

PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, D.C. | JULY 16-19

Fighting for a Better Life for All



**I love unions
and I vote.**

**PROTECT OUR
FREEDOM TO
TEACH**

**NURSES AND EDUCATORS
UNITED TO FIGHT FOR
A BETTER LIFE FOR ALL**

**WE DEMAND
FAIR
FUNDING**

**Hands OFF
Academic Freedom**

**PLEASE
VOTE**

**Solidarity
Together We Fight!
Together We Win!**

**FIGHTING
FOR OUR
STUDENTS**

FEDERATION OF TEACHERS LOCAL



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Jessica J. Tang
Adam Urbanski
Debbie White, RN
Carl Williams
Lakia Wilson-Lumpkins
Sarah Wofford
Todd Wolfson

Our Mission

The **AFT** is a union of professionals that champions fairness; democracy; economic opportunity; and high-quality public education, healthcare and public services for our students, their families and our communities. We are committed to advancing these principles through community engagement, organizing, collective bargaining and political activism, and especially through the work our members do.

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AFT Code of Conduct Statement of Values

The AFT executive council has adopted the AFT Code of Conduct (www.aft.org/codeofconduct), which prohibits discriminatory, harassing or otherwise unacceptable behavior in the workplace and at any AFT activity, event or meeting, even if the conduct has not risen to a violation of law. There will be zero tolerance for harassment of any form, including but not limited to the use of racial epithets, slurs, negative stereotyping, jokes or threatening, intimidating or hostile acts that relate to sex, race, age, disability or other protected categories. This behavior will be called out. The AFT takes these complaints seriously and may, at its discretion, take action that it deems appropriate upon assessing the situation. Possible responses may include a warning to or expulsion of the alleged offender from the AFT activity, event or meeting.

The AFT is a democratic organization that values open and vigorous discussion of the issues facing

the AFT, our members, working people and the labor movement. The Code of Conduct is not intended to restrict free and open debate, but rather is intended to ensure a positive and respectful environment that is free of discrimination and harassment, regardless of an individual’s race, ethnicity, religion, color, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, gender identity or expression, ancestry, pregnancy or any other characteristic protected by law. We ask all meeting participants to conduct themselves consistent with the values of equity and equality.

The AFT encourages you to report any offending conduct as soon as possible; there will be no retaliation or adverse action taken against an individual who makes a complaint. Reports may be made to Tear Jones, chief of staff; Daniel McNeil, general counsel; the designated manager for the meeting; or any other supervisor or manager.

The Activist Hub

Where the convention comes to life!

The conversations don't end when you leave the general sessions. The AFT's Activist Hub is where ideas become action.

Explore hands-on trainings, campaign stories, practical tools and opportunities to connect with AFT members from across the country. Whether you're building worker power, defending democracy or fighting for a better life for all, you'll leave with ideas, skills and resources you can put to work in your local and your community.

Featured Trainings

- Democracy Defender: Election Defense Orientation
- Building Power Through Advocacy
- Tripling Your Vote!
- Having Impactful Conversations
- Know Your Rights: Constitutional Protections During ICE Encounters
- Preparing for ICE: Supporting Our Communities
- AI Without the Hype: How AFT Members Are Leading the Way
- How We Win: Building Successful Contract Campaigns
- Professional Development Builds Power
- Student Debt Relief: What You Need to Know
- Creating Safer Healthcare Workplaces
- ... and dozens more

Scan the QR code to view the full schedule and reserve your spot.



Featured Election Training

Democracy Defender: Election Defense Orientation

Free and fair elections depend on all of us. Learn how to protect voting rights, support voters and strengthen confidence in our elections. This session covers ways to serve as a poll worker or poll monitor, combat misinformation, work with coalition partners and help ensure every eligible voter can make their voice heard.

Play AFT Bingo and Win!

Look for your AFT Bingo card in your convention bag—or pick up an extra in the Activist Hub. Collect stamps by attending trainings and participating in activities throughout convention. Complete your card for a chance to win prizes while discovering new ideas, meeting fellow delegates and exploring everything convention has to offer. Because building power should be fun, too!



Play AFT BINGO!

See more. Learn more. Win more.

Your AFT Bingo card is included in your convention bag (extra cards are available in the Activist Hub). Collect stamps by attending Activist Hub trainings and participating in activities throughout convention.

Win Prizes!

- **First 5 delegates to complete their entire Bingo card** win our **top prizes**.
- **First 20 delegates** to get Bingo also receive prizes.
- Bring your completed Bingo card to the **AFT Store** to claim your prize.

Rules

- One official Bingo card per convention attendee.
- Extra cards are available in the Activist Hub; lost or misplaced cards cannot be replaced.
- Collect stamps in person at participating trainings and convention activities.
- Completed cards must be redeemed in person at the AFT Store.
- Prizes are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last.
- Limit one prize per attendee.
- Cards must be presented in their original form. Photocopies, reproductions or altered cards will not be accepted.



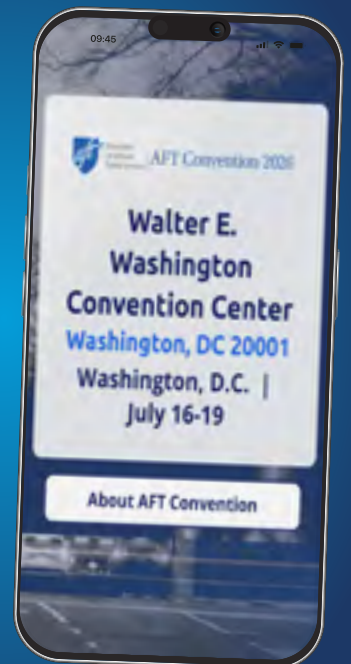
Your name badge must be worn for ALL convention activities.

If you lose your badge or leave it at your hotel, please return to the registration counter with photo ID to get a new one.

Attendees must pass through enhanced security screening to enter the convention hall. Luggage and large bags will not be permitted in the hall. Please travel light to avoid lines.

Get the App!

Access the AFT convention app for schedules, news and more. Download **Cvent Events** from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. Search for "**AFT Convention 2026**."



General Information

Walter E. Washington Convention Center

801 Allen Y. Lew Place NW
Washington, DC 20001

AFT Offices—Hall D

Convention office

202-249-4001

For nonmedical emergency assistance, contact Kitty Owens.

Political office

International Affairs office

Press and Media office

Organization and Field Services office

Registration Hours—Hall D

Wednesday, July 151 – 7 p.m.

Thursday, July 168:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Friday, July 178:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday, July 189 a.m. – 3 p.m.

To be eligible to vote in the election of officers on Saturday, July 18, delegates must be registered by 5 p.m. on Friday, July 17.

