

Local 728

Weekly Digest

MAY 17, 2024 | VOL. 2 | ISSUE 20



In The Spotlight this week!

NOTICE: 2024 Basic Negotiations have not concluded and will continue in June. Further details below!

From the Officers of Local 728

It is with great sadness that we ended last week with another senseless tragedy involving Local 80 Brother Rico Priem. Brother Priem, who was literally counting the hours until he retired, died in an automobile accident on his way home after working into the early hours of Saturday morning. The details of the accident have not been released but all reports are that he was in good spirits and not acting strangely in any way when he left the set. Please refrain from making any speculations about why the accident occurred and discount anyone else's speculation about it. What we do know is that this was a 14 hour day on the last day of the week. Whether that contributed to this accident remains to be seen but the reality is that working long hours for consecutive days is a recognized hazard that we cannot ignore.

When it comes to our personal safety, we always have to watch out for ourselves, and by extension, our families. Often, we are the only ones who can gauge what we are capable of doing safely and while we all have each other's backs, the ultimate decision to do something is ours and ours alone. We work to live, not live to work and our lives should be filled with good and meaningful experiences. Our work brings joy, entertainment, and education to billions of people but that is not a reason to skimp on our own health and safety, or the well being of our families.

Our contract does require that Production will provide a ride home or hotel room if you are too tired to make the drive yourself. If you are dreading the drive home, you are probably too tired to drive, creating a hazard for yourself and other drivers on the road. It is important to let Production know as soon as possible that you will be needing a room so that you don't have to waste time after wrap. The issue of rooms and rides needs to be addressed well in advance so we don't waste time after wrap figuring out where to go. Sometimes Production will insist that we find the room and they will provide a reimbursement. While this is less than ideal, it is better than the alternative and this is exactly why we need to figure it all out in advance.

Anytime you are facing a Safety Issue or have witnessed an accident/near miss, please let us know. You can contact us at the Local, use the IATSE of Local 600 Safety Apps to make a report,

or call the IATSE Safety Hotline at 844-IA-AWARE (844-422-9273) and always call the Producer's Safety Hotline. [SAFETY App \(icg600.com\)](https://www.icg600.com)

You can also refer to Exhibit "B" **GUIDELINES REGARDING EXTENDED WORK DAYS** in the Basic Agreement should you meet with resistance with the production on securing a ride or a room.

We will get through this together.

In solidarity,



Alan M. Rowe
Safety & Training Director
Lighting Technicians IATSE Local 728



Martin Weeks
President
Lighting Technicians IATSE Local 728



Malakhi Simmons
Vice President
Lighting Technicians IATSE Local 728



Greg Reeves
Business Representative-Secretary
Lighting Technicians IATSE Local 728



Pascal M. Guillemard
Treasurer-Call Steward
Lighting Technicians IATSE Local 728

Letter Carriers' Food Drive was a Great Success!

Big Thanks to all the IATSE Locals who showed up, especially L728 Vice President Malakhi Simmons and E Board Member Fernando Montes. We made a difference, and also big thanks to Vice President John Lewis from Canada who joined us.

Labor Community Services will have a food sorting event at their warehouse within the next couple of weeks. We will post the details. See you there!





MANY CRAFTS ONE FIGHT #IASOLIDARITY

Negotiations Update: Hollywood Basic General Negotiations Week 3 Wraps With New Bargaining Dates Expected in June, ASA Talks Set to Start

The International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) and the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP) completed a third week of Basic Agreement General Negotiations on Thursday following their restart on April 29th.

Bargaining topics this week included retirement and health benefits, as well as further exchanges around artificial intelligence (AI), wages and working conditions, subcontracting, the Videotape Agreement and Side Letters.

IATSE's goals during these negotiations remain enhanced contract language covering safety, subcontracting and working conditions, guardrails around the deployment of new AI technologies and updated contract terms that ensure economic stability for members and their families.

International President Matthew D. Loeb stated, "We are working toward setting additional bargaining dates to continue to negotiate the deal our members deserve. Talks remain ongoing and we are focused on achieving the goals we came to the table with: improved wages and safer working conditions, consistent funding for our benefit plans, reasonable AI and subcontracting protections, and appropriate enhancements to our Video Tape Agreement and Side Letters."

The Hollywood Basic Crafts, which includes Teamsters Local 399, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 40 (IBEW) and Laborers International Union of North America Local 724 (LiUNA!), among others, joined the IATSE Basic Negotiating Committee for the benefits portion of the talks on Wednesday and Thursday.

Talks now shift to the Area Standards Agreement (ASA) negotiations starting May 20. Meanwhile, Basic Agreement negotiations are expected to restart in early June. Both agreements expire July 31 and the Negotiating Committees are not interested in an extension.

