

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**LOCAL LABOR ACTIVISM IS FOCUS OF NEW EXHIBITION
AT BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF INDUSTRY**

Baltimore, Maryland -- The Baltimore Museum of Industry presents **COLLECTIVE/ACTION: LABOR ACTIVISM IN 21ST CENTURY BALTIMORE**, a bold new exhibition opening May 1, 2024, exploring the historic and contemporary organized labor movement.

Central to the experience of workers has been the long fight for labor rights—higher wages, improved safety, shorter hours, and a seat at the bargaining table. Currently, there is a surge of activism being led by a new generation of workers who are galvanizing the labor movement. Through the stories and experiences of working Baltimoreans, this exhibit will shed light on why they are organizing and explore the historical roots of this struggle.

The story of industry and labor is not a singular narrative. The complicated relationship between politics, work, class, and economics makes this topic perfect for the Baltimore Museum of Industry to explore, as a place where people come to make sense of what is happening around them in the realm of work and labor.

“Towson has the first Apple store in the nation to unionize, and the first Starbucks in the state to do so is in the heart of midtown Baltimore. Many of the cultural institutions in the city are exploring organizing. It’s an incredibly relevant topic to workers today,” says Dr. Rachel Donaldson, Curator of Collections and Exhibitions at the BMI.

The exhibition will be open through 2025.

COLLECTIVE/ACTION is made possible, in part, with support from KSC Law, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 24, Robert J. Patterson, and Abato, Rubenstein and Abato, P.A., WYPR 88.1 FM and WTMD 87.7 FM.

In conjunction with the exhibition, two upcoming labor-themed public programs will be presented:

Work Matters: Unions, from Bethlehem Steel to Baristas
Weds, April 17 @ 6:30pm Details [here](#).

Work Matters: BMI Bingo Night—A Celebration of Collective Action
Weds, May 15 @ 5:30pm Details [here](#).

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The Baltimore Museum of Industry offers exhibitions, tours, hands-on activities and programs that recognize the dignity of work. The BMI is located at 1415 Key Highway, Baltimore MD 21230. Free onsite parking is available. Tickets and information at www.thebmi.org and on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok at @BMIatWork.