



2026 Events



Mon, **May 4**, 6 pm

Clara Lemlich Social Activist Awards

Awards Ceremony: Honoring worker organizer **Scotty Embree**, artist/educator **Shirley Kaplan**, Harlem literacy guru **Dawn Harris-Martine**, community activist **Dana Minaya**, and migrant rights leader **Eva Richter** -- unsung activists, women who worked for the larger good all their lives, in the tradition of those who sparked reforms in the aftermath of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire.

Free! **Ethical Culture Society**, 2 W64th St, NYC 10023. (212) 874-5210. LaborArts.org/Lemlich

Tu, **May 5**, 6 pm

76th Annual Hillman Prizes for Journalism

Awards Ceremony: Honoring excellence in journalism in service of the common good. **Free!**

Seating capacity is limited. **RSVP Required:** Alex@HillmanFoundation.org



Wed, **May 6**, 6:30 pm

Behind the Scenes: Steel Plant Museum

Collection Sneak Peak: Emily Hettrick. **Free!** **Steel Plant Museum of WNY**, Heritage DiscoverY Center, 100 Lee St, Buffalo, NY 14210 (716) 821-9361. www.steelplantmuseumwny.org/events

Wed, **May 6**, 8:30 am – 2 pm

Progress and Preservation: Adaptive Reuse for a Resilient City

Symposium: Practitioners, policymakers, and advocates explore how NYC can better use its existing buildings to meet housing needs, advance climate goals, and sustain neighborhood cultural life.

Municipal Arts Society: **Keri Butler**, MAS; **Ben Prosky**, Richard Hampton Jenrette Foundation;

Creating the Conditions for Reinvestment in Existing Buildings: **Nathan Gray**, NYC Econ. Devt. Corp;

Emily Hoffman, NYC Dept. of Bldgs; **Giulia Luci**, NYC Dept. of Housing Preservation and Devt;

John Mangin, NYC Dept. of City Planning; **Mark Ginsberg**, NYC Landmarks Preservation Comm.:

Design, Engineering, and Financial Feasibility: **Don Friedman**, Old Structures Engineering, **Vlada**

Kenniff, NYC Public Housing Preservation Trust; **Matthew Linde**, People Restoring Communities,

Nathaniel Rogers, Beyer Blinder Belle; **Rebecca Macklis**, MAS. **\$35, \$15** nonprofit professionals,

Free (students). Lincoln Center, Stanley H. Kaplan Penthouse, 165 W65 St, 10th Fl, NYC.

Progress and Preservation: Reuse for a Resilient City – The Municipal Art Society of New York

Wed, **May 6**, 6 pm

The Myth of the Founding & the Class Struggle for Democracy

Lecture: Thomas Paine Historical Association President Gary Berton offers unsentimental truths about America's founding as a nation. Learn Paine's impact on the American movement for democracy, his allies in this fight and his critique of the American Constitution of 1787. You'll never look at America's "founders" in the same way. **Free!** **Yonkers Public Library**, 1 Larkin Center, Yonkers, NY 10701. <https://tinyurl.com/3kpmvttt>



Thurs, **May 7**, 2:15 pm

Can Unions Save Immigrants?

3rd Annual Jane LaTour Memorial Lecture

Lecture: **Alethia Jones**, Distinguished Lecturer of Labor Studies at the CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies. In honor of **Jane LaTour**, lifelong activist, labor organizer, writer, feminist, author of *Sisters in the Brotherhood* and *Backroom Bargaining Racketeering and Rebellion in NYC's Labor Unions*. **Free!** **LaGuardia Community College**, 31-10 Thomson Av, Long Island City, NY 11101, Room E 242. **Info:** kamiller@lagcc.cuny.edu



