

STARS OF THE PAINTERS AND FLOOR COVERERS UNIONS



Congratulations to members of Painters Local 10 and Floor Coverers Local 1236 who received bonus awards at the STAR Awards banquet June 1 in Portland. The union workers qualified for the bonuses after completing seven classes and 24 hours of voluntary skill-advancement training

and safety courses over a 12-month period. The STAR program was initiated in 2004 when Painters and Allied Trades District Council No. 5 and the Signatory Painting Contractors Organization made a commitment to each other to field the best-trained workforce in the industry. This led

to the creation of the Painters Union/Management Partnership, or PUMP. The program is funded by a cents-per-hour contribution negotiated in their collective bargaining agreement. Local 1236 started funding its PUMP program in 2010. Bonus checks were awarded starting in 2012.

The following members received bonus checks of \$400, plus a set of Makita power tools valued at \$500:

FLOOR COVERERS: Jason Else, Loren Harshman, Rodrigo Morales-Corona, Jonathan Doran, Jeremy Lewis, Daniel Ramirez, Donald Rusk, Brent Tompkins, Shawn Wilson, David Rowden, Dusty Hagan, and John Lawson.

PAINTERS: Luis Alfaro Ramirez, Melissa Austin, Eraclio Benitez, Juan Bernal, Joe Bishop, Tim Bradfield, Gustavo Carbajal, John Daniels, Foo-Beng Foong, Jaime Garcia, Eileen Grigat, Alan Jackson, Jonathan Jaimez, Damon Keene, Jason Konst, Hernando Magallanes, Sean McCarthy, David Mercado, Alin Muresan, Daniel Norman, Rodney Patterson, Ronald Pearson, Kenneth Rheel, Atanacio Rodriguez, Steven Rodrigues, Moises Romero, Vince Spillman, Jeff Splichal, and Chris Vezalednos.

Four Painter apprentices were recognized for perfect attendance. They were **Jermi Ali, Mike Antrim, James McClara** and **Andrea Corning**. Ali, Antrim and McClara had perfect attendance the previous year.

WORKERS RIGHTS

GOP lawmakers in Michigan repeal state prevailing wage

Michigan's Republican-controlled Legislature repealed the state's prevailing wage law June 6 without any votes from Democrats. The 50-year-old law required that workers on state and local government construction projects be paid the local prevailing wage — in order to prevent contractors from driving down wages to win bids. For years, Michigan's prevailing wage foes were stymied by Republican Gov. Rick Snyder, who pledged to veto any repeal. But this time, a group funded by Associated Builders and Contractors had gathered 382,700 signatures to qualify a repeal initiative. Under Michigan law, when legislators ratify a citizen initiative that's headed for the ballot, it's veto-proof.

Michigan is the fifth GOP-led state to repeal a state prevailing wage law since 2015. A study published this January found that Indiana's 2015 prevailing wage repeal cut construction worker wages on average by 8.5 percent but had no impact on the average cost of school projects.



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