



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## PUBLIC LIBRARY

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### **Labor History Exhibit Presents Historic Examination of Labor Events and Movements that Changed State**

**SAN DIEGO** – The history of labor in California is key to understanding the economic progress, as well as community and social development of the state. “California’s Labor History” is the subject of a compelling traveling exhibition, which chronicles the history of the state’s workers and labor movements they influenced.

The “California’s Labor History” panel exhibition will be presented by the City of San Diego Public Library, California State Library and the California Exhibition Resources Alliance. It opens at the Central Library on Feb. 14 and continues through April 11. Admission is free.

“California’s Labor History” combines reproductions of artwork, historic photographs and text to explore 11 crucial events in California labor history. Topics include: Native American labor in the Missions, the Gold Rush, the General Strike of 1934, and the United Farm Workers Union Movement – events that still impact California workers today.

The exhibition is inspired by an extensive labor history map developed by the California State Library, which accompanies the exhibition. A distinguished advisory committee of librarians, historians, and members of the Speaker’s Commission on Labor Education worked to create the labor history map. Professor Dan Cornford of San Jose State University was the lead historian on the project, along with David Fuller, cartographer; Rory Litwin, librarian; and Dr. Charlene Wear Simmons, project manager. The map and the exhibition are supported by an educational Web site created in partnership with San Francisco State University that may be viewed at <http://calpedia.sfsu.edu/calabor/>.

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The “California’s Labor History” exhibition tour is coordinated by the California Exhibition Resources Alliance (CERA) in association with the California State Library. This exhibit was supported in part by the U.S. Institute of Museums and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.

CERA is a network of professionally operated museums and cultural organizations that collaborate to create and tour smaller, affordable, high quality exhibitions that enhance civic engagement and human understanding. CERA is supported by generous grants from The James Irvine Foundation, The William Randolph Hearst Foundation and the California Council for the Humanities.

The exhibit will be displayed in the Second Floor Corridor Gallery at the Central Library, 820 E St. in downtown San Diego. The Central Library is open Monday and Wednesday, noon to 8 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday through Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

For more information on the exhibition and public programs please call the Central Library at 619-236-5800 or visit the Library on the City’s Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/> .

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