Updates and Announcements available on the Basic Agreement Website:

[IATSE 2024 Basic Agreement | Many Crafts, One Fight!](#)

IATSE Local 728 Safety & Training Program -May

Please note: You need to be logged in to the website before you will be able to sign-up for the class.

<https://www.iatse728.org/members/lms>

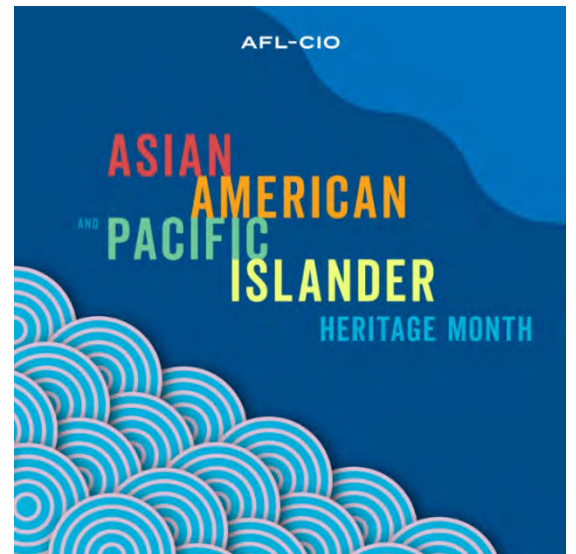
IATSE LOCAL 728 SAFETY & TRAINING PROGRAM Upcoming Classes in May 2024		
https://www.iatse728.org/members/lms		
Rigging & Electrical Math (ETCP)	5/6/24	(as of April 25, 2024)
Rigging & Electrical Math (ETCP)	Now Open	No Lottery
Rigging & Electrical Math (ETCP)	5/9/24	
Rigging & Electrical Math (ETCP)	Now Open	No Lottery
Industry Rescue Awareness	5/14/24	
Industry Rescue Awareness	Now Open	No Lottery
Vectorworks Spotlight	5/20/24 - 5/23/24	
Vectorworks Spotlight	Opens 4/27/24	Lottery 5/02/24
Ethernet Protocols 101	5/25/24	
Ethernet Protocols 101	Opens 4/27/23	Lottery 5/01/24
Ethernet Protocols Lab	5/26/24	
Ethernet Protocols Lab	Opens 4/27/24	Lottery 5/01/24
Introduction to Luminex Networking	5/28/24	
Introduction to Luminex Networking	Opens 5/04/24	Lottery 5/07/24
EOS Family Lighting Consoles	5/30/24	& 5/31/24
	Opens 5/04/24	Lottery 5/07/24

AAPI Heritage Month

History of AAPI Americans in the labor movement:

[The Enduring Legacy of Asian American Pacific Islander Workers and Union Leaders | AFL-CIO \(aflcio.org\)](#)

Heritage Month Profiles: [Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Profiles | AFL-CIO \(aflcio.org\)](#)



The CAT Team wants to keep you in the know, and have a direct line to up-to-the-minute, fact-based bargaining information!



Upcoming Events

Save the Date! WeHo Pride Parade

New Tradition Alert! IATSE Local 728 has marched in the MLK Parade for the last 12 years, and now we're adding the WeHo Pride Parade. Stay tuned for details!

When: Sunday, June 2nd

Time: 12:30pm.

Local 728 has a spot in this years parade. Come join in the fun and show your UNION and LGBTQIA+ Pride by marching in the WeHo Pride Parade.

Please **RSVP by May 21st** with the number of people attending. This is open to Local 728 members and their families.

RSVP: community@iatse728.org

<https://www.wehopride.com/>



San Fernando Valley Pride Parade

Local 33 has invited us to walk with them for the <https://www.sfvpride.org/> parade on June 29th. Please reach out to the Local if you'd like to attend.

Email: community@iatse728.org and include in the subject line: SFV Pride Parade

IATSE Latinx Caucus Taco Fundraiser Event

Bring your family and friends to the IATSE Latinx Caucus Taco Fundraiser Event at Lake Hollywood Park.

When: Sunday, June 2nd

Time: 11AM- 3PM

Location: 3160 Canyon Lake Dr. | Los Angeles, CA 90068

RSVP: [IATSE Latinx Cafecito & Taco Plate Fundraiser in the Park Tickets, Sun, Jun 2, 2024 at 11:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

If you are interested in donating items for the raffle, please email: iatse.latinx@gmail.com

[IATSE Latinx Caucus- Labor Unions](#)

+ IATSE LATINX CAUCUS +

TACO FUNDRAISER EVENT

SUNDAY, JUNE 2ND 11AM- 3PM

 LAKE HOLLYWOOD PARK
3160 CANYON LAKE DR.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90068

Each \$10 entry guarantees a taco plate & agua fresca!
Catered by Chef Luis Castro, Food Stylist of IATSE Local 44
Vegan options available!

