

The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library

UNTOLD STORIES

a decade
of library
programs



UNTOLD STORIES



What is it?

- Labor history focus
- Humanities based series
- Features multiple genres: authors, film, theater, panel discussions, music, walking and bus tours, etc.)
- History topics, but also current issues affecting workers and working life
- Local as well as national or even international in scope.

UNTOLD STORIES

Join us in May for a moving series of programs
in commemoration of Labor History Month.

“LABOR IS NOT FIGHTING FOR A LARGER
SLICE OF THE NATIONAL PIE.
LABOR IS FIGHTING FOR A LARGER PIE.”
Walter Ruther

UNTOLD STORIES is organized by
THE FRIENDS OF THE SAINT PAUL PUBLIC LIBRARY,
supported by an endowment created with grants from the
National Endowment for the Humanities, John S. &
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with the co-sponsorship of the
Historic Saint Paul Foundation, Macalester College
History Department, National Writers Union Local
113, Northland Poster Collective, Ramsey County
Historical Society, Ruminate Books, Saint Paul Labor
Speakers Club, Saint Paul Trades and Labor Assembly,
Twin Cities Labor History Society, UAW Local 879 and the
University of Minnesota American Studies Department.

UNTOLD STORIES

UNTOLD STORIES
a series of free programs in
commemoration of Labor History Month

CHERYL BRAUNWORTH CARLSON
*Strike for Better Schools, the Saint Paul
Public School Teachers' Strike of 1946*
Tuesday, May 4 - 7 p.m. - Klondike Branch Library
1558 West Minnehaha Avenue, Saint Paul
Cheryl Braunworth Carlson is a coordinator for the St. Paul Public School System
and a member of the St. Paul Federation of Teachers. She interviewed over
50 participants of the 1946 strike while researching her doctoral dissertation.

GAYLA ELLIS & KEVIN FITZPATRICK
A book discussion of Irene: Selected Writings of Irene Paul
Pre-registration required by calling The Friends at 651/222-3242.
Wednesday, May 5 - 7 p.m. - Levington Branch Library
1600 West University Avenue, Saint Paul
Both Gayla Ellis and Kevin Fitzpatrick served as editors of Irene and are accomplished
authors and editors. Irene Paul was born in Duluth in 1908 and was involved in labor and
social issues until her death in 1981. She co-founded the Midwest Labor magazine in the
1930s and later wrote extensively for Jewish Currents and served as editor of Tender
Feet. Published in 1994, Irene also includes a portrait by Phyllis La Torre.

DAVE RIEHLE & ART McWATT
*Some Activists, Adversaries and
Advocates in Twin City Black Labor History*
Tuesday, May 11 - 7 p.m. - Merrill Park Branch Library
1831 Marshall Avenue, Saint Paul
Dave Riehle is a locomotive engineer and active trade unionist who writes
frequently on local labor history for The Labor Advocate. Art McWatt
taught for 33 years in the secondary schools of Saint Paul. He has
written about local African-American history for a number of years.

DAVE RIEHLE
A walking tour of historic downtown labor sites
Tuesday, May 18 - 5:30 p.m. - Landmark Center
75 West 5th Street, Saint Paul. Gather at the Rice Park entrance.

BARB KUCERA & PETER RACHLEFF
*Mayor William Mahoney, the Labor Press
and Politics in Saint Paul*
Tuesday, May 18 - 7 p.m. - Landmark Center, Room 317
75 West 5th Street, Saint Paul
Peter Rachleff is a professor of history and chair of the History Department at
Macalester College. His numerous works on labor history include Dark Labor in
Richmond, Rights and Disfranchisement in the Heartland, Dark Roots in the Mill of the
Urban Avenue, the official newspaper of the St. Paul Trades and Labor Assembly.

LISA LOWE
Bodies, Rights and Women's Work
Illustration by Alayne Hopkins

UNTOLD STORIES

Origins

3 Major Factors

- New outreach audience
- Good, local material – centennial
- Stable funding – humanities endowment

Partners & Community Committee

- Friends, unions, colleges, media, library
- Committee connections & credibility
- Long-term commitment = trust

UNTOLD STORIES



2008 Series

- 12 events over 1 month period:
 - 4 author talks or lectures, 3 theater related events, panel discussion followed by sing-along, high school presentation, bus tour, art exhibit, film
- 6 events in Library - 6 in community venues
- Includes book/film lists handed out, purchase of new materials by the Library, ongoing website development (we hope)

UNTOLD STORIES LABOR HISTORY SERIES 10th ANNIVERSARY - 2008

The Making, Unmaking and Remaking of Minnesota's Labor Movement in the 19th and 20th Centuries
 Minnesota History Center, 400 Regis Boulevard
 Tuesday, April 15, 2:00
 The South End & Noble Lectures, presented by the Minnesota Historical Society, feature Professor Peter Redford and The Making, Unmaking and Remaking of Minnesota's Labor Movement in the 19th and 20th Centuries. The anniversary, the Friends and the Department of History. Register online at the University of Minnesota.

Hard Work and a Good Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps in Minnesota
 University of Minnesota, 1000 Regis Boulevard
 Tuesday, April 15, 2:00
 Come back to work and conservation. Join the author of the award-winning book, *Hard Work and a Good Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps in Minnesota*, to explore the history of the CCC, an agency of the War Relocation Administration, a program that provided jobs and training to young men during the Great Depression. The author will discuss the impact of the CCC on Minnesota's landscape, as well as the personal stories of the men and women who worked there.

