

# LEC Workshop: Teacher's Strikes: Workers, Students & Our Communities

**Saturday November 3rd, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM**

Public education and teachers unions have been under constant attack for the last quarter of a century by politicians and conservative lobbyists pushing an agenda of privatization and austerity. Now, teachers are striking back, waging some of the most exciting and innovative workplace actions of our time, not just on behalf of themselves, but for their students and indeed, the entire community. The West Virginia teachers' strike and the similar campaigns have shown us how to fight for public education and public employees' rights, while effectively countering the austerity measures championed by conservatives. This workshop aims not only to educate our members on the critical issues we face with regard to attacks on labor unions and public education, and the push towards privatization and austerity, but to engage Guild members in the political and legal fight back against these attacks.

- **Christine Campbell, President of AFT-West Virginia**, who has been active in organizing and representing teachers for years in a state that does not recognize teachers' right to bargain over their wages and benefits, will describe both the pressures that led to teachers' successful strike and the work that still must be done to secure those gains.
- **Sabrina Joy Stevens, Senior Manager of Campaign and Digital Strategies for the National Women's Law Center**, a teacher-turned-writer and advocate will speak on the battles against privatization and inequity in education, as well as the social inequality and economic injustice that holds women, children, and families back.
- **Gordon Lafer, Professor at the University of Oregon** and author of a number of scholarly and popular articles on the attack on public education and public sector unions, will discuss attacks on the public sector by ALEC and its allies and what can be done to resist it.
- Additional Speaker TBA
- **Moderator: Sarah David Heydemann is an organizer and attorney at the National Women's Law Center**, working at the intersection of labor rights and women's rights.