

May is Labor History Month!

2024 Events:



One of last year's Diversity in Labor scholarship recipients at her graduation from the CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies. photo: Aaron Lenchner/CUNY SLU

Joseph S. Murphy Scholarship for Diversity in Labor Awards and Reception

Thurs, **May 16**, 5:30–7 pm

Awards Ceremony: Honoring today's rising leaders for Labor's future and introducing the 2024 Scholarship Recipients. \$125. CUNY School for Labor and Urban Studies, 25 West 43rd St, 18th Floor, NYC 10036. (646) 313-8514. rose.imperato@slu.cuny.edu



Ships in Distress off a Rocky Coast
by Ludolf Backhuysen, 1667

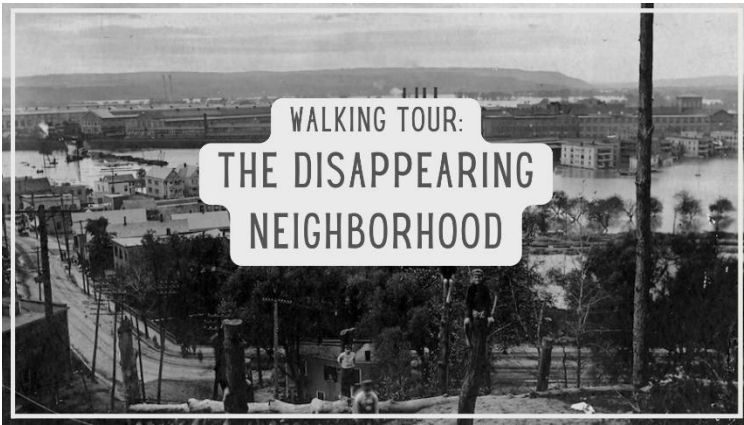
Shipwreck and Salvation - The Wreck of the Prince Maurice 1657

Thurs, **May 16**, 1-2:30 pm

Lecture/Q&A: March 8, 1657, a Nor'easter wrecked The Prince Maurice on the shoals of Fire Island. Every one of her 129 passengers, crew and Dutch West India Company soldiers were saved by local Unkechaug people. Through 3D models, interactive maps and documents, **Toya Dubin**, Mapping Early NY Project Director, and **Drew Shuptar-Rayvis**, Algonkian Historical Consultant, recount the harrowing shipwreck and sublime rescue on an ice-laden beach. Free. Shelter Island Historical Society, 16 South Ferry Road, Shelter Island, NY 11964. (212) 874-4702. info@shelterislandhistorical.org

Lecture/Q&A will also be given 7-8:30 pm, May 17, at the Port Washington Public Library, 1 Library Drive, Port Washington, NY 11050. (516) 883-4400. <https://portwashington.librarycalendar.com/event/shipwreck-and-salvation-wreck-prince-maurice-1657-66675> – and on May 18, 11 am – 12:30 pm at the Rogers Mansion, 17 Meeting House Lane, Southampton, NY 11968. (631) 283-2494.

<https://www.southamptonhistory.org/event-details/shipwreck-and-salvation-the-wreck-of-the-prince-maurice-1657>



The Disappearing Neighborhood

Fri, **May 17**, 6-7 pm

Walking Tour: In the early 19th century, a large and remarkable neighborhood of newly freed, Black Schenectadians existed on what was then the outskirts of town. In a matter of decades, this Black community would almost completely vanish. In this tour, we explore these streets and rediscover some of what was lost all those years ago. \$13. Tour meets outside the Schenectady Public Library Central Branch, 99 Clinton St, Schenectady, NY 12305. (518) 388-4500.

<https://schenectadyhistorical.org/event/disappear/>



"A Group of Peddlers" (The Ghetto), color postcard, William A. Rosenthal Judaica Collection Postcards.

The Jewish Lower East Side

Sun, **May 19**, 11:30 am

Walking Tour: A century ago, the Lower East Side saw unparalleled growth as waves of immigrants settled, prayed, played, worked, shopped, and attended school in this neighborhood as they built their new lives in a new land. Visit Straus Square and learn about its history and its significance during the heyday of Jewish immigration. See *The Forward* building and learn the role of this important Jewish newspaper and its Yiddish advice column *A Bintel Brief*. \$25; \$20 Srs, Students.

