

What is the Midwest School for Women Workers?

The Midwest School for Women Workers brings together union women to develop leadership skills, understand challenges and issues facing the labor movement, and share experiences. The school has been held annually since 1976, and aims to equip women to be more active and effective leaders in their unions and to build solidarity among union women.

The school is open to all union members in the Midwest region, but its primary focus is to meet the educational needs of union women. Participants typically include women active at all levels of their unions, including rank-and-file activists, elected leaders, stewards, and staff.

The school is sponsored by the United Association for Labor Education (UALE) and this year will be hosted by the University of Iowa Labor Center in Iowa City, Iowa in cooperation with the Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO.

What past participants have said about the School

I hope the empowering and reenergizing feeling that I've experienced all week long continues throughout my activism in the workplace.

The instructors were very strong, dynamic, engaging speakers, and I left the class knowing that I had learned something new that would benefit me in the workplace.

Through networking with other union sisters I found out we all have some of the same issues.

The instructors were effective and had a wealth of information to share.

I enjoyed learning from others in a supportive atmosphere. I'd love to return to future schools.

All the sessions were very educational; I came away with information and ideas that I can use to keep our membership informed and active.



The Midwest School for Women Workers welcomes participation regardless of race, creed, religion, ethnicity, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, or immigrant status.

MIDWEST SCHOOL FOR WOMEN WORKERS 2012

July 25-29
University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa



Workers' Rights
Women's Rights
HUMAN RIGHTS

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
Labor Center



2012 Midwest School for Women Workers

Registration

Please register by **July 2** to insure availability of housing. Registrations received after July 2 will be accepted on a space available basis.

Tuition rates are as follows:

\$350 commuter rate (includes parking, daily lunches, and one dinner)

\$500 double room and board (includes parking, hotel, daily breakfasts & lunches and one dinner)

\$665 single room and board (includes parking, hotel, daily breakfasts & lunches and one dinner)

Registration available by mail, phone, fax, or on-line. By mail: send attached form to The University of Iowa Labor Center, 100 BVC, Room W130, Iowa City, IA 52242-5000. By phone: call (319) 335-4144. By fax: (319) 335-4464. Additional information and on-line registration are available at <http://www.continuetolearn.uiowa.edu/laborctr>.

Confirmation of registration and course selection material will be sent to the email address listed on your registration form; an information packet will be sent via U.S. Postal Service several weeks prior to the School. **Cancellation:** Registrations cancelled after July 15 will incur a \$75 fee. All cancellations must be in writing by letter, fax, or email to labor-center@uiowa.edu.

Scholarships

A limited number of partial scholarships may be available for women whose organizations are unable to pay the full costs of tuition. Please approach your union and/or central labor council to request support before applying for a scholarship. To receive a scholarship application form, check the scholarship box on the registration form, email labor-center@uiowa.edu, or call 319-335-4144.

Travel to Iowa City

By car or bus, Iowa City is approximately three hours from Madison, WI, four hours from Chicago and Omaha, five hours from Kansas City, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, and St. Louis, and six hours from Indianapolis. Air travel to Iowa City is through the Eastern Iowa Airport, located in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. More travel details and a map will be included in the information packet you will receive after registering.

Classes, Instructors, and Special Events

Participants will attend core skill-building classes each morning and afternoon throughout the school as well as numerous plenary and workshop sessions on current economic and policy issues affecting unions and workers. Special events will include an opening banquet and graduation luncheon, documentary film screenings, labor history and culture activities, and group action planning. Instructors at the school will include university-based labor educators along with experienced union leaders, labor activists, attorneys, and community leaders. Subject areas covered in the school will likely include:

- Workers' rights in crisis: What's behind recent attacks, and how are workers mobilizing in response?
- Standing up for the public sector and the public good
- Key leadership skills: Effective communication, planning events, facilitating meetings, and public speaking
- Labor law for union activists
- Grievance handling and arbitration basics
- Bargaining in tough times
- The Family and Medical Leave Act and beyond
- Common sense economics
- Labor history
- Building solidarity in the global economy
- Health care reform: What does it mean for workers?
- Building community coalitions
- Next Up: Young workers and intergenerational organizing



Child care

We regret that child care cannot be made available on site. Please call 319-335-4144 to request information about local childcare options.

Interpretation for non-English Speakers

Simultaneous interpretation in Spanish or other languages may be made available if requested in advance.

Registration Form

2012 Midwest School for Women Workers

Name _____

Union and Local # _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (daytime) _____

(evening) _____

E-mail _____

I need all materials sent by postal mail.

Please send me scholarship information.

I need language interpretation into _____ (insert language).

Registration fee: Commuter (\$350)

Double (\$500) Single (\$665)

If double, indicate roommate preference (if any): _____

Method of payment:

Enclosed is a check or money order, payable to The University of Iowa, OR

Enclosed is a letter of authorization from my union, requesting an invoice for the registration fee.

T-shirt size:

S M L XL XXL

Return form and registration fee to:
**UI Labor Center, 100 BVC, Room W130,
Iowa City, IA 52242**