



Wednesday, April 16, 2025

From Wharf Rats to Lords of the Docks: The Life and Times of Harry Bridges

Join us for a deep dive into the fascinating journey of Harry Bridges, from humble beginnings as a wharf rat to becoming a legendary figure

Date and time

Wednesday, April 16 · 7 - 8:30pm PDT. Doors at 6:30pm

Location

Washington State History Museum
1911 Pacific Avenue Tacoma, WA 98402

About this event

- Event lasts 1 hour 30 minutes
- ALL AGES
- Free venue parking

From Wharf Rats to Lords of the Docks: The Life and Times of Harry Bridges

Come join us at the **Washington State History Museum** for an insightful event exploring the fascinating journey of Harry Bridges from wharf rat to influential dockworker leader. Discover the trials and triumphs of this legendary figure in labor history.

Featuring actor Ian Ruskin, **From Wharf Rats to Lords of the Docks** is a multi-media one-man play that tells the story of ILWU founding president Harry Bridges and his life's work, through his passions, struggles and his wicked sense of humor. With many of his own words - from childhood stories of Australia to waterfront speeches during the 1934 strike to confessions of loss during his divorces and bouts of drinking - it brings Harry to life as a visionary but very human man. This 65-minute story was written under the watchful eye of leading scholars, ensuring that it is accurate as well as entertaining. Ruskin has performed it over 300 times to 50,000 people at universities, colleges, theatres, union conventions, museums, libraries, and citizens' groups across America, in Canada, Hawai'i, England and Australia.

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to delve into the life and times of a true icon! This performance is made possible by the International Longshore and Warehouse Union and the Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies at the University of Washington.

Use QR Code to reserve a spot.

