

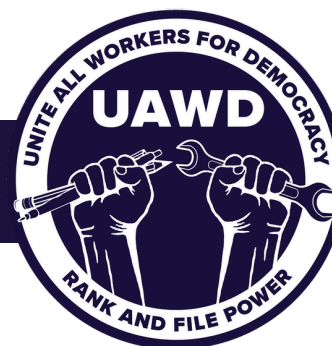
UAWD CONVENTION

Full Program & Attendee Information



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SEPTEMBER 27 - 29, 2024



Attendee Information

Getting There

The convention will be held at the Westin Southfield, located at 1500 Town Center in Southfield, MI.

Transportation from Detroit Airport (DTW)

A taxi or rideshare service like Uber or Lyft will be the fastest way to get to Convention. Expect to pay about \$40 for a car from the airport. Looking for someone to split the fare? Send us an email at uawdemocracy@gmail.com.

McNamara Terminal

Taxi: Follow signs to Ground Transportation Center, located on Level 4.

Rideshare: Once across the Skybridge, continue to the bank of elevators located on Level 6 of the Ground Transportation Center. Take the elevator down to Level 4 to locate the Rideshare staging area.

Evans Terminal

Taxi: Follow signs to Ground Transportation Center, located on Level 4.

Rideshare: Once across the Skybridge, continue through the sliding glass doors. Take the elevator or escalator on the right, down to Level 1 to locate the Rideshare staging area.

Parking

There are limited spaces in front of the hotel and more available in the parking complex right behind the hotel. Both are \$10 overnight and free of charge for day use.

Food Information

Breakfast and lunch will be provided on Saturday and Sunday, and dinner on Saturday. Vegan and vegetarian options will be available. Between mealtimes, there will be food available for purchase at the hotel cafe and bar.

Workshops and Panels

You choose which session to attend during each Workshop/Panel block. Please do your best to stay in the same session for the entire block and, if a room is full, choose another session.

Questions? Get In Touch with a UAWD Organizer

Throughout most of the convention, someone will be stationed at the registration table (Algonquin Foyer) to answer your questions. If you are unable to find someone or have a very urgent question, contact one of our Staff Organizers: **Becca Roskill** (425-623-5126) or **Justin Yuan** (412-508-6807).

Friday Schedule

4:00 - 7:00 pm	Registration	Algonquin Foyer
7:00 - 9:00 pm	Kick-Off Social	Algonquin Ballroom

Celebrate the start of the first-ever UAW Convention.
Bar and light refreshments.

Saturday Schedule

8:00 - 9:00 am	Registration* & Breakfast	Algonquin Foyer
	<i>*Registration will be open throughout Saturday, except during Annual Meeting, and until 11:00 am Sunday</i>	
9:00 - 10:00 am	Welcome General Session	Algonquin Ballroom
	Chair: Scott Houldieson, UAW Steering Committee Chair	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• LaShawn English, UAW Region 1 Director• Sean Orr, Co-Chair of Teamsters for a Democratic Union• Mike Booth, UAW Vice President	
10:30 am - 12:00 pm	Workshops/Panels Block 1	
	Contract Campaigns: Getting Members in Motion	<i>TC Linguini's</i>
	The Seeds of Reform in the UAW & the Black Radical Tradition	<i>Portage</i>
	Legal Rights of Union Stewards	<i>EC IV</i>
12:00 - 1:00 pm	Lunch	Algonquin Ballroom
1:00 - 3:00 pm	Workshops/Panels Block 2	
	Race & Labor	<i>TC Linguini's</i>
	Beyond Borders: Worldwide Solidarity is Key to Working-Class Victory	<i>Portage</i>
	Organizing 101: In the Shop and In the Streets	<i>EC IV</i>
3:30 - 5:30 pm	Annual Meeting & Steering Committee Elections	Algonquin Ballroom
7:00 - 9:00 pm	Banquet Dinner	Algonquin Ballroom
	Chair: George Freeman (Local 933)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nelson Lichtenstein, Labor Historian• Robert Lett, UAW Local 112 Mercedes Organizer• Shawn Fain, UAW President	

Saturday Workshops (Blocks 1 & 2)

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Contract Campaigns: Getting Members in Motion

TC Linguini's

Hear from members who got their coworkers acting creatively to win big contract gains at Daimler Truck, Ford, and Legal Aid. Then we'll get hands-on, brainstorming tactics to get members in our own locals working together to turn up the heat on management.

Marcelina Pedraza (Local 551), Benjamin Smith (Local 5287), Alexandra Bruns-Smith (Local 2320), Keith Brower Brown (Labor Notes)

Seeds of Reform in the UAW & the Black Radical Tradition

Portage

The UAW has a long tradition of rank and file agitation. From the Dodge Revolutionary Union Movement to New Directions and the Autoworker Caravan class struggle unionism has been alive and kicking for decades in the UAW. UAWD stands on the shoulders of these struggles. Hear from those who lived them.

Melvin Thompson (Local 140), Carolyn Baker (General Baker Institute), Wendy Thompson (Local 235), Michael Cannon (Local 282), Frank Hammer (Local 909)

Legal Rights of Union Stewards

EC IV

Learn about the rights and responsibilities of stewards and committeepeople: how to approach disciplinary meetings, writing a grievance, conducting a thorough investigation, duty of fair representation, and using member power to resolve grievances. Hear from fellow UAWD members who have fought and won on the shop floor, in arbitration, and at the bargaining table.

Will Bloom (Labor Attorney), George Freeman (Local 933), Bob Boone (Local 933)

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Race & Labor

TC Linguini's

How does racism show up in our workplaces and our unions? What are some strategies to confront it and build solidarity for a stronger, multiracial labor movement? And what can you say to union siblings who aren't convinced racial justice has anything to do with union politics? Class and race are inextricably linked, tracing back the invention of "race" to divide workers.

Linette Jones (Local 551), Mike Leslie (Local 735)

Beyond Borders: Worldwide Solidarity is Key to Working-Class Victory

Portage

The companies we work for don't recognize borders, organizing transnationally so they can move work wherever labor is cheapest and easiest to exploit. To win big, the working class has to be organized globally. From the U.S. to Mexico, from Palestine to Colombia, workers must unite. In this session, we'll hear from organizers experienced in the fight for international working-class solidarity.

Jennifer Jones (Local 1975), Sophia Gurulé (Local 2325), and speakers from many international struggles.

Organizing 101: In the Shop and In the Streets

EC IV

Learn the skills and knowledge to organize the unorganized. This workshop offers a systematic approach to launching local organizing committees that empower workers in the shop and on the street. Learn how using new organizing can rebuild our militant membership!

Michael DiGiuseppe (Local 259), Mara Rafferty (Local 4121)



Sunday Schedule

8:00 - 9:00 am	Breakfast	<i>Algonquin Ballroom</i>
9:00 - 10:30 am	Workshops/Panels Block 3	
	Big 3 Contract Enforcement	<i>TC Linguini's</i>
	Comparing Democratic Rank-and-File Caucuses	<i>Portage</i>
	Just Cause: A Guide for Disciplinary Grievances	<i>EC IV</i>
10:45 am - 12:15 pm	Workshops/Panels Block 4	
	How to Win Your Union Election	<i>TC Linguini's</i>
	Reviewing the Big 3 Contract Negotiations a Year On	<i>Portage</i>
	Bargaining Tactics: Stop Begging, Start Bargaining	<i>EC IV</i>
12:15 - 1:00 pm	Lunch	<i>Algonquin Ballroom</i>
1:00 - 2:30 pm	Workshops/Panels Block 5	
	Turn a Grievance Into Collective Action	<i>TC Linguini's</i>
	Building a Worker-Led Electric Vehicle Transition	<i>Portage</i>
	Transform Your Local from the Bottom Up: Start a UAWD Chapter	<i>EC IV</i>
2:45 - 3:30 pm	Closing General Session	<i>Algonquin Ballroom</i>
	Chair: UAWD Steering Committee Chair	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brandon Mancilla, UAW Region 9A Director • Dan Vicente, Region 9 Director 	

Sunday Workshops (Blocks 3 & 4)

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Big 3 Contract Enforcement

TC Linguini's

Since the UAW national agreements with the Big 3 were ratified, the companies have been trying to turn a big raise into more work for fewer people. Learn from union reps and rank-and-file members across the Big 3 how we can use the contracts to save our jobs and protect our safety.

