

Local 728

Weekly Digest

JUNE 6, 2025 | VOL. 3 | ISSUE 73



In The Spotlight this week!

IATSE 728

CINEGEAR 2025



CINE GEAR EXPO LA

JUNE 6-7
2025



IATSE Local 728 CineGear Guide to Events

Here is YOUR guide to all IATSE Local 728 related activities at Cinegear 2025. Stop by our booth right across from Aputure for NEW swag! Check out the links below to help plan your event.

These are the seminars that your Kin are speaking at. Please come by to support! IATSE Local 728 will be at Booth #3210 | Stage 32

[View Floor Plan](#)

[View Clean Tech Pavillion Demo Map](#)

Friday, June 6:

4:00PM

Two Generations of Lighting for Academy Award Winning Films

with **Jim Plannette (728)** and Jay Holben (Moderator)

Jim will talk about his father, Homer Plannette's career as a Master Gaffer and then his own journey in the industry as a Top Gaffer.

Location: Nanlux/Nanlite | Booth #S3009

5:30PM

Co-Creating the Future: What Crew Want from Cleantech Vendors

with **Max Schwartz (728)** and George Sack

Dialogue about gear improvements, wish lists, and how vendors can better support practical, on-set needs.

Location: Clean Tech Pavillion/NETFLIX Lounge | Booth 1019

Saturday, June 7:

10:15AM

Creative Light Shaping for Cinema

Panelists include: **Andrea Sachs (728)**

Location: Theater 1

Virtual Lighting for Virtual Production

Panelists include: **Dylan Rush (728)**

Location: Theater 2

1:30PM

Building the Cleantech Toolkit

with **Christian Rice (728)**, and **Michael Off (728)**

A walkthrough of the essential gear to integrate batteries or clean power on location, and how it is changing the prep and rigging process.

Location: Clean Tech Pavillion/NETFLIX Lounge | Booth 1019

3:00PM

The Aputure Pro Lighting Meet-Up

Location: Aputure Booth #S3219 in Stage 32

RSVP: [Here](#)

3:00PM

Two Generations of Lighting for Academy Award Winning Films

with **Jim Plannette (728)** and Jay Holben (Moderator)

Jim will talk about his father, Homer Plannette's career as a Master Gaffer and then his own journey in the industry as a Top Gaffer.

Location: Nanlux/Nanlite | Booth #S3009

3:30PM

Cinematography in the Battery Era

with Shane Hurlbut, ASC and **Thomas Sigurdsson (728)**

Focusing on how battery-powered lighting and power systems are transforming the way sets operate—especially in terms of mobility, silence, and sustainability.

Location: Clean Tech Pavillion/NETFLIX Lounge | Booth 1019

4:15PM

Why Eyes Lie: An Introduction to Lighting Color Science

Panelists: **Tim S. Kang (728)**

Location: Main Theater

In solidarity,



Greg Reeves

Business Representative - Secretary

Lighting Technicians IATSE Local 728



In partnership with



Friday, June 6th

Saturday, June 7th

The Tech Talk: Understanding Clean Tech Specs on Production with Robert LeRoy 12-12:30pm

The Rise of the Solar Basecamp with Pamela Monroe, Rob Harper and Gale Webster 12-12:30pm

Hydrogen on Set: What's Here, What's Next with Steven DeSantis (EoDev) 4-4:30pm

Building the Clean Tech Toolkit with Christian Rice and Michael Off 1:30-2pm

Co-Creating the Future: What Crew Want from Clean Tech Vendors with Max Schwartz and George Sack 5:30-6pm

Cinematography in the Battery Era with Shane Hurlbut, ASC and Thomas Sigurdsson 3:30-4pm

NETFLIX Lounge

Clean Tech Pavilion, Booth 1019 CINEGEAR 2025



Presents

Co-Creating the Future: What Crew Want from Clean Tech Vendors with Max Schwartz and George Sack

Friday, June 6th 5:30-6pm

Dialogue about gear improvements, wish lists, and how vendors can better support practical, on-set needs.

In partnership with:



NETFLIX Lounge

Clean Tech Pavilion, Booth 1019 CINEGEAR 2025



Presents

Building the Clean Tech Toolkit with Christian Rice and Michael Off

Saturday, June 7th 1:30-2pm

A walkthrough of the essential gear to integrate batteries or clean power on location, and how it is changing the prep and rigging process.

