



Cultural education workers stand in solidarity with the Louvre strike !

Since December 15, workers at the Louvre Museum have been on strike in response to chronic staff shortages and a severe lack of resources, which have significantly worsened their working conditions. Members of the Cultural Education Workers branch of SUD-Culture Solidaires, a trade union representing cultural workers in France, wish to express their full and unconditional solidarity with the staff of the Louvre. We stand alongside them in their demands, which directly affect us as cultural workers who operate within the museum as external professionals (guides, lecturers, museum education and learning officers).

For many years, we have witnessed a continuous erosion of the mission of cultural democratization at the very heart of one of the world's most emblematic museums—an institution that should be protecting and promoting equal access to culture.

- The constant increase in workload for Louvre staff has led to widespread exhaustion and distress. As the museum is our shared workplace, we are also affected by this situation, which is increasingly visible to visitors.
- The long-term elimination of jobs has resulted in a situation that is now untenable: galleries are regularly closed, often at very short notice.
- The lack of investment in building maintenance, combined with the large-scale outsourcing of essential jobs (visitor services, cleaning, maintenance, security), forces us to work in conditions that sometimes fall short in terms of safety, hygiene, and basic functionality.
- The introduction of an unfair dual pricing system has created a loss of meaning for workers and placed additional pressure on staff responsible for access control and crowd management. More seriously still, discriminatory pricing policies undermine equality of access to culture and devalue our professions.



The withdrawal of state support for public institutions and the neoliberal policies of successive governments have imposed a system of supposed profitability that promotes the massification and commercialisation of culture. The widespread increase in museum prices and the introduction of an additional booking fee for small guided groups are a severe blow to professional guides and undermine equal access to guiding services, particularly for European visitors (who will see group rates rise to €28, while the admission ticket price remains at €22). We are thus witnessing a continuous deterioration in the conditions under which we carry out our work, in the face of increasing precariousness. These policies call into question the role of human to human cultural learning—both for in-house museum educators and for external cultural workers—despite the fact that our work is essential to interpreting heritage and ensuring access to cultural rights for all audiences.

We, cultural guides and education facilitators of SUD Culture, affirm our full solidarity with the staff of the Louvre Museum, whose daily work makes access to culture and heritage possible for people from all over the world.

We call for new public policies that protect cultural heritage and guarantee its transmission through a strong, accessible, and well-funded public cultural service.

Cultural workers—whether employees, civil servants, or freelance professionals—we are all facing the same struggle.



Strike Fund for Louvre Museum employees

Paris, January 29th 2026.