



# The Long History of Labor Day in America

By US Department of Labor

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

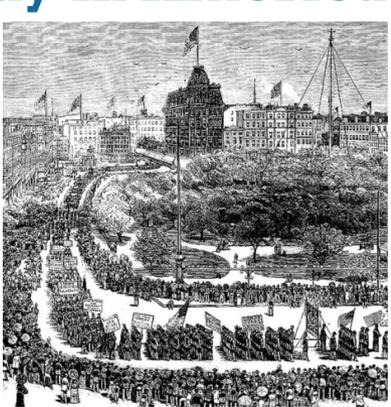
Through the years, the nation gave increasing emphasis to Labor Day. The first governmental recognition came through municipal ordinances passed during 1885 and 1886. From these, a movement developed to secure state legislation. The first state bill was introduced into the New York legislature, but the first to become law was passed by Oregon on February 21, 1887. During the year, four more states—Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York—created the Labor Day holiday by legislative enactment. By the end of the decade, Connecticut, Nebraska, and Pennsylvania had followed suit. By 1894, twenty-three other states had adopted the holiday in honor of workers, and on June 28 of that year, congress passed an

act making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories.

More than one hundred years after the first Labor Day observance, there is still some doubt as to who first proposed the holiday for workers.

Some records show that Peter J. McGuire, general secretary of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and a cofounder of the American Federation of Labor, was first in suggesting a day to honor those “who from rude nature have delved and carved all the grandeur we behold.”

But Peter McGuire’s place in Labor Day history has not gone unchallenged. Many believe that Matthew Maguire, a machinist, not Peter McGuire, founded the holiday. Recent research seems to support the contention that Matthew Maguire, later the secretary of Local 344 of the International Association of Machinists in Paterson, New Jersey, proposed the holiday in 1882 while serving as secretary of the Central Labor Union in New York. What is clear is that the Central Labor Union adopted a Labor Day proposal and appointed a committee to plan a demonstration and picnic.



The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. The Central Labor Union held its second Labor Day holiday just a year later, on September

Small Business Exchange • Voice of Small, Emerging, Diversity-Owned Businesses Since 1984 [Click to read more](#)

## Sub-Bid Requests

**GREEN LINE EXTENSION PROJECT**

**SEEKING DBE FIRMS FOR SUBCONTRACTING OPPORTUNITIES**

**REGISTER NOW**

**GLX CONSTRUCTORS**

GLXC IS WILLING TO ASSIST DBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS IN OBTAINING ACCESS TO BONDS, LINES OF CREDIT AND INSURANCE.

FOR REQUESTS OR ASSISTANCE:  
 Alexandra.Cann@GLXConstruct.com

**Turner**

IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK CITY CERTIFIED, VENDEX APPROVED M/WBE CONTRACTORS AND VENDORS

**Construction Management Services for Brooklyn Bridge Park–Squibb Park Bridge Repair Project  
 NYC Parks and Recreation Contract  
 Bid Date: August 2019**

**Description of Project:** The work under this contract consists of the full replacement of all nine (9) existing spans of Squibb Bridge in Brooklyn. The adjacent property address is 60 Furman Street, Brooklyn, New York. This work will include, but is not limited to, performing a site survey of the existing conditions, removing all nine existing spans of Squibb Bridge in a safe and efficient manner. Transport and disposing of all demolished materials from the existing spans. The bridge will be replaced with a new steel bridge designed by Arup. Coordination with demolition, electrical, carpentry, and other subcontractors as required, to complete the installation of the bridge. Work with fabricator and erector to coordinate installation of new bridge spans into place with minimum disruption of park activities. Fabricate, deliver, and install all nine (9) new steel spans at Squibb Bridge using existing concrete piers. Complete any closeout activities related to punch list, comeback work, permits, or other items required to bring the project to final completion.

**Bidding Dates and Opportunities Available:**  
 The following packages will bid on or about June 1, 2019, awarded in July/August 2019:

- Bridge Steel
- Stainless Steel Ornamental Hand Rails with Stainless Mesh
- Fencing/Protection Package
- Carpentry Wood Decking (wood deck on the bridge)
- Electrical (lighting on the bridge)

If you are interested in Turner Construction’s prequalification process and bidding information on this project, please contact Turner’s Construction Executive Jim Wachala, cell 917-566-2509 or email jwachala@tcco.com and Lead Estimator Arkadij Lyanski, 347-721-4898 or alyanskiy@tcco.com .

