



2026 Events



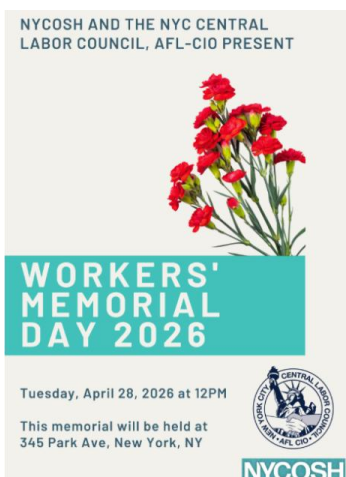
Mon, **April 27**, 5 pm

Partners: How Starbucks Baristas Started a Labor Revolution

Film Screening/Q&A: In 2020 when “Inside Organizers” recruited baristas in Buffalo, NY, Starbucks rushed in 100 specially-trained corporate executives and managers from across the U.S. Captured video shows Starbucks’ elaborate, illegal anti-union campaign – and inspired efforts by workers and organizers to unionize, which galvanized 11,000+ Starbucks baristas nationwide to organize. **Free!**

IATSE Local One Young Workers Committee and **Working Films**: 320 W46 St, 2nd floor, NYC.

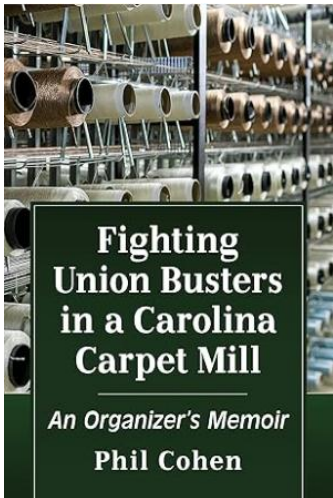
RSVP: YoungWorkersCommittee@IATSE-Local1.org



Tu, **April 28**, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Workers Memorial Day 2026

Commemoration: honoring those who died or suffered injuries or illnesses on the job; recognizing sacrifices made by essential workers; and renewing the fight for strong safety and health protections. Organized by the **NYC Central Labor Council** and **NY Committee for Occupational Safety and Health**. **Free!** 345 Park Av, NYC, site of last summer's fatal shooting of four workers including SEIU 32BJ member **Aland Etienne**.

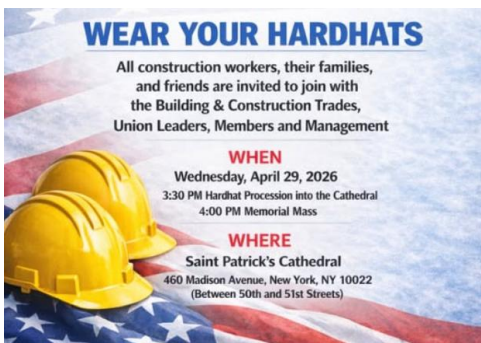


Tu, **April 28**, 7 pm

Fighting Union Busters in Carolina Carpet Mills

Irwin Nack Workers' Memorial Day Observance

Book Talk: author **Phil Cohen** discusses his 2017 experience exposing union-busting by Mohawk Industries. Hybrid in-person/Zoom program. **Donations welcome.** **American Labor Museum/ Botto House**, 83 Norwood St, Haledon, NJ 07508. For the ZOOM link, call: (973) 595-7953. labormuseum@gmail.com www.american-labor-museum.org



Wed, **April 29**, 3:30 pm

Memorial Hardhat Mass

for Construction Workers Killed or Injured on Worksites

Memorial Mass: All construction workers, their families, and friends are invited to join the Building & Construction Trades, along with union leaders, members, and management, for a Memorial Mass honoring workers killed or injured on jobsites during 2025 and early 2026. Hardhat procession into the cathedral: 3:30 pm. Memorial Mass: 4 pm. Attendees are encouraged to wear their hardhats in solidarity and remembrance. **Saint Patrick's Cathedral**, 460 Madison Av @50th St, NYC. **Info:** Fr. Brian Jordan (917) 566-5214 or Linda Camacho, BCTC (212) 647-0700, ext. 2.

May is Labor History Month!



Fri, **May 1**, 4 - 6:30 pm

NYC May Day 2026: We Will Not Be Silent

March: Commemorate International Workers Day. Celebrate the bravery of workers throughout history who sacrificed for safety, dignity and justice on the job. Stand up to billionaires threatening our rights and freedoms. **NYC Central Labor Council & NY Immigration Coalition Free!**

Gather in Washington Square Park. March in solidarity down Broadway to Foley Square.

