

**FREE!**

Scholarships pay  
for members to attend  
MSEA's annual  
leadership training.  
Contact your local  
union to learn more!



# SLC26

**Foundations of Power: Learning,  
Solidarity, and Collective Action**

**SUMMER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2026**



JULY 28 – 30, 2026 • MARITIME INSTITUTE, LINTHICUM HEIGHTS, MD

# SLC26

Foundations of Power: Learning, Solidarity, and Collective Action



Get the skills you need to organize, advocate, and build power at your worksite. Grounded in our 2026 theme, Foundations of Power: Learning, Solidarity, and Collective Action, SLC 2026 is designed to help you grow as a union leader who is confident, connected, and ready to act. Join us for hands on scenarios, dynamic electives, and our annual solidarity action.

## FEATURED AT SLC 2026

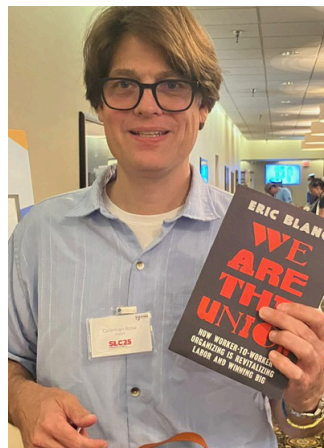
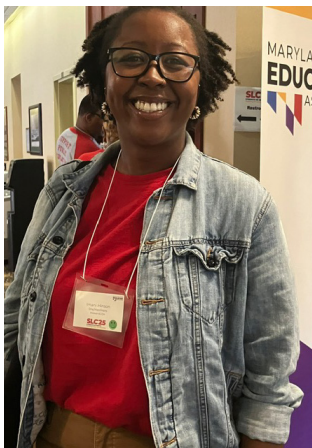
**Electives** Build some mad skills in niche areas of union organizing. From building safe and just schools to advancing your union journey, there's something for everyone.

**Core Trainings** Dig in across three days through role plays, case studies and work time to grow your skills so you can build the union you want and win for your students, co-workers, and community.



### Solidarity in Action

Solidarity is about action and unity. With training and support, you will put the skills you're learning at SLC to use.



## COURSES

- ▶ Foundations for Winning Campaigns
- ▶ Association Representative
- ▶ Collective Bargaining 1
- ▶ Collective Bargaining 2
- ▶ Organizing 1
- ▶ Organizing 2

# FREE!

Scholarships pay for members to attend SLC, MSEA's biggest annual leadership training. Contact your local to learn more!

# WHAT TO EXPECT

## General Daily Agenda for All Trainings and Workshops

### TUESDAY, JULY 28

Registration  
T(Ed) Talk  
Core Training



### WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

Core Training  
Electives *Choices to come*  
Solidarity in Action

### THURSDAY, JULY 30

Core Training  
T(Ed) Talk



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HERE NOW!**



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# NEA LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES

## LEADERSHIP PROGRESS: 3 LEVELS

FOUNDATIONAL

LEVEL 1

MOBILIZING & BUILDING POWER LEVEL 2

AGENDA DRIVING

LEVEL 3

**Foundational: Leadership of Self** The value and need for personal growth and development is important as you think of your leadership journey. Every one of us has a compelling leadership journey.

**Mobilizing and Power Building: Leadership of Others** A critical part of unleashing your own leadership potential is the ability to unleash the leadership potential in others.

**Agenda Driving: Leadership of the Organization** How do we transform the present Association into one that is prepared to handle the successes and challenges we face now and in the future? What are the critical systems that must be developed?

**SLC26**

Preparing members to lead relevant and thriving education associations and become world-class education leaders.



### ADVOCACY

Advances the cause of public education through social justice as it benefits our students and members' professional needs and rights.



### COMMUNICATION

Builds an integrated strategy that drives the goals of our professions.



### GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

Sets the mission, establishes strategies for a relevant, thriving organization; empowers, motivates, and fosters a pipeline of talent.



### LEADING OUR PROFESSIONS

Advances for quality inside our professions and promotes our union's role in advancing education transformation and student learning.



### ORGANIZING

Mobilizes to influence successful organizing outcomes, strengthen internal and external relationships, build membership capacity, and identify new members and potential leaders.



### SOCIAL EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Understands the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors that create healthy identities, manage emotions, and achieve personal and collective goals; demonstrates ability to feel and show empathy, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible, caring decisions.



### STRATEGY AND FISCAL HEALTH

Builds the brand and accomplishes the goals of the association through effective financial management and understanding of fiduciary responsibilities.

