUOE Local 399
- Paul Thompson, IFT Local 571
- Richard Kreski, IBEW Local 134
- Richard Wrede, Association of Flight Attendants (AFA)
- Sophie Bauerschmidt Sweeney, UIC UF
- Tara Stamps, CTU
- Zoe Fox, UIC GEO Local 6297

Schools:

- Association House High School
- Bogan Computer Technical High School
- Conant High School
- Dunbar Vocational Career Academy
- George Washington High School
- Global Citizenship Experience (GCE) lab school
- Little Village HS - Infinity Math, Science, and Technology
- Little Village HS - School of Social Justice
- Michele Clark Magnet High School
- Morton West High School
- Niles North High School
- Thornton Fractional South HS
- Washington High School
- Whitney Young High School

Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service staff



**Thank you to our instructors,
Advisory Committee,
supporters, & role-play
partners for all you do for
labor education!**



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IW Local 63



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CONGRATULATE

the DePaul University Labor Education Center on your annual fundraiser! We are proud to be your partners in the fight for racial, social and economic justice for all.



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2229 S. Halsted St., Chicago, IL 60608



BETTER TOGETHER

Thank you DePaul Labor Education Center for training
the next generation of labor leaders and activists!



The Chicago Federation of Labor fights for working people across Chicago and Cook County. We keep the economy going day after day, standing up for workers and supporting the entire community. Through it all, we never lost the spirit of solidarity that keeps our movement strong.

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF
ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL UNION 21

Proudly Supports
The DePaul Labor Education Center

We Congratulate the
Depaul Labor Center Graduates
and Honorees

"The history of the labor movements needs
to be taught in every school in this land.
America is a living testimonial to
what free men and women, organized
in free democratic trade unions
can do to make a better life.

Hubert Horatio Humphrey, Jr

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III FFC is a labor-management nonprofit established to increase market share for responsible contractors, work opportunities for skilled craftsmen and craftswomen, and value for taxpayers.

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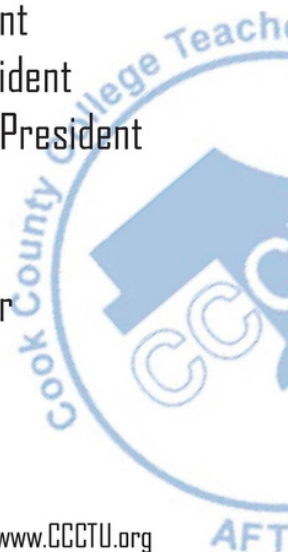
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Tony Floriani, IFT Field Service Director
Kathy Harris, IFT Secretary
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Darlene Mercer, AFT Local 604 Office Mngr.

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Michael Hancock, Vice President
Yvette Justice, Vice President
Vicki Goebel, Vice President

Best wishes for a successful event!



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



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2023 Honorees

Solidarity Award

CHICAGO WORKERS COLLABORATIVE

Friends of the Center Award

IBEW LOCAL 134

**CTU
CONGRATULATES
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IN SOLIDARITY



**CHICAGO
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On behalf of

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Helen Chung

Steve Mabus

Mike Culich

Dan Granadon

George Arzola

Travis Ter Haar



2023 Annual June Fundraiser Schedule

June 4th, 2023 from 2-3:30pm

- 2:00 pm - Registration opens and drinks served
- 2:30 pm - Food served
- 3:00 pm - Keynote Speech, Honoree and Graduation Ceremony
- 4:30 pm - Raffle closes and winners announced
- 5:00 pm - Event ends



Keynote Speaker

Tim Drea, President of the Illinois AFL-CIO

President Tim Drea will share reflections about recent organizing across the state, particularly efforts to build the solidarity and momentum to get the Workers Rights Amendment passed!

President Drea is a United States Marine Corps veteran who worked as a coal miner for 11 years like his father. He was a member of UMW Local 9819 and served as a Recording Secretary and a member of the Coal Miners' Political Action Committee for UMW District 12. Laid off in 1990, he finished his BA in Political Studies and joined the Senate Democratic staff, serving as the Executive Committee staff person for Senator Emil Jones, Jr.

In 1996, he joined UFCW Local 881 as the Legislative and Political Director. He went on to serve 12 years as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Illinois AFL-CIO. Then in 2019 its Executive Board elected him as President and in July 2020, he was elected to another 4-year term.



Solidarity Award

Chicago Workers Collaborative



Every year we give this award to recognize important labor fights and actions that lead by example, strengthen our movement, and help raise standards for us all. We are proud to recognize the incredible efforts of the CWC. They answer the call to “promote a transformational labor movement” through their steadfast efforts to illuminate the ills of the temp staffing industry to the broader public, build interracial unity among temp workers, and fight for stronger protections for workers in the industry. We also commend their efforts to eliminate the permatemp crisis, the division of union shops, and the rampant racial and gender discrimination in the industry. Examples of this are the recent win of a \$1.04 million discrimination settlement for workers at Gold Standard Baking, as well as the passage of the Illinois Temp Worker Fairness and Safety Act. We humbly offer this award in recognition of all the CWC has done and continues to do for the movement, workers, and our communities!

Friends of the Center Award

IBEW Local 134



Every year we give this award to recognize those who go above and beyond to support our work, which is certainly true of IBEW Local 134! At DePaul University Labor Education Center, we challenge each other to consider #WhatElseMustBeDone to promote a transformational labor movement. Local 134's commitment to the Center answers this call through generous contributions to our fundraisers, coaching in our high school bargaining role play program, and sending members and staff to our Labor Leadership Certificate program. In recognition of all Local 134 has done and continues to do for our Center and labor education, we humbly offer this award!

2023 Graduates

Kevin R. Ballard Sr.

UAW Local 551

"This program exposed and educated me to much more than I expected, like learning the different laws and how they came about, like FMLA. I will use this to help build a stronger union and movement by sharing this knowledge and informing all of our members."



Jack Campbell

IBEW Local 134

"This program has given me the knowledge to effectively advocate and represent the membership of Local 134. The importance of an organized labor force in our community is all-encompassing: from living wages to healthcare and dignified retirement. I'll use the knowledge gained to advance the labor movement and create solidarity among all unions."

2023 Graduates

Rich Rzewnicki

IBT Local 705

"The program has given me the tools to be able to represent my members better and help fight against big companies that try to take advantage of their workers. I will use the skills that I learned in the classes to help secure a strong contract and enforce it."



Raymond J. Sedlacek Jr.

IBT Local 705

"The program really opened my eyes on how long we fought to get where we are at. Power in numbers! Everyday is a fight to get all we are entitled to."

2023 Graduates

Anthony Taylor

IBT Local 705

"The program has been an opportunity for me to meet leaders from the Chicago labor movement and hone my skills as a communicator, labor representative, grievance investigator, organizer and more. Union labor is the only thing that can save this world."



Enrique J. Vega

IBT Local 705

"The program has meant power - the power to better educate and protect the members I represent.. I will use what I learned to build a strong and engaged workforce, to build wealth for our families and earn respect in our workplaces."

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