Host Committee Hospitality Desk

Washington Teachers' Union, Local 6; District of Columbia Alliance of Charter Teachers and Staff, Local 1927; AFT-Maryland; Fairfax County (Va.) Federation of Teachers, Local 2401

Members of our host committee will be on hand to welcome you to Washington, D.C. Stop by their hospitality desk on the L Street Bridge (Level Two) to say hello, learn the lay of the land, and get advice on where to go and what to see in your free time.

Medical Services

In case of emergency, call 911. For nonemergencies, stop by the convention office in Hall D or call 202-249-4001, and we will connect you with on-site medical services in the convention center. An EMT is on duty 6 a.m. – 10 p.m. every day during the convention.

ADA Questions

Accommodation questions can be addressed by AFT staff in the convention office in Hall D. The phone number is 202-249-4001.

Getting Around the Walter E Washington Convention Center

Street Level

Meeting rooms 101-160

Salons A-I

Hotel shuttle stop

Starbucks and Bar Coffee

Level Two

Hall D

Registration, Activist Hub, AFT offices

Hall E

General sessions, Host committee, hospitality desk

Meeting rooms 201-210

Uptown Grab & Go and Ben's Chili Bowl

Level Three

Ballrooms

Scooters

A limited number of scooters for those requiring assistance are available on a first-come, first-served basis while in the convention center only. They cannot be reserved. Scooters will be available July 15-19 and must be returned at the end of each day. Delegates wishing to borrow a scooter should come to the convention office in Hall D. Identification is required.

Get the App!

Visit the AFT convention app for schedules, convention alerts and more. Download Cvent Events from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. Search for "AFT Convention 2026."

Wi-Fi Access

The network and password for AFT-provided Wi-Fi are below. Basic free public Wi-Fi is also available in the convention center.

Network: AFTCONV26

Password: AFTW@shDC2026 (*case sensitive*)

WCC Facilities and Amenities

- Water bottle filling stations are located next to most restrooms.
- All-gender restrooms are located next to room 204.
- Two lactation pods for nursing parents are available. One is outside room 103AB (L Street South Lobby). The other is between the rainbow staircase and room 140AB (L Street North Lobby). The door will display as vacant when available for use. Use the code “8008” to unlock the pod.

Convention Center Food Services

Wednesday, July 15

- Starbucks: 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. | street level
- Uptown Grab & Go: 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. | outside Hall D

Thursday, July 16

- Starbucks: 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. | street level, L Street South entrance
- Bar Coffee: 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. | street level, L Street North entrance
- Uptown Grab & Go: noon – 5 p.m. | outside Hall D
- Ben’s Chili Bowl: noon – 5 p.m. | outside Hall D

Friday, July 17

- Starbucks: 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. | street level, L Street South entrance
- Bar Coffee: 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. | street level, L Street North entrance
- Uptown Grab & Go: 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. | outside Hall D
- Ben’s Chili Bowl: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. | outside Hall D

Saturday, July 18

- Starbucks: 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. | street level, L Street South entrance
- Bar Coffee: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. | street level, L Street North entrance
- Uptown Grab & Go: 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. | outside Hall D
- Ben’s Chili Bowl: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. | outside Hall D

Sunday, July 19

- Starbucks: 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. | street level, L Street South entrance

Nominations and Elections Procedures

Nominations for AFT office require a petition signed by at least 50 delegates and presented to the AFT secretary-treasurer no later than 8 a.m. on Saturday, July 18. Declination of nominations must be made prior to 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 18. Candidates will then be introduced at the nominating session between 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Balloting for elections of officers will take place on Saturday, July 18, from 4:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Ranking delegates should pick up the ballots for their delegation in the registration area.

CONVENTION CREDENTIALS

A convention badge is required for admission to all convention activities. If you lose your badge or leave it at your hotel, you will have to return to the registration counter with photo ID to get a new one.

To get a badge, convention visitors and guests must present valid identification at the visitor registration counter in Hall D and must be accompanied by one of the following: a convention delegate with a valid delegate badge, a current AFT member, an affiliate staff member or an AFT staff member.

AFT Service in Action: The Miracle on Ninth Street

Join us on **July 15, 4–8 p.m.**, as we kick off the 2026 AFT convention with a community event, “AFT Service in Action: The Miracle on Ninth Street” at Shiloh Baptist Church in Washington, D.C.

Volunteers will assemble Reading Opens the World book packages and backpacks for D.C. students, prepare meals for families facing affordability challenges, and help with beautification and revitalization projects at Shiloh Baptist Church.

Founded in 1863, Shiloh Baptist Church has long been a cornerstone of the Washington, D.C., community, providing programs and support for students, families and neighbors across the region.

Join fellow AFT members as we put our values into action through service, solidarity and community. Please complete the sign-up form to volunteer and for additional event details.

 go.aft.org/communityevent



Convention Committee Meetings

Thursday, July 16 | 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.

The letter code on delegates' badges denotes the convention committee to which they are assigned. Delegates are allowed admittance only to their assigned committee.

(E) Educational Issues

Room 207 AB

Chair: Kevin Dalton,
Toledo Federation of Teachers, Local 250

(N) Healthcare Access/Quality

Room 150 B

Chair: John Brady, AFT Connecticut

(T) Higher Education

Room 145 A

Chair: Lacy Barnes, CFT (California)

(C) Human Rights

Room 145 B

Chair: LaBrina Hopkins, AFT-Maryland

(I) International Relations

Salon A, street level

Chair: Jan Hochadel, AFT Connecticut

(H) Labor and the Economy

Room 144

Chair: Shari Obrenski,
Cleveland Teachers Union, Local 279

(O) Organizing and Collective Bargaining

Room 140 AB

Chair: J. Philippe Abraham,
New York State United Teachers

(P) Political Action/Legislation

Room 143

Chair: Andrew Spar,
Florida Education Association

(F) Public Services

Room 147 B

Chair: Gary Feist,
North Dakota Public Employees,
Local 4660

(R) Retirement

Room 201

Chair: Francis Flynn,
Rhode Island Federation of Teachers
and Health Professionals

(K) RNs/Healthcare Workers

Room 150 A

Chair: Anne Goldman,
United Federation of Teachers, Local 2

(S) Schools and Colleges Support Staff Issues

Room 147 A

Chair: Carl Williams,
Lawndale Federation of Classified
Employees, Local 4529

(W) Women's Rights

Salon B, street level

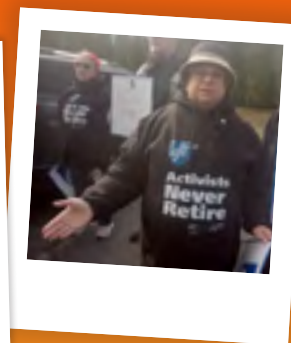
Chair: Karla Hernández-Mats,
United Teachers of Dade, Local 1974

THE  IS ON



flickr

www.flickr.com/photos/aftunion



Discover the **vibrant moments** captured at the **AFT convention!**

Follow our Flickr account for **images** showcasing our **events, achievements** and **community impact**. Join us on this **visual journey** and **stay inspired**.