Thurs, **May 7**, 5 - 6 pm

Before the Fires: Author Talk with Mark D. Naison

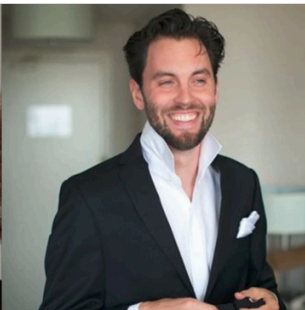
Book Talk: Fordham History & African American Studies Professor **Mark D. Naison** discusses his book *Before the Fires: An Oral History of African American Life in The Bronx from the 1930s - 1960s*. **Free!** **Melrose Library**, 910 Morris Av, Bronx, NY 10451. (718) 588-0110. melrose@nypl.org



Sun, **May 10**, 11:30 am

Walking Tour: Mamas with Chutzpah

Walking Tour: Celebrate Mother's Day following in the footsteps of **Emma Goldman** and **Clara Lemlich** as they pushed for reform at the height of the Progressive Era. Learn about wigmaker and mikvah (ritual bath) owner **Gittel Natelson**, artist **Louise Nevelson**, and Kosher delicatessen queen **Sarah Gellis** – the first female member of the Eldridge St. Synagogue, now home to the **Museum at Eldridge St.** **\$25, \$20 Srs, Students, \$5 Cool Culture Pass/Snap Benefits, Under 5 Free!**
Meet at 12 Eldridge St, NYC. <https://tinyurl.com/4b24x3cm>



Fri, **May 15**, 6:30 pm

A Divided City:

Revolutionary-Era New York and the Politics of Polarization

Panel Discussion: How allegiances during the American Revolution were shaped not only by political principle, but also by social class, commerce, rivalry, ethnicity, and the demands of survival. MSNBC journalist **Antonia Hylton**; director of the Gotham Center **Peter-Christian Aigner** and co-director of *The Occupied City: New York and the American Revolution*; **Christina Greer**, professor, Fordham Univ., and **Mike Duncan**, creator and host of *Revolutions* Podcast. \$40.
Museum of the City of New York, 1220 Fifth Av @ 103 St, NYC.

[A Divided City: Revolutionary-Era New York and the Politics of Polarization | Museum of the City of New York](#)

Sat, **May 16**, 11 am – 12:30 pm

Transit Walk: Downtown Brooklyn

Walking Tour: Traces the transit evolution of Downtown Brooklyn from ferries to subways.

\$40. New York Transit Museum. Tour will take place off-site. <https://www.nytransitmuseum.org/programs/>



The last can of milk being processed at the Center Street Sealtest plant. 1972 Cortland Standard



*Mid-1940s: Southbound Lackawanna train switching milk cars at Dairymen's League plant north of Warren St.
Jim Frey photo*



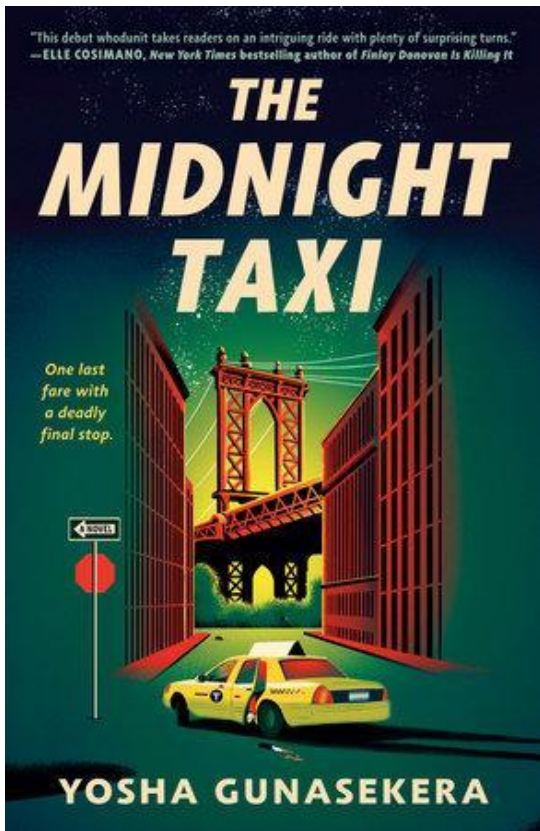
Joshua K. Blay

Sat, **May 16**, 1 pm

Homer, New York: New York City's Milk Supplier

Homer's Provision of Milk for NYC & the Role of Railroads in the Dairy Industry

Lecture: Historian and archivist **Joshua Blay** discusses Homer's role providing milk for NYC and the role of railroads in the area's dairy industry. **\$15**; **\$12** Seniors, AAA members, veterans with ID; **\$7** children 6-18; **Free** for children 5 & under and Active Military (with ID). **Homeville Museum, Central New York Living History Center**, 4386 U.S. Route 11, Cortland, N.Y. 13045. P.O. Box 162, Homer, NY 13077. 607-283-4875. homevillemuseumboard@gmail.com