*Building the Future*

**SMALL BUSINESS EXCHANGE NORTHEAST**

**SBE OUTREACH SERVICES**

With over 1.6 million businesses in our active database—the country’s largest non-public diversity database—SBE sets the professional standard for diversity outreach across the nation. For more than three decades, we have served small businesses, prime contractors, and agencies—with proven results.

**Advertisements**  
 Placed in various Small Business Exchange Northeast digital publications each month, and at www.sbenortheast.com

**Fax, Email, and Postal Solicitations**  
 Targeted mailings sent to businesses chosen according to your criteria

**Live Call Center Follow-Up**  
 Telephone follow-up calls using a script of five questions that you define

**Computer Generated Reports**  
 Complete documentation that will fit right into your proposal, along with a list of interested firms to contact

**Special Services**  
 Custom design and development of services that you need for particular situations such as small business marketing, diversity goal completion, and agency capacity building

Call for more information: 800-800-8534

1984 **35** Years 2019

**SKANSKA**

SKANSKA USA CIVIL

IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK STATE CERTIFIED M/WBE AND NEW YORK STATE SDVOB SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS

**Design and Construction of Accessibility Upgrades at 170th Street Station on the Jerome Line Project  
 MTA NYCT Contract No. A-37150F  
 Bid Date: September 5, 2019**

**Description of Project:** Accessibility upgrades at 170th Street Station on the Jerome Avenue Line (IRT) in the Borough of the Bronx—make the station accessible by complying with the 2010 Americans Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design, enhance customer experience at the station, make the station easier to navigate, and facilitate increased ridership on the NYCT system.

Major scopes of work include 1 new street to mezzanine elevator, 2 new mezzanine to platform elevators, 2 new street to platform stairways on the northeast and northwest corners of Jerome Avenue and 170th Street. Mezzanine vestibule extensions consisting of the demolition, modification, and replacement of existing steel framing and concrete. Removal and replacement of existing stairs. Platform level ADA boarding area improvements. Replacement of existing platform tactile warning mat. Demolition and replacement of platform edge in ADA boarding areas. Replacement/upgrades of existing electrical, fire protection, communications, and lighting systems.

**Many bidding opportunities are available.**

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska’s Outreach Coordinator: Julia.Omanoff@skanska.com • EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled

**SKANSKA**

SKANSKA KOCH INC.

IS SOLICITING BIDS FROM MWBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS

**Benjamin Franklin Bridge Rehabilitation of Suspended Spans and Anchorages  
 Delaware River Port Authority Contract No: BF-54-2019  
 Bid Date: September 17, 2019**

Subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to Electrical, Paint, Drainage, Concrete, Structural Steel Erectors, Field Office, CPM Scheduling, Civil General Contracting, Construction Engineering, Fencing, Fuel, Haul and Dispose, MPT, Office Trailer Fit Out, Painting, Signs, Structural Steel, Surveying, and Trucking. Please see contract documents for further opportunities.

Interested firms please contact john.papagiannakis@skanska.com • EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled

**SKANSKA**

SKANSKA KOCH INC.

IS SOLICITING BIDS FROM MWBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS

**Structural Rehabilitation at the Robert F Kennedy Bridge  
 MTA Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority Contract No: RK-19/RK-70  
 Bid Date: September 17, 2019**

Subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to Paint, Drainage, Concrete, Waterproofing, Structural Steel, Field Office, Asbestos and Lead Abatement, Safety Boat, Bearings, CPM Scheduling, Civil General Contracting, Construction Engineering, Fencing, Fuel, Haul and Dispose, MPT, Office Trailer Fit Out, Signs, Surveying, and Trucking. Please see contract documents for further opportunities.

