

## Labor and the media: the transit strike



Photo: MSNBC

By UPPNET News Editor

Organized labor is constantly bashed in the mainstream media. There is no news here. In the 150 year history of the New York Times, the paper has never endorsed or given support to any strike, anywhere in the United States. Not much news here either.

The recent transit strike in New York was no exception. Every single major media outlet attacked the transit workers calling them all kinds of names, impugning their commitment and trashing their abilities. Roger Toussaint,

the leader of the union, was criticized constantly.

In spite of the barrage of attacks many New Yorkers supported the union—at least initially. But in any public worker strike the public has to be part of the strike support. In order for the union to win decent settlements the public has to be an important ally in any strike mobilization and strategy. The key to winning the public over is a long-term, well-planned campaign to reach the public through the media. After all, in New York and in most major cities “the public” are other working people who need well funded public services in order to survive and prosper. Pitting the public against the public workers is a key aspect of the employers’ strategy and must be countered with equal force and thought by the union.

Did local 100 have a choice? Could the local have responded differently? In the New York case the answer is yes.

Starting in March of 2005 local 100 was approached repeatedly to plan a media strategy and get their voice out on the radio. The idea was that if the union could reach people on a constant basis with their story, and the story of the funding and needs of the subway system, that they would set the framework for the difficult negotiations soon to come. When a segment of the work force—in this case the transit workers—have benefits greater than many of the people who ride the subways, it is particularly important that the union reach out and mobilize other workers to support the transit workers, and to see the transit worker fight as their fight.

Yet in the months prior to the expiration of the contract no meaningful media outreach occurred. The average person living in metro New York heard nothing from the union until just a few days before the strike began—and what they did hear came through the mainstream media.

There was no recognizable union voice on any major media outlet in New York City. While this is usually the case in labor disputes, the difference in New York lay in the possibility that the union had an alternative. Stations such as the Air America affiliate in New York approached all the unions in the city with the possibility of getting their views on the air in a consistent cost-effective manner. By and large this offer has been refused.

As the strike began and the clear desire of Governor Pataki to break the union became evident, the need for active public support—rather passive acceptance of the strike— was evident to all. But it was too late to then educate and motivate. In fact the most widespread use of the mass media by the union occurred after the strike, when the union leadership ran commercial urging union members to accept the contract.

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## LaborTech gets new website

From LaborTech 2006 Organizing Committee

LaborTech is planning to hold another international labor/media communication conference this coming November 16th, 17th & 18th, 2006 in San Francisco. The Digital Revolution & A Labor Media Strategy will be the focus of this important labor communication conference. There will be panels and workshops on how to produce labor radio and labor video programs and get them on cable and the internet, how to break the information blockade and how unionists and union local, councils and Internationals can use new communication technology to organize and get information out to their members and to the public about their critical issues. We will also look at how the convergence of the digital revolution and the internet is affecting the outsourcing of jobs in the US and throughout the world and what is being done to organize these workers. We need your endorsement and support.

Our new web site [www.labortech.net](http://www.labortech.net) will also present papers around these issues and we will be streaming parts of the conference on the internet.

## Labor Notes Conference panel: Strategies for Labor Media

Labor needs some new ideas for communicating with members and the public. Our speakers discuss a national workers' radio project, using a website in an ambitious organizing drive, starting a citywide labor newspaper, and how new leaders in the International Labor Communications Association are attempting to help make union newspapers more democratic. Panelists: Frank Emspak, WINS Radio; Marty Fishgold, International Labor Communications Association; Bernie Hesse, UFCW Local 789; Richard Harding, Canadian Auto Workers Local 200; Chair: Leah Samuel, Labor Notes

The Labor Notes Conference will take place on May 5–7. More info: <http://labornotes.org/conferences/index.shtml>

From WIN radio

## California teachers protest one-sided ABC broadcast

By Doug Cunningham

March 9, 2006—From New York to Los Angeles Wednesday hundreds of members of the America Federation of Teachers protested ABC's airing of a John Stossel story that teachers say was a one-sided attack on public education, teachers and their union. Fred Glass, Communications Director for the California Federation of Teachers. He says the Stossel piece relied on false right-wing media talking points.

