

A Singing Lecture by Corey Dolgon

The Event: Focusing on the role folksongs play in the U.S. labor movement, Dolgon's words and music bring both history and theory to life. This singing lecture covers labor history from a multicultural perspective and examines the function of folk songs in workers' lives, labor, and organizing. The lecture can be tailored for specific needs and time periods, but generally runs about an hour to an hour and a half depending on format.

The Program: SSSP welcomes applications from those interested in hosting this event. SSSP will make four \$500 grants to cover performer's honorarium. Applicants commit cover travel expenses.

The Performer: Dolgon is a Sociology Professor at Stonehill College and a long-time labor activist and community organizer who has used folk songs to build solidarity on the line and engage students in the classroom. He is adept at gaining audience participation and provides an object lesson in how the collective acts of singing enhance the feelings of solidarity and create new possibilities for collective identities.



Here's what students, faculty and labor folk have to say about Corey's performances:

"I learned about the importance and power of strikes and labor unions. He made the period come alive."
--student, Stonehill College

"Corey's work weaves together a coherent and accessible narrative about labor struggles with a tour de force of labor songs that move an audience with workers' own articulate descriptions of their conditions and inspiring visions of movements to improve those conditions."
--Chris Dale, Sociology Dept., Bentley University

Faculty and students were blown away by this unique method and message. Dolgon's ability to weave stories through song was powerful and thought provoking. Personally, I was mesmerized by his musical ability and with the material. My students agreed that it was by far the most interesting colloquium they ever attended.
--Scott Carter, Sociology Dept. University of Central Florida

"Imagine an event that attracts from every campus demographic: international students, faculty, staff, undergraduates, emeriti faculty, and community activists, and has them all standing together enthusiastically singing songs about solidarity. We have never had an event like this!"
--Melinda Jo Messineo, Sociology Dept. Chair, Ball State University

Corey Dolgon's "singing lecture" is a hit. Those who attended his presentation—from union retirees to active members to academics and management—were entertained and enlightened. A good time & good learning.
--John Ralston, Asst. Director, University of Louisville Labor-Management Center

Corey's wonderful voice, abundant energy, and great knowledge about folksongs, the labor movement, and other social movements were entertaining, very informative, and inspiring. He made a major impact on WPUNJ, performing in front of almost 300 students and faculty.
--Kathleen Odell Korgen, Sociology Dept, William Patterson University

"Dolgon's singing lecture had breadth and depth. It captured an extensive history of the labor movement in narrative and song, brought students, faculty and labor union members to their feet to sing together, and left people smiling, feeling good, and recognizing the importance of solidarity in efforts to change the world."
--Timothy Black, Director, Social Justice Institute, Case Western Reserve University

Please contact Corey for applications or more information at 617-852-7237 or cdolgon@stonehill.edu