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May 2025

# MN GUILD NEWSLETTER



## UPCOMING EVENTS

MNGuild members Luisa Yela, Tate Hornoff, Kali Suchy, Carly Dahl, Tre Teilor, and Claire Mathews-Lingen (CTUL) hold the "Immigrants and Workers Let's rise up" banner at the Unity Rally on May Day at the St. Paul capitol.

05  
28

### MN Guild Membership Meeting

6:00PM CT | Wednesday, May 28th *Virtual*

Email [Marilyn](#) to request the Zoom link. This is our last meeting before September where we will be collecting nominations for Guild Officers. Attend a meeting to see if you want to serve in leadership.

06  
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### Solidarity in Stereo; a TakeAction MN benefit concert

6:00-9:00PM | Tuesday, June 3rd [The Green Room](#), Minneapolis

All-ages show with food and kid zone put on by the Twin Cities United Performers (TCUP) and featuring Blank Slate, Mom Collection, and Zora. Nadi McGill (*TakeAction MN*) will emcee. Donations go toward TakeAction MN's campaigns for parents/students with MPS, childcare affordability, tenants' rights and housing affordability, and unionizing local musicians/performers. [Register here](#).

06  
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### MNGuild Nonprofit Caucus

1:00-2:00PM | Friday, June 6th *Virtual*

[Zoom Link](#). Agenda: Connect!, talk through union's needs in your workplace, and get grounded in [Bargaining for the Common Good](#).

NEWSLETTERS ARE  
A COLLABORATIVE  
EFFORT.  
CONTRIBUTORS  
WANTED!

Send story ideas, content,  
group photos, or artwork to  
[allana@mnguild.org](mailto:allana@mnguild.org)

# TONS OF WAYS TO ENGAGE WITH THE LOCAL

## Join a committee!

- Nonprofit Caucus
- Trans/Nonbinary Solidarity Letter  
*HRC*
- Human Rights Committee
- Elections committee
- Bylaws committee
- Picnic committee or volunteer  
*Save the Date on p.4*
- See a need? Start a new committee!

## Other ways to participate!

- Be a labor delegate  
*Minneapolis, Saint Paul, Duluth*
- Run for Guild office  
*September*
- Contribute to the newsletter
- Volunteer at the state fair  
*August, see p.4*
- Lead or attend a training or event

**Contact Allana for more info.**

**The Hill fired a journalist to avoid a Trump lawsuit, and now Nexstar is laying off 30% of the newsroom.**

*Article from Jon Schleuss, TNG-CWA president*

A [bombshell report](#) this weekend revealed that a journalist at The Hill was fired to satisfy Donald Trump and avoid a lawsuit over coverage of Truth Social's financial troubles. Trump sued 20 outlets — but only The Hill caved.

Now, Nexstar, the company that owns The Hill, is moving ahead with layoffs that would gut 30% of the newsroom and target key coverage areas. Journalists say this isn't just a business decision — it's a continuation of the same political appeasement.

Nexstar leadership has reportedly referred to staff as "losers" behind closed doors while eliminating positions covering race, climate, and Latino communities. The company is reshaping the newsroom to align with political interests — and workers are speaking out.

The Hill Guild is calling on Nexstar to halt the layoffs and protect independent, nonpartisan journalism. [Read their statement](#) on Bluesky and [sign their petition](#)!





# UNIT UPDATES

## A Mixed Win, A Stronger Union: Lessons from Effects Bargaining

By James Rodriguez (*Clean Water Action MN*)

I work for Clean Water Action, a nonprofit that fights for environmental protections, especially around water. Locally, our organizing and lobbying work is supported by a committed field and phone canvass.

In January, the field canvass learned that a new quota system would be implemented in early March. Many of us saw it as harmful—not just to workers, but to the long-term health of the organization.

For 20 years, management has refused to bargain over fundraising standards and performance bonuses. We knew they'd claim this was their decision to make but effects bargaining—our right to negotiate the impact of management decisions—gave us a path forward.

Stewards across all departments organized a unified response. Even though only one department was directly affected, we knew we had to move together. Through one-on-one conversations and outreach, we confirmed that 90% of our unit was ready to sign onto a letter and take action if necessary. In the end, we never had to deliver that letter; management agreed to delay implementation and meet with us.

