

Local 728

Weekly Digest

FEBRUARY 28, 2025 | VOL. 3 | ISSUE 59



In The Spotlight this week!



Hello Brothers, Sisters, and Kin,

We are excited to announce the official launch of our ‘Keep California Rolling’ campaign, coordinated by the Entertainment Union Coalition, to protect, preserve and create jobs in the film and television industry throughout California.

About Keep California Rolling

The Entertainment Union Coalition stands with Governor Newsom’s inclusion of an expanded \$750 million annual California Film & Television Jobs Program in the 2025-2026 budget.

Unlike other economic incentives, this program is directly tied to the creation of jobs for California workers. It strengthens the economic future of our state and supports a healthy and viable motion picture industry.

For over a century, California has been the heart of the global film and television industry, supporting hundreds of thousands of middle-class workers and fueling a vast network of local businesses, tourism, and economic growth.

However, in recent years, increasing competition from other states and countries, compounded by economic downturns, corporate contraction and devastating wildfires, have put California's entertainment workforce and our staple and lucrative industry at risk.

Expanding California's Film & Television Jobs Program is essential to ensuring the industry remains a major economic driver and continues to support jobs, businesses, and tourism in the state. Without this investment, California risks losing its status as the global entertainment capital, along with thousands of middle-class jobs and billions in economic benefits.

Why Now?

The California film and television industry is at a crossroads, and the time to act is **NOW**.

Governor Newsom's budget proposal is a major step forward, but it's not a done deal. Expanding the California Film & Television Jobs Program requires legislative approval before the cycle ends this summer. Our focus now is on educating new legislators, budget committee members, and other elected officials to ensure their support. But we can't do this without YOU.

Taking our message to Sacramento

Next week, over 100 union and guild workers are heading to Sacramento to urge lawmakers to prioritize jobs at a key budget hearing, followed by a lobby day.

This trip will be the first of many to ring the alarm about the dire state of our industry and the impact on our members' livelihood and countless businesses that rely on its success. We will share more updates from the trip and hearing throughout next week.

How You Can Get Involved

1. **Check out and share** our 'Keep California Rolling' campaign website to learn more about our fight.
 - Head to: www.KeepCaliforniaRolling.org
2. **Read through** our 'California Film & Television Jobs Program Impact Report' to understand how this program benefits our entire State and countless industries Californians rely on.
 - Download the impact report here: <https://bit.ly/EUCJobsProgramReport>
3. **Find your legislators.** Over the past 3 years, we have seen 45% NEW State Legislators take office so education and advocacy will be a key component of our campaign.

- Locate WHO your legislator is to be prepared to reach out to them to tell them HOW important entertainment jobs in California are to you and your family. We will be rolling out a toolkit soon.

Find your local Assembly and Senate representatives:

<https://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/>

4. **Follow the Entertainment Unions and Guilds** part of our coalition on social media for updates from next week and to elevate our fight.
5. **Sign and share our pledge** to get targeted action items and updates to get involved.
 - *We will be rolling out toolkits and sample messages soon to share with your elected officials.*

The Pledge:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftVoBYoI3VMHEna42_Gcau4utpCXaK2olldZd5dGu66tqLoA/viewform

Join us in the fight to save our jobs, stabilize our industry and grow film and television work throughout the state of California.

When our industry thrives, California thrives.

In Solidarity,

The Entertainment Union Coalition

What to do if Immigration Comes to Your Workplace?

The current administration has made policy choices that could impact you or fellow members in the workplace. If you were ever subject to an ICE raid, you have rights. Please take a moment to read the following that comes from the National Employment Law Project and the National Immigration Law Center. While it states that it is for the employer, the message is for us all.

<https://www.nilc.org/resources/a-guide-for-employers-what-to-do-if-immigration-comes-to-your-workplace/>

Stay informed and stay safe.

In unity,



Greg Reeves
Business Representative-Secretary
Lighting Technicians IATSE Local 728

These cards are available at the Hall

You have constitutional rights:

- DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR if an immigration agent is knocking on the door.
- DO NOT ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS from an immigration agent if they try to talk to you. You have the right to remain silent.
- DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING without first speaking to a lawyer. You have the right to speak with a lawyer.
- If you are outside of your home, ask the agent if you are free to leave and if they say yes, leave calmly.
- GIVE THIS CARD TO THE AGENT. If you are inside of your home, show the card through the window or slide it under the door.

I do not wish to speak with you, answer your questions, or sign or hand you any documents based on my 5th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution.

I do not give you permission to enter my home based on my 4th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution unless you have a warrant to enter, signed by a judge or magistrate with my name on it that you slide under the door.

I do not give you permission to search any of my belongings based on my 4th Amendment rights.

I choose to exercise my constitutional rights.

These cards are available to citizens and noncitizens alike.