Interested firms please contact john.papagiannakis@skanska.com • EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled

**Tutor Perini**

INVITATION TO BID FOR M/WBE FIRMS

TUTOR PERINI CORPORATION, AN EEO EMPLOYER

IS CURRENTLY SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM QUALIFIED AND CERTIFIED M/WBE SUBCONTRACTORS, VENDORS, SERVICE PROVIDERS

**CBTC 8th Avenue Line (59th Street to High Street) “B” Division (IND) Project in the Boroughs of Manhattan and Brooklyn  
 MTA NYCT Contract No: S-48006  
 Bid Date: September 19, 2019**

ALL QUOTATIONS ARE DUE BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS Friday, September 13, 2019. For further information concerning subcontracting and/or purchasing opportunities, and to register as a subcontractor or vendor, please respond to solicitations@tutorperini.com or contact Jackie Cotto at 914-739-1908. Come and join our team!

**SKANSKA**

SKANSKA KOCH INC.

IS SOLICITING BIDS FROM MWBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS

**Rehabilitation of the Approach Viaducts at the Throgs Neck Bridge  
 MTA Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority Contract No: TN-53  
 Bid Date: September 26, 2019**

Subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to Paint, Drainage, Concrete, Rosphalt, Waterproofing, Structural Steel, Field Office, Asbestos and Lead Abatement, Safety Boat, Bearings, CPM Scheduling, Civil General Contracting, Construction Engineering, Fencing, Fuel, Haul and Dispose, MPT, Office Trailer Fit Out, Signs, Surveying, and Trucking. Please see contract documents for further opportunities.

Interested firms please contact john.papagiannakis@skanska.com • EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled

Advertise in our digital **EXTRA**

weekly or whenever wherever to whomever you need to reach among agencies contractors diversity firms

**SMALL BUSINESS EXCHANGE NORTHEAST**

Serving CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT, or any other states that you need to reach

**NORTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS**

**2019**

**Fee: Free; registration required**

Our workshop offers essential information to help you become your best salesperson. We will cover the basics of identifying your ideal customer and creating tools to help you make them your best referral partner. If being in business on your own is your goal, but this workshop is for you or do is a current roadblock, telling what you make for! Topics include: creating customer personas and profiles, identifying and segmenting ideal customers, meeting the customer where they are, and leveraging your unique value proposition to the ideal customer.

**Marketing Research Tools for Small Business**  
 Thursday, September 12, 2019, 10:00 am–12:00 pm  
 Rowan College at Burlington County, Mount Holly Campus, 1 High Street, Mount Holly, NJ  
 Main Sponsor(s): Union County Economic Development Corporation  
 Contact: Rogers Ramsey, 908-527-1166, rramsey@ucedc.com  
 Fee: Free; registration required  
 In this workshop, you will gain a practical understanding of marketing research techniques and tools. You will learn how to develop a marketing strategy by utilizing free resources to access customer demographics, spending habits, and possible trends in your industry. There will be particular emphasis on how to target your best potential customers and minimize wasted exposure, helping you deliver your products and services cost effectively. Discover how to put ReferenceUSA and DemographicsNOW to work for you. Learn how business librarians can help you with your specific research needs. Leave with tangible market research skills you can put into practice immediately.

**Creating a Customer, Not Just Making a Sale**  
 Monday, September 16, 2019, 6:00 pm–8:00 pm  
 SCORE Portland, 100 Middle Street, Portland, ME  
 Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration, SCORE Portland, SCORE Maine  
 Contact: Kelsey Munksgaard, 207-536-1143, scoremaine@gmail.com

**Small Business Lending Panel and Networking Session**  
 Wednesday, September 25, 2019, 9:00 am–1:00 pm  
 Pace University, One Pace Plaza, New York, NY  
 Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration, Pace University Small Business Development Center  
 Contact: 212-618-6655, sbdc@pace.edu  
 Fee: Free; registration required  
 Are you an existing small business owner or an aspiring entrepreneur in need of financing for your business? Then come meet small business lenders at this free forum hosted by the Pace University Small Business Development Center and the US Small Business Administration. The session will include a panel featuring small business lenders who will highlight what they look for when evaluating a loan application, their typical loan terms, and the documents needed to apply. Before and after the panel, attendees will have the opportunity to meet one-on-one with lenders to assess the source of capital that is best suited for your business needs. Whether you’re looking to expand your current operations or to launch a new venture, this session will provide practical strategies to finance your small business.