

**CONNECTICUT HUMANITIES COUNCIL AWARDS GRANT TO GNHLHA FOR
FIRST PHASE OF WINCHESTER WORKERS' EXHIBIT**

*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

The Connecticut Humanities Council has awarded a \$6000 planning grant to the Greater New Haven Labor History Association to prepare images for the Association's upcoming exhibit on workers at the old Olin-Winchester Plant in the Newhallville section of New Haven.

The images, including photographs and newspaper articles, will be digitized and re-mastered to exhibit quality by internationally acclaimed new media artist Cynthia Beth Rubin.

"The plant closed in 2006, but the stories of its workers throughout the 20th and early 21st centuries have yet to be told," said Labor History Association Director and Archivist Joan Cavanagh. "An entire culture developed within the plant among workers. Everyone in the community knew or was related to someone who worked there."

Labor History Association Board members Lula White, Dorothy Johnson, James Hoffecker and Mary Johnson have been conducting oral histories with retired Winchester workers since the early spring of this year. Information from those interviews will help create the text of the exhibit, which will be produced by the end of 2010.

The core of the exhibit will be based on photographs and documents from the International Association of Machinists Local 609 collection held in the Labor History Association's archives. Local 609 represented workers at the plant from 1956 until its closure. Images from earlier years as well as images of the workers' lives in the community will be culled from personal memorabilia. GNHLHA encourages anyone with relevant photographs, documents or newspaper articles to be in contact by calling 203-777-2756, ext. 2 or sending an email to joan@laborhistory.org. Please be in touch right away as we are in the process now of digitizing the images to be used and writing the text for the exhibit.