Thursday, July 16

6:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

1400 CONSTITUTION AVE. N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC

Reception for Delegates and Guests at the
**National Museum of African American
History and Culture**

FOUR HOURS OF EXCLUSIVE ACCESS to the museum's expansive exhibits documenting African American life, history and culture. Don't miss Harriet Tubman's shawl, Nat Turner's bible and Chuck Berry's red Cadillac.

Enjoy food, drink and music on multiple levels of the museum.



An AFT convention badge is required for admission to the museum.*

**Attendees must pass through metal detectors and have their bags manually inspected by security personnel. Please limit the personal belongings you bring.*



Shuttle buses will run from the L Street entrance of the convention center beginning at 6:15 p.m.

Hotel Shuttles

Shuttles will run between the Walter E. Washington Convention Center and three of the AFT convention hotels. Each shuttle bus will be marked with its route number. Look for AFT shuttle information in your hotel's lobby for additional information and changes.

Shuttles will not be provided from the Marriott Marquis, Residence Inn, Courtyard or Embassy Suites. These hotels are a short walk from the WCC.

Shuttle Routes

Route	Hotel	Boarding Location
1	Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill	Front entrance
2	Capital Hilton	Front entrance
3	Le Meridien Washington, D.C., The Madison	Front entrance

Shuttle Hours

Shuttles will operate every 20 to 30 minutes between the WCC and the hotels during the service hours.

Date	Hours
Wednesday, July 15	noon – 8 p.m.
Thursday, July 16	6:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. 4:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.*
Circulating from the WCC to the delegate reception and the three hotels	6:15 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.
Friday, July 17	6:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. 3 p.m. – 7 p.m.*
Saturday, July 18	6:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. 4 p.m. – 9 p.m.*
Sunday, July 19	6:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

*The last shuttle *departs the WCC* at the time indicated. The last shuttle *to the WCC* departs the hotels approximately 30 minutes prior to this time.

Transportation Information

Using Metrorail

When the AFT convention shuttle isn't what you need, [Metro](#), D.C.'s subway system, is easy to use. The convention center is located at the Mount Vernon Square station on the Yellow and Green Lines.

There's no need to purchase a fare card. You can [tap your contactless credit or debit card](#) on any Metro faregate or use [Apple Wallet or Google Pay](#) to pay with your device. Fares start at \$2.25 and vary based on the ride length, day and time you ride. [Single- or multi-day passes](#) are available via Metro's [SmarTrip app](#).

To help you navigate the city like a local, here's an important tip: Metro escalator etiquette is "stand to the right, walk to the left." Keep the left lane open for folks in a hurry or you may get some side eye!

Getting Around the City



For even shorter trips, short-term bike and scooter rentals are available throughout the downtown area. The most common are [Lime](#) (also via the Uber app) and [Capital Bikeshare](#) (also via the Lyft app). Stick to designated bike lanes whenever possible. Riding on sidewalks is prohibited in the downtown business district south of Massachusetts Avenue.

Convention Hotels

★ Walter E. Washington Convention Center
 801 Allen Y. Lew Place NW
 Washington, DC 20001
 202-249-3000

1 Capital Hilton
 1001 16th St NWW
 Washington, DC 20036
 202-393-1000

2 Embassy Suites D.C. Convention Center
 900 10th St NWW
 Washington, DC 20001
 202-739-2001

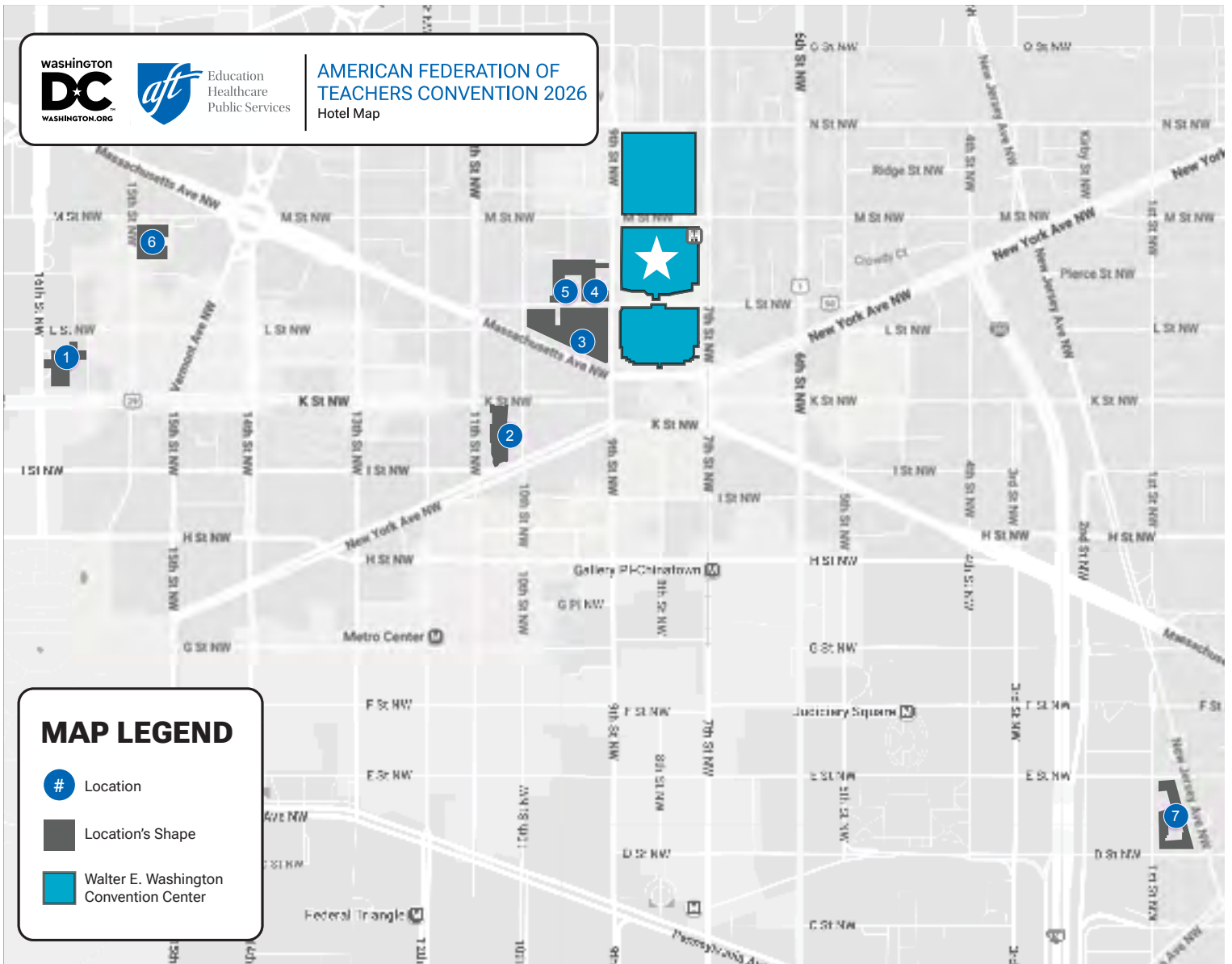
3 Marriott Marquis Washington, D.C.
 901 Massachusetts Ave NW
 Washington, DC 20001
 202-824-9200