Fred Glass: "Public education is always, quote, failing, unquote. And teacher unions are always in the way of reform and any kind of efforts to improve public education. Neither is true, but if they repeat these lies often enough they figure that they're going to make a big dent in public opinion. And that's what they've managed to do over the years."

[www.laborradio.org/node/2777](http://www.laborradio.org/node/2777)

## ABC's download pay irks unions

By Jesse Hiestand, [www.backstage.com](http://www.backstage.com)

February 28, 2006—ABC's decision Monday to use the discounted, home video rate to pay residuals for iPod digital downloads has angered Hollywood's above-the-line unions and set the stage for a legal showdown.

SAG pledged to file an arbitration against ABC for introducing digital downloads without first bargaining with the union and for seeking to use a residual formula crafted more than 20 years ago to address the emerging videocassette business. That formula allows studios to retain 80% of revenue to cover manufacturing, marketing and other costs while paying residuals out of the remaining 20%.

"Today, ABC advised the guild that it intends to pay residuals to performers based on the video-cassette formula — a formula that does not apply to this new platform," SAG president Alan Rosenberg said. "ABC's actions are flatly inconsistent with our collective-bargaining agreements and with labor law obligations and fail to fairly compensate performers for the use of their work and images."

The Walt Disney Co. reiterated its position that the iPod downloads should be covered under the home video residual formula in a statement issued Monday.

"If the guilds have a different point of view, they have the right to challenge the company's determination before a neutral arbitrator. In the end, this is simply a dispute over how to interpret a provision under agreements that provide the means for resolving that dispute," Disney said.

Rosenberg said legal action would be taken against any other company that violated SAG's contract.

WGA East and West also said they will pursue legal action for the perceived violation of their contract. The writers believe that a more applicable formula would be that of pay TV, which pays a 1.2% residual rate out of 100% of revenue.

"ABC's unilateral decision to pay digital-download residuals at the home video rate is a violation of our contract and an insult to our hard-working members," WGAW president Patric Verrone said. "It is unacceptable, and we will aggressively pursue all legal options at our disposal."

Added WGAE president Chris Albers, "The members of our guilds demand the companies pay what they are contractually obligated to pay and not a paltry residual rate based on an irrelevant home video formula from the age of Betamax."

DGA also said it plans to pursue legal action over this application of the home video formula. "Such payments are not consistent with the DGA's collective-bargaining agreement, and we will be filing claims against ABC and any other company that pays residuals on video iPod downloads according to the home video formula," DGA president Michael Apted said.

The controversy started in October when Apple Computer introduced the video iPod and the ability to buy episodes of "Lost," "Desperate Housewives" and other ABC shows through the iTunes store for \$1.99.

The announcement blindsided the unions, which had not been consulted beforehand. AFTRA, DGA, SAG and WGA immediately issued a joint statement saying that they had "not yet heard from the responsible employers of our

*continued on page 3*

## **Cape Town, South Africa: International Workshop**



# **Workers' Education and Workers' Media in a Global Economy**

[www.wwrp.org.za/frames.htm](http://www.wwrp.org.za/frames.htm)

The International Federation of Workers' Education Associations in partnership with Workers' World Media Productions will be hosting the Workers' Education & Workers' Media in a Global Economy on April 4-7, 2006, Cape Town.

New technologies and new ideas are opening up new possibilities for trade unions, labour media producers and service groups and workers' education organisations—potentially engaging many more workers in education programmes through the imaginative use of print, radio, film, video, music, and the new media of the Internet.

In 2003, IFWEA took the decision to launch a new programme designed to explore how we could develop international co-operation between media and education groups—and potentially a new international network to share and co-produce new material and new projects.

The programme is to be launched with an international workshop, to be held in Cape Town, South Africa, from April 4-7 2006, to which all IFWEA member and partner organisations are invited to attend. The workshop will provide an opportunity to introduce exciting and innovative work in labour media, share experiences and ideas on harnessing media to workers' education, and enable us to develop practical plans for co-operation.