Sun, **May 17**, noon

Book Talk: with author **Yosha Gunasekera**, an Innocents Project lawyer. Siriwathi "Siri" Perera, a Sri Lankan-American NYC taxi driver finds her passenger murdered in her backseat and becomes the prime suspect. With help from public defender Amaya Fernando, Siri has just five days to investigate the murder across the city's boroughs -- to clear her name before her grand jury hearing.

Raynham Hall Museum, 30 W Main St, Oyster Bay, NY 11771.



Wed, **May 20**, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Newcomers: The Story of Anthony and Grietje and the Founding of New York

Lecture: **Alan Mikhail** chronicles a poor immigrant couple, Anthony and Grietje in Dutch New Amsterdam. Banished to the wilds of Brooklyn following a series of brawls and court appearances, Anthony returned to Manhattan to become one of the richest men in 17th century New York.

Russell Shorto, moderator. **\$35. New-York Historical Society**. 170 Central Park West @ 77 St, NYC. 212-873-3400. www.nyhistory.org



Wed & Thurs, **May 20 & 21**, 6 – 9 pm

The Transit Operas

Concert: Experience a series of operas inspired by and performed in the New York Transit Museum.

Free! New York Transit Museum. 99 Schermerhorn St, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

<https://www.nytransitmuseum.org/programs>

Thurs, **May 21**, 7 – 8 pm

Underground Railroad Walk and Talk

Lecture/Walking Tour: Background on the underground railroad in Historic Palmyra. Walk to places that may have been stations on the underground railroad. **\$10**.

Alling Coverlet Museum 122 William St, Palmyra, NY, 14522. (315) 597-6981.

[Under Ground Railroad Walk and Talk — Historic Palmyra Museums](#)



Fri, **May 22**, 10 am – 5 pm

Opening Day!

Exhibitions: on the lives of Mohawk and Abenaki indigenous people; life in a logging camp; trail makers on the Northville-Placid, and more. **\$22; \$19** Srs, Veterans; **\$13** (5-17); **Free** (4 & Under).

Adirondack Museum: 9097 State Route 30, Blue Mountain Lake, NY 12812. 518-352-7311.
info@theadkx.org [Adirondack Experience - Museum on Blue Mountain Lake - Official Site](#)



Sat, **May 23**, 10 am - 5 pm

Waterwheel Celebration Day

Celebrate the 100th anniversary of our Hanford Mill waterwheel! The Hanfords installed the waterwheel in 1926 and it still generates power for the mill today. Watch the wheel come to life and power an interconnected system that was at the heart of a truly innovative milling business.

Hanford Mills Museum. 51 County Highway 12, East Meredith, NY 13757. Tours at 10:30, 12 noon, 1:30, & 3. **Admission: \$9; \$7 Srs, Educators; \$4.50 Active-Duty Military, Veterans, 1st Responders; Under 12 Free.** (607) 278-5744. <https://www.hanfordmills.org/>