At our effects bargaining sessions, workers shared testimony and proposed realistic, sustainable alternatives. They were concerned that punitive requirements would negatively impact fundraising and advocated for an incentive-based structure. Management listened. The new standards are now delayed until September, there will be a phase-in period before discipline, a new bonus added, and we've kept our option for collective action open, should we need it.

As a steward, I learned how much a culture of solidarity matters. So does being prepared before a crisis hits. This experience reminded us that we're stronger when we act together—not just in response to change, but in shaping it. We didn't win everything that we wanted, but we won voice, power, and momentum.



**14th Annual Labor Bowl** is a fundraiser for the St. Paul Labor Studies and Resource Center that assists and advocates for union members and their families through community service, connecting them to resources and assistance programs, strike and lay-off training, and coalition-building.

This year, MNGuild formed a print-sector team made up of folks from Smart Set and Seven Corners Print & Promo. Ngoc Doan (*Smart Set*) won a medal for her exceptional lack of bowling talent. Everyone had a great time.



GOC	71	1	3	4	3	2	6	1	7	10	28
BBY	8	5	3	7	8	1	1	5	1	7	97
ANNA	4	1	9	1	7	1	8	1	5	3	78
ESSI	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	95
IG KE	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	83





## Two members win first at NHA!

The 2025 National Headliner Awards honors the best print, radio, television and online journalism in the United States published during 2024. MNGuild members Mara Klecker and Jeffrey Meitrodt (*Star Tribune*) won first place in the Newspapers Education Writing category for their article, "[Failing Grades](#)". The article was about charter schools that failed to live up to promises.

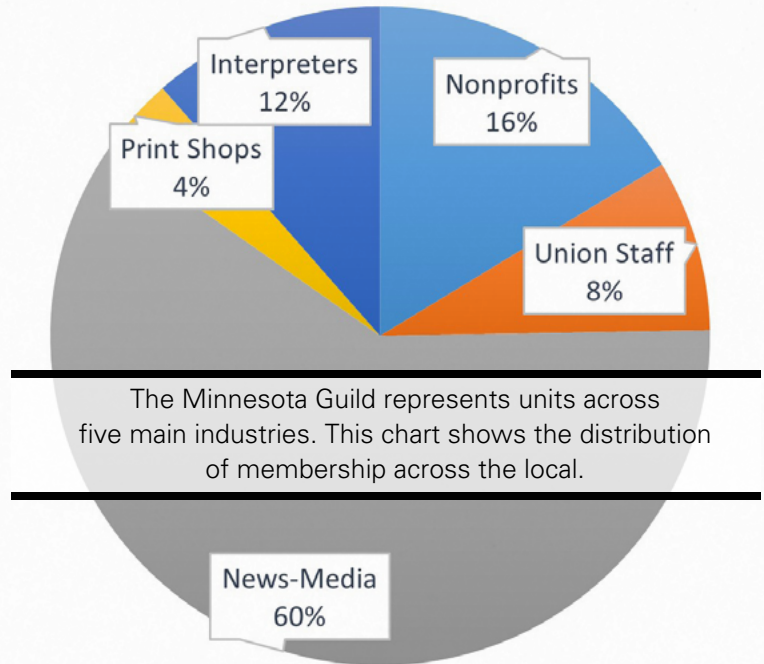
## Report: Americans on AI in Newsrooms

The MN Journalism Center and The Poynter Institute published an [original report](#) last month on audience attitudes about generative AI use in news.

A majority of Americans want use disclosure and ethical guidelines.

Our news members have advocated for similar language in their contracts but employers often push back.

## TNG-CWA MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION BY INDUSTRY



## SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 3RD ANNUAL GUILD PICNIC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

MINNEHAHA PARK IN MINNEAPOLIS [MORE INFO SOON!](#)



### MN State Fair: CWA Kiosk

We are looking for members to volunteer at our CWA kiosk, hand out free stuff, and talk about unions with the passersby.

**Thursday, August 21 (Opening Day)** and possibly a second day, pending interest. Last year's members had a great time!

Members will fill a 3-4.5-hour shift and get one free admission to the fair. [Contact Allana](#) if interested.