

# You take one of us on, you take all of us on

Portland Jobs With Justice carried out a three-hour-long protest June 17, including a rally outside City Hall calling for a \$15 minimum wage, a delegation to Skanska in support of striking ironworkers, and the brief occupation of a downtown intersection to protest the Pittock Building's switch to a nonunion janitorial firm.

About 90 people took part in the City Hall rally, including ironworkers on strike at Instafab and a group of orange-shirted Laborers union members from around the country who were at the Hilton for a union training. A small group visited the nearby offices of general contractor Skanska to ask that the company stop subcontracting ironwork to Instafab while the strike continues. Rally-goers then marched through downtown, and were joined at O'Bryant Square by about 75 purple-shirted members of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU,) at which point the group blocked the intersection of Southwest 10th and Washington for about five minutes.



The intersection is just outside the Pittock Block, an eight-story 273,000-square-foot Class B office building built in 1914. In February, the Pittock's building manager dumped union-signatory GCA Services Group, which employed six union janitors at \$13.45 an hour plus benefits, and brought in nonunion Millennium Building Services instead. SEIU Local 49 Property Services Division Director Maggie Long thinks Millennium janitors make close to minimum wage with no benefits. Local 49 has not yet persuaded building owner Alaska Copper to reverse the change of contractor. In April, SEIU protesters filled the Pittock lobby, and building managers turned the lights off. This time, the protest was in observance of the 25th anniversary of the Century City protest at which striking union janitors were beaten by Los Angeles police when they tried to occupy an intersection. The famous attack, dramatized in the movie *Bread and Roses*, turned public sentiment in favor of the janitors' cause.

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## Ride to the beach Aug. 22 for Machinists' Guide Dogs

The 9th Annual Chuck Drake Memorial Guide Dog Dash will be held Saturday, Aug. 22. The event is sponsored by Machinists Lodge 63 and IAM District W24, and all proceeds go to Guide Dogs of America.

Riders will begin at the IBEW Local 48 Union Hall, 15937 NE Airport Way, Portland, and finish at Lakeside Hideaway Family Restaurant & Sports Bar in Rockaway Beach. Registration starts at 9 a.m., with the last rider out at 10:30 a.m.

Registration is \$25 per rider and \$10 per passenger, and includes a T-shirt, food after the ride, and raffle prizes.

For more information, contact John Hall at 503-449-0969, John Kleiboeker at 503-863-7304, or go online to [www.iamll63.org](http://www.iamll63.org) or [www.iamw24.org](http://www.iamw24.org).

## Oregon Shakespeare Festival files legal objection after stagehands vote to join IATSE

ASHLAND—Instead of accepting the results of last month's union vote and starting negotiations on a first contract, Oregon Shakespeare Festival (OSF) has filed legal objections with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB).

On June 10, a group of 71 stagehands and theater technicians voted 37 to 25 to join International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE). The newly unionized group is the "run crew" that runs backstage operations during the nine

months of the year plays are showing, but OSF previously argued that the bargaining unit should also include year-round employees who construct sets and make costumes. Those other groups showed less interest in unionizing, so adding them to the proposed bargaining unit could derail the union effort. The NLRB's regional director rejected OSF's arguments, and ruled that the run crew was an appropriate bargaining unit.

On June 25, OSF executive

director Cynthia Rider emailed employees saying that she and artistic director Bill Rauch "have decided to exercise OSF's legal right to request a review of the NLRB regional director's decision."

If the NLRB accepts the request for review, Rider wrote, it could take three to six months for a final decision.

### ONLINE EXTRA

Read management's letter online at <http://bit.ly/1LQXu5D>