Wed, **May 27**, 6 - 8 pm

Celebrate New York Labor History Association's 50th Anniversary

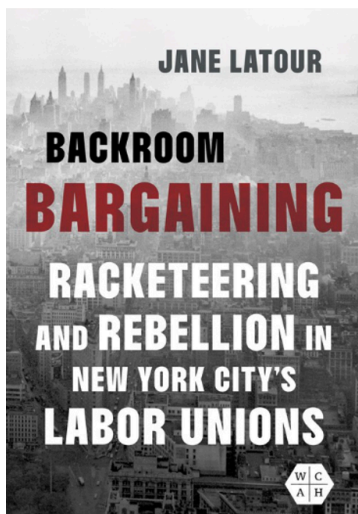


Panel Discussion: labor historian Melvyn Dubofsky, sociologist Ruth Milkman, and NY Times reporter Steven Greenhouse review major developments during the last half century in American labor -- and implications for the future. 50th anniversary reflections on what NYLHA has been able to do to advance an understanding of labor history as a bridge between the past and the present. Socializing and light refreshments at 6 pm, program starts at 6:30. Co-sponsored by Cornell ILR's Worker Institute and the Lois Gray Labor Innovation Initiative. **Free! Cornell Conference Center**, 12th floor, 570 Lexington Av @51 St, NYC, or via Zoom **RSVP: 50ANNIV@newyorklaborhistory.org**
Please give your full name and whether you will attend in-person or via Zoom.

Tu, **June 2**

American Labor Studies Center Fundraiser

Gideon Putnam Hotel honoring Randi Weingarten. <https://labor-studies.org/>



Thurs, **June 4**, 7:30 – 9 pm

Backroom Bargaining: Racketeering and Rebellion in New York City's Labor Unions

Book Party: celebrating **Jane LaTour's** posthumous tribute to union dissidents. CUNY Prof. Joshua B. Freeman will comment on the book and provide an overview of corruption in the labor movement.

Free! Houghton Hall, 22 E30 St, NYC. **Book party discount price: \$20.** Cash or check only.

RSVP: latourbookparty@gmail.com



Thurs & Fri, **June 4 & 5**

“Movements Grow in Desperate Times. We are being born.”

Tony Mazzocchi Centennial Conference

Labor Conference: Where are we today and what can we learn from Tony Mazzocchi's activism?

Rose Ann DeMoro, Les Leopold, Kristina Mazzocchi, Adolph Reed. **Day one:** speakers who

worked with Tony Mazzocchi or were inspired by him. **Day two:** an interactive, worker-centered, action-centered day of strategizing, learning from the lessons of day one -- and applying them to the present. **\$75/\$50/\$25. Rutgers University Labor Education Center:** 50 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick, NJ 08901. [The Tony Mazzocchi Archive will be housed there.] <https://tinyurl.com/nhayj49n>



Sun, **June 7**, 3 – 6 pm

Thomas Paine Day in New Rochelle

Celebration: 250th anniversary of *Common Sense* and the American Revolution. A day to recognize and celebrate Paine's contributions to the formation of American democracy. **Free!**

Thomas Paine Memorial Building, 983 North Avenue, New Rochelle, NY 10804.

<https://www.thomaspainecottage.org/paineday2025.html>



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

New York Labor History Association

OFFICERS:

President – Irwin Yellowitz / iyellowitz@aol.com

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

Calendar Committee: Joe Doyle (chair), Martha Foley, Deborah Green, Arieh Lebowitz, Gail Malmgreen, Claude Scales, Susan Wilson

Join the NY Labor History Association: <https://newyorklaborhistory.org/join/>

Annual Individual Membership: **\$20**

Annual Contributing Membership: **\$50**

CALL FOR ENTRIES

The Debra E. Bernhardt Labor Journalism Prize

The New York Labor History Association's Bernhardt Prize awards \$1,000 to an article that exemplifies great writing for a general audience and furthers the understanding of the history of

working people. The prize and the forum honor the vision of the late Debra E. Bernhardt, who worked in so many different realms to share the hidden histories of working people.

Catching up after a year without an award, the current contest will accept entries published September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2026. **DEADLINE FOR ENTRY – August 31, 2026**

GUIDELINES – We welcome articles that put current issues like work, housing, organizing, health, or education in a historical context AND also articles about historical events. The work must be published in print or online between September 1, 2024 and August 31, 2026. The prize is given to insightful work that contributes to the understanding of labor history; shows creativity; demonstrates excellence in writing; can reach a broad audience; and adheres to the highest journalistic standards of accuracy. Previous winners are listed below.

TO ENTER – Visit LaborArts.org/Bernhardt