

A Message from TWU International President Harry Lombardo

BE UNITED: JOIN TWU TOGETHER WE FIGHT FOR YOUR RIGHTS

When Michael J. Quill founded the Transport Workers Union of America at the height of the Great Depression, he brought fire, passion and strength to uniting the workers of the New York City transit system. And unite them he did. More than 80 years later, TWU is still here, carrying out that great legacy.



President Lombardo speaks at a rally on Capitol Hill.

I became president of TWU in 2013 and promised our members a fighting, militant union, honoring our roots. We've made good on that promise, organizing more workers than this union ever has before; creating a legislative and grassroots political program that represents our members' interests on Capitol Hill and in state and local governments around the country; and negotiating some of the best contracts in some of the toughest industries in today's economy.

Why should you join a union, and why should you join TWU? Because study after study has shown that the strength of the middle class is tied to the strength of the labor movement. Being in a union is good for your family, good for your economic stability, and vital for the nation's financial health.

At TWU, we take on some of this country's largest and wealthiest employers who use their incredible resources to take advantage of our people to pad their own bank accounts. Our members stand together as one to fight these fights. I pledge to you that when you join TWU, you'll find we do whatever we can to preserve our members' dignity and respect against those corporate fat cats.

I believe in the labor movement and I believe in our members. I believe that an injury to one of us is an injury to all.

We stand united in every fight, large or small, and when we channel our resources—and when you join us—we are truly invincible.



TOP FIVE REASONS TO JOIN A UNION

01

States with higher union membership have safer workplaces, lower income inequality and a smaller wage gap—by 40 percent!

02

Nearly 95 percent of union members have health insurance and a pension plan, far greater than those who are not in a union.

03

Unions have political power! TWU activists support pro-labor candidates, get out the vote, and push for legislation that benefits you and your family.

04

Unions are a force for social change: TWU represents members from all walks of life and has a proud history fighting discrimination of all types.

05

Your union gives you a seat at the table—if you want a voice on the job, you want a union fighting for you.

Learn more union facts and statistics and why you should join at TWU.org/JoinUs.

GET CONNECTED WITH TWU



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TWU

TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA



WORKERS
RIGHTS
ARE
HUMAN
RIGHTS



WORKERS' RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS

The Transport Workers Union of America (TWU) was founded in 1934 during the Great Depression when New York City's transit companies were abusing the nation's dire economic situation by hiring and firing employees at will. Workers were underpaid, overworked and mistreated, conditions were often dangerous and abusive. The workers knew this had to change and a leader emerged: Michael J. Quill.



TWU founder Michael J. Quill greets Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the 1961 TWU convention.

Quill and TWU's pioneers coined the motto, "United Invincible" and believed that an organized, united front was the only way to win fair working conditions for themselves and for their members. They also fought for equality in the workplace and spoke out against discrimination of all kinds.

Throughout the 20th century, TWU continued to grow in both size and power. Transit workers nationwide joined the union and TWU branched out to include airline, railroad, and gaming employees.

Today, TWU represents nearly 140,000 workers in the nation's transportation and allied industries, across four divisions. We have never stopped fighting for their rights, their dignity and their fair treatment in the workplace.

WHO NEEDS UNIONS? WE ALL DO

Greedy corporations across this country—from airlines, to major retailers, to tech giants—are reaping record profits, while middle class wages are stagnant, and many American families are struggling to make ends meet.

Still, more and more states are passing anti-worker laws designed to protect big business at the expense of the rest of us. The game is rigged to weaken unions through these laws. By taking away the ability of workers to organize and bargain collectively, wealthy CEOs are driving down wages, as well as working and living standards for everyone. Our economy has become a race to the bottom.

Unions, however, will always be one of the last, best checks on corporate power, and one of the strongest ways to open a pathway toward a family-sustaining career, and a better life overall. We all deserve a voice: In our communities. At home. In our families. At school. In our places of worship. At work. Want a voice on the job?

Then join a union. Join TWU.

Despite right-to-work laws in many states, you still have the right to organize under federal law. We can help you navigate complicated workplace rules and your local union will protect you on the shop floor with the full support of TWU International.

Find out more at [TWU.org/JoinUs](https://www.twu.org/joinus).

"It is clear that labor's role in the future must be more than ever in relation to all the rest of life—that of the community, the state, the nation, and all the developments in the world that affect our members and their families. We cannot isolate ourselves. . . We are a large part of America—in fact, we are more of America than any other segment of society."

TWU Founder Michael J. Quill, 1965

HOW DOES A UNION CONTRACT WORK?

When you organize with a union, representatives from your job site and the union work together to form a negotiating committee, which meets with the employer to hammer out the details of a contract. Union contracts are enforced by various federal agencies and are renegotiated depending on the terms of that contract. TWU International staff and leadership



have a long history of negotiating some of the transportation industry's best, most innovative contracts. We work with top economists, legal teams, and labor experts to get our members what they deserve.

TWU believes that working people have the right to speak up for one another regardless of occupation or industry, and to negotiate for the kind of jobs and wages that help them provide for their families. That's what we'll fight for when we represent you.

While contracts with different employers may cover issues unique to that industry, most union contracts are negotiated to strengthen:

- wages and retirement
- health care benefits
- paid time off
- workplace safety
- grievance and arbitration procedures
- seniority
- and much more!

TWU: UNITED INVINCIBLE SINCE 1934