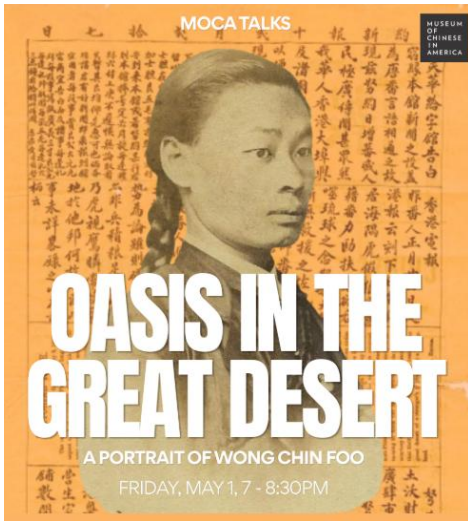
https://www.mobilize.us/aflcio/event/932768/?link_id=21&can_id=8d9c15c62627f161802



Fri, **May 1**, 6:30 pm

May Day Festival

Outdoor Festival: Instrumental and vocal performances (part sing-along, part history lesson) by **George Mann**, accompanied by **Marty Confurius & Al Podber**. **The NJ Industrial Union Council's "Solidarity Singers"** will perform. *Fight Like Hell: The Testimony of Mother Jones* (2022, 55 min.) will be screened. **\$10. American Labor Museum/Botto House**, 83 Norwood St, Haledon, NJ 07508. (973) 595-7953. labormuseum@gmail.com www.american-labor-museum.org



Fri, **May 1**, 7 – 8:30 pm

Oasis in the Great Desert: A Portrait of Wong Chin Foo

Dramatization/Panel Discussion: Actor/playwright **Richard Chang** brings to life **Wong Chin Foo** (1847-1898) the first Asian-American civil rights leader with a speech he delivered in Chinatown on May 1, 1892 -- days before Congress passed the Geary Act (extending the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act for another ten years). Queens College Pres. **Frank H. Wu** and Historian **Jack Tchen** provide background on **Wong Chin Foo**, editor of the first U.S. Chinese-language newspaper.

\$20; \$15 Srs, Students. Museum of Chinese in America 215 Centre St, NYC.

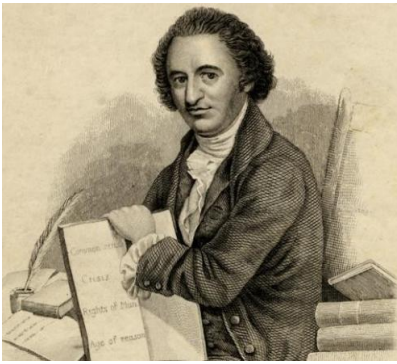
<https://www.mocanyc.org/event/moca-talks-oasis-in-the-great-desert/>



Fri, **May 1**, 5 – 6:30 pm

Stories from Harlem's Artists

Storytelling: In partnership with The Moth storytelling workshop, a group of Harlem performing artists demonstrate how stories can be tools that celebrate and help to advocate for individual artists. part of the Creative Labor, Creative Conditions campaign. **Free! Apollo's Jonelle Procope Theater:** 233 W125th St, 3rd Floor, NYC. **RSVP required:** <https://events.blackthorn.io/en/5fAWdcJ7/the-moth-x-the-apollo-present-stories-from-harlem-artists-4a26QmcFxJ/overview>



Fri, **May 1**, 6:30 pm

Thomas Paine and the Roots of Early Labor Unions: The Case of the Excise Officers

Book Talk: **Paul Myles**, a director of The Thomas Paine Society UK, reconstructs **Thomas Paine's** career as a government officer (prior to his departure for America) and reveals how his experiences inside Britain's largest revenue-collecting institution shaped his political ideology. Paine's 1772 pamphlet emerged from a nationwide campaign by thousands of poorly paid excise officers seeking reform -- arguably the first organized national labor movement within the British state and a precursor to modern trade unionism. **Thomas Paine Memorial Building**, 983 North Av, New Rochelle, NY 10804. <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/aEPQ-lwKSv-sQh0uFtrwLg#/registration>

NEW YORK CITY LABOR CHORUS

35TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

Special appearance by Resistance Revival Chorus

**SAT, MAY 2
4PM**

**NEW YORK SOCIETY FOR
ETHICAL CULTURE**
2 West 64th Street
NYC

Tickets: \$25

Tickets available at the door

Advance tickets available via Zelle to:
New York City Labor Chorus
nyclc2@aol.com
*Please specify on Zelle your name and
how many tickets. Tickets will be held
for you at the door.*



<https://nyclaborchorus.org>



For more information:
Jeff Vogel 917-597-7933

Sat, **May 2**, 4 pm

New York City Labor Chorus: 35th Anniversary Concert

Choral Concert: **NYCLC** with guest appearance by the **Resistance Revival Chorus**. **\$25**.
Society for Ethical Culture 2 W64 St, NYC. Buy tickets at the door -- or in advance via Zelle:
nyclc2@aol.com. Include your name and number of tickets so they can be held at the door.
Info: Jeff Vogel (917) 597-7933 or nyclaborchorus.org.



