

## The Dragons Fire

### THE NATIONAL JERICHO MOVEMENT NEWSLETTER

in Fierce Determination Since 1996

Nov 15<sup>th</sup>-Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 2019, Vol. 21

<http://www.thejerichomovement.com>

P.O. Box 2164 Chesterfield, Virginia 23832



“When the prison doors are opened, the real dragon will fly out”

Ho Chi Minh

## Revolutionary Greetings,

Welcome to our National Jericho Movement Newsletter. Thank you to all of our members and affiliations who contribute critical information regarding our Political Prisoners/Prisoners of War as well as updates on activities, events and actions.

Moving forward, we stand in fierce determination and solidarity to free our remaining Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War still languishing behind the dungeon walls. Much work has been done by Jericho and other organizations, and there is still much more work to do.

With 20 years behind us and much work ahead, Jericho is growing and is taking on new projects and missions. Our shared vision is that we will reach a time in this country (and others) wherein there will be no more Political Prisoner's/Prisoners of War. We envision the day when they **all** will walk free and into their family's arms-who have been waiting for decades. We hope you join us in making this a reality.

*“Don't EVER think that for ONE moment we will ever forget our Political Prisoners who were executed, murdered, tortured, those who died from medical neglect, those who transitioned with hope still high in their hearts & spirits...and those STILL waiting for freedom...no, we will NOT forget, nor will we let you- friend, comrade, or...enemy...our duty is bound to justice & their freedom ...and we will never forget....”*

A.M.S

## **Jericho Movement's Current Work and Progress**

Jericho actively maintains direct connections with our Political Prisoners by visiting or writing them monthly. We also maintain contact and assists their families. We monitor health & legal status and provide support and intervention. We hold political education classes, table at events, travel to give presentations, interviews and speak on radio shows. We are actively involved in collaborating with and supporting other organizations and events which are in alignment with our missions and values to break down walls of injustice, racism, oppression and Free our Political Prisoners. Jericho meetings and teleconferences occurred during the month nationwide. The Jericho Movement has initiated as well as supported and participated in many rallies, events and calls to action this month. We are currently focusing on the campaign “In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela”, supporting our PP’s who are going for parole hearings and addressing several health and legal issues of our Political Prisoners. We are also tending to “end of the year” goals and deadlines, as well as pre-planning for a spring National Jericho conference.

**End of the Year Request! Please donate to The National Jericho Movement!**

<http://www.thejerichomovement.com>

### **Steering Committee:**

Jihad Abdulmumit: Chair  
 Adam Carpinelli: Secretary  
 Aisha Mohammad: Fund Raising Coordinator  
 Ashanti Alston: Treasurer

### **Advisory Committee:**

Paulette Dauteuil  
 Kazi Toure  
 Jorge Chang  
 Anne Lamb

### **Revolutionary Greetings!**

Dear Supporters,

We will begin our 22nd year as one of the most comprehensive organizations focused on seeking relief, freedom and amnesty for all US held Political Prisoners. The National Jericho Amnesty Movement grew out of a call for a national march on the White House during Spring Break of 1998 by political prisoner Jalil Muntaqim. The March 27, 1998 demonstration was just the beginning of a whole new commitment to support these political prisoners and demand recognition and amnesty for them. There are hundreds of people who went to prison as a result of their work on the streets against oppressive conditions like indecent housing and inadequate or complete lack of medical care, lack of quality education, police brutality and the murder of people organizing for independence and liberation. These people belonged to organizations like the Black Panther Party, La Raza Unida, FALN, Los Macheteros, North American Anti-Imperialist Movement, May 19th, AIM, the Black Liberation Army, etc., and were incarcerated because of their political beliefs and acts in support of and/or in defense of freedom.

Forward 22 years: The Jericho Organizing Committees that came into being around this work continues

educate people about the existence of these political prisoners. We will not allow our political prisoners to be behind prison walls with no support. The Jericho Movement continues to build a movement that leaves no political prisoner in prison who struggles against racism, classism, and all forms of oppression.

### **Uniquely Jericho -**

1. Actively maintains direct connection with each political prisoner by visiting and writing them;
2. Provides financial assistance to them and their families as needed;
3. Advocates for their increasing medical needs, particularly as everyone gets older;
4. Works on amnesty and clemency campaigns – legal and political;
5. Educates people and communities across the United States with the strategic objective of building a mass movement to free all political prisoners, stop political incarcerations, end mass incarcerations, and close down special housing and isolation units;
6. Builds working alliances and coalitions with other like-minded people and organizations;
7. Establishes open communication with political prisoners so that they have a direct say in the direction of the organization

We are in this struggle together.

We hope you will consider donating to the National Jericho Movement once again. Your donation will help assist our now aging Political Prisoners who have a myriad of health problems, legal battles, and basic needs. Looking towards 2020 and beyond—we anticipate new educational and service programs, increased Political Prisoner funding needs, hosting many more community events as well as seeking to create a War Chest for ongoing support.

During 2019, our Chair, Jihad Abdulmumit and other Jericho members attended events and speaking engagements to educate communities on the dire situation of our Political Prisoners. We also traveled to support other organizations in their similar missions as we believe that unification is what gives us all strength and ultimately-victory.

Thanks to our generous supporters, families were able to visit their loved ones in prison. Our Political Prisoners received food boxes each month, we were able to contribute financially to those who were released, we paid for monthly mass mailings, renting venues for community meetings, assisted with medical and legal costs and much more. Your support is critical to the well-being, care, and eventual freedom of our Political Prisoners who are now elders.

Will you support our Political Prisoners with a generous end of the year donation?