Everyone is welcome! Bring your family and friends!
Support the IATSE Latinx Caucus build community, equity & celebrate Latinx contributions to the entertainment industry.

Raffles, make new friends, network and reconnect with colleagues!

RSVP: www.tinyurl.com/ilctaco
DONATE ITEMS TO OUR RAFFLE
Email: iatse.latinx@gmail.com



www.iatselatinx.org ig: @iatselatinx

Cine Gear Expo LA 2024

Cine Gear Expo is the premier event for professionals engaged in the film and entertainment technology industry. Taking place June 7th – 9th with exhibits June 7th – 8th at Warner Bros. Studios, Cine Gear features exhibits, new product and service introductions, complimentary seminars led by industry leaders, and ample opportunity to network with peers, all within a comfortable studio environment.

- **June 7th – 8th** - Exhibits, Premier Seminars, Screenings Special Events, Awards Presentations
- **June 9th** - Master Classes

Updates to the exhibitor list, event map, schedule, presentation topics, and speakers will be posted to the website regularly. <http://www.cinegearexpo.com>

Attendee Registration is open. All attendees must complete the Cine Gear Badge online registration process.

<https://www.cinegearexpo.com/la-expo/registration/>

Registration is free until 11:59p.m. PDT on Tuesday, May 28th, 2024.

[LA Expo](#) | [Cine Gear Expo](#)



MPTF's Veterans Benefits Assistance Program

Did You Know?

- MPTF's Veterans Benefits Assistance program assists entertainment industry military veterans, surviving spouses, and industry members' parents who served in the military in securing disability, Aid & Attendance, and caregiver stipend benefits.
- Program staff walk clients through the claims process from beginning to end and act as liaisons with the Veterans Administration, thus eliminating confusing and frustrating paperwork burden and minimizing the need for clients to interact with the VA directly.
- A member does not have to be a combat veteran in order to qualify for benefits. In fact, MPTF has secured significant amounts of benefit funds for peacetime veterans and veterans who served during wartime but in non-combat roles.
- The program has secured over \$268K in retroactive monies for L728 members since they began tracking outcomes in 2015. This figure represents almost 30% of all retroactive monies secured on behalf of IA members.
- Interested clients should contact the **MPTF intake line at (323) 634-3866.**
[Veterans Benefits Assistance | MPTF](#)



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MPTF | IGO



Mental Health Tools and Resources

Many of us are dealing with a lack of work for as long as a year in what may be a new normal. If you are in need of mental health assistance, don't feel ashamed. It's natural. Please utilize some of these tools from our website or call us at the hall.

MPTF Intake Line: (323) 634-3888

[Mental Health Resources \(iatse728.org\)](http://iatse728.org)

[Mental Health Tools and Resources with Behind The Scenes | IATSE Local 728 \(iatse728.org\)](#)

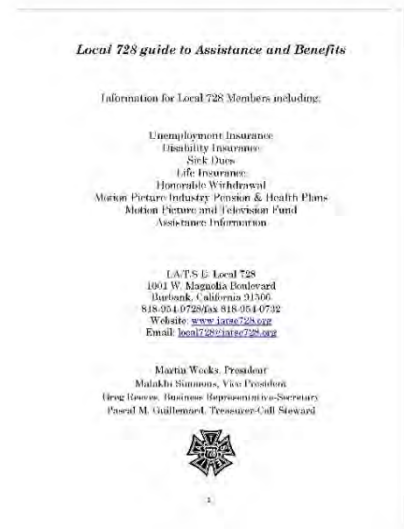
Local 728 Guide to Assistance and Benefits

Information for Local 728 members, including:

- Unemployment Insurance
- Disability Insurance
- Sick Dues
- Life Insurance
- Honorable Withdrawal
- MPI (Motion Picture Pension & Health Plans)
- Motion Picture & Television Fund
- Assistance Information

Log-in required to view content:

[Assistance | IATSE Local 728 \(iatse728.org\)](#)



The Local 728 Food Pantry

Many of your colleagues are still hurting from the slowdown in work. The Local 728 Food Pantry is still open.

Please review the union resource link and reach out to the Local.

[Union Financial Resources Guidev5.1.pdf \(iatse728.org\)](#)

Check the link below for upcoming Food Distributions through LCS:

[Events — Labor Community Services \(lcs-la.org\)](#)

