



HAWAII STATE AFL-CIO

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Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Please share with your members the following important information about an ongoing boycott of Blue Man Group, the popular, multi-million dollar, multinational, but also very anti-union entertainment corporation.

When preparing to open its new show in Toronto, Blue Man Group refused to negotiate an agreement with the four unions – Canadian Actors Equity, Toronto Musicians' Association, and IATSE Locals 58 and 822 – that represent workers in this industry. This is in spite of the fact that every other major theater producer in Toronto adheres to agreements with these same unions. No performer or crew member in any of Blue Man Group's productions in North America works under the protection of a union contract, leading some to call Blue Man Group the "Wal-Mart of the arts."

In response, these four unions have called for an international consumer boycott of all Blue Man Group productions, including those in New York City, Chicago, Las Vegas, as well as Toronto.

The Executive Board of the Hawaii State AFL-CIO, at its August 11, 2005 meeting, endorsed this boycott and is asking all Hawaii unions to urge their members to respect the boycott by refraining from patronizing any Blue Man Group presentation.

More information can be found on the boycott website, www.blueymanboycott.com.

In Solidarity,

Harold J. Dias, Jr.
President

Enclosures

c: Susan Wallace, Executive Director, Canadian Actor's Equity Association
Bill Skolnik, President, Toronto Musicians' Association, Local 149 AFM
Gordon Graham, President IATSE, Local 58
Cheryl Batulis, Business Agent, IATSE, Local 822