### **Free all Political Prisoners!**

In Struggle and Gratitude,

National Jericho Movement

\_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$75 \_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_ \$ Other \_\_\_

### **Ways to donate:**

Our Website: <https://thejerichomovement.com/donate>,

**OR For tax deductible receipt, send donations to:**

Alliance for Global Justice.

Please make the check out to:

“The National Jericho Movement”

Subject Line: Jericho. Mail to: David Archuleta 225 E. 26<sup>th</sup>, Street, Suite 1 Tucson, Arizona 85713

**Please make non-deductible donations to:**

National Jericho Treasury

Please make check out to: Jericho Treasury/Michael Alston

Mail to: Ashanti Alston, 162 Miller Ave., Providence, R.I. 02905

Thank you for your Continued Support!

## Jericho Highlights and Tributes

### NYC Jericho Holiday Party 12/13/19

Please join NYC Jericho and Friends for our annual Holiday Party!!

**SAVE THE DATE**





**JOIN NYC JERICHO FOR A WINTER  
SOLSTICE HOLIDAY PARTY TO FREE ALL  
POLITICAL PRISONERS AND PPOWS!**

**FREE ALL  
POLITICAL  
PRISONERS**

**WHAT: END-OF-YEAR HOLIDAY PARTY!**

**WHEN: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2019, 6:00PM-9:00PM**

**WHERE: THE PEOPLE'S FORUM,  
320 W. 37TH STREET (BTWN 8TH & 9TH AVE.)  
NEW YORK, NY 10018**

**WHY: CELEBRATE VICTORIES, REMEMBER ANCESTORS,  
AND STRENGTHEN THE MOVEMENT!  
ENJOY REFRESHMENTS, CAMRADERIE,  
RAFFLE PRIZES & CHEER!**

**CONTACT: NYCJERICHO@GMAIL.COM**

**EAT ♥ DRINK ♥ BE MERRY**

We are having a holiday party and fundraiser on Fri, Dec. 13th at the People's Forum with Cultural Warrior Ngoma and others.

NYC Jericho also sent money to Joy Powell for her December commissary. We visited her on Saturday, November 30th, and plan to visit her again on Sunday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>. Jalil's mom Billie was able to come for a visit with her son in November. It was Billie's birthday, so we also had the pleasure of having a birthday dinner with her! Happy birthday Billie! Love and Rage!

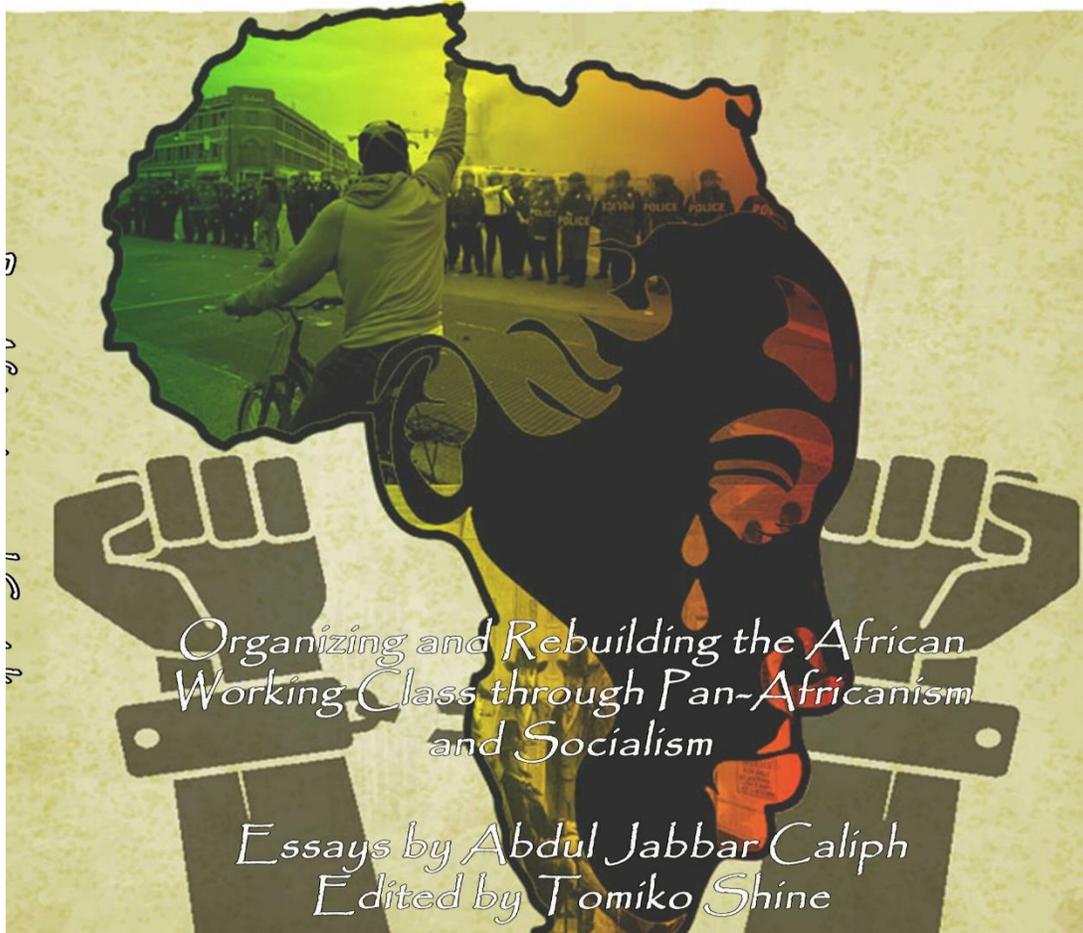


Nora Carroll, Sharon Shoatz, Billie Jo, Anne L, Ann J, Brooke at dinner in Monticello



## Announcement

**Abdul Jabbar Caliