



“Wall Street didn’t build this country. The middle class built this country. And UNIONS built the middle class.”

“Unions did in fact build the middle class. And here's what that did. That built the United States as we know it.”

• *President Joe Biden –*

VOC MISSION STATEMENT

"Our mission is to mobilize and empower our DC4 community to make a positive and lasting impact on the causes and initiatives we support.

Through effective organization, collaboration, and a shared commitment to creating change, we strive to build a better future for our Union and beyond. We believe that by uniting our efforts, we can address pressing social and economic issues, foster goodwill, and inspire others to join us in our mission of service and advocacy.”

All VOC members are welcome to join our Facebook Group [here](#).



OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION



• **2024 Rochester Labor Film Series (September through November @ Eastman House Dryden Theater, 900 East Ave, Rochester):** The Rochester Labor Council and George Eastman Museum have shown over 300 labor-themed movies. The films represent several genres and encompass a wide range of issues; from the conditions of work and the workplace to organizing struggles, from discrimination and redundancy to globalization and immigration, from blue and white to pink collars. Since its inception, the Labor Film Series has become part of Rochester's cultural calendar. Its expanding audience includes many who attend regularly and contact us to suggest films and to inquire about the program. To date nearly 33,000 movie lovers have come to the Dryden Theatre to see our labor-themed films. **Find the full 2024 Film Schedule [here](#).**

- **Labor Notes Stewards' Workshop: Fighting the Wrongs of Management Rights (September 10, 2024):** This workshop has limited capacity and is for stewards and elected officers who work with stewards - not staff. Please register only if this applies to you. Management rights clauses have found their way into almost all union contracts. The longer and more detailed these clauses get, the more they can undermine your ability to influence how workplace changes affect workers. Learn why these clauses are so dangerous and, more importantly, how to make sure workers have a voice no matter what the "management's rights" clause says. **Register [here](#).**
- **Labor Notes Workshop: Democratic Rights for Union Members (September 18, 2024):** The Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act provides union members a bill of rights, requires unions to publicly disclose certain details about their governance, and regulates union elections and trusteeships of local unions by international unions. Learn how to use the law to build rank-and-file power in your union, and how to defend that power once you've built it! **Register [here](#).**
- **Labor Notes Buffalo Troublemakers School 2024 (October 19, 2024):** This workshop is in-person in Buffalo, NY at the UAW Region 9 Hall, 35 George Karl Blvd, Ste 100, 14211. Join Labor Notes and labor activists from around the area to strategize, share skills, and learn ways to organize to win. Troublemakers Schools are day-long mini-conferences that cover organizing skills and highlight real-world examples of taking on the boss - and winning. Whether you're new to union activism or are an experienced union activist, there's something there for you! **Register [here](#).**



IUPAT 33rd General Convention Recap

While we'll be discussing details of the General Convention in our upcoming local union meetings, VOC meeting and District Council Delegate meeting, here are some links to the resolutions voted on at the convention, as well as links to recap videos of each day of the Convention.

- [Convention Resolutions](#)
- [Day 1 Recap](#)
- [Day 2 Recap](#)
- [Day 3 Recap](#)



VOC PREGAME

Our next VOC Pregame and Meeting will be held in **Rochester, September 19, 2024 @ 4:30pm**. Hope to see you there or on Zoom!

PHOTO CONTEST

Submit your photos [here](#)! Photos from the field help promote our union trades and display our impact in our local communities. Plus, you could win a gas card!

EDUCATE, AGITATE, ORGANIZE!

Cesar Chavez: CESAR CHAVEZ chronicles the birth of a modern American movement led by famed civil rights leader and labor organizer, Cesar Chavez. Torn between his duties as a husband and father and his commitment to bringing dignity and justice to others, Chavez embraced non-violence as he battled greed and prejudice in his struggle for the rights of farm workers. His triumphant journey is a remarkable testament to the power of one individual's ability to change the system.

If you have questions or suggestions for the VOC Newsletter, please email jguza@dc4.org.