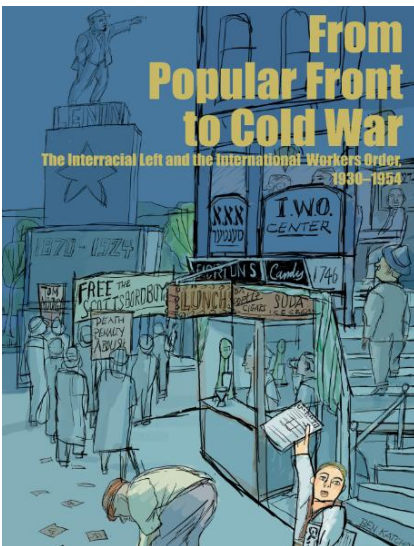
Sat, **May 2**, 1 pm

We Built New York

Walking Tour: Discover what made New York City “the cradle of the American labor movement.”

Sites associated with **Samuel Gompers**, **Emma Goldman**, **Peter Cooper**, **Clara Lemlich**, the first Labor Day Parade (1882), the founding of the ILGWU, the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire, and the 1836 Stonecutter’s Riot. **\$30. \$20** Srs, full-time students.

Big Onion Walking Tours. [Labor History Tour – We Built New York | Big Onion Walking Tours](#)



Sun, **May 3**, 2 pm

Making Music Together:

Interracial Alliances and the Politics of Solidarity

Panel Discussion: **Jennifer Young** and **Elissa Sampson** speak of three feminist figures pivotal to the founding of the IWO’s interracial left: **Clara Lemlich Shavelson**, **Louise Thompson Patterson**, & **June Gordon**, who worked together in the International Workers Order (IWO), a left wing, pro-Soviet fraternal order. Panelists, including **Jenny Romaine**, explore the musical, artistic and political interweaving of feminist Jewish and Black identity in programmatic political work and cultural productions prior to the 1960s mainstream civil rights movement. **Ethel Raim**, from the Jewish Young Folksingers (an “integrated” choral group founded by the Jewish Section of the IWO) describes Yiddish choruses and folk performances that persisted during the Cold War after the IWO and its Jewish Section were legally shutdown in 1954. **Free!** **City Lore** 56 E1st St, NYC.

Space limited. **RSVP:** <https://tinyurl.com/w9f9zt8v>



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, Building E. **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*



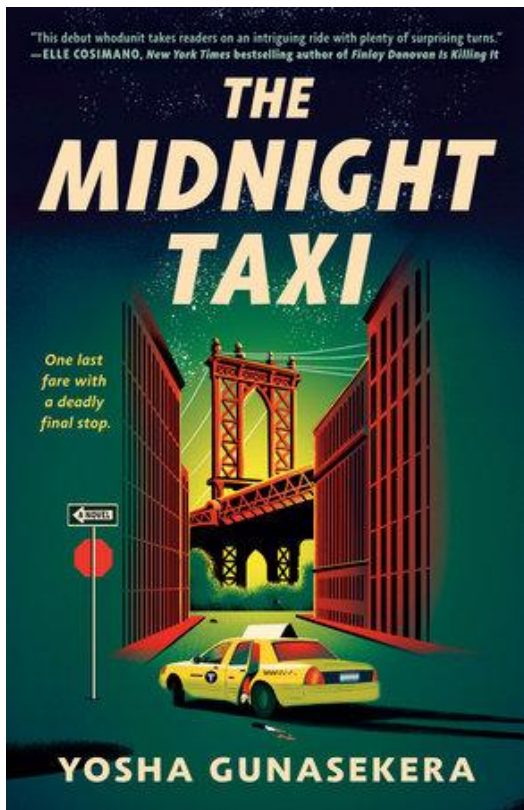
Joshua K. Blay

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

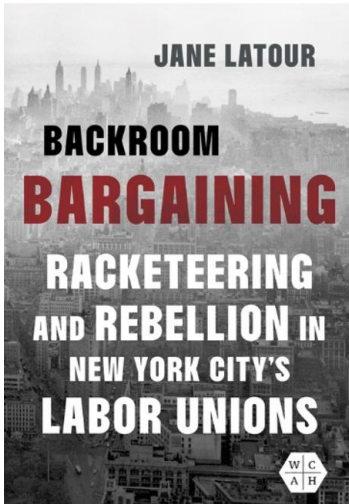


Panel Discussion: labor historians review major developments during the last half century in American labor -- and implications for the future. 50th anniversary reflections on what NYLHA has been able to do to advance an understanding of labor history as a bridge between the past and the present. Socializing and 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