12 Eldridge Street, NYC 10002. (212) 219-0302. [Booking Walking Tour: Jewish Lower East Side for 5/19/24 - Museum at Eldridge Street \(fareharbor.com\)](#)



Elizabeth Gloucester: The Lost Story of NY's Most Powerful Black Woman

Mon, **May 20**, 6:30 pm

Lecture: Pulitzer Prize-winning New York Times editorial writer **Brent Staples** tells the story of Elizabeth Gloucester, born into slavery around 1817 in Virginia, raised in Philadelphia, preacher's daughter, phenomenally successful real estate broker, leading member of 19th century Brooklyn's prosperous Black community, and an abolitionist who regularly hosted John Brown in her home. \$35. (212) 485-9268. <https://3256.blackbaudhosting.com/3256/tickets?tab=2&txobjid=4c06df7b-aa19-449d-95bc-11b1426fd453>



Natalie Foster and Tressie McMillan Cottom Discuss *The Guarantee*

Tu, **May 21**, 6:30 – 8 pm

Book Talk: Author **Natalie Foster's** *The Guarantee* asks us to imagine an America where housing, health care, a college education, dignified work, family care, an inheritance, and an income floor are not only attainable by all but guaranteed, by our government, for everyone. Pie-in-the-sky thinking? Foster argues our current economic system is chock full of government-backed guarantees, from bailouts to bankruptcy protection, to keep the private sector in business. So why can't the same be true for the rest of us? In conversation with University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill & MacArthur Fellow **Dr. Tressie McMillan Cottom**. Center for Brooklyn History, 128 Pierrepont St, Brooklyn, NY 11201. Free. Register: <https://www.bklynlibrary.org/calendar/cbh-talk-natalie-foster-center-for-brooklyn-20240521>



Chopped Liver and Unions

Wed, **May 22**, 7:30 pm

Through June 7

Play: One-person show about Sara Wesker, ardent trade unionist & needle-trades organizer in the East End of London in the 1920s & 1930. Wesker galvanized a traditionally compliant workforce. She marched in 1936, sang on the picket lines, and took part in the Battle of Cable Street against Oswald Mosley's Fascist Blackshirts. Featuring protest songs sung by the "Singing Strikers of 1928." \$32. 59 East 59 Street Theaters. Sat. & Sun. matinees at 2:30 pm.

<https://www.59e59.org/shows/show-detail/chopped-liver-unions/#show-info>.

The New York Labor History Association (NYLHA) was founded in 1976 by trade unionists, academics, students, archivists, educators, labor editors, attorneys, and retirees, mostly from New York State. NYLHA encourages the study of workers and their organizations and serves as a bridge between past and present labor unionists and academics.

NYLHA OFFICERS:

President – Irwin Yellowitz / iyellowitz@aol.com

Vice-President – Robert Parmet **Secretary** – Abbe Nosoff **Treasurer** – Peter Filardo

Calendar Committee: Joe Doyle (chair), Deborah Green, Arieh Lebowitz, Robert Wechsler, and Susan Wilson

**The New York Labor History Association
presents the 2024 Philoine Fried Award to:**

Daryl Goldberg

American Federation of Musicians Local 802

Presentation by Karen Fisher

American Federation of Musicians Local 802
Financial Vice President &
Supervisor, Concert, Ballet, and Opera

Together with a book talk by:

Karen Pastorello

Chair, Women and Gender Studies &
Professor of History
Tompkins Cortland Community College

Author of:

A Power among Them: Bessie Abramowitz Hillman and the Making of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America

Join us on Zoom

May 23, 7 pm

Attendance is free.

Click <https://tinyurl.com/PHF-Award-2024> to Register

Bessie Abramowitz Hillman
Russian immigrant, protegee of Jane Addams, a leader of the historic 1910 strike in the Hart, Schaffner, and Marx clothing factory in Chicago, and with her future husband Sidney Hillman, co-founder of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

The Philoine Fried Award
is given annually to a rank-and-file union member who makes outstanding, heretofore under-appreciated efforts to support their union.

Philoine Fried (1917-2019)
was past president and treasurer of the NY Labor History Association. She was a tireless volunteer. Daughter of Sidney and Bessie Hillman, she embodied the ideals of the American labor movement.



CRT and the Battle Over Curriculum

Sat, **May 25**, 2-3 pm

On-Line Lecture: Alan Singer, Director, Secondary Education Social Studies, Hofstra University discusses the impact of 18 states banning the teaching of Critical Race Theory. Will it mean editing out of history any classroom discussion of slavery, racism, anti-Semitism, genocide, gender bias, and the treatment of indigenous people, immigrants, and religious minorities. \$12. (518) 621-7793.

