



2017 MTA Summer Conference
UNION ACADEMY

Monday, July 31 – Thursday, August 3 (Noon)
UMass Amherst

Learn how to build union power by engaging more members in all aspects of union work.

Deepen skills in:

Grievance and Advocacy • Rethinking Leadership
Issues Campaigns and Organizing • Membership Drives
Ethnic Minority Leadership & Engagement • Social Justice Issues
Professional Issues and Development

Registration will be available after May 19, 2017
www.massteacher.org/summer



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Union Academy provides an opportunity to build union power by engaging more members in all aspects of union work—from bread-and-butter issues, such as better salaries and working conditions, to advocacy around professional issues, workplace issues and social justice matters that affect our classrooms and communities. Union Academy will place special emphasis on meeting the changes and challenges ahead, including the expected loss of agency service fee and the continued assault on public education through accountability and privatization measures.

In addition to general sessions, Union Academy participants will have the opportunity to work in smaller groups to deepen their skills in one area.

Each participant will select one strand from those listed here:

- **Grievance and Advocacy** — Learn the nuts and bolts of writing and presenting grievances. Explore how locals can engage more members when protecting contractual rights.
- **Membership Drives** — Learn how to conduct a membership drive amid the loss of agency fee, and learn how we can talk to our colleagues about the value and importance of belonging to the union.
- **Professional Issues and Development** — Choose from a variety of professional issue and professional development offerings. Discuss how locals can organize around these issues in our schools and on our campuses.
- **Ethnic Minority Leadership & Engagement** — Learn how to empower ethnic minorities to take on leadership roles at the local, state and national levels, and how to generate more ethnic minority participation within our locals.
- **Rethinking Leadership** — Explore leadership practices that foster an active and engaged membership to make our locals more powerful.
- **Issue Campaigns and Organizing** — Learn the specific steps for developing campaigns that use our collective power to solve workplace problems, whether it's a campaign for a fair contract, safe working conditions or the respectful treatment of employees.
- **Social Justice Issues** — Explore how our local associations can advocate around social justice issues affecting our members, students, classrooms and communities.

Union Academy will focus on building union power at the local level. We strongly encourage local associations to send teams of at least three people. The schedule will include time for locals to plan for the upcoming school/academic year.

Union Academy is free for MTA members who participate in the entire program, which runs from Monday morning to Thursday at noon.

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