

MALLI: Visionary Leadership for a Changing World

Areas of Focus

The Mid-Atlantic Labor Leadership Initiative (MALLI) is a regional program of the National Labor Leadership Initiative (NLLI) established five years ago by the AFL-CIO and Cornell University's Worker Institute. MALLI aims to help labor and community leaders strengthen and transform their organizations and organize a movement that builds power for workers in a rapidly changing world.

MALLI provides a space for leaders from across the Mid-Atlantic region to explore the strategic challenges they face today. This unique opportunity for top-level labor and community leaders is offered jointly by The LABOR School at Penn State and The Worker Institute at Cornell, along with Rutgers University and West Virginia University.

1. STRENGTHENING INDIVIDUAL LEADERSHIP

Leaders have the time and space to examine their own personal styles and leadership habits and support each other in a peer coaching process.

2. LEADING AND TRANSFORMING YOUR ORGANIZATION

MALLI empowers participants to build organizations that can be more adaptive, relevant, and effective in an increasingly hostile environment.

3. BUILDING A DYNAMIC AND INCLUSIVE MOVEMENT

MALLI participants learn to lead in ways that build their organizations and align them with social and economic movements that share labor's core values.

MALLI features three week-long retreats facilitated by a team of experienced and dynamic instructors. We are committed to active and peer learning that builds from participants' experiences.

2020 DATES:

January 27–31: Wyndham Garden; State College, Pennsylvania

April 13–17: Cacapon Resort State Park; Berkeley Springs, West Virginia

June 1–5: Rutgers University; New Brunswick, New Jersey

What other MALLI participants are saying



MALLI truly exceeded my expectations. The content was honest, interactive, surprising, and really painted a picture of where we have been and where we need to think about going as a labor movement. I have gained life-long tools and peers that will make me a better labor leader.

Matt Trzaska
IUPAT Local 252

MALLI is the most insightful, invigorating, and educational curriculum on building individual character, teams, and collaboration that I have ever experienced in my years of community organizing work. The instructors were engaging, open to new ideas, and encouraging. We were able to discuss complex, visceral topics with applicable solutions and inspirations.

Reverend Marlon Tilghman
Bridge Maryland



To say that MALLI is a transformational experience doesn't really give insight to someone thinking about participating in the program. For me, the experience has changed the way I view myself as a leader, the way I interact with the people around me, and the way I reflect on those interactions. The tools learned at MALLI aren't ones that you unpack and use immediately. They are tools that you unpack one at a time, consider, use, put back, and return to.

Jennifer Higgins
AFT Local 1904

TUITION AND OTHER COSTS:

The MALLI tuition (\$7,000 for unions) covers all materials, room and board, and other incidentals. Participant travel costs are not included.

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QUESTIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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