In partnership with:



NETFLIX Lounge

Clean Tech Pavilion, Booth 1019
CINEGEAR 2025



Presents

Cinematography in the Battery Era with Shane Hurlbut, ASC and Thomas Sigurdsson

Saturday, June 7th 3:30-4pm

Focusing on how battery-powered lighting and power systems are transforming the way sets operate – especially in terms of mobility, silence, and sustainability.

In partnership with:



NETFLIX Lounge

Clean Tech Pavilion, Booth 1019
CINEGEAR 2025



Jim Plannette

AMPAS

Gaffer

E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial;

Legends of the Fall;

Braveheart;

Traffic; The Artist

Jim will talk about his father,

Homer Plannette's career

as a Master Gaffer and

then his own journey in

the industry as a Top Gaffer

**Moderator
Jay Holben**

Independent director and producer

ASC member

Technical editor for AC Magazine

Two Generations of Lighting for Academy Award Winning Films

June 6th 4:00PM-5:00PM

June 7th 3:00PM-3:30PM

 **Booth No. S3009 Universal Studios Lot**

NANLUX / NANLITE



PROTECT OUR INDUSTRY, OUR JOBS, AND OUR FUTURE.

#KEEPCALIFORNIAROLLING

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED RIGHT NOW:

WRITE A LETTER: We are re-launching our letter writing campaign to address the urgency of the moment and target Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas, Senate Pro Tempore Mike McGuire, Senate Budget Chair Scott Wiener and Assembly Budget Chair Jesse Gabriel and your own representatives in the Senate and Assembly.

- We sent over 200,000 back in April and we will need to surpass this number as we approach the week of June 9th which will be our key target week.
- If you already wrote a letter, **WE NEED YOUR VOICE AGAIN.**

- Share on Social Media and with your friends, family members and colleagues. We will need everyone's voice in this fight. Deadline to submit a letter for maximum impact is June 12th

[Write a Letter](#)

- **SHARE KEEP CALIFORNIA ROLLING: Reel Jobs Need Real Action Video**

- Not only is the letter embedded in every single letter you send to your elected officials, help use this video to inspire others to support our industry.
- We have just released our Keep California Rolling video highlighting member stories about what our California Film and Television Jobs Program means to our members, small businesses and our community.

[Watch the Video](#)

NEW! Production List available on the Local 728 website Dashboard!
Thank you to Local 600 for compiling and sharing this resource.

My Connex Reporting Tool | Webinar

Join us for a webinar event to discuss the My Connex app. The recording will be made available after the webinar on the IATSE Local 728 website.

Link will be forthcoming.

When: Thursday, June 26

Time: 12 PM

Location: via Zoom

The MyConnex Reporting Tool is
for workers from the following
organizations:



AMAZON MGM STUDIOS

NETFLIX



Connect to what you need. Choose what's next.

The MyConnex Resources & Reporting Tool and Ombuds Office for safer workplaces. Explore resources, learn your rights, and access reporting procedures to choose your next steps.

By entertainment workers, for every entertainment worker.

Join us to learn more about this innovative tool that is now available to you as a member of IATSE. The presentation will review the key features of the reporting tool, services you can access through the Ombuds and answer any questions you may have.

IATSE Local 728 Bulletin

The Bulletin is now available on the website!

In this issue:

- Understanding the District 2 and IATSE Conventions
- Part One: Playing by the Book
- Techquity Showcase
- Pushing for Stronger California Film Tax Credits
- Hollywood Members & Union Leaders pack the LA City Council Chambers
- A Rare but Serious Health Hazard is on the Rise in California
- NAB Las Vegas

Read More: [The Bulletin No.5](#)



THE BULLETIN
Lighting Technicians IATSE Local 728
The only IATSE Local Dedicated to Set Lighting
www.iatse728.org

HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA
Vol. 35; No. 5
2025

Stay engaged and informed! Check out the Local 728 Weekly Digest emailed every Friday.

Techquity Showcase

Photos Page 5

ALSO INSIDE YOUR BULLETIN

Understanding the District 2 and IATSE Conventions, Business Rep's Report, Page 2

Part One: Playing by the Book
Treasurer-Call Steward's Column, Page 3

Pushing for Stronger California Film Tax Credits, President's Report, Page 6

A Rare But Serious Health Hazard is on the Rise, Safety & Training Director's Message, Page 7

Hollywood Members & Union Leaders pack the LA City Council Chambers, Page 4

Action: Sign the IATSE Local B-192 Petition in Favor of Dodgers Tour Guides Receiving Fair Wages & Benefits

Despite Dodger tour guide's essential role, they're being underpaid and unfairly treated. The Dodgers are trying to take away existing benefits - benefits that were promised as part of the job - simply because the guides voted to unionize.