[REGISTER FOR THIS PRESENTATION](#)



General Membership Meeting/Silk Walk Reception

Sun, **June 2**, 1 pm

Free. American Labor Museum/Botto House National Landmark, 83 Norwood St, Haledon, NJ 07508. (973) 595-7953. labormuseum@aol.com



Hex Workers United celebrating their Nov. 2023 election victory at Hex and Co.
photo: Debra Bergen-Koster

New Trends in Organizing: From 9 to 5 to the Emergency Workplace Organizing Committee (EWOC)

Wed, **June 5**, 7-8:30 pm

Zoom Panel Discussion: Panelists **Ellen Cassedy**, founder/leader of the 9 to 5 movement; **Prof. Eric Blanc**, Rutgers University, “How Worker-to-Worker Organizing Can Transform America”; & **Patrick Cate**, National Organizing Coordinator, EWOC, will examine the roots of the new wave of worker-to-worker organizing and the labor movement’s resurgence among a new generation of workers. To register, contact Debra Bergen at DebBergen514@gmail.com (347) 209-8898. The NY Labor History Association is sponsoring this event.



The Rapp Road Community – Flight to Freedom

Sat, **June 22**, 2-3 pm

On-Line Lecture: **Jennifer A. Lemak**, Chief Curator of History, NYS Museum on the history and legacy of Albany’s Rapp Road Community. Members of the Rapp Road Community moved from Mississippi during the first half of the 20th century. \$12. (518) 621-7793. [REGISTER FOR THIS PRESENTATION](#)

May is Labor History Month!

Exhibitions:



photo by Sol Libsohn,
WPA Federal Art Project, of
muralist Philip Guston at work

Democracy in Action: Philip Guston's "Work and Play"

Jacob A. Riis Settlement House Community Center

10-25 41st Av, Long Island City, NY

Mon-Fri, 9-5

Canadian American artist, Philip Guston (1913-1980) was commissioned by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) to depict in murals scenes from the Queens community: families, construction workers, musicians, and more. Work and struggle are recurring themes in Guston's murals. Free. (718) 939-0647. <https://queenshistoricalsociety.org>



We Are One – Honoring Immigrant Garment Workers

American Labor Museum/Botto House National Landmark

83 Norwood Street, Haledon, NJ 07508

Wed-Sat, 1-4 pm & by appointment.

May 1 – August 24

20,000 members of Local 23-25 of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union – most of them Chinese immigrant women – walked off the job in protest in 1982, staging a brief, successful strike. Historic photographs and artifacts salute the extraordinary outpouring of energy of women. Curated by May Chen and Rachel Bernstein. \$5. (973) 595-7953. labormuseum@aol.com



A Union of Hope: 1869

Tenement Museum

103 Orchard St, NYC 10003

75-minute apt. tours at 11, 12, 2, & 3 pm daily

Apartment Tour: Joseph and Rachel Moore, Black New Yorkers, made their home in Lower Manhattan's tenements in the 1860s and 1870s in a rear tenement in today's SoHo neighborhood, in a building with both Irish and African American New Yorkers. Traces Joseph's history from his free Black community of Belvidere, NJ, through his family's migration to NYC, and the community he and his wife Rachel built in their neighborhoods and workplaces. \$30. (877) 975-3786. tenement.org/apartment-tours/



Museum of the City of New York

Sat-Sun, 10-6, Mon, Thurs, Fri 10-5

1220 Fifth Av, @ 103 St, NYC 10029

Through December 8

The experience of walking El Barrio -- the Museum of the City of New York's own neighborhood -- would be vastly different without the artworks of Manny Vega (b. Bronx, 1956). His mosaics and murals adorn street walls, subway stations, cultural centers, and business facades throughout East Harlem. Vega's style has been dubbed "Byzantine HipHop" for his command of ancient Mediterranean mosaic-making -- and the electrifying lines of hyper-detailed Sharpie pen-and-ink drawings. \$20; \$14 Srs, Students; Under 20 free. **212.534.1672; mcny.org**



