

## Laband Exhibit 'Solidarity Forever' Surveys 50 Years of Labor Posters

*Solidarity Forever! Graphics of the International Labor Movement* will be on display at the Laband Art Gallery from Oct. 18 to Nov. 18. The free exhibition is the most recent in a series from Los Angeles' Center for the Study of Political Graphics and is drawn from their collection of more than 40,000 political posters and broadsides.

A public reception for the exhibition and its curator, Carol Wells, will take place on Saturday, Oct. 21, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Dunning Courtyard/Laband Art Gallery of the Fritz B. Burns Fine Art Center.

*Solidarity Forever!* mainly focuses on posters from the last 50 years, covering diverse urban and rural struggles, from farm workers and miners, to janitors and teachers. It will also feature select posters from the early 20th century, including the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), labor posters of the 1930s and labor's role during World War II. The exhibition concludes with international May Day posters, powerful expressions that strive for solidarity among the world's working peoples. According to curator Wells, who is also the executive director of the Center for the Study of Political Graphics, "organized labor in the United States has consistently produced more political graphics than any other domestic movement for social change. Most labor posters were produced in the midst of a strike or boycott and convey the urgency of the times."

Also included in *Solidarity Forever!* are commemorative posters marking the anniversary of a labor victory or a martyred labor leader such as IWW activist Joe Hill, who was executed by a firing squad in 1915. Adds Wells, "these graphics are meant to remind the viewer of forgotten, lesser known or even hidden periods in American history, and warn of injustices that still occur."

Although many of the posters are historical, a number of the issues in them remain current.

"In the global economy, the eight-hour days are vanishing," Wells



Posters on display at the Laband Art Gallery from Oct. 18-Nov. 18 will include "L.A. Should Work for Everyone" by Silvain, produced in Los Angeles in 1989; and "Guess Who Pockets the Difference?" by Common Threads Artist Group, produced in Los Angeles in 1995.

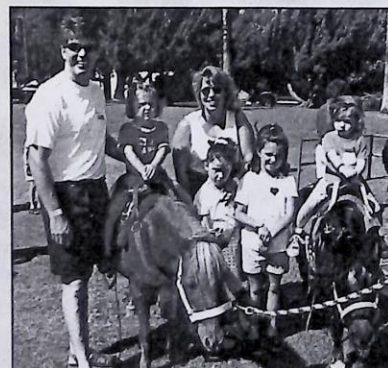


said. "Children are shouldering adult jobs. Pesticides threaten farm workers and consumers. Sweatshops are reappearing internationally and right here in Los Angeles. We hope that *Solidarity Forever!* gives gallery visitors a bit more to think about this election year."

Hours for the Laband Art Gallery are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday through Friday; noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

For information, call ext. 82880. The exhibit is made possible, in part, by a grant from the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department.

## Sizzlin' Times at the Annual Alumni Barbecue



Seventy-five alumni volunteers cooked, poured beer and passed out soft drinks at the annual Alumni Barbecue on Sept. 16. Volunteers (left) are joined by LMU President Robert B. Lawton, SJ, (center, white T-shirt). More than 1,400 people attended. Diversions for children included pony rides (right).