Oscars 2016: Awarding the Middle Class
Celebrating the Industry’s Labor Standards on Hollywood’s Biggest Night

MEDIA AVAILABILITY: Cherri Senders is available for interviews.

While controversy has been swirling around the Academy Awards this year, there is one element of the Oscars that is worthy of outright celebration: the thousands of good middle-class jobs the industry provides. This means that all those below-the-line workers behind the scenes are protected on the job and take home a living wage that can support a family.

Labor 411 believes organized labor can play a role in achieving fair standards of diversity on-screen, and because Hollywood provides for so many workers off-screen, we are celebrating by having a little fun with our 4th Annual Oscars Special.

“Diversity is something any healthy industry should strive to achieve, and as they work toward that goal unions can and should partner with producers for equal representation across all levels of employment,” said Labor 411 Founder and Publisher Cherri Senders. “Unions fight for and support the middle class, and that’s something everyone can get behind.”

Senders’ recent op-ed for CityWatch shows just how important Hollywood’s unions have been and continue to be for the middle class of the Los Angeles region.

Labor 411’s mission is clear: By supporting businesses that treat their employees well with fair pay, good benefits and safe working conditions, we strengthen the middle class and we strengthen America. Senders has previously called for a consumer movement that lifts all boats in several op-eds, most recently published by the Sacramento Bee and AlterNet.org.

Founded in 2008, Labor 411’s print and online guides now include more than 10,000 listings covering hotels, restaurants, retail outlets and other businesses in three of the nation’s top consumer markets: Los Angeles, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. Labor 411’s website (www.labor411.org), featuring geolocating, allows consumers to pinpoint by neighborhood where their shopping dollars can support living-wage companies and their communities and avoid retailers that do not treat their workers well. Labor 411 also produces annual print guides and entertainment guides in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C.; and later this year will debut the new Labor 411 Philadelphia.

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