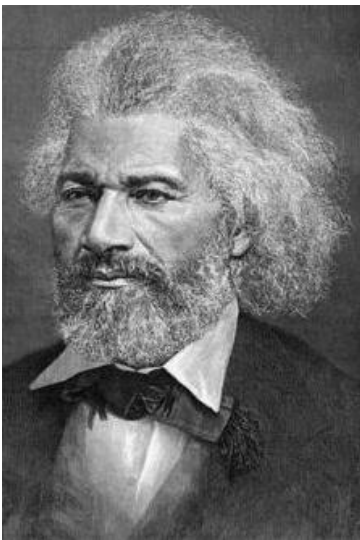
New-York Historical Society

170 Central Park West

Tu-Thurs, 11-5; Fri, 11-8; Sat-Sun, 11-5

Through July 7

Showcases approximately 45 objects from N-YHS's collection -- from a 19th-century mahogany cradle to a 20th-century doctor's dissection kit. \$24; \$19 Srs, Educators, Active Military; \$13 Students; \$6 Ages 5-13; Under 5 free; Pay-as-you-wish, 6–8 pm Fridays. (212) 873-3400. NYHistory.org



Our Composite Nation: Frederick Douglass' America

New-York Historical Society

Artifacts, images, and a theatrical design that bring Douglass' compelling speech ("Our Composite Nation") to life and explores his vision of freedom, citizenship, and equal rights that remains urgently relevant today, as a hopeful plea for America to live up to its founding ideals.



The Allerton Coops: In Living Color

Museum of Bronx History

3266 Bainbridge Av, Bronx, NY 10467

Sat, 10-4; Sun, 1-5

Oral histories of African American and multiracial residents of the Allerton Coops, located at 2700 Bronx Park East, a hub of working-class radicalism and avant-garde Yiddish and African-American cultures during the 1930s-1960s. Free. (718) 881-8900. bronxhistoricalsociety.org



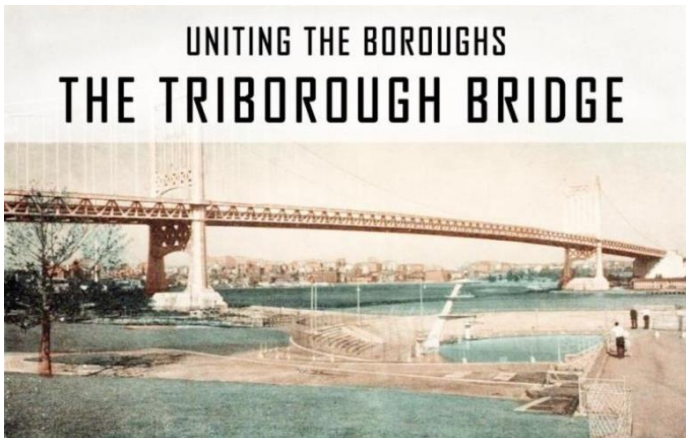
Metropolitan Museum of Art

Gallery 999, 1000 Fifth Av, NYC 10028

Sun–Tu & Thurs, 10-5; Fri-Sat, 10–9 Closed 1st Mon. in May

Through July 28

160 works of painting, sculpture, photography, film, and ephemera explore ways in which Black artists portrayed everyday modern life in the new Black cities that took shape in the 1920s–40s. In NYC's Harlem -- and nationwide in the early decades of the Great Migration -- millions of African Americans began to move away from the segregated rural South. (212) 535-7710; \$30; \$22 Srs; \$17 Students. NY residents, NY, NJ, CT students Pay What You Wish. <https://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/the-harlem-renaissance-and-transatlantic-modernism>



Surrogate's Court Building

31 Chambers St, NYC 10007

Mon-Fri, 9-5 pm

Through June

Explores how the Triborough Bridge contributed to the further development of the city following the early decades of the subway system, including the history of Randall's and Wards Islands as parks. "Uniting the Boroughs" focuses on the story of the evolving design and construction of the bridge, and the work of civil engineer Othmar Ammann to redesign the structure, overcoming multiple engineering difficulties to open in July 1936. Free. (646) 386-5000.



Hanford Mills Museum

51 County Highway 12, East Meredith, NY 13757

Wed-Sun 10-5

May 15 to Oct 15

Innovation, ingenuity, and entrepreneurship at a historic working mill site in the northwestern Catskills, featuring water-powered machines operating as they did a century ago. Tours at 10:30, 12 noon, 1:30, and 3 pm. \$9; \$7 Srs, Educators; \$4.50 Active-Duty Military, Veterans, 1st Responders; Under 12 free. (607) 278-5744. <https://www.hanfordmills.org/>