

WORKERS UNITED NY/NJ UNION NOTES



It's a new year and we're seeing big wins and important changes coming for Workers United NY NJ Regional Joint Board in 2024. Building on last year, we have plans for contract bargaining, steward support and organizing. There will be more training opportunities for our members through the new Member Organizing Institute (see page 2 for more details). We've increased both our representational and organizing staff. And you've probably seen a ton of media stories about our Union organizing, striking and winning at Starbucks and in other industries. You can expect to hear from us through this quarterly newsletter – please get in touch with any ideas you have! This is your union. When we're all involved, we bring more power to our contract bargaining, shop floors and organizing. Here's to a happy, justice-filled and powerful 2024.



In solidarity, Julie Bracero Kelly – General Manager



Workers at the Astor Place Starbucks went on strike in June to demand credit card tipping.



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS Weingarten rights

One of the most important protections that you have as a union member is guarding against employer intimidation, particularly during disciplinary investigations, where the employer may attempt to coerce you into making incriminating statements against yourself or your colleagues.

You have the right to request that a union representative be present during an investigatory meeting that you believe may result in discipline. Your employer does not have an obligation to inform you of these rights, you must assert them and contact your rep.



YOUR UNION AT WORK

When a union member at Duane Reade was subjected to unjust suspension and invasive drug testing by the company, the union fought back!

After weeks of negotiations, the single mother of two from Queens is thrilled to be back at work in the pharmacy, doing what she loves, helping people get the medications they need to be healthy and well.

And the union is proud to have contested the unreasonable discipline the member faced, and negotiated a speedy return to work, with full backpay and all the PTO she would have accrued had she been working.

MEET YOUR EXECUTIVE BOARD Julio Gonzalez, Duane Reade



“A union is a fighting machine for a good cause...we're the democracy when it comes to employees.”

Julio was born in Moca, Puerto Rico and moved to Sunset Park, Brooklyn when he was five years old and grew up in a big family of 16 brothers and sisters. He has worked at Duane Reade as a Lead Photo Tech for 20 years, and is a photographer in his free time, as well as an event promoter.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Thousands of union members from across our joint board, and across the country, wore stickers at work in solidarity with Starbucks workers fighting for a fair contract.

APRIL SOLIDARITY STICKER-UP



JUNE STRIKE WITH PRIDE

Starbucks union members went on strike at the NYC Pride Parade to confront Starbucks Corporate and remind them that queer & trans rights ARE worker rights, and to demand they negotiate a contract!



AUGUST RAINBOW RATIFIES CONTRACT



The 78 workers at the Rainbow distribution center in N. Philly ratified a new contract that includes hourly increases, new dental coverage, new immigration language & language that humanizes addictions. Congrats!

AUGUST LAUNCH OF MOI - MEMBER ORGANIZING INSTITUTE!

Educated and connected members, ready to take action, are what makes the union strong - and the graduates of the MOI will have the tools to energize the organizing in your shop.

See the MOI info. sheet to learn more and to sign up!

SEPTEMBER LABOR DAY PARADE

Also, the Daily Press in Brooklyn became the first independent cafe in NYC to win a union contract.



OCTOBER HEX&CO WINS UNION ELECTION

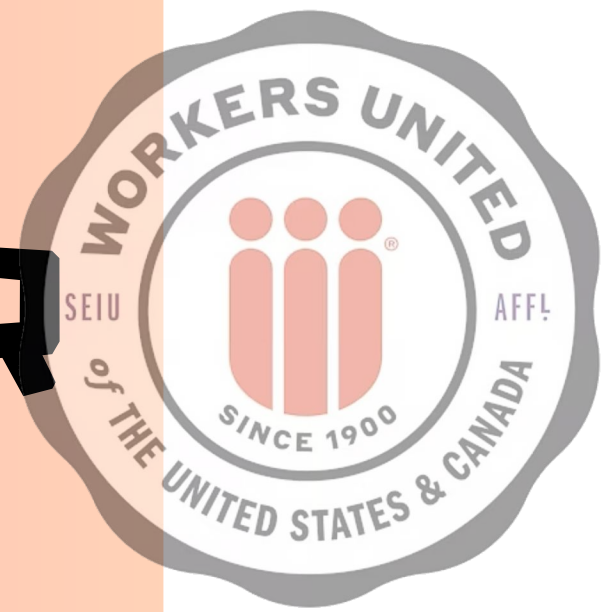
The 70 workers at the tabletop board game cafe company voted to join our union. They set off a chain of worker organizing in the industry, with the Brooklyn Strategist and the Uncommons following in their footsteps.

NOVEMBER RED CUP REBELLION



Starbucks workers went on their largest strike yet - with 200 stores! The strike resulted in the ability to pause mobile ordering and renewed communication from the company regarding bargaining.

MEMBER ORGANIZER PROGRAM



- **TRAINING AND PRACTICE!***
- **4 HOURS A MONTH!**
- **BUILD AND USE POWER IN YOUR SHOP!**
- **BUILD YOUR UNION COMMUNITY!**

JOIN US!

**APPLY NOW
FOR 2024!**

<https://bit.ly/2024MOP>

**MORE INFORMATION
AND TO APPLY:**



***VIRTUAL SESSIONS -
ON ZOOM!**