4 Residence Inn Downtown/Convention Center
 901 L St NW
 Washington, DC 20001
 202-408-5300

5 Courtyard Downtown/Convention Center
 901 L St NW
 Washington, DC 20001
 202-589-1800

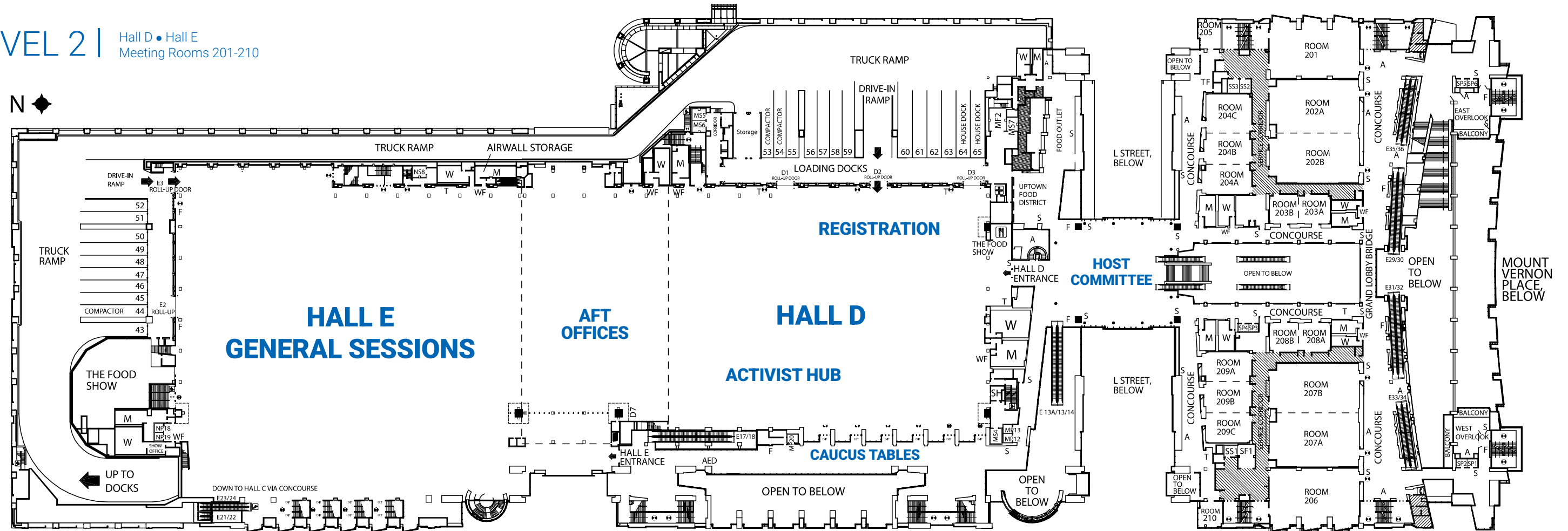
6 Le Meridien Washington, D.C., The Madison
 1177 15th St NWW
 Washington, DC 20005
 202-862-1600

7 Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill
 400 New Jersey Ave NW
 Washington, DC 20001
 202-737-1234

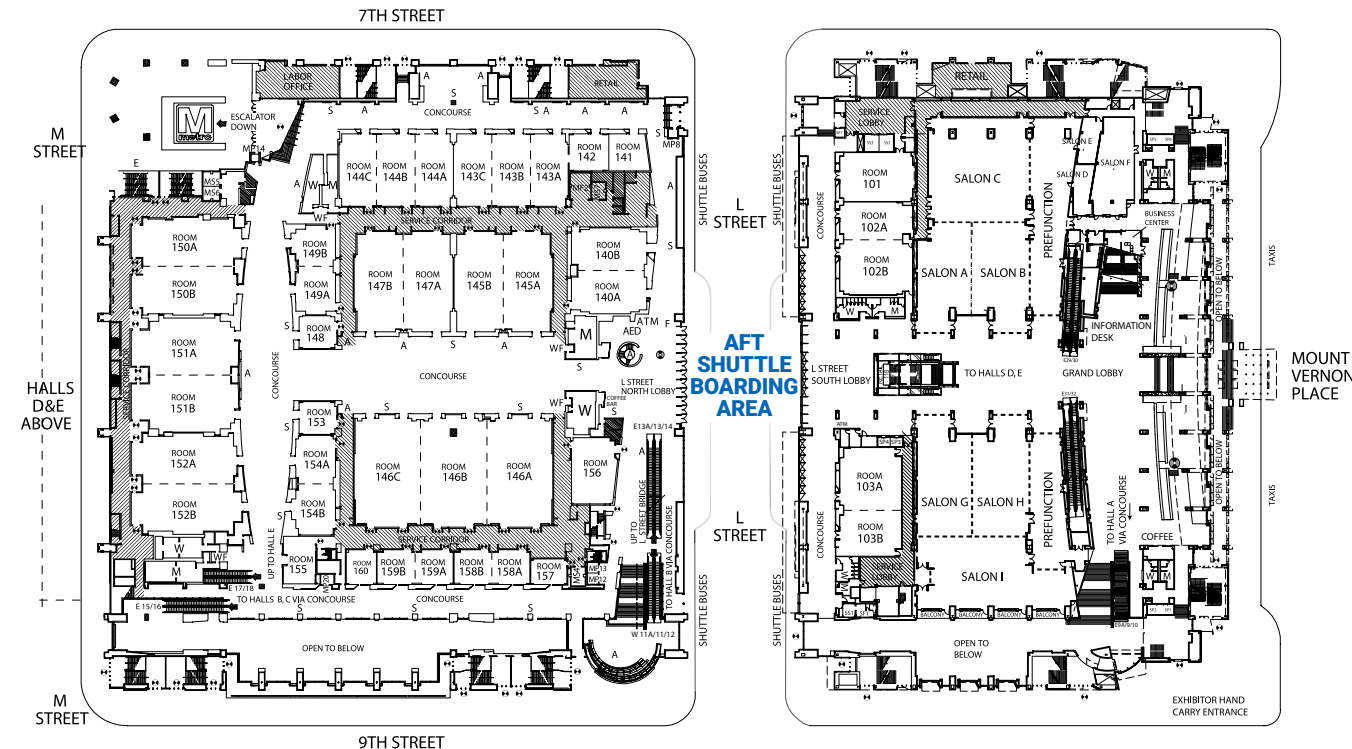


Convention Center Floorplan

LEVEL 2 | Hall D • Hall E
Meeting Rooms 201-210



STREET LEVEL | Grand Lobby/East & West Salons A-I • Meeting Rooms 101-103, 140-160
Metro Entrance • AFT Shuttle Boarding Area