Thanks to the support of FNV Mondiaal, we are able to provide financial support to a limited number of Southern-based affiliates to cover costs of accommodation and transport.

There is no fee to participate in the workshop. Good quality hotel accommodation will be available at the workshop venue, costing R550 (USD 90) for a single room, or R300 (USD 50) for a shared room, per night.

If you wish to attend the workshop, please complete the attached form and return to:

IFWEA Media Workshop  
c/o Workers' World Media Productions  
PO Box 245, Cape Town, 8000, South Africa  
Fax : +27 21 448 5076

Or email: [martin@wwrp.org.za](mailto:martin@wwrp.org.za)

We look forward to welcoming you to Cape Town.

In solidarity,

Dave Spooone, IFWEA      Martin Jansen, WWMP

*[UPPNET is planning on sending a representative to this event, and will make a report in our next issue.]*

## **The Media and NYC Transit Strike** *Continued from p. 1*

In New York, and in other cities as well, it is now possible to get the union voice heard—if our movement is prepared to invest in a long-term media strategy. The funds are there—it is a question of using them in a strategic manner—and recognizing that the public, mainly other working people, are a necessary part of any union struggle of significance. As a recent article in ILCA Reporter noted, California unions won the battle of the referenda by the astute and continuous use of the media. But he warned that unions might lose the war. He urged unions to transform their media strategy from a campaign-oriented approach to one of being a constant presence, so that the union movement, as a representative of the interests of working people, could shape public opinion, and not just react to it.

### **Labor radio coverage of NYC Transit Strike**

Check the archives of these web sites for labor radio coverage of the NYC Transit strike:

- Building Bridges, Your community and labor report, [www.wbai.org](http://www.wbai.org)
- WIN, Workers Independent News, [www.laborradio.org](http://www.laborradio.org)

## **Call for labor films & videos** *Continued from p. 8*

Please mail the following:

- 1) Application form
- 2) Video/Films
- 3) Any publicity materials if you have (poster/pictures/reviews etc.)
- 4) If you want your tape to be returned, please include self addressed envelope with postage

Mail these to:

LaborFest/International Working Class Film & Video Festival, PO Box 720027, San Francisco, CA 94172

For more information: 415-282-1908, [laborfest@laborfest.net](mailto:laborfest@laborfest.net), [www.laborfest.net/2006/2006film%20info.htm](http://www.laborfest.net/2006/2006film%20info.htm)

## **ABC's download pay irks union** *Continued from p. 2*

members” and looked forward to discussing the formula.

NBC and other programmers followed ABC's lead in selling episodes through iTunes, while a host of other shows have been made available to watch or own through Google and mobile phone companies.

SAG officials said they had been in discussions with ABC to find a mutually acceptable residual formula and were surprised at the response they got Monday.

Since ABC broke ground in this new medium, it also was the first to owe residuals, which are only now starting to roll in.

The unions want to prevent the industry from setting a precedent, especially one that seems to equate the virtual nature of downloads with the tangible nature of such hard product as videocassettes and their successors, DVDs.

This same formula was a central point of contention in the last round of negotiations two years ago, when union members unsuccessfully sought higher DVD residuals.



## May Day Labor Film Festival

5th Annual Reel Work  
May Day Labor Film Festival  
Santa Cruz County, CA  
[www.reelwork.org](http://www.reelwork.org)

We are pleased to announce our 2006 Program of Events, full of films, film makers, speakers, music and more!

This year Reel Work is April 23th to May 1st, International Workers Day



### Istanbul/Ankara

## First call for the 2006 International Labor Film & Video Festival

We are laborers, labor union activists, unionists, academicians and mass organizations in Turkey. We are organizing The First International Labor Film

And Video Festival in Istanbul and Ankara, in Turkey between April 30 and May 7, 2006, during the May Day celebration.

We invite you for your endorsement and participation.

This non-competitive festival is devoted to the screening of video and film on the lives and struggle of working class people all around the world, for the exchange and collectivizing of the experiences of the filmmakers, as documentary or fiction works of groups and individuals, committed to labor struggle; to spread the works that show the struggle of workers, unemployed, students, farmers and women as well as screening films that show the popular uprisings across the world. We believe this will help arouse interest in labor films and promote their production in Turkey and around the world.