The Promise and Limits of the New Deal
 Rice Street Branch Library, 400 Main Street
 Wednesday, April 16, 2:00
 Join author, critic and author of *The New Deal, Its Promise and Its Limits*, to explore the 70th anniversary of the New Deal with "The Promise and Limits of the New Deal".

Breakers
 St. Anthony Park Branch Library, 4001 Cassin Avenue
 Wednesday, April 16, 2:00
 The New Community Theater presents a reading of a new play, *Breakers*, inspired by the life of a woman who worked in a textile mill in Lowell, Massachusetts.

For All These Rights: Business, Labor, and the Shaping of America's Public-Private Welfare State
 University of Minnesota, 1000 Regis Boulevard
 Thursday, April 17, 2:00
 The author of the award-winning book, *For All These Rights: Business, Labor, and the Shaping of America's Public-Private Welfare State*, will discuss the history of the welfare state in America, from the early days of the Progressive Era to the New Deal and beyond.

150 Years of Labor in Minnesota
 Saint Paul Labor Center, 401 Main Street
 Thursday, May 1, 2:00
 Labor scholar and historian Hugh Bennett, author of the award-winning book, *150 Years of Labor in Minnesota*, will discuss the history of labor in Minnesota, from the early days of the Progressive Era to the New Deal and beyond.

The Triangle Factory Fire Project
 University of Minnesota, 1000 Regis Boulevard
 Thursday, May 1, 2:00
 The Triangle Factory Fire Project is a collaboration between the University of Minnesota and the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory. The project aims to create a digital archive of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory, including photographs, documents, and oral histories.

"Cradle Will Rock"
 Minnesota Public Branch Library, 401 Marshall Avenue
 Thursday, May 1, 2:00
 The author of the award-winning book, *Cradle Will Rock*, will discuss the history of the Cradle Will Rock project, a play that was banned from being performed in New York City.

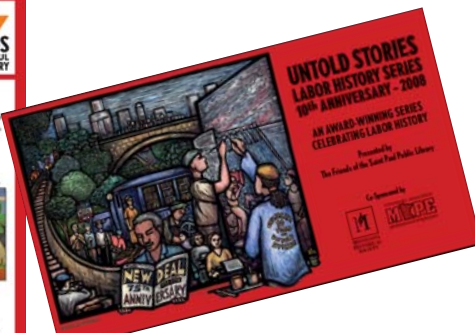
New Deal Art from Minnesota
 James J. Hill House Gallery, 400 Summit Avenue
 Friday, May 2, 2:00
 The Minnesota Historical Society is presenting a new exhibit, *New Deal Art from Minnesota*, featuring works by Minnesota artists who were inspired by the New Deal.

History Day Presentations
 Saint Paul Labor Center, 401 Main Street
 Monday, May 5, 2:00
 Minnesota High School students present their award-winning projects for History Day. Watch some history come alive with exhibits, original performances and media presentations on the topic of "Conflict and Compromise in History".

Labor History Tour
 Saint Paul Labor Center, 401 Main Street
 Tuesday, May 6, 2:00
 Explore labor sites in the White Bear Lake area with local historian and author Hugh Bennett. The tour includes the White Bear Lake Hotel, the White Bear Lake Hotel, the White Bear Lake Hotel, and the White Bear Lake Hotel.

These Shining Lives
 University of Minnesota, 1000 Regis Boulevard
 Wednesday, May 7, 2:00
 The author of the award-winning book, *These Shining Lives*, will discuss the lives of the workers who died in the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire.

History Theatre
 University of Minnesota, 1000 Regis Boulevard
 Thursday, May 8, 2:00
 The author of the award-winning book, *History Theatre*, will discuss the history of theater in Minnesota.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		April 15	April 16	April 17	April 18	April 19
April 20	April 21	April 22	April 23	April 24	April 25	April 26
April 27	April 28	April 29	April 30	May 1	May 2	May 3
May 4	May 5	May 6	May 7	May 8	May 9	May 10
May 11	May 12	May 13	May 14	May 15	May 16	May 17
May 18	May 19	May 20	May 21	May 22	May 23	May 24
May 25	May 26	May 27	May 28	May 29	May 30	May 31

UNTOLD STORIES



Why is it successful?

- **Multi-faceted** – something for everyone
- **Multiple venues** – not just library
- **Strong publicity** – brochures, bookmarks, ads, websites, press releases, articles in labor media, expanding network of partners
- **Strong committee** – they've taken ownership
- **Current Topics & Relevant Issues**

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Why is it successful?

- **Partners do more and more**
 - **Unions and Union Organizations** – provide funding, presenters, connections, venues, committee members, publicity and audience
 - **Colleges** – connections, presenters, committee members, publicity, audience
 - **History Societies** – connections, presenters, committee members, exhibit, PR, sites, audience
 - **Parks/Conservatory** – great space, audience
 - **Theaters and theater groups** – performances, venues, publicity and audience

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Why is it successful?

- **Dependable Annual Funding**
 - Endowment - funds programs and also Library collections
 - Friends operating funds
 - Union support - \$1,000
 - Individual donations and memberships

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Series Results

- Annual use of resources lessening
- Committee does more work - ownership
- Series connections have helped in many ways:
 - Borrowing sound system
 - Expanding networks: attendance, supporters, connections & advice for other series
 - Help with lobbying both City and State from unions
 - Increased donations - both series and otherwise
 - Help with special projects - bookmobile to Mexico, conference presentations, Sessions Award
 - Different view of Friends and Library among an important constituency