STORYCORPS WORKERS CONTINUE THE FIGHT

Workers at StoryCorps have been bargaining for their first contract for more than a year. Sick of management inaction, the workers have been hard at work making sure management knows that they’re united and willing to fight for a fair contract.

GALA PICKET
On October 23, 2018, StoryCorps members led a picket outside their organization’s annual fundraising gala. As donors walked up to the event, they were greeted by fliers and a strong picket, chanting, “Dave and Robin hear our call! Two percent is way too small!” and “What’s disgusting? Union-busting! What’s outrageous? StoryCorps wages!”

StoryCorps staff were joined by former staff members, 1180 private and public sector Shop Stewards, 1180 President Emeritus Arthur Cheliotes, as well as union allies from Newsguild-CWA, the National Association of Broadcast Employees and Technicians-CWA, Writers Guild of America, East (including Thrillist Union, The New Yorker, Sesame Street, Gizmodo), UAW 2865, UAW 2110, UFT, DC37, RWDSU, CUNY Law Labor Coalition, and the Democratic Socialists of America.

WORKERS WALK OUT
After the gala action, management made some movement at the bargaining table. But their proposals on wages, healthcare, and retirement are still not enough to make this work sustainable. To show their commitment to a fair contract and frustration with the pace of negotiations, workers organized a walkout. They read the statement below to Robin Sparkman, StoryCorps CEO, and then left the office (or their remote locations, where workers joined via social media in their union t-shirts):

“We, the workers of the StoryCorps Union, did not unionize to maintain the status quo. We demand higher wages for all of us, better quality and more affordable health care, and guaranteed retirement funds. We demand meaningful proposals from management – proposals that will make StoryCorps a more equitable and sustainable place to work. That’s why we’re walking out today as a group and choosing to take a 15-minute break together now.

To support StoryCorps, follow them on Twitter @StoryCorpsUnion, Facebook /storycorpsunion, or email Dave Isay (disay@storycorps.org) or Robin Sparkman (rsparkman@storycorps.org), StoryCorps’ founder and CEO, to let them know you support the workers in their fight for a fair contract.
OSF WELCOME

On October 10, 2018, members of the executive board gathered with nonprofit members to welcome our newest 1180 members from Open Society Foundations. CWA Local 1180 President Gloria Middleton, First Vice President Gina Strickland (pictured at right in blue) and the rest of the Executive Board spoke to let the OSF staff know they’re now part of the CWA family.

UNIT ROUNDUP

ASPCA KICKS OFF BARGAINING FOR A NEW CONTRACT

ASPCA has a unit of 12 veterinarians who care for animals from around the City. These vets are bargaining for a new contract that gives them, among other things, equity in wages across the unit, fair vacation policy, and good professional development. Their Shop Stewards, Dr. Danielle Delfino and Dr. Melanie Glass, (pictured) are hard at work fighting for their members.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL ALL TOGETHER

Amnesty International Shop Stewards work in Washington, DC, New York, and Chicago, so they took advantage of everyone being in DC this month to do a training with Staff Representative Lena Solow. Stewards have been hard at work advocating for fair promotion policies and involving members in their fight to keep healthcare costs low. They’re committed to staying CWA strong. Pictured are Carolina Rivadeneira, Prachi Rao, and Emily Walsh.