The festival dates are set to follow the mass May Day activities. For a week, there will be a variety of events related with the labor movement in Turkey. On April 30 2006, the participants of the festival will commemorate the massacre of the 37 May Day participants in 1977, participate the May Day March in Istanbul, and visit a site of labor struggle.

If you have any queries about the festival, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to hearing from you.

In solidarity

DISK Basin-Is (Confederation of Progressive Trade Unions (DISK), Press Workers Union of Turkey), Halkevleri (People's Houses)  
[sendika.org](http://sendika.org)

Endorsers: San Francisco LaborFest (ABD); The Labor Video Project (ABD); LaborNet-US (ABD); James Petras (ABD)

For Contact: [laborfest@sendika.org](mailto:laborfest@sendika.org)  
[www.sendika.org/laborfest](http://www.sendika.org/laborfest)

### New LaborVision (Rhode Island) Series

## How Government Decisions Affect Working Families

Brought to you by  
Institute for Labor Studies  
Working Rhode Island



Additional Sponsors to Date:  
UA of Plumbing and Pipefitting  
RI Council 94 AFSCME  
National Education Association RI  
RI Fed. of Teachers and Health Professionals  
IBEW Local 99  
SEIU State Council  
Painters & Allied Trades DC 11  
RI Building Trades Council

Tues., March 14, 7-8 pm  
Thurs., March 16, 8-9 pm  
Sat., March 18, 5-6 pm

Tues., March 21, 7-8 pm  
Thurs., March 23, 8-9 pm  
Sat., March 25, 5-6 pm  
Statewide Interconnect B Channel 14

To sign up for monthly LaborVision updates,:

[www.laborvision.org/contact.html](http://www.laborvision.org/contact.html)

## NPR has put employees on mute

Fairness in the workplace is just as important as fairness in reporting, except at National Public Radio. Before skilled technicians reviewed their latest contract, management threatened to end talks if it wasn't approved. But technicians refused to sign off on a bad deal. So management walked.

Management still won't negotiate with NABET-CWA and continues to make sweeping changes in technical work without regard to the quality of its product, its dedicated employees or listeners.

NPR broke off negotiations with NABET-CWA after a resounding vote by members to reject the company's "last, best and final" offer. NPR then illegally implemented parts of their contractual changes. NABET-CWA technicians and AFTRA reporters and producers have filed unfair labor practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board because of the job shifting caused by the implementation.

Visit [www.unionvoice.org/campaign/sosnpr/x8is5d447wd5bk](http://www.unionvoice.org/campaign/sosnpr/x8is5d447wd5bk) to tell NPR management to give workers respect, not threats, and return to the bargaining table.

In Unity,  
CWA e-Activist Network

## New labor videos/films

### Documentary film about airline workers & the industry



#### In a letter to KPFA Labor Collective:

Greetings,

My name is Melissa Koch and I am the daughter of a striking AMFA Local 33 mechanic who has been working on aircraft for 40 years. I am also a production assistant for a current film you may already have heard of, The Red Tail. You can check out our video preview streaming online at [www.redtailmovie.com](http://www.redtailmovie.com)

The Red Tail is a feature-length documentary film that looks beyond the headlines of the historic struggle between Northwest Airlines and the workers whose loyalty and dedication built the company. From a two-plane company in 1926, Northwest Airlines has become the fourth largest airline in world. Through a combination of personal stories of mechanics, flight attendants, pilots, ground workers, and union organizers, The Red Tail will explore this battle over money, power, and pride.

The Red Tail is not just the story of Northwest Airlines, this is the story of the state of the airline industry all over the world. The outsourcing of labor, removal of pensions, and corporate bankruptcy at Northwest Airlines raises much larger questions about where we want to go as a society.

