

Celebrating Resistance: Unifor Statement in Support of Black History Month

February 1, 2017

Throughout the month of February we are given the occasion to thoughtfully acknowledge Black History Month. It is an annual celebration of the achievements of the black community. It is an opportunity to share stories of powerful and inspirational history-makers and a rich past that is often omitted from text books and history classes. It is also an opportunity to inspire new generations to make their own mark on history. In the current political climate, we desperately need to support and inspire new generations of activists. As we praise the achievements of the past, we must also oppose current threats to equity and equality rights.

Progressive visions of a future where there is substantive equality for all are under attack. Substituted in their place are claims of formal equality, the kind that uphold institutional racism that has served to disadvantage black people throughout our history. We must reject that vision from taking root because acceptance of it means that we have given up on a dream where all people are genuinely equal. We must work to secure equity, in our workplaces, in our communities, in this country and internationally.

Unifor commits to standing side-by-side with all allies in this struggle, and standing behind them, in a show of support, where necessary. Unifor will work hard to forge deeper and more meaningful alliances with all equity seekers because we understand that solidarity is the only way to successfully counter that which threatens us. We can build progressive politics and create lasting social change by working together and bending the arc of history to secure justice for all.

Help to celebrate Black History Month by printing this poster for your workplace.



SM:amvcope343