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**DOCUMENTARY ON HAWAII LABOR ACTIVIST  
SHOWCASES FIGHT FOR WORKING CLASS PEOPLE  
JACK HALL, HIS LIFE AND TIMES AIRS FEBRUARY 28 AT 8:30 P.M. ON PBS HAWAII**

*If I am to be remembered for anything in these islands, I want to be thought of as a rebel in paradise—just one of the guys who struck a spark for a flame that kept burning. We were able to keep it burning. Because of that, working people won dignity, self-respect and a chance to determine their own destinies.* **(Jack Hall, 1969)**

*Jack Hall, His Life and Times* is a one-hour documentary produced by the Center for Labor Education and Research (CLEAR) at UH West O'ahu and scheduled to air on the late labor activist's birthday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 p.m. on PBS Hawaii.

According to Executive Producer Chris Conybeare, the documentary is a story of how unity, purpose, and the simple desire to do good changed Hawaii forever.

Jack Hall devoted his life to improving the lives of working class people. He was a key figure in a group of individuals who changed the dynamics of the economic and political structure in the Hawaiian Islands through the trade union movement.

For well over two decades, as Regional Director of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (the ILWU), he steered Hawaii away from feudalism and paternalism bringing industrial democracy to the islands and providing labor an equal place at the table of economic power. With Hall at the helm, the ILWU not only brought about economic equality, but also stood behind progressive legislation, improved educational opportunities, better healthcare and more thoughtful urban planning.

While this documentary is a biography of Jack Hall, it is a story of the ILWU in Hawaii as well. "As we follow Hall's remarkable voyage from ordinary seaman to Regional Director of the ILWU in Hawaii, and to Vice-President at the ILWU International, we also follow the ILWU and retrace some of the most critical events in island labor history," said

Conybeare. "Hall's biography illuminates the sweeping story of class struggle, racial unity, trade union solidarity, political action and ultimate change."

Away from his public persona, Hall's private life reveals a complex man who was husband, father, friend, intellectual, gourmet cook and jazz aficionado.

Compelling interviews include those with Hall's family, friends, politicians, members of the early years of labor organizing in Hawaii, and labor historians. Shot entirely in Hawaii and San Francisco locations, exclusive archival film/photographs also depict early labor events including strikes, marches and speeches that convey a visceral sense of the times. In addition, on and off camera actors deliver primary source material including speeches, journals and letters by Jack Hall and others to tell the story. Jack Hall was a gifted speaker and journalist, and the documentary gives voice to his thoughts in his own words.

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This Fall, UH West O'ahu became a four-year, comprehensive university when it served its first class of freshmen. The University offers quality education, small classes and personalized attention at convenient locations. A new campus in the City of Kapolei is scheduled to serve students in Fall 2009. For more information about UH West O'ahu, visit [uhwo.hawaii.edu](http://uhwo.hawaii.edu) or call (808) 454-4700 or toll free (866) 299-8656.

CLEAR serves as the clearinghouse for labor education matters in the State of Hawaii and provides credit and non-credit labor studies courses, and labor-related research and educational services for workers and their organizations.