I am writing today because I,m hoping that the you would consider placing a banner ad for The Red Tail on the main page of your website. (You can find these ads posted at [www.redtailmovie.com/bannerads.html](http://www.redtailmovie.com/bannerads.html)) We believe that independent media makers and workers around the world will be interested in helping us spread the word about unions and the state of the airline industry. Documentary film has the power to generate mass public support in a way unparalleled by any other form of media. Once the budget is raised, we will go into full production and tell the story of the workers to the masses!

We have already been receiving a great deal of media attention since production began. Our website traffic has skyrocketed to over 5,500 visitors per day and the numbers keep going up. If every visitor donated as little as \$20 US apiece, we would have our entire film budget raised in less than 3 days. This can be done! But we need to spread the word!

This film project has hit a chord with people around the world. Given this interest, we have begun development of an aggressive grassroots distribution campaign. In order to do this, however, we need to build a large global network

## Are You A Teamster? The Tom Leedham 2006 Campaign



Video by Labor Beat, 30 minutes. Follows candidate for IBT General Presidency Tom Leedham during a few days campaigning among Chicago-area Teamsters. Includes stump speech in which he outlines campaign issues. Also a special interview, in which Leedham discusses AFL-CIO split and the role of democracy in the unions, Stern's labor-management model for CTW, and the UPS strike. To order "Are You A Teamster? The Tom Leedham 2006 Campaign", send check for \$15 to: Labor Beat, 37 S. Ashland Ave., Chicago, IL 60607. Indicate whether dvd or vhs. More info: [mail@laborbeat.org](mailto:mail@laborbeat.org), 312-226-3330

### Auto Workers protest Detroit Auto Show

This video is by Labor Video Project. On January 8, 2006 over 500 auto workers protested outside the entrance of the North American International Auto show in Detroit, Michigan. The rally which was called by Soldiers of Solidarity included auto and parts plant workers from the US and Canada. 10 minutes 14 MB QuickTime movie: [www.indybay.org/uploads/detroit.mov](http://www.indybay.org/uploads/detroit.mov)

Over 500 auto assembly and parts plant workers as well as retired auto workers protested against the attacks on wages, pensions and healthcare by the auto companies. They also were angry that the UAW leadership refused to support the rally or other labor protests against these attacks. The rally was called by Soldiers of Solidarity ([www.soldiersofsolidarity.com](http://www.soldiersofsolidarity.com)) and included auto and parts plants workers from throughout the Midwest. For more info: Labor Video Project, P.O.Box 720027, San Francisco, CA 94172; (415) 282-1908; [lvpsf@labornet.org](mailto:lvpsf@labornet.org)

of union members.

Please let me know if this is something that you would be willing to do. We are looking for unions and independent media sources to stand in solidarity with this project, AMFA National, AMFA Locals' 33, 5, 8, 2 and 11, IAM Local 1040, the PFAA, NWA ALPA and other non-union websites have already agreed to posting a banner ad.

Respectfully,

Melissa Koch, Production Assistant, The Red Tail  
[www.redtailmovie.com](http://www.redtailmovie.com), 651-291-7727

# SEIU develops network of community access television producers

By Lori Ellis, Communications Specialist, SEIU 503

Recently, we held a workshop for members all across the state to gather together and hear about the opportunities community access television offers them in getting labor's message out to the public.

We asked a senior staff member at CCTV—Salem, Oregon's access station—to attend the workshop and give an orientation presentation to the attendees. We also had our communications director here at Local 503 speak to the members about general messaging, tips on how to best present yourself on television, public speaking, etc.

We produced a video, which was shown at the workshop, explaining the benefits of utilizing this medium and

giving examples of similar programming being done in other areas that might aid in developing a format for their own programs. Each participant received a binder that contained a copy of that video, planning and production information, and a list of access stations across the state.

After a question and answer session, our members wrote their contact information on a list, and that list was given to all participants. Thus...the beginning of the network of potential SEIU labor programming producers in Oregon!

For more information:  
ellis@opecseiu.org  
(503) 581-1505, ext. 136

## Introductory Training: Community Access Television

YOU can produce television programming that gives workers a voice. Call the shots, and tell our story! No Experience Necessary!

Community Access Television enables people to express their creativity, explore important issues and exercise their First Amendment Rights through television.