Signing this petition means standing up for fairness, decency, and the workers who make the Dodgers experience great.

[Sign the Petition](#)



Do Not Sign the Boss's Phony Petition | Unite Here!

For the next 30 days, if anyone at the grocery store, park, or in the neighborhood asks you to sign something, DO NOT SIGN IT! The hotels and airlines are circulating a petition to take away the Olympic Wage passed by LA City Council.

DON'T SIGN



NO FIRME

PAID FOR BY UNITE HERE LOCAL 11 PAC, 464 S. LUCAS AVE. LOS ANGELES, CA 90017, FUNDING DETAILS AT ETHICS.LACITY.GOV.

Behind The Scenes | New Mental Health Survey

Working in this industry is hard – physically and mentally. Behind the Scenes has launched a survey to aid in developing new tools and resources for our industry

during these changing times. We want to hear your thoughts on what you need now. If you're in the US or Canada please take this brief survey and share it with your colleagues.

btmlink.org/survey



BEHIND THE SCENES

Mental Health Initiative

The entertainment industry has experienced enormous changes.

What tools and resources can support your mental health?

Take the survey today

[**btmlink.org/survey**](https://btmlink.org/survey)



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



Upcoming Events

Celebrate Pride Month

June 2025



Stamp Out Hunger | Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to sort out the food that was collected during this year's Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive!

When: Various Dates through July 2025

Time: 8AM – 1PM and 1PM – 4PM (2 shifts)

Location: Salvation Army | 5600 Rickenbacker Road, Bldg 1D | Bell, CA 90201 (Take Mansfield Way & Continue on the road to destination)

Sign-Up: [Here](#)



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Help Labor Community Services sort out the donated food that was collected during this year's Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive!



**MONDAY - SATURDAY
MAY 20TH - JULY 1ST
2 TIME SHIFTS
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

**SALVATION ARMY
5600 RICKENBACKER ROAD, BLDG 1D
BELL, CA 90201
TAKE MANSFIELD WAY & CONTINUE
ON THE ROAD TO DESTINATION**

**To Sign Up To Volunteer, Please Sign Up At
<https://lcs-la.org/stamp-out-hunger>**

**For Organizations and Groups Who Would Like To
Volunteer, Please Contact Marcos Juan at
(323) 620-3030 | marcos@lcs-la.org**

Kino Flo X Lite Gear Open House

Get an exclusive tour of the new shared facility, engineering, rental and service areas, and latest product developments along with great food and drinks.

When: Thursday, June 5

Time: 5-9PM PDT

Location: 2840 N Hollywood Way | Burbank, CA 91505

RSVP: [Here](#)



MPTF | Landman Screening – June 7

Join us for this special screening of an episode of **Landman**. Set in the boomtowns of Texas.

After the reception there will be a Conversation + Q & A with **Billy Bob Thornton, Ali Larter** and **Jacob Lofland**.

When: Saturday, June 7

Reception: 1PM

Conversation and Q+A followed by screening: 2PM

Location: MPTF Louis B. Mayer Theater | 23388 Mulholland Dr., | Woodland Hills, CA 91364

RSVP: [Here](#)

Seating will be limited and will be first come first served. (MPTF Residents will get priority for seating.)



Keep California Rolling with Pride – June 8

Join Teamsters and our Entertainment Union Coalition at this year's LA PRIDE PARADE in Hollywood!

This year, we are marching to show our PRIDE and support of our LGBTQ+ Community and to raise awareness of our ongoing fight to protect and grow film and television jobs in our state through our Keep California Rolling campaign and the fight to expand and modernize our film and television jobs program. We will be marching alongside Teamsters, SAG-AFTRA, DGA, IATSE, AFM, WGA-W and more.

When: Sunday, June 8th

Time: TBD, Parade begins at 11AM

Register: [March Registration – Keep California Rolling with Pride](#)



Lightning Safety for the Motion Picture & Television Industry

IATSE Local 728 invites you to join Mike Skinner and Alan Rowe for a webinar focused on Safety Bulletin #38, Addendum A - Lightning Safety as recommended by the Industry-Wide Labor-Management Safety Committee for the Motion Picture and Television Industry.

