

# 2014 San Diego Labor Notes Troublemakers School

October 25, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm ♦ Lincoln High School

**8:30 am-9:00 am Registration** (coffee and light snacks)

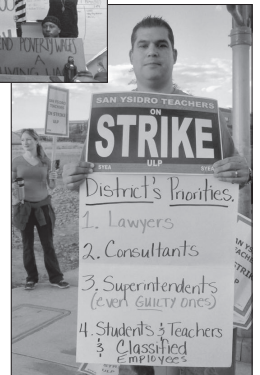
**Opening Plenary 9:00 am-10:00 am**

**Larry Thurman**, social justice educator at Lincoln High School, member,  
San Diego Education Association

**Judy Crespo**, teacher, San Ysidro Education Association

**Elvis de la Cruz**, fast food worker, Fight for \$15 activist

**Mark Brenner**, Labor Notes



**Morning Workshops: 10:00 am-11:30 pm** (see over for details)

1. Beating Apathy
2. Uncovering San Diego's Activist History
3. Assessing San Diego's Fight for \$15
4. Jump-Start Your Union

**11:30 pm-1:00 pm Lunch** (included with registration)

**Afternoon Workshops: 1:00 pm-2:30 pm** (see over for details)

1. Strategies to Fight Education Privatization
2. Secrets of a Successful Organizer
3. Immigration Policies and Labor Organizing
4. Assertive Grievance Handling



**Closing Plenary 2:30 pm-3:30 pm**

**Samantha Winslow**, Labor Notes

**Jesse Hagopian**, Social Equity Educators, Seattle Education  
Association, on the Garfield High School testing boycott  
and the continued struggle to defend public education.



**Social Hour 4:00 pm** at TilTwo Club, 4746 El Cajon Blvd, San Diego.

## Sponsoring Organizations:

San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO, San Diego Education Association, Association of Raza Educators, Coalition of Labor and Community Solidarity, AFT Local 1931, National Union of Healthcare Workers, AFSCME 3299, Union of Professional & Technical Employees-CWA, IWW, UC Student-Workers Union-UAW 2865, California Nurses Association-National Nurses United, SEIU 221, United Nurses Associations of California/Union of Health Care Professionals, and APWU Local 197.

# Workshops

**MORNING 10:00 am - 11:30 pm**

**AFTERNOON 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm**

## 1. Beating Apathy

Are you beating your head against the wall trying to get other workers involved? Hear success stories from workers who turned their workplaces around. Learn practical strategies for engaging your co-workers, taking action, and getting results.

*Cheryl Coney, labor organizer, educator*

*Jim Clifford, National Union of Healthcare Workers*

*Abebe Antalo and Sarah Saez, United Taxi Workers*

## 2. Uncovering San Diego's Activist History

What lessons can we learn from San Diego history? Jim Miller and Kelly Mayhew, authors of *Under The Perfect Sun: The San Diego Tourists Never See*, will tell the history of protest in the city against corruption, union busting, racism and political repression. They will connect the labor and civil rights struggles to present day activism, from immigration justice to the Fight for \$15 and a union.

*Jim Miller, professor of English and Labor Studies, City College, AFT Local 1931*

*Kelly Mayhew, professor of English and Labor Studies coordinator, City College, AFT Local 1931*

## 3. Assessing San Diego's Fight for \$15

Hear the unfiltered accounts of San Diego fast food workers who are part of the nation-wide movement for \$15 and a union. Where does their power lie? Is a union on the horizon? By uniting in strikes, marches, and, civil disobedience, fast food workers have grabbed national headlines and forced elected officials to raise minimum wages in dozens of states and municipalities.

*Kristin Aguirre, fast food worker*

*Elvis de la Cruz, fast food worker*

*Manuela Vargas, fast food worker*

*Facilitator: Nancy Cruz, fast food organizer*

## 4. Jump-Start Your Union

Closed door bargaining sessions, and bread and butter priorities aren't beating back the boss anymore. How can both rank-and-file activists and elected officers revving up their unions? What kind of campaigns boost member participation? How can activists inspire and involve people? This panel will discuss how can unions attract allies and organize around issues that affect not just their members but also patients, students, and the community as a whole?

*Jesse Hagopian, teacher, Seattle Education Association*

*Pam Rood, National Union of Healthcare Workers*

*Daniel Gutiérrez, UC San Diego, UAW 2865*

## 1. Strategies to Fight Education Privatization

How are San Diego education activists fighting off budget cuts and efforts to privatize schools and colleges? Hear from students, K-12 teachers and faculty about keeping public education open for all.

*Miguel Zavala, chair of the Association of Raza Educators State Concilio and assistant professor, California State University, Fullerton.*

*Jesse Hagopian, teacher, Social Equity Educators, Seattle Education Association*

## 2. Secrets of a Successful Organizer

How do you get your co-workers to join you in building union strength and taking on the boss at work? Learn proven strategies that get more members involved. This workshop, perfect for new activists or up-and-coming leaders, will cover the basics of successful organizing. We will examine how to have effective organizing conversations, identify issues in the workplace, and spot potential leaders.

*Samantha Winslow, Labor Notes*

## 3. Immigration Policies and the Challenges of Labor Organizing

This workshop will bring together labor campaigns that attempt to organize migrant workers and explore the laws that make organizing migrant workers difficult.

*Genoveva Aguilar, SEIU-USWW, janitors fired because of ICE I-9 Audits*

*Jesus Pacheco, CWA-UFSC Local 135, Viejas workers*

*Karen Plascencia, 15 & Union, fast food workers*

*Anabel Salcedo, UFCW Local 135, Northgate Gonzalez campaign*

*Paul Valen, UDW, domestic workers*

*Facilitator: Benjamin Prado, Unión del Barrio*

## 4. Assertive Grievance Handling

Fighting grievances isn't only about how well you argue your case. It's about organizing members to build pressure on management. This workshop for stewards and union reps will focus on how to win creatively without going to arbitration, or sometimes without even filing a grievance. We'll discuss the do's and don'ts of settling grievances as well.

*Mark Brenner, Labor Notes*

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Lunch meeting: **Building a Labor Left in San Diego.** How can folks fighting for social justice unionism, bottom-up militancy, and political independence work together to spread them in San Diego?