Public access facilities across the state provide training from the ground up; expertise and production tools for local residents and nonprofit organizations to produce their own non-commercial programming for cable and webcasting.

You can be part of SEIU's own network of labor productions.

The curriculum includes information on how to get involved in your area, and an orientation video.

Community Access offers a great opportunity for member-made labor television! For more information:

[www.seiu503.org/videos/catvfrontpg.cfm](http://www.seiu503.org/videos/catvfrontpg.cfm)  
[www.seiu503.org/videos/catvbinder.cfm](http://www.seiu503.org/videos/catvbinder.cfm)



John Cook, Home-care, trained at his local Community Access station.



## US & Canadian Labor Broadcast Programs\*

Show Title, Producer, City/Station, Phone No.

*Fighting Back*, Ralph Kessler, Berkeley, CA, 510-845-9285, KUSF 90.3 FM  
*David Bacon on Labor*, David Bacon, Berkeley, CA, 510-549-0291, KPSA 94.1 FM  
*Labor Line*, Steve Zeltzer, San Fran., CA, 415-282-1908, SFLR 93.7 FM,  
*Working LA*, Henry Walton, Panorama City, CA, 818-894-4079, KPFF 90.7 FM  
*Talking Union*, Larry Dorman, Rock Hill, CT, 880-571-6191, WATR 1320 AM  
*Labor Express*, Jerry Mead, Chicago, IL, 312-226-3330, WLUW 88.7 FM  
*Labor Beat*, Larry Duncan, Chicago, IL, 312-226-3330, Chan. 19, cable tv  
*Illinois Labor Hour*, Bill Gorrell, Champaign, IL, 217-359-9338, WEFT 90.1 FM  
*AFSCME On-Line*, Dan Hart, Dorchester, MA, 617-266-3496, cable-tv  
*Heartland Labor Forum*, Judy Ancel, Kansas City, MO, 816-235-1470, KKFI 90.1 FM  
*Minnesota at Work*, Howard Kling, Minneapolis, MN, 612-624-5020, MCN Cable  
*Building Bridges*, Ken Nash, New York, NY, 212-815-1699, WBAI 99.5 FM  
*Communique*, Bill Henning, New York, NY, 212-228-6565, WNYE 91.5 FM  
*It's Your City, It's Our Job*, Pat Passanilin, New York, NY, 212-815-1535, WNYE 91.5 FM  
*America's Work Force*, Jerrod Sorkey, Eastlake, OH, 440-975-4262, WERE 1300 AM  
*Boiling Point*, Michael Wood, Cincinnati, OH, 513-961-4348, WAIF 88.3 FM  
*Talking Union*, John Lavin, Norristown, PA, 610-660-3372, WHAT 1340 AM  
*Labor on the Job*, Steve Zeltzer, San Fran., CA, 415-282-1908, BUT Ch. 29 cable  
*Rhode Island Labor Vision*, Chuck Schwartz, Cranston, RI, 401-463-9900, Ch. 14, cable-tv  
*Talkin' Union Labor*, Rick Levy, Austin, TX, 512-477-6195 internet radio  
*Which Side Are You On?*, Hal Leyshon, Middlesex, VT, 802-223-4172, radio  
*Radio Labor Journal*, Bil Borders, Everett, WA, 425-921-3454, KSER 90.7 FM  
*WIN*, Frank Emspak, Madison, WI, 608) 262-0680, www.laborradio.org  
*LaborVision*, John Webb, St. Louis, MO, 314-962-4163, DHTV,  
*OPEU Productions*, Wes Brain, Ashland, OR, 541-482-6988, cable-tv  
*Labor Link TV*, Fred Lonidier, La Jolla, CA, 619-552-0740, cable-tv,  
*First Tuesday*, Leo Canty, Connecticut, 860-257-9782, cable-tv,  
*Letter Carriers*, Carl Bryant, San Fran., CA, 415-885-0375, Today TV 214, cable-tv,  
*726 Express*, Stewart Ransom, New York, NY, 718-761-6681, Staten Is. Cable  
*Rank-And-File*, Larry Maglio, New York, NY, N.A, Staten Is. Cable  
*Labor on the Line*, David King, Portland, OR  
*working TV*, Julius Fisher, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 604-253-6222  
*Labor Radio*, Bill Zimmerman, Portland, OR, 360-695-6552  
*PM Primetimes Labor Show*, Larry Johnson, www.gmptoday.org, Kokomo, IN  
*Working New York*, Mario Cilento, www.nysaficio.org, Albany, NY, 212-777-6040