Gary Chynoweth (Local 160), Jean Duchemin (Local 1753), Saul Fehrmann (Local 12)

Comparing Democratic Rank-and-File Caucuses

Portage

UAW is just one example of a successful rank and file caucus. This panel compares the approaches of Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU), the Caucus of Rank-and-file Educators (CORE) in the Chicago Teachers Union, and UAW. TDU started in the 1970's, fighting entrenched union leadership and mob influence. CORE, founded in 2008, won leadership and struck in 2012 and 2019 for the schools Chicago students deserve.

Tomas Lobato (CORE), Ken Paff (TDU), Andrew Bergman (Local 22), Eric Truss (Local 600)

Just Cause: A Guide for Disciplinary Grievances

EC IV

A labor attorney, joined by an experienced UAW grievance handler, will review how to prepare and win discipline and discharge grievances. We'll go over hands-on case studies to demonstrate the seven principles of Just Cause.

Will Bloom (Labor Attorney)

10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

How to Win Your Union Election

TC Linguini's

Do you think your union needs a new direction? You can change your local leadership, but not with a last-minute effort. You need to be organized and know the steps that build successful campaigns. Learn how to develop a winning campaign timeline; how to build a slate; the ins and outs of building relationships and networks; and how to ensure a clean election.

Lisa Xu (Labor Notes), Dan Maloney (Local 1097), Eric Truss (Local 600), Ron Lare (Local 600)

Reviewing the Big 3 Contract Negotiations a Year On

Portage

The Stand Up Strike a year ago led to impressive wage increases, COLA, and the right to strike over product and investment commitments. There were other demands left unmet in the agreements. A year later, how are workers feeling about the contracts? What issues will be top priorities when the contracts expire on May 1, 2028?

Henrietta England (Local 551), Jean Duchemin (Local 1753), Jessie Kelly (Local 160), Paul Davidson (Local 212)

Bargaining Tactics: Stop Begging, Start Bargaining

EC IV

With a focus on local contracts, this class teaches you to build a bargaining agenda around the core needs of your membership and mobilize worker power to take on the boss. We'll cover labor law, communication with members, management, the role of the bargaining committee, and how to get members involved.

Alexi Shalom (Local 2325), Navruz Baum (Local 2325)

Sunday Workshops (Block 5)

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Turning a Grievance Into Collective Action

TC Linguini's

When management is breaking the rules left and right, quietly filing a grievance won't cut it. We'll hear from autoworkers at Ford and Stellantis who built up collective action to draw the line. Then we'll talk through what you're facing, with a guide on getting your coworkers to stand up together.

Stephen Hinojosa (Local 12), Toya Hunter (Local 551), Keith Brower Brown (Labor Notes)

Building a Worker-Led Electric Vehicle Transition

Portage

The EV transition is currently led by corporations under for-profit and market logic. From shop floor battery fires to factory shutdowns, this transition is creating a constant state of crisis potentially leading to company-wide bankruptcies, harming workers while investors make billions. So, how do we organize to protect our jobs, and align production toward safe transportation that centers community needs and addresses climate change?

Toly Rinberg (Local 22), Marcie Pedraza (Local 551), Martha Grevatt (Local 869)

Transform Your Local from the Bottom Up: Start a UAWD Chapter

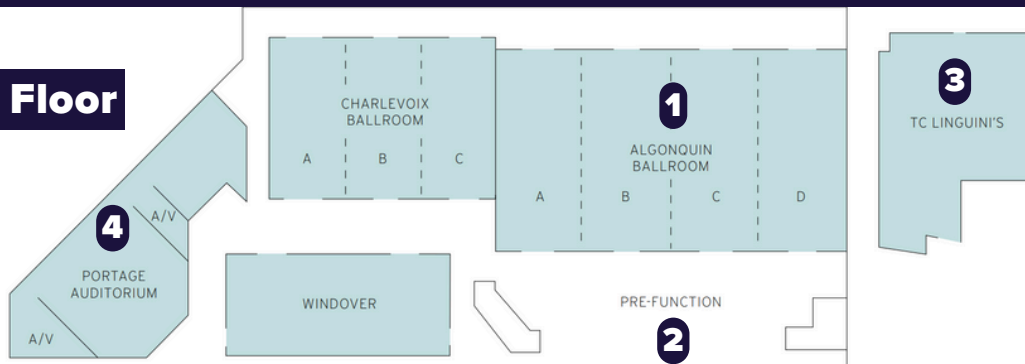
EC IV

Power at the local level is key to building a union that's responsive to worker issues. It's not just about elections; change in our locals will require membership that's ready to take collective action when necessary. Learn how UAWD members are building teams to turn the tides in their local unions and on their shop floors.

