

STEPHANIE FORTADO

Labor Education Program, 504 E Armory Avenue #227, Champaign, Illinois 61820
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EDUCATION

- PhD in U.S. History University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2014
(Specialties: African American History, U.S. Working Class History, Civil Rights History, Environmental History, U.S. Urban History)
- MA in History, Indiana University, Indianapolis (IUPUI) Indianapolis, Indiana, 2006
- BA in Mass Communications, and Minor in History, Taylor University, Upland, Indiana, 1998

TEACHING AND EDUCATOR EXPERIENCE

- **October 2016-Present, Lecturer, Labor Education Program, University of Illinois**
 - Develop classes, lectures and workshops on a variety of labor topics, including labor history, economics, and communications.
 - Teach multiple classes as part of annual Steel Workers week-long summer education programs, including developing a week-long courses on labor history, communications and leadership development for union women.
 - Provide labor history instruction for multiple trade labor apprentice programs.
 - Helped launch the Champaign-Urbana Initiative for Labor Diversity (CUILD) a University-community partnership to bring more workers of color and women into the local building trades. Led a series of community meetings that brought together 80 community stakeholders, including a dozen local elected officials, representatives from seven building trade unions, educators, and leaders of multiple community groups with the goal of diversifying the local building trades.
 - Coordinated and taught at two day-long high school teacher professional development trainings on local labor history.
 - Serve as Co-Director of the annual Regina V. Polk Women's Labor Leadership Conference, an annual training opportunity to build women's labor leadership.
 - Helped develop and teach an award-winning, new semester-long certificate program, Women and Power: Building a Toolbox for Leadership, for working women who have completed the Regina V. Polk program.
- **2014-2016, Executive Director, Illinois Labor History Society (ILHS)**
 - Taught labor history education workshops for national union conferences, state-wide conventions, apprenticeship programs, retiree groups, and other programs.
 - Coordinated all communications, programs, day-to-day operations, membership drives and fundraising for one of the nation's premier labor education not-for-profits.
 - Developed two small gallery exhibitions using ILHS archival materials.
 - Worked with National Park Service staff and local community groups to host annual Labor Day celebrations at Pullman National Site.
 - Coordinated and taught two day-long high school teacher professional development trainings on railroad and canal labor history at Pullman National Site and the I&M Canal National Heritage Area.

- Coordinated the annual Union Hall of Honor Dinner, which in 2016 honored the lives and achievements of four Black Illinois labor leaders as part of a program entitled Illinois Labor and the Great Migration: 100 years.
- Launched a comprehensive labor history communications effort, including a complete redesign of the organizational website, a redesign of organizational brochure and other print materials, and a strengthened social media presence.
- Worked with a labor radio program to write a daily labor history pod-cast, called “Labor History in 2:00,” which has been played on more than 30 radio stations and downloaded more than one-million times.
- Led labor history tours for multiple union, college, school, church and community groups.
- Developed and delivered new presentation content on a wide variety of topics, including Women’s Illinois Labor History, Women in World War II, African American Illinois Labor History, History of Retirement and Social Security, and The Fight for the Eight Hour Day.
- Worked with a volunteer board of trustees, representing more labor organizations and higher-education institutions, to deliver the goals of the society.
- Oversaw the activities of multiple volunteers and three interns to fulfill the mission of the society.

Courses Taught

- **2017-2020, Lecturer-University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**
 - 2020 and 2019 US Labor History (LER 130), online course
 - 2019 Gender, Race, Class and Work (LER 320)
 - 2017 US Labor History, independent study directed research class for three students, toward completion of a Global Labor Studies minor
- **2015, Substitute Lead Instructor – Roosevelt University, Chicago**
 - Fall 2015, Labor Economics (one month substitute instructor)
- **2012-2014, Lead Instructor – University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**
 - Spring 2014, United States History of Emotions
 - Fall 2013, African American Environmental History (Widenor Teaching Fellowship)
 - Summer 2012, Twentieth Century European History
- **2007-2011, Teaching Assistant – University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**
 - Fall 2011, Academic Leadership and Community Building, African-American Studies
 - Fall 2010, Introduction to African American Studies
 - 2009-2010, US History to 1877 and US History since 1877, Transition: a program to enhance the collegiate experience and encourage retention of first-generation and under-represented student populations
 - 2008-2009, US History to 1877 and US History since 1877, Advanced Composition: a program to develop sound student writing skills across disciplines
 - 2007-2008, US History since 1877 and Western Civilization since 1660