9TH STREET, BELOW

Divisional Meetings

Thursday, July 16 | 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

The names of the AFT's six divisions show the breadth of work done by AFT members to promote the AFT's mission in education, healthcare and public services. Don't miss these engaging sessions highlighting topics of importance to members across the AFT.

AFT Higher Education | Room 202 A

- Honoring the late William Herbert, executive director of the National Center for the Study of Collective Bargaining in Higher Education and the Professions
- Panel: The stakes for higher ed in the midterms—turning momentum into electoral impact
- Breakouts: Member engagement and voter mobilization strategies—tools for engaging union members in electoral work

AFT Nurses and Health Professionals | Room 150 A

- Welcome and updates from the program and policy council chairs and division director
- Update on the Code Red campaign and plans for fighting back in 2026

AFT PSRP | Room 202 B

- The state of our union, the state of our division and celebrating our union's wins
- Introduction of PSRP-related resolutions
- PSRP resources and poster-making activity

AFT Public Employees | Room 149 AB

- Welcome and updates from the program and policy council chair and division director
- National roundup: Election protection, labor voters and democracy
- Opportunities for public investment in our workplaces to address climate change
- Resolution roundup and overview of the committee and resolution floor procedures

AFT Retirees | Room 201

- Overview of the retiree organizing plan and sectional discussions
- The 2026 midterms
- Retiree activation and next steps

AFT Teachers | Room 207 AB

- Panel discussion: The power of professional issues to activate, mobilize and build power
- Reading Universe, Colorín Colorado and what's new in AFT teacher resources
- Member stories with Q&A

Wednesday, July 15

9:30 – 11 a.m.

Sergeants-at-Arms Training

Room 202 B

Chair: Ronald Beaupre, Pawtucket (R.I.) Teachers' Alliance, Local 930

10 a.m. – Noon

Credentials and Elections Committee Meeting

Room 206

Chair: Clinton McCracken, Orange County (Fla.) Classroom Teachers Association, Local 7448

1 – 7 p.m.

Registration open

Hall D

1 – 7 p.m.

AFT Activist Hub open

Hall D

2 – 4 p.m.

Faith and Labor Roundtable

Room 202 B

2 – 3:30 p.m.

AFT Rural Gathering

Room 149 AB

3 – 4 p.m.

Sergeants-at-Arms Walk-Through

Hall E

Chair: Ronald Beaupre, Pawtucket (R.I.) Teachers' Alliance, Local 930

3:30 – 5 p.m.

Pride of the Union Reception

(by invitation only)

Salon C

7 – 9 p.m.

Film Screening: "First They Came for My College"

Room 144

Join us for a free screening of this award-winning documentary that tells the inside story of the transformation of a public four-year college by a political coup—a blueprint for our new era of unprecedented censorship and political interference in higher education. The film examines the political takeover of New College of Florida and how the students, faculty, staff and community organized to resist.

4:15 – 5:15 p.m.

Orientation for New Delegates

Room 144

Speakers: Fedrick Ingram, AFT secretary-treasurer
LeRoy Barr, AFT vice president
Zeph Capo, AFT vice president; president, Texas AFT

A must for newcomers!

If you are a delegate or alternate attending your first AFT convention, find out how to get the most out of your experience. This session provides an overview of the program, its purpose, major issues and how business is conducted at the convention.

Ticketed Meal Functions

Tickets required, advance purchase only. The purchase deadline was Wednesday, July 1. Pick up your pre-purchased tickets in the registration area.

AFT Public Employees Breakfast July 17 | 7:30 a.m.

The topic of this year's Jim McGarvey Breakfast is **Public Employees' Role in Protecting Our Democracy**, featuring **Skye Perryman**, president and CEO of Democracy Forward and a *Time* "100 Most Influential People" 2025 honoree. Perryman is a nationally recognized attorney and leader advancing democracy and individual rights. Under her leadership, Democracy Forward has secured major court victories protecting workers' rights, healthcare and education. Perryman is a frequent media commentator, appearing on NBC, MS NOW, CNN and NPR.

AFT PSRP Breakfast July 17 | 7:45 a.m.

PSRPs are known for their grit, their determination and their passion for the work they do. But the work of a PSRP isn't easy and never seems to be done. Join us at breakfast and hear PSRP stories about how we have navigated these unsure times with unity and joy.

AFT Higher Education Breakfast July 17 | 8 a.m.

We are pleased to welcome **Dominique J. Baker**, an associate professor of education and public policy at the University of Delaware, with a joint appointment in the College of Education and Human Development and the School of Public Policy and Administration. Her research focuses on the way education policy affects and shapes the access and success of minority students in higher education. Baker has testified before the U.S. Senate on student loans, and her work and expertise have been highlighted by the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal* and NPR, among others.

AFT Nurses and Health Professionals Breakfast July 17 | 8 a.m.

This year's breakfast features **Katie J. Wells**, a senior fellow at the AI Now Institute, where she focuses on tech in healthcare. One of her most recent public reports about gig nursing was published by the Roosevelt Institute.

AFT Human Rights Luncheon July 17 | 12:30 p.m.

The Human Rights Luncheon will bring together delegates, community leaders and allies to highlight the enduring struggle for justice and celebrate the collective power of working people to build a stronger, more inclusive democracy. At a pivotal moment for our nation, the luncheon will highlight the critical role that AFT members and our community partners play in advancing civil rights, educational opportunity, economic justice, worker rights and democratic participation. The program will honor exceptional activists, leaders and organizations with the prestigious Drum Major for Justice Awards. The luncheon will also feature a keynote address focused on the challenges and opportunities ahead as we prepare for the 2026 midterm elections.

AFT Women's Rights Breakfast July 19 | 7:30 a.m.