Ben Hinsey (Local 12), David Johnson (Local 551), Frank Hammer (Local 909)

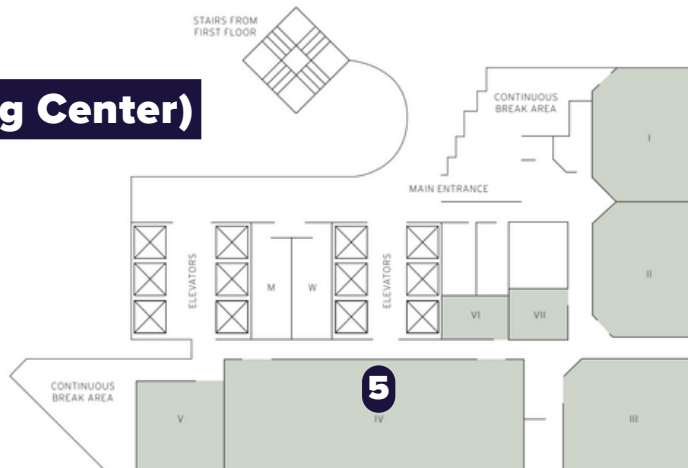
Venue Map

First Floor



- 1. Algonquin Ballroom
- 2. Algonquin Foyer
- 3. TC Linguini's
- 4. Portage Auditorium

Second Floor (Executive Meeting Center)



- 5. EMC IV

Become a UAWD Member!

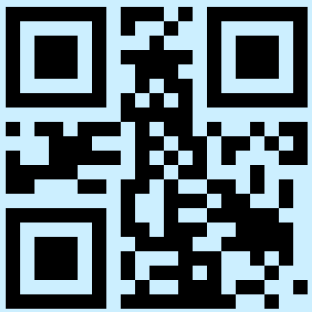
UAWD Fought for Direct Elections and Ran the Members United Slate

Elected through the first-ever direct IEB elections, President Shawn Fain and others on the Members United slate are leading the UAW in a new direction. This weekend, we'll hear from UAW leaders, from the IEB to the rank and file.



UAWD Is Uniting Members to Rebuild Our Union's Power

During the 2023 Stand Up strike, UAWD led contract actions, strike support, and voluntary overtime refusal. What's next? Enforcing our contracts and supporting upcoming contract fights in other sectors.



Join for \$25/year:
uawd.org/join

And We're Just Getting Started. Ready to Get Involved? Join UAWD!

UAWD is a movement of UAW members:

- **Organizing for strong contracts** and opposing concessions.
- **Educating shop-floor activists** on contract enforcement, grievance handling, and addressing local issues.
- **Electing leaders**, from the IEB to the local level, dedicated to building a union that fights for its members.

Voting in Steering Committee Elections

Elections for the UAWD Steering Committee will be held during the Annual National Meeting from 3:30 - 5:30 pm on Saturday. To vote, you must join UAWD in advance (by 2:30 pm) and be present in-person in the Algonquin Ballroom or on Zoom at uawd.org/annual-meeting.

When ballots are issued, you will receive an email from "OpaVote Voting Link" at the address "noreply@opavote.com". Access your ballot by clicking the "Vote" button. If you do not receive an email, check in with the Election Volunteers present in the ballroom and on the Zoom. We will ensure your primary email ballot is disabled. If you are in-person, you will be able to vote kiosk-style at a laptop. If you are on Zoom, you will be able to provide us with a secondary email.

The second part of the Annual National Meeting, to take up member-submitted bylaws amendments and resolutions, will take place on Zoom on Sunday, October 13. All members will receive the link to attend via email.