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- “We Will Match Them, Thug for Thug: State Violence and the 1937 CIO Laundry Workers Strike in Champaign-Urbana, Illinois,” Working Class Studies Association, Canterbury, England, 2019.
- “Drawing the Building Trades into Labor History,” poster session, United Association for Labor Education, Philadelphia, April 2019.
- “Shared Struggle, Strategy and Success! Labor Education Takes on Today’s Challenges” United Association for Labor Education, Seattle, April 2018.
- “Building Community Power: Youth Organizing and Recreation in 1960s Cleveland Ohio,” Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Cincinnati, September 2017.
- “Circuits of Struggle: Local and Global Networks of Activists and Ideas in the Black Midwestern Protest Tradition,” Roundtable, Organization of American Historians, New Orleans, April 2017.
- “University Special Collections as Community Spaces” Roundtable, Organization of American Historians, Providence, April 2016.
- “Dynamite in the Garden: Public Cultural Space During the Rise of Black Power and the Urban Rebellions, Cleveland 1960-1968,” Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Memphis, September 2014.
- “Planting Diaspora in a Garden: The fight to Establish Cleveland’s African American Cultural Garden, 1945-1977,” Remapping the Black Atlantic Diaspora: (Re)writings of Race and Space Conference, DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois, April 2013.
- “Sport and Black Community Building in the Midst of Urban Renewal, Cleveland Ohio, 1945-1970,” National Council for Black Studies, Indianapolis, Indiana, March 2013.
- “The Jomo “Freedom” Kenyatta House: Black Power and the Development of Public Recreation Space in Cleveland, Ohio, 1964-1967,” The Vernacular Architecture Forum, Madison, Wisconsin, June 2012.
- “The Jomo “Freedom” Kenyatta House: Youth, Recreation and Black Power in Cleveland Ohio, 1964-1967,” The Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, November 2011.
- “From Urban Park to ‘Open Dump’: Race and the Disinvestment of Garfield Park in Cleveland, Ohio, 1942-1983,” American Studies Association, Baltimore, Maryland, October 2011.
- “Churches, Alleys, and Parking Lots: Building Playgrounds for Underserved Black Youth in Cleveland Ohio, 1945-1975,” National Council for Black Studies, Cincinnati, Ohio, March 2011.
- “Six Tin Cans in a Field: Douglass Golf Course and the Building of Black Community in Indianapolis, 1926-2006,” Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Raleigh, North Carolina, October 2010.
- “The Sowinski Six: Rape, Race and Public Space, Cleveland, Ohio, 1963,” Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Cincinnati, Ohio, October 2009.

PUBLICATIONS

- “Workplace Sexual Abuse, Labor and the #MeTooMovement” commentary, *Labor Studies Journal*, volume 43, issue 4, 2018.
- “Where do We Go From Here? Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Labor Legacy and the Current Attacks on Public Sector Unions,” *Illinois Public Employee Relations Report* (ITI Chicago-Kent College of Law), Spring 2018.

- Co-Editor, with Dr. Antoinette Burton, Special Issue on World Histories and the 50th Anniversary of E.P. Thompson’s “Making of the English Working Class,” *Historical Reflections/Reflections Historique*, 2015.
- Review of Jack S. Blocker, *A Little More Freedom; African Americans Enter the Urban Midwest, 1860-1930*, *Journal of Illinois History*, v. 11, no. 3, Autumn 2008.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **July 2005-March 2007, Grants Manager, Indiana State Museum Foundation**
 - Developed more than 30 competitive grant proposals for a variety of museum programs and facility improvements.
 - Raised more than \$300,000 in grant funds and worked closely with museum staff on a variety of Indiana history programs, art installations, musical performances, gallery improvements and upgrades.
 - Developed and oversaw the implementation of a successful grant proposal to the History Channel’s “Save Our History” grant program to allow Indianapolis Public School children to conduct oral histories and create a public presentation on the theme of “Immigration in the United States.”
 - Prepared grant reports, including financial reports, to meet grant requirements.
 - Helped plan receptions to build strong relationships with individual donors and grantors.
- **September 2001-July 2005, Grants Manager, City of Indianapolis, Parks and Recreation**
 - Initiated a new, coordinated grant fundraising effort for Indianapolis Parks and Recreation.
 - Developed more than 100 competitive grant proposals for a variety of park programs and facilities.
 - Raised more than \$20 million in private, local, state, and federal grant funds for capital improvements, historic preservation, youth initiatives, environmental education, arts programs, sports and health initiatives.
 - Attended three National Recreation and Parks Association annual meetings in Washington D.C. to learn about federal grant opportunities and discuss support of parks and recreation with U.S. Congressional representatives.
 - Assisted with developing an annual community event commemorating the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the speech by Robert F. Kennedy on the evening of the assassination of Dr. King at the site where this speech was given, the Kennedy-King Memorial Park, Indianapolis.
 - Helped develop the nomination and conducted historical research to successfully place renowned landscape architect George E. Kessler’s Indianapolis Park and Boulevard System on the National Register of Historic Places, 2003.
 - Helped raise grant funds and was part of a team that created a brochure, interpretive signage and programming to build public awareness of the Indianapolis Park and Boulevard System

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS & CERTIFICATES

- Spring 2019, Outstanding Contribution to the Field of Labor Education, for Women and Power: Building a Toolbox for Leadership
- Spring 2018, Coalition of Labor Union Women, Chicago Chapter, Olga Manar Award
- Fall 2013, Widenor Teaching Fellowship, University of Illinois, Department of History

- 2012-2013, Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities Fellow, University of Illinois
- 2012-2013, The Natalia Belting Fellowship, University of Illinois, Department of History
- 2010, Ohio Humanities Council, Oral History Training Institute Certificate
- 2009-2010, Human Dimensions of Environmental Systems Scholar, University of Illinois
- 2002, Indianapolis Parks Foundation “Parks Professional of the Year”
- 2001, The Fundraising School, Center on Philanthropy-Indiana University, “Preparing Successful Grant Proposals,” Certificate

SERVICE

- United Association for Labor Education, Board Midwest Region Representative (2018-2021)
- Highway Construction Careers Training Program at Parkland College Advisory Board (2018-)
- Mother Jones Museum and Heritage Project, Board of Directors (2018-)
- Illinois Labor History Society, Board of Trustees (2016-)