The Women's Rights Breakfast and Living Legacy Awards will bring together delegates under the theme "Fighting for a Better Life for All." In the face of ongoing political and economic challenges, the breakfast will reflect the enduring power of women's leadership, solidarity and collective action in advancing dignity, opportunity and justice for working people and communities. The event will honor AFT women leaders, community advocates and frontline workers whose courage, service and commitment continue to strengthen the labor movement and shape a more just future for all.

What's at Stake: Democracy, Belonging and Power

Friday morning, AFT President Randi Weingarten will moderate a discussion among scholars Danielle Allen, Ruth Ben-Ghiat, Erica Chenoweth and Eric Holder. They will discuss the concerns we are facing as a nation right now as well as their contributions to strengthening our democracy, what can be done by all of us and the importance of voting. These scholars have written extensively about democracy movements, authoritarianism and voting. For AFT delegates who would like to learn more, here is a sample of some of the panelists' most recent books.

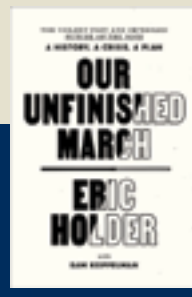
Civil Resistance: What Everyone Needs to Know, by Erica Chenoweth



(\$18.95 paperback)
ISBN: 978-0190244408

Introduces the essentials of how and why civil resistance works in a conversational and accessible style that draws from both historical and contemporary cases, including the present-day United States. It demonstrates the centrally important role civil resistance has played in shaping our world.

Our Unfinished March, by Eric Holder



(\$20 paperback)
ISBN 9780593445761

A brutal, bloody and at times hopeful history of the vote; a primer on the opponents fighting to take it away; and a playbook for how we can save our democracy before it's too late—from the former U.S. attorney general on the frontlines of this fight.

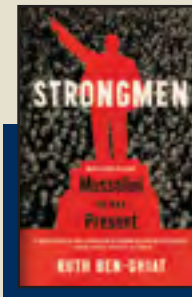
Radical Duke: How One Aristocrat—and the American Revolution—Transformed Britain, by Danielle Allen



(\$37.50 hardcover)
ISBN: 978-1-63149-755-1

An explosive, deeply revisionist work that reveals how a renegade English Duke and Thomas Paine, the firebrand polemicist, almost brought the American Revolution to Britain.

Strongmen: Mussolini to the Present, by Ruth Ben-Ghiat



(\$17.95 paperback)
ISBN: 978-0-393-86841-8

What modern authoritarian leaders have in common (and how they can be stopped).

AFT votes | DEMOCRACY DEFENDERS

Every voter. Every vote. Every election.

DEMOCRACY DOESN'T DEFEND ITSELF

Every eligible voter should be able to cast a ballot and have it counted. But across the country, voters are facing confusion, intimidation, disinformation, registration problems and other attacks on their freedom to vote.

BECOME A DEMOCRACY DEFENDER

Democracy Defenders are AFT members who commit to helping voters get the information, support and protection they need to cast their ballots and have them counted. This work starts with you, but it grows through your local. Sign up today, then invite 10 members of your local and your friends and family to become Democracy Defenders with you.



TAKE THE PLEDGE

Become a Democracy Defender.
Then invite 10 people from your local to join you.
Check your registration: aft.turbovote.org

Sign up



Thursday, July 16

7:45 – 9:15 a.m.

Unions Defending Democracy Around the World

(by invitation only)

Room 204

8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Registration open

Hall D

9:30 a.m.

Opening General Session

Hall E

Fighting for a Better Life for All

Welcome

EVELYN DeJESUS, AFT executive vice president

National Anthem and Lift Every Voice

ANITRA RAQUEL MCKINNEY

Invocation

RABBI MIKE MOSKOWITZ, Beacon for Democracy

Greetings

Democratic Leader HAKEEM JEFFRIES

FEDRICK INGRAM, AFT secretary-treasurer

International Community:

MUGWENA MALULEKE, president, Education International, and international leaders

Host Committee:

KELLEY UKHUN, president, DC Alliance of Charter Teachers & Staff, Local 1927

LAURA FUCHS, president, Washington Teachers' Union, Local 6

JANESE LEWIS GEORGE, council member, Council of the District of Columbia

REV. RAPHAEL WARNOCK, U.S. senator, Georgia

State of the Union

RANDI WEINGARTEN, AFT president

Noon – 1 p.m.

Constitutional Amendments Committee

Room 206

Chair: Zeph Capo, Texas AFT

Noon – 6 p.m.

AFT Activist Hub open

Hall D

12:15 p.m. – 1 p.m.

Informational meeting on the National Academy for AI Instruction

Room 204

1 – 2:30 p.m.

Divisional Meetings

See page 13 for agendas.

AFT Higher Education: Room 202 A

AFT Nurses and Health Professionals: Room 150 A

AFT PSRP: Room 202 B

AFT Public Employees: Room 149 AB

AFT Retirees: Room 201

AFT Teachers: Room 207 AB

3 – 5 p.m.

Convention Committee Meetings

See page 8 for details.

Educational Issues: Room 207 AB

Healthcare Access/Quality: Room 150 B

Higher Education: Room 145 A

Human Rights: Room 145 B

International Relations: Salon A

Labor And The Economy: Room 144

Organizing And Collective Bargaining: Room 140 AB

Political Action/Legislation: Room 143

Public Services: Room 147 B

Retirement: Room 201

RNs/Healthcare Workers: Room 150 A

Schools and Colleges Support Staff Issues: Room 147 A

Women's Rights : Salon B

6:30 – 10:30 p.m.

Reception for delegates and guests

National Museum of African American History and Culture



Trauma Counseling Program

A free benefit for all active working AFT members to provide help and healing after facing personal or workplace trauma.

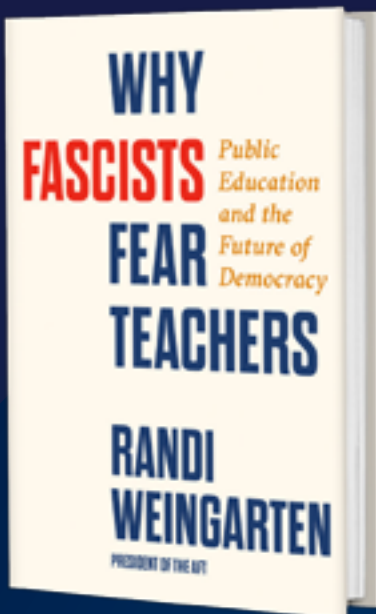
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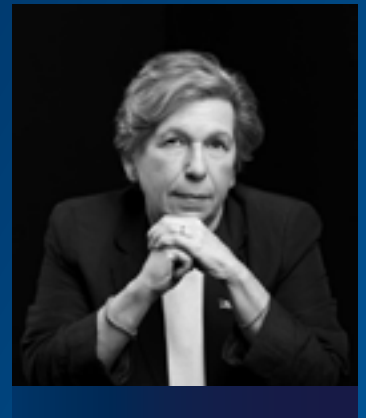
By Randi Weingarten



Convention special: \$10

100% of proceeds benefit the AFT Disaster Relief Fund.