The SUPER SOFT LAUNCH of the website continues.
If you notice a bug, or other issue, here's where to send it:

<https://forms.gle/EaprTnGAARSDRcKk8>

IATSE Local 728 Scholarship Program

Information for the 2025 IATSE Local 728 Scholarship is now available on the website. The deadline for filing all required materials with the Local 728 Office is **Friday, February 28, 2025**.

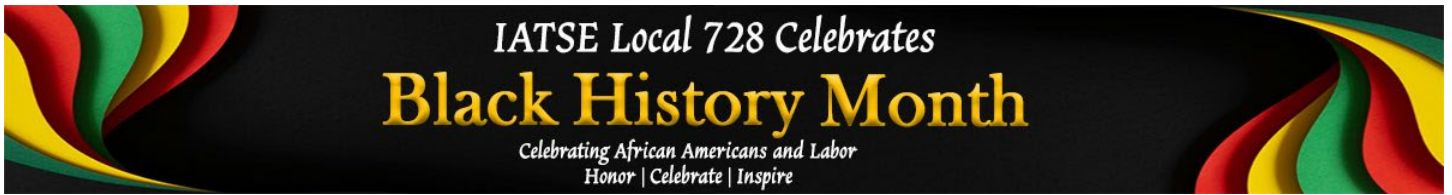
[Scholarship Programs | IATSE Local 728 - Log in Required](#)

If you would like to contribute to the IATSE Local 728 Scholarship Fund to help educate future generations, you can mail or drop off a check at the Local 728 office. The fund is NOW a 501c3 and your donation is tax deductible. Checks can be made payable to: IATSE Local 728 Scholarship Fund



IATSE LOCAL 728 SOLIDARITY FRIDAYS!
WEAR YOUR IATSE LOCAL 728 UNION SWAG ON FRIDAYS





March Madness

March Madness discounts for Local 728 members begin on March 3rd. Not all vendor discounts may be available on March 3rd and other vendors may join at any time.

Complete details and additional information is available at the following link:
<https://TRAINING728.ORG/MARCHMADNESS2025>

A graphic with a blue background and a horizontal light blue stripe. The text "Local 728" is in orange, "March Madness" is in yellow, and "2025" is in orange. All text is in a bold, stylized, italicized font.

**Local 728
March Madness
2025**

THE FINE PRINT: NOT ALL VENDOR DISCOUNTS MAY BE AVAILABLE ON 3/3 AND VENDORS MAY END THEIR DISCOUNT AT ANY TIME. OTHER VENDORS MAY JOIN AT ANY TIME. LOCAL 728 HAS NOT NEGOTIATED ANY OF THESE DISCOUNTS AND IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR FULFILLING ANY ORDER OR RESOLVING ANY CLAIM OR DISPUTE.

Starts March 3, 2025

[HTTPS://TRAINING728.ORG/MARCHMADNESS2025](https://TRAINING728.ORG/MARCHMADNESS2025)

MPTF's Movie Awards Charity Challenge

Join and support MPTF's Movie Awards Charity Challenge for a chance to win a 4-night stay at the Four Seasons Resort Maui, plus \$2,000 in Delta Air Lines flights. With a donation of \$20, predict the winners of Hollywood's premier awards ceremony! Must enter by 3:59PM on March 2nd. Every contribution makes a difference.

mptf.com/movieawardscharitychallenge



Ramadan Mubarak

From all of us at the Local and for those who will begin the month-long celebration at sundown, we wish you a healthy Ramadan Mubarak.



Upcoming Events

MPTF Webinar- Building Confidence: Lessons for Avoiding Scams and Financial Elder Abuse

Join us for a presentation to review:

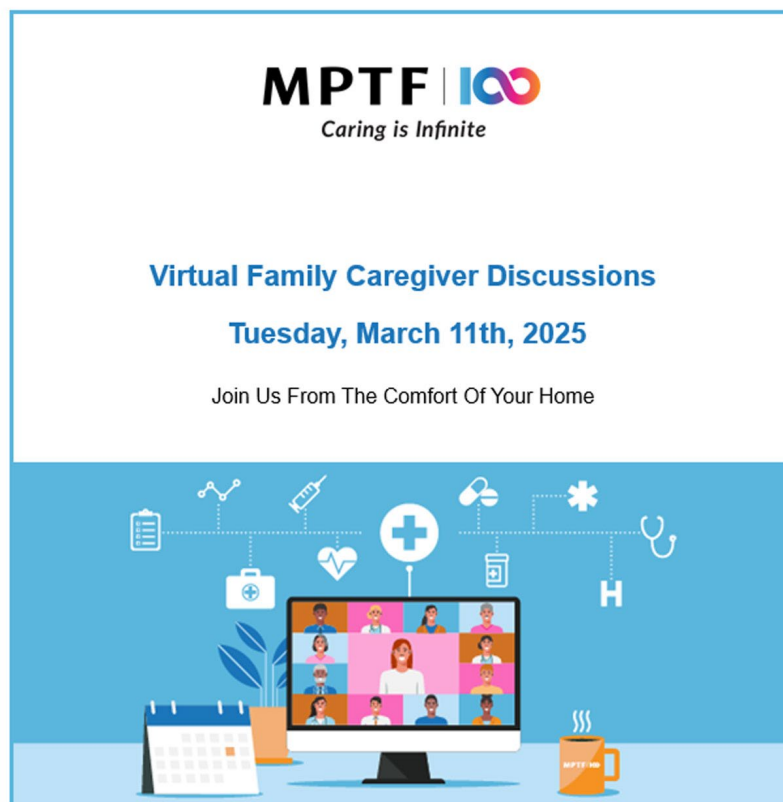
- Common scams and strategies used by scammers to manipulate victims
- Best practices for preventing financial elder abuse and scams, including how to use powers of attorneys and other tools to spot abuse before it's too late
- Tips for reporting scams to various agencies and what to include in your report
- Additional legal and non-legal resources for victims of scams and their family members