When: Saturday, June 14

Time: 10AM via Zoom

Register: <https://training728.org/lightning>

Lightning Safety for the Motion Picture & Television Industry

Saturday, June 14, 2025
10:00AM via Zoom

An in-depth look at Safety Bulletin 38, Addendum A



Presented by IATSE Local 728
register at <https://training728.org/lightning>



Photo by Eugene Triguba on Unsplash

Union Resources

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 \(iatse728.org\)](#)

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 First Aid Resources](#)

[Mental Health Tools and Resources with Behind The Scenes Video](#)

[Behind the Scenes - Supporting Mental Health and Wellness](#)

Log-in for access to the following:

[MPI's Mental Health and Wellness Resources](#)

[Wondr Health- Cope Better, Stress Less](#)

[CALM Subscription Information](#)

[Optum- Tools and Videos related to Mental Health](#)

Entertainment Health Insurance Solutions- EHISCA

If you are in need of alternative to employer provided health insurance, please reach out to Entertainment Health Insurance Solutions at MPTF. Their staff is trained to assist members of the entertainment community navigate the complex California health insurance marketplace.

ehisca.com

IATSE- Los Angeles Fires Relief and Response

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](#)

First Entertainment Credit Union Promotion

You can receive up to \$500 by joining First Entertainment Credit Union. Details below.

[First Entertainment Promotion](#)

**PROMOTIONS: RECEIVE UP TO \$500
BY JOINING FIRST ENTERTAINMENT CREDIT UNION**

- Obtain **\$400** by opening a Value Checking account with a direct deposit of at least \$1,000 per month within the first 90 days
- Receive another **\$100** when you open a First Entertainment Credit Card and spend \$500 within the first 90 days



ACT NOW!
Get **\$500**¹
When You Join
First Entertainment.

Scan the QR code to get started!
1. For this promotion, you must open a new account by 12/31/2023.
2. For more details, visit [firstentertainment.com/promo](#).

JOIN THE LIST

FIRST ENTERTAINMENT CREDIT UNION

Union Plus | Health Discounts for Union Members

Check out the list of Union Plus Health Discounts for Union Members and their families.

unionplus.org/benefits/health



Working hard for union families since 1966

HEALTH Dental Vision Hearing Prescriptions

Health

Find the health savings plan that's right for you

We offer health savings for every family and budget.

OFFER ENDS 7/31

LIMITED TIME HEALTH SAVINGS

Unlock a healthier you

Looking for smart choices for a healthier you? LiveWell = feeling good + saving money! For a limited time, you can save on these essential health services:

- **Hearing:** Receive a \$150 rebate on a pair of hearing aids¹
- **Vision:** Get up to \$40 extra off select frame brands²
- **Dental:** Enjoy an extra 20% off a dental savings plan³

¹Terms apply. Offer available from May 1, 2025 - July 2025.
²Frame brands and offer subject to change. Only available to VSP members with applicable plan benefits. Only available at in-network locations.
³THIS PLAN IS NOT INSURANCE and is not intended to replace health insurance.

A photograph of a family of four (two adults and two children) smiling on a beach. The "LiveWell" logo is overlaid on the bottom right of the photo, with the tagline "HEALTHY LIVING · SMART SAVINGS" below it.

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! L728.co/iatsepac

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



In Memoriam

Brother James R. "Jimmy" Ellis

A 13-year member of Local 728, Brother Ellis passed away on May 14, 2025.

[Notice of passing: Brother James "Jimmy" Ellis](#)

IN MEMORIAM

*Brother
James "Jimmy" R. Ellis*



A member since March 17, 2011

Passed away on May 14, 2025

At the age of 38

Frank Krejsa

Memorial information to be announced.

Attached please find correspondence from Frank's Family.

“On May 8th at the age of 68, my dad, my sweet, loving, kind, and full of life dad, suddenly and unexpectedly left this earth and crossed over to the next. Life without him in it seems unimaginable and every fiber of my being is fighting to accept this. He was my hero. He raised me as a single father, loved me, my husband, and all of my friends, and championed us through every milestone. He was my rock, and although I know that he will always be with me, I will feel the weight of his loss for the rest of my life.

He treated others how he wanted to be treated - always kind and quick to offer a smile. Lover of all music, especially rock and roll, he was the life of every party, the coolest person I knew, and loved by so many. I feel that love through every phone call and text that I've gotten from his village of lifelong friends. We can all agree that there will never be another person like Frank Joseph Krejsa Jr.

While my family and I try to understand this unimaginable loss, we will share details of his celebration of life once the time comes. Thank you all for your love and support, and for loving my dad too.”

♥ Love, the Krejsa and Grasse Family

[Notice of passing: Frank Krejsa](#)



Frank Krejsa & Brianna (daughter)