



P: 202.743.6238
E: atlsolidarity@gmail.com
Twitter: [@theatlunion](https://twitter.com/theatlunion)

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PRESS RELEASE: THE NEWSROOM OF THE ATLANTIC FORMS UNION

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On Monday, the editorial staff at The Atlantic, a part of Atlantic Media, owned and published by Emerson Collective, announced the formation of a union. An overwhelming majority, 80 percent, of staff writers, copy editors, fact checkers, staff editors, art directors, engineers, and producers at the magazine and platform have signed cards authorizing union representation by The NewsGuild of New York, a local of the NewsGuild-CWA representing nearly 4,000 media professionals at several print and digital publications. The editorial staff requests voluntary recognition from management.

“For 163 years, The Atlantic has been an indispensable voice, and we want to keep it strong for the next 163 years by ensuring fairness and protection for the staff,” said staff writer David A. Graham. “Our supporters include some of our longest-tenured staffers and newest colleagues, from the entry level to veteran stars. We hope management will recognize us quickly so we can get to work negotiating a fair contract.”

“The best way to ensure transparency and worker protections in any workplace is with a union,” said staff writer Amanda Mull. “By unionizing, the newsroom is making a firm commitment to The Atlantic’s ability to develop, support, and retain talent. Our primary goal is to work with management to make this the best workplace possible.”

During a crisis year marked by instability and isolation, both in the world and in the industry, editorial employees at The Atlantic have faced layoffs, uncertainty and the immense burden of personal anxiety and grief, while also producing excellent journalism about that same crisis. The experience has galvanized those staff members in the effort to take collective action to protect their careers and to ensure The Atlantic’s future. For more information, the following members are available for interviews:

David A. Graham, Staff Writer: david.andrew.graham@gmail.com

Amanda Mull, Staff Writer: amull85@gmail.com

Regards,

Vann R. Newkirk II, Senior Editor: newkirkv@gmail.com

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ABOUT THE NEWSGUILD OF NEW YORK

The NewsGuild of New York, Local 31003 of the Communications Workers of America, is a labor union representing nearly 4,000 media professionals and other employees at New York area news organizations, including The New York Times, The New Yorker, Thomson Reuters, The Nation, BuzzFeed News, TIME, PEOPLE, Wirecutter, and The Daily Beast. The NewsGuild of New York advocates for journalists to have a voice in the newsroom, for press freedom, for inclusive and diverse workplaces, and for just cause, no exceptions, for all media professionals.