Purchase your copy at the AFT Store in Hall D



Friday, July 17

7:15 a.m.

AFT Community Schools Breakfast

(previous RSVP required)

Room 204

7:30 a.m.

AFT Public Employees Jim McGarvey Breakfast

Ticket required, advance purchase only

Room 202 B

Program: See page 14 for details.

7:45 a.m.

AFT PSRP Breakfast

Ticket required, advance purchase only

Room 202 A

Program: See page 14 for details.

7:45 a.m.

The World Is Watching: Education Unions Fight Back

(previous RSVP required)

Room 201

7:45 a.m.

AFT Nurses and Health Professionals Breakfast

Ticket required, advance purchase only

Room 207 AB

Program: See page 14 for details.

8 a.m.

AFT Higher Education Breakfast

Ticket required, advance purchase only

Room 144

Program: See page 14 for details.

8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Registration open

Hall D

9:30 a.m.

General Session

Hall E

What's at Stake: Democracy, Belonging and Power

Musician

SARAH GROSS

Invocation

REV. TONY LEE, pastor, Community of Hope AME Church

Panel of Scholars

ERIC H. HOLDER JR., 82nd attorney general of the United States, National Democratic Redistricting Committee

ERICA CHENOWETH, political scientist, Harvard University

RUTH BEN-GHIAT, history professor

DANIELLE ALLEN, professor, Harvard University

Democracy In Action

AFT political program for 2026 elections

Convention Committee Reports

12:30 – 2:30 p.m.

AFT Activist Hub open

Hall D

12:30 p.m.

AFT Human Rights Luncheon

Ticket required, advance purchase only

Ballroom AB

Program: See page 14 for details.

2:30 p.m.

General Session

Hall E

Building Power at Work: Organizing, Collective Bargaining and Economic Power

Musician

SARAH GROSS

Organizing, Growth And Density

Collective Bargaining

Fighting For Affordability

The Game Is Rigged: Money, Power and a Better Life: A Conversation with Tiffany “The Budgetnista” Aliche and Aissa Canchola Banez, policy director, Protect Borrowers

Bayard Rustin Award

LEE SAUNDERS, president, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees

Lifetime Achievement Award

MARTHA STREVER, math teacher, Linden Avenue Middle School, Red Hook, N.Y.

Convention Committee Reports

5 – 6 p.m.

AFT Activist Hub open

Hall D

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Fireside Chat and Film Screening: An Evening with Dolores Huerta

(RSVP required)

Room 204

Join us for an inspiring fireside conversation between Dolores Huerta and AFT Executive Vice President Evelyn DeJesus, followed by a screening of the award-winning documentary “Dolores.”



Congratulations to the 2026 winners of **The Robert G. Porter Scholarship**

Students

Brianna Bonfiglio
Faustine Canals Arrieta
Shriya Roy
Annabel Yee

AFT Members

Danielle Copeland
Candice Harrell
Mary Hofer
Agatha Hueller
Maxwell Kinney

Jessica Martinez
Christopher Morales
Lia Radke
Fereshteh Hamidi Toosi
Jonee Wilson



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- Join supportive communities to share ideas, ask questions and grow together.

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Saturday, July 18

8:30 a.m.

Nominating Session

Hall E

All nominations for AFT office will be by petition signed by at least 50 delegates and presented to the AFT secretary-treasurer no later than 8 a.m. on Saturday, July 18. Declination of nominations must be made prior to 8:30 a.m. Candidates will then be introduced to the convention between 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m.

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Registration open

Hall D

10 a.m.

General Session

Hall E

Building Power in Community: Coalitions, Mobilization and Collective Action

Invocation

IMAM NAEEM BAIG

Community Conversation Series

How We Are Building People Power

DANI NEGRETE, political organizer, Indivisible

MARCIA HOWARD, teacher chapter president, Minnesota Federation of Educators

ASH-LEE WOODARD HENDERSON, Utopian Visions

ALEX LAWSON, executive director, Social Security Works

Choosing Humanity in Divided Times

AMY SPITALNICK, CEO, Jewish Council for Public Affairs

DR. DEBBIE ALMONTASER, CEO and founder, Bridging Cultures Group

AFT MOVE program

Speaker

SARA NELSON, international president, Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, AFL-CIO

Lifetime Achievement Award

DOLORES HUERTA, founder and president, Dolores Huerta Foundation

Convention Committee Reports

Noon – 2 p.m.

AFT Activist Hub open

Hall D

12:30 p.m.

Digital Disinformation Influences Elections Around the Globe

(previous RSVP required)

Room 204

2 p.m.

General Session

Hall E

Opportunity, Dignity and the Difference We Make

Voices from Students

Students from Robert Halmi Sr. Academy in Yonkers, N.Y.

Speakers

AFT Program and Policy Council Chairs

Convention Committee Reports

4:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Voting for Officers

Hall E registration counters

During this time, ranking delegates are responsible for securing ballots for the delegation from the Credentials and Elections Committee in Hall D, delivering them to the delegates and returning the executed ballots to the committee.

5:30 – 7 p.m.

Higher Education/AAUP Delegate Reception

Room 207 AB

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

COPE Reception

(by invitation only)

Ballroom C

AFT Store

Visit the AFT Store to purchase AFT apparel, accessories, and other great items.

The AFT Store is located in Hall D.



Education | Healthcare | Public Services

COPE Committee on Political Education

Please Join Us in Washington, D.C.
for a Reception Honoring
the AFT's Partners in Political Education

Saturday, July 18, 6:30-8 p.m.
Walter E. Washington Convention Center
Ballroom C

Attendance at this event is by invitation only.

Sunday, July 19

7:30 a.m.

Women's Rights Breakfast

Ticket required, advance purchase only

Ballroom AB

Program: See page 14 for details.

9 a.m.

Closing General Session

Hall E

Using Power:

2026 and What Comes Next

Music

D.C. LABOR CHORUS

Founded in February 1998, and directed by longtime cultural worker Elise Bryant, the D.C. Labor Chorus is a musical ensemble that sings at union meetings, concerts, rallies, demonstrations and picket lines. While some members are current or former union employees, every member actively supports the principle of liberty and justice for all. We are a culturally and ethnically diverse chorus from a variety of musical traditions. Some are professional musicians, while others simply enjoy blending their voices to make a joyous sound that comes from songs of the civil rights and labor movements. We sing for all who labor. We sing to organize. We are a mighty chorus. We're singing for our lives! Solidarity—forever!