MSEA's Summer Leadership Conference uses the NEA leadership competency framework. Learn more about the framework and the NEA Leadership Competencies [here](#) and the competency guide [here](#).

# 2026 SLC TRAININGS



## FOUNDATIONS FOR WINNING CAMPAIGNS

For (but not limited to): Member contract teams, local grievance committees, ARs, graduates of Organizing 1 and/or 2, organizing committee members, local leaders

AGENDA DRIVING

LEVEL 3



**NEA Leadership Competency: Organizing**  
Class limit: 34 members

It takes power to win—period. Join union members from across the state to sharpen the skills that build real, lasting power. Together, we'll dive into the essentials of:

- Identifying critical issues and emerging leaders
- Map out the power structures in our workplaces and communities
- Develop strategic plans for escalating campaigns that win

Whether you're just beginning to pivot toward bold, member-driven organizing or you're ready to take your successful strategies to the next level, this course is designed for every stage of your organizing journey. Come ready to collaborate, learn, and build the power needed to drive change from the ground up.

## ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

For (but not limited to): Member contract teams, new and experienced ARs, all members

FOUNDATIONAL

LEVEL 1



**NEA Leadership Competency: Organizing**  
Participation limit: 34 members

Association representatives (ARs) play a valuable role in ensuring that their association effectively advocates for members, students, and community. This training will build a foundational role and provide a toolbox of skills for ARs.

Topics will include:

- The basic responsibilities of being an AR
- Why and how to identify and develop leaders to be on your team
- Brainstorm addressing specific building challenges
- Gripes vs. grievances
- Identifying good organizing issues

This training will use real life case studies to explore these topics!

## COLLECTIVE BARGAINING 1

For (but not limited to): New bargaining team members, attendees of MSEA's Collective Bargaining Conference, those thinking about becoming a bargaining team member

FOUNDATIONAL

LEVEL 1



**NEA Leadership Competency: Advocacy**  
Participation limit: 34 members

Fundamentals for New Negotiators: This introductory course will discuss relevant Maryland public education collective bargaining laws, the research and numbers required to bargain successfully, and all phases of the collective bargaining process.

In addition to the nuts and bolts, attendees will learn why and how engaging members throughout the process will result in better contracts and a stronger unit that thrives well beyond ratification.

Topics to be covered:

- Local union case studies
- Role plays
- Bargaining best practices at the table
- Introduction to contract campaigns



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# 2026 SLC TRAININGS



## COLLECTIVE BARGAINING 2

For (but not limited to): Bargaining team members, attendees of MSEA's Collective Bargaining Conference, SLC Collective Bargaining 1 graduates, new bargaining team members

MOBILIZING & BUILDING POWER **LEVEL 2**



**NEA Leadership Competency: Advocacy**  
Participation Limit: 34 members

**Note:** Must have some bargaining experience or knowledge.

**At the Bargaining Table:** This session builds on the foundations of collective bargaining in Maryland for those with basic knowledge of bargaining laws, styles, and process.

**Table Simulations:** Experience what it's like to be at the table for in-person and virtual bargaining.

**Approaches to Bargaining:** Build on a basic understanding of different approaches to bargaining and hear success stories and how they've won big gains for members and school communities through Bargaining for the Common Good!

## ORGANIZING 1

For (but not limited to): ARs, members of faculty advisory councils, all members

FOUNDATIONAL

**LEVEL 1**



**NEA Leadership Competency: Organizing**  
Participation Limit: 34 members

All educators face numerous challenges at their worksite daily, often with no clear path to resolution. That's where organizing comes in!

This workshop will be hands-on putting organizing theory into practice with simulations, role plays, and scenarios.

MSEA's Organizing 1 training will empower members to:

1. Identify issues that affect educators
2. Develop a plan to address the issue
3. Have one-on-one conversations that move members to action
4. Build long-lasting power to address future issues that arise

## ORGANIZING 2

For (but not limited to): Experienced ARs, graduates of Organizing 1, organizing committee members, all members

MOBILIZING & BUILDING POWER **LEVEL 2**



**NEA Leadership Competency: Organizing**  
Participation limit: 44 members

The worksite is the epicenter of organizing efforts, but to build the power needed to win what our students and members deserve, we must be prepared to go beyond the worksite.

Attendees will spend time mapping out real-life issues, determining potential allies, and developing a strategic campaign plan. This workshop will focus on:

1. Involving the community, parents, and allies to form effective coalitions
2. Comprehensive organizing strategies, timelines, and principles
3. Components of a full campaign plan
4. Maximizing your effectiveness as a skilled organizer

See something interesting? Call your local union today and find out how you can attend **FREE!**



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