



Our Mission

The Daily Progress has served the Charlottesville community for 127 years, sticking to its mission as a government watchdog, informing the public of not only the stories of their neighbors, but of those in power. To continue that important work, we, the staff of The Daily Progress' newsroom, are organizing The Blue Ridge Guild with the Washington-Baltimore Local of The NewsGuild-CWA.

As the newspaper industry has grown, evolved and shrunk, The Progress has stayed true to its mission. But our current corporate owner, BH Media Group, has undermined our mission by cutting resources and staff, drastically increasing the workload for those who remain.

That's why we are uniting now to advocate for ourselves, our mission and The Progress' readers. We want to safeguard this region's daily news outlet and ensure this remains a vibrant and vigilant place for our readers.

In the face of cuts, we, The Progress staff, are proud of what we have accomplished. Every day, the reporters, photographers, editors, and support staff work to follow local meetings, public money, sports teams and daily life in Central Virginia.

We have risen to the occasion for this community from the beginning. When the Rotunda at the University of Virginia caught fire and burned in October 1895, The Progress was there. And when the eyes of the nation focused on this city in 2017, The Progress was there.

From its first home downtown, to Market Street to Rio Road, The Progress has been an integral part of this community. And we want it to stay that way.

We're proud of our work, but we don't want to come to work every day afraid that a coworker will be laid off or hear about another corporate change that will make it harder for us to do what we want to do — report the news and cover our communities.

We're asking BH Media and Lee Enterprises to voluntarily recognize our union with The NewsGuild-Communications Workers of America, so that we can get on with that work.

By getting a union contract, we will ensure that the staff of The Daily Progress is no longer just a cog in the BH Media system. We want to be treated like people, rather than just numbers. We deserve fair

wages, regular raises, severance and appropriate benefits. New employees and veterans alike should feel they have a long-term future in the Charlottesville area.

Ultimately, we want to stand up for our rights and enhance our ability to tell the stories of our communities.

We want a seat at the table.

Please join us,