Speakers

JEN MAZZOCCO, state representative,
Pennsylvania General Assembly

MARY PELTOLA, former U.S. representative, Alaska

WES MOORE, governor, Maryland

BRIAN BRYANT, international president, IAM Union

TAYLOR REHMET, IAM Texas State Council president
and Texas state senator

AFT Voices—We Said Yes

Convention Committee Reports

Officers' Acceptance Remarks



FIGHT FOR AFFORDABILITY

Being part of a union means having support when life gets harder. Through the AFT's new **Fight for Affordability** campaign, members can access tools, videos and resources to help navigate medical debt, credit card debt, debt collectors and other financial challenges—including support and protections many people don't realize they're entitled to.

Visit



aft.org/affordability



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Subscribe to our e-newsletters at **aft.org/enews** for the latest updates, resources and tips to boost your work.

RAISE YOUR VOICE

Join the AFT e-activist network at **aft.org/action** and receive alerts on urgent issues—make your voice count for justice!

ACCESS POWERFUL RESOURCES

Visit **aft.org** for in-depth reports, research, workplace tips and professional development to support your career.

SHARE AND BE INSPIRED

Read and share real member stories at **aftvoices.org**—see how AFT members are making a difference every day. Also, we'd love to hear from you. If you would like to share your story, visit **go.aft.org/AFTvoices**.

DEEPEN YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Explore our journals:

- *American Educator* (**aft.org/ae**)—insightful articles for educators and policymakers
- *AFT Health Care* (**aft.org/hc**)—essential reading for healthcare professionals



Don't miss a beat!

Scan the code or visit **aft.org/verified** to follow us and our AFT officers on social media.





KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AS A VOTER

Whether you vote early, on Election Day or by mail, your rights are protected by law.

No Intimidation

You cannot be threatened, harassed or coerced at any point in the voting process. Report incidents to a poll worker immediately and call or text the Election Protection Hotline:

1-866-OUR-VOTE / 1-866-687-8683 (English)

1-888-VE-Y-VOTA / 1-888-839-8682 (Spanish)

No Discrimination

If anyone tries to stop you from voting because of who you are, what language you speak or your disability, ask for help immediately.

Provisional Ballot

You have the right to cast a provisional ballot if your name is not on the voter rolls, your eligibility is challenged or there is a problem with your identification. Do not leave without voting.

Accessibility

Polling places must be accessible to voters with disabilities or provide an alternative way to vote. Voters who need assistance because of a disability or inability to read or write may have someone to help them.

Language Assistance

Voters have the right to language assistance, often including translated materials or help from poll workers. Ask a poll worker what assistance is available in your language.

Fix Mistakes

If you make a mistake on your ballot, ask for a replacement ballot before you cast it.

Secret and Secure Ballot

No one can require you to show your ballot, tell them how you voted or watch you cast your vote. If this occurs, report it to a poll worker immediately and call the Election Protection Hotline.

Stay in Line

If you are in line when polls close, stay in line—you must be allowed to vote.

If something feels wrong, ask for help.

**SIGN UP TO BE
A DEMOCRACY
DEFENDER**



Election Protection Hotline (call or text):
1-866-OUR-VOTE (English) | 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (Spanish)
Find your polling place, get reminders and know your ballot: aft.turbovote.org

MAKE A PLAN TO VOTE

VOTE IN PERSON

Ensure You Have Acceptable Voter ID

Identification requirements vary by state.

No acceptable ID? Do not leave. Ask whether you can sign a statement confirming your identity, cast a provisional ballot or take another step allowed under your state's rules.

Look up your state: tracker.votingrightslab.org

Check Your Registration

Before you vote, confirm that your registration is active and that you know your polling place. Polling places can change.

Vote Early

Many states offer early voting, including evening or weekend hours. Dates, times and locations vary, so confirm your options before Election Day.

Find early voting in your state: vote.org/early-voting-calendar

VOTE BY MAIL

Request Your Ballot Early

State deadlines vary. Some states require ballot requests well before Election Day.

Return Your Ballot Early

Mail your completed ballot at least two weeks before Election Day. Use an official drop box or election office drop-off location where available.

Mailing Near Election Day?

Do not use a mailbox. Go inside the post office and ask a clerk for a free manual postmark, because some ballots mailed on Election Day may not otherwise receive an Election Day postmark.

Sign the Return Envelope

Missing or mismatching signatures are the most common reason mail ballots are rejected.

Know the Deadline Risk

Many states *do not* count ballots that are postmarked by Election Day but received after Election Day.

Mail early or use a drop box where available.

Track Your Ballot

Most states offer online ballot tracking. Use it to confirm your ballot was received and accepted.

Ballot Problem?

Many states allow voters to fix, or cure, a flagged ballot. Check your state's rules and act quickly.

**SCAN HERE TO
MAKE A PLAN
TO VOTE**



Convention at a Glance

All events take place at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center unless otherwise noted.

Wednesday, July 15 Arrival Day

9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Sergeants-at-arms training

10 a.m. – noon
Credentials and elections committee meeting

1 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Registration and AFT Activist Hub open

2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Faith and Labor roundtable

3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Sergeants-at-arms meeting

3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Pride of the Union reception
(by invitation only)

4 p.m. – 8 p.m.
AFT Service in Action at
Shiloh Baptist Church

4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.
Orientation for new delegates

Thursday, July 16 First Day

8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Registration open

9:30 a.m.
Opening general session

Noon – 6 p.m.
AFT Activist Hub open

1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Divisional meetings

3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Convention committee meetings

6:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.
Reception for delegates and guests
at the *National Museum of African American History and Culture*

Friday, July 17 Second Day

7:30 a.m.
AFT Public Employees
Jim McGarvey Breakfast

7:45 a.m.
AFT PSRP Breakfast

8 a.m.
AFT Higher Education Breakfast

8 a.m.
AFT Nurses and
Health Professionals Breakfast

8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Registration open

9:30 a.m.
General session

12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
AFT Activist Hub open

12:30 p.m.
AFT Human Rights Luncheon

2:30 p.m.
General session

5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
AFT Activist Hub open

Saturday, July 18 Third Day

8:30 a.m.
Nominating session

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Registration open

10 a.m.
General session

Noon – 2 p.m.
AFT Activist Hub open

2 p.m.
General session

4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Election of officers
(ranking delegates pick up ballots at registration counters)

5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.
AFT Higher Ed/AAUP delegate reception

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
COPE reception *(by invitation only)*

Sunday, July 19 Fourth Day

7:30 a.m.
AFT Women's Rights Breakfast

9 a.m.
Closing general session and
installation of officers



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