



# **SOCIALIST PARTY OF MICHIGAN MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

**April 2023**

**Workers of Michigan Unite!**

Hello Michigan socialists!

Our state convention is just around the corner. This is an important yearly gathering where our party members get together to choose this year's leadership as well as presenting important proposals (such as amendments to our state platform or state convention resolutions). If you have a proposal for the convention email us at [spmi@spmichigan.org](mailto:spmi@spmichigan.org) with the words "State Convention" in the subject line.

We will also be choosing our officers for the executive committee. This includes at least 3 people filling the roles of Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer. We are not limited to only three and, in fact, are hoping more members would be inclined to join the committee and get involved with the development of party literature and activities. We will also be choosing delegates to serve as representatives at the 2023 SPUSA National Convention.

While this year's convention will be light on programming we will have an informal discussion with membership about future projects and networking working class organizing around the state.

If you would like more information about the convention it can be found on our Facebook page and current SPMI members should have received a detailed e-mail about the convention in mid-April.

This year's convention will be held virtually via [Zoom](#). Members of the public who are not currently members are welcome to observe.

This year's state convention will take place on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 12PM. We hope to see you there!

# **Wolverines on Strike!**

## **University of Michigan Grad Students Demand Living Wage, Equity, and More in the Face of Mounting Repression**

The Graduate Employee Organization (GEO) at University of Michigan has been on strike since March 29th. Among their demands are a living wage, harassment protections, gender-affirming healthcare for trans workers, a more equitable child care subsidy, and for the university to invest in community safety alternatives to policing.

Presented with such mild demands, the administration at U of M has engaged in shady, authoritarian tactics to bring the strike to heel. From further threatening the financial stability of grad students- cutting striking student's pay to a mere \$100 for the month of April- to deploying campus police to detain peaceful protesters, to trying to break the solidarity of grad student teachers and their pupils by arbitrarily holding student grades in limbo.

In the face of such strong-arm tactics the grad student workers have been met with gracious solidarity from other working people in Michigan. Auto workers, nurses, fellow students, and others have lent the financial and practical support the strikers need (truly, pizza provided in aim to feed strikers is much more savory than those delivered by the bosses to placate workers).

The Socialist Party of Michigan stands with GEO and the rise of the labor struggle and power it represents. We encourage everyone to donate to the [GEO strike fund](#) and support our comrades in Ann Arbor as they struggle for their rights and the rights of their community.

For further reading and information we encourage readers to check out this series of articles from LeftVoice on the strike.

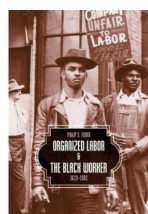
University of Michigan Graduate Student Strike Continues in the Face of Increasing Retaliation  
<https://www.leftvoice.org/university-of-michigan-graduate-student-strike-continues-in-the-face-of-increasing-retaliation/>

Striking Workers at the University of Michigan Are Building Powerful Solidarity  
<https://www.leftvoice.org/striking-workers-at-the-university-of-michigan-are-building-powerful-solidarity/>

GEO Strike Fund  
<https://givebutter.com/GEOStrikeFund>

## **Celebrating International Worker's Day**

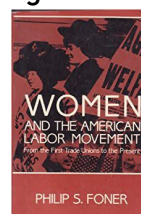
As another "International Worker's Day" or May Day comes to pass we would like to highlight the work of famed historian Phillip S Foner who wrote some of the most comprehensive histories of labor movements in the U.S. Here are 3 books by Foner that will give newcomers and learned Socialists alike much to consider about the history and legacy of organized labor.



**Organized Labor and the Black Worker (1619-1973)**



**May Day  
A Short History of the International Workers' Holiday, 1886-1986**



**Women and the American Labor Movement: From the First Trade Unions to the Present.**