When: Tuesday, March 11th

Time: 4-5:15PM PT

Location: via Zoom

Register: [bit.ly./MPTFCaregiver0325](https://bit.ly/MPTFCaregiver0325)



IATSE Local 728 Retiree Luncheon

Join your fellow retirees for the first luncheon of 2025 hosted at the Local. Enjoy good food, have fun and socialize.

When: Wednesday, March 12

Time: 12PM

Location: IATSE Local 728 | 1001 W. Magnolia Blvd | Burbank, CA 91506

RSVP: community@iatse728.org or call (818) 954-0728



The invitation card features a green and white striped background with a decorative border of green shamrocks. In the top right corner, there is a white Maltese cross logo with 'IATSE' on the left and right arms, '728' in the center, and 'LOCAL' on the bottom arm. The text is centered on a white rectangular area.

Join us for a...

RETIREE LUNCHEON

WEDNESDAY **12PM** **MARCH 12**

2025

at

IATSE LOCAL 728

RSVP
COMMUNITY@IATSE728.ORG

Union Resources

Disaster Assistance and Emergency Resources

IATSE- Los Angeles Fires Relief and Response

The IATSE and the Locals of the West Coast have combined resources into this link that will be updated regularly.

<https://iatse.net/socal-fires/>

Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)

Available to independent contractors who are often employed in the entertainment and other LA industries. Check eligibility guidelines for details.

[Disaster Unemployment Assistance \(DUA\) Now Available to Los Angeles County Workers Impacted by California Wildfires and Severe Winds](#)

IA 728 Power Drops

Thanks to member Jake Lyon for organizing a number of members and vendors providing portable power solutions. Please reach out if you have need and feel free to share. [IA 728 Free Power Drops Form](#)

ZELLO Support

Zello support stands with the people of Los Angeles affected by the wildfires. Zello Support is repurposing their new Head Quarters across the street from Warner Bros. Studios into an Infrastructure Support Center. In this space, families will be able to receive guidance and support as they plan to rebuild their homes/lives.

<https://zellosupport.com>

Volunteer Shifts:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040C49ADAA29A5FE3-54763638>



MPTF-Wildfire Relief

MPTF has been working to help those in need of resources and providing services including financial assistance, supportive counseling and assistance navigating insurance needs. You don't have to deal with the challenges alone, MPTF is here to help. A list of Wildfire Resources, Navigating Fema and how you can contribute to those in need can be found at the link below. You can also call: (323) 634-3888

A video of the webinar, ***Wildfire Relief: Next Steps and Next Next Steps***, featuring guest speakers who gave guidance on how to navigate insurance claims, property taxes, tax payments, among other topics is now available at the same link or you can view [here](#).

<https://mptf.com/ways-to-give/wildfirerelief/>

MPTF | IOO
MOTION PICTURE & TELEVISION FUND

Caring is Infinite



Wildfire Relief

Aid and resources for those impacted by the Southern California fires

MPTF/ECF Insurance Services

For those who may be transitioning off MPI Health coverage, IATSE Local 700 recorded a Zoom Presentation with MPTF/ECF Insurance Services to help explain options beyond paid COBRA. Please check out this informative video.

[Zoom Presentation](#)

Mental Health Tools and Resources

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 \(iatse728.org\)](#)

IATSE Local 728 Guide to Assistance and Benefits

Information for IATSE Local 728 members, including: Unemployment/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 \(iatse728.org\)](https://iatse728.org)

IATSE PAC

IATSE PAC

The IATSE PAC is about access to politicians regardless of platform on behalf of ALL members.

While the work stoppage last year impacted you and your colleague's financial wellbeing, the fights we take on with PAC resources continue for our industry, benefiting ALL U.S. members and Local Unions whether they contribute or not. Donate today! <https://L728.co/iatsepac>

[What is the IATSE PAC? Play Video](#)

