# Groundbreaking Labor Leader Vonda McDaniel Honored By Music City's Unions Community Leaders and Entertainment

*This year's Labor Day Parade marks the remembrance of Central Labor Council President Vonda McDaniel, attended by Nashville's Pro Union community*




NASHVILLE, TN, UNITED STATES, September 8, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- This Saturday Nashville's Labor Day Parade was in remembrance and honor of Vonda McDaniel, Central Labor Council President and community leader after her sudden passing last July.

Unions from IATSE SAGAFTRA SEIU AFLCIO and more across Central Tennessee, honored the first woman to rise from the USW's Women of Steel Initiative at Bridgestone. Vonda later parlayed her knowledge into organizing for union pension and insurance. Later elected President of the Central Labor Council. Finally elected as VP national AFL/CIO executive council and Tennessee delegate to the DNC national convention.

> From auto workers to actors
>
> north to south
> east to west
> your lives are better
> thanks to the advocacy and
> faith of Vonda McDaniels
> honored this Saturday,
> Nashville Labor Day parade"
>
> *Cynthia Basinet*

It is with thanks to Vonda's fearless activism, Music City Center adopted the apprentice program. She was a trusted advisor and confident to many elected leaders including Mayor Freddie O'Connell Metro Council at large and others.

The crowded parade reflected, Vonda's ability to reach beyond leadership, connecting labor, faith, civic life, and community justice

“Vonda lived with courage, conviction, compassion, and purpose. She believed in the power of ordinary people to make extra extraordinary change. She stood with workers, spoke truth to power, fought for racial and economic justice, mentor leaders, honored her church and community and carried forward a legacy of faith in action.

She will be remembered for her strength, her brilliance, her humor, her quiet power, here, fierce love of family and community and her unwavering beliefs that people are stronger when they stand together”

Marching were representatives from Governor candidate Jerri Green, Indigenous groups, politicians JR Clemens, Senator Charlene Oliver, marching for #StandTogether with famed crooner actress activist, Cynthia Basinet, political hopefuls Darden Copeland and his family



Senator Oliver and Cynthia Basinet

After Papa Bill addressed the jubilated crowd, Mayor Freddie O’Connell read the proclamation of Vonda McDaniel week lighting the bridge in her Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority colors.

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