\*This list may not be complete. Additions contact:  
UPPNET News editor Larry Duncan at: [lduncan@igc.org](mailto:lduncan@igc.org)

## UPPNET National Executive Board

**President:** Howard Kling, producer *Minnesota at Work*, [hkling@csom.umn.edu](mailto:hkling@csom.umn.edu)

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Steve Zeltzer, producer *Labor on The Job*, San Francisco, [lvpsf@labornet.org](mailto:lvpsf@labornet.org)  
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## UPPNET OBJECTIVES:

1. To promote and expand the production and use of television and radio shows pertinent to the cause of organized labor and the issues relevant to all working people.
2. To establish and promote the general distribution and circulation of this programming.
3. To address issues regarding the media and its fair and democratic use and accessibility by labor and other constituencies generally.
4. To encourage and promote the preservation of television and radio broadcasts pertinent to labor.
5. To establish a code of ethic governing television and radio production practices and other such matters UPPNET may determine as relevant to its work.
6. To require all productions to work under a collective bargaining agreement, secure waivers or work in agreement with any television or movie industry union having jurisdiction in the area.

[www.uppnet.org](http://www.uppnet.org)

## IATSE locals sign agreement with internet production

By Lauren Horwitch

February 02, 2006—The International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) scored a victory Jan. 26 in its quest to establish professional working standards on ultra low-budget productions and content produced for the Internet.

Just four hours before the strike deadline, two local IATSE chapters in Tennessee and Northern Mississippi signed a collective bargaining agreement with Lovely by Surprise, a low-budget film slated to premiere on the Internet.

IATSE Local 600 International Cinematographers Guild and IATSE Local 492 Studio Mechanics, with the assistance of IATSE Representative Scott Harbinson, signed the first-time agreement which calls for retroactive benefits, reduced time interval from 16–12 hours, housing guarantees, meal penalties, rest periods, and other professional standards.

## Everett, Washington's new labor radio show

Listen up: If you're in the neighborhood of KSER-FM 90.7 out of Everett Washington—maybe from Whatcom County to north King County—you can pick up the new labor program Part of The Union with Bill Johnston, Ross Rieder and Roger Yockey. Bill and Roger are both retired from UFCW and Ross still works for PNW Labour History Association. The program is labor commentary and news. It airs every third Tuesday at 4:30 pm. The February program was an interview with Luis Moscoso, staff representative of UFCW-WPEA, and secretary of the Washington State Democrats. March interview will be with an activist in the Mal-Wart campaign.

More info: [RossR241@aol.com](mailto:RossR241@aol.com)

**LaborFest 2006**

**Call For Labor Films & Videos for July '06 Including 3 Min. Shorts**

The deadline to submit all videos is May 1, 2006

The 13th annual International Working Class Film and Video Festival is launching a national and international call for labor documentaries, dramatic works or animations.

The videos should illuminate the issues facing working people and the unemployed. They could include the effects on working people of the war in Iraq, repression and democratic rights for working people, the crisis facing retired workers and the growing Wal-Martization of the economy.

If submitted from outside the US, we prefer work that

either contain captions or an English voice over, however, we will accept all submissions.

If work is submitted in languages other than English, a printed narration is requested.

We are also having a competition for 3 minute videos. Producers of those videos chosen will be given 3 minutes to present their videos at the festival.

It will be accepted in PAL or NTSC.

Producers of the videos screened will also invited to present their videos at the festival screenings.

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**For UPPNET News back Issues:  
[www.laborbeat.org/3/uppnetnl.htm](http://www.laborbeat.org/3/uppnetnl.htm)**

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- I want to join UPPNET. Annual dues are \$30, which includes a year's subscription to the newsletter.**

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