

Wisconsin Rising

Directed and Produced by Sam Mayfield,
Green Valley Media, and E.W. Stetson

Wisconsin Rising documents the largest sustained workers' resistance movement in American history. Wisconsin was a testing ground for the nation in 2011 as big money attempted to undo basic workers' rights when newly elected Republican Governor Scott Walker suddenly stripped collective bargaining power from the state's public employees.

Wisconsin Rising catapults the viewer into the days, weeks, and months when Wisconsinites fought back against power, authority, and injustice. Happening months before the Occupy movement, Wisconsinites spontaneously occupied their state Capitol for weeks as never before seen in American History.

As the story unfolds, democracy itself is at stake. The government in Wisconsin looks like a circus, as Republicans invent new laws daily, restricting citizens'—and even elected officials'—access to the State House. Our cameras are rolling on March 9, 2011, when Republican Senators attempt to vote on the bill with no public notice as over ten thousand people pour into the Capitol, occupying its halls overnight. Dramatic footage shows Republican Senators fleeing the state capitol on a secret shuttle as thousands of Wisconsinites fill the State House and Capitol grounds in protest.

Collecting more than one million signatures, the people attempt to oust Scott Walker in a recall election. He is only the third governor in American history to face a recall election and is the first to survive.

What will the people of Wisconsin do in the face of these perceived injustices? How will the citizens rebuild and reorganize, and what can the rest of America learn from their actions?

DVD extras include interviews with Dennis Kucinich and Tom Morello.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

Sam Mayfield (Director, Producer, Camera) is a videographer, editor, and video journalist who has been documenting stories that remain untold by the commercial media since 2004. In 2011, Mayfield traveled to Wisconsin to cover the popular uprising against legislation gutting basic workers rights. She went for four days and ultimately stayed seven months, documenting this piece of American history as it unfolded in front of her.

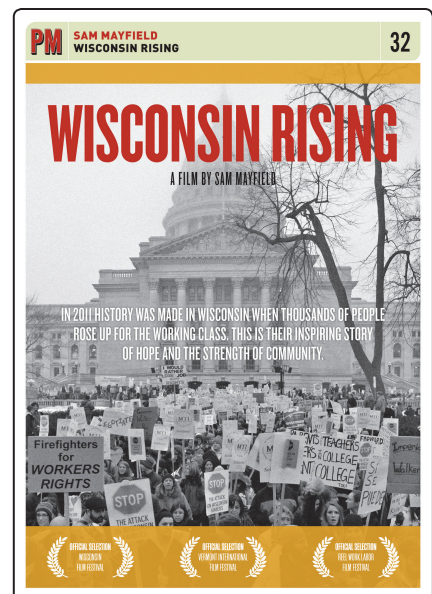
Green Valley Media (Executive Producer) has been documenting the culture of human rights since 1974.

E.W. Stetson (Executive Producer) has produced documentaries and features on topics ranging from environmental issues to affordable housing and many overlooked facets of U.S. political history.

ACCOLADES

"*Wisconsin Rising* is up-close and personal . . . and political. This slice of life, a moment in movement history, captures the struggles of the American Middle Class confronting the corrupting power of money over democracy. Don't miss it."

—Amy Goodman, *Democracy Now!*



SUBJECT CATEGORY

Labor Issues/Current Events

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P.O. Box 23912 • Oakland, CA 94623
www.pmpress.org
info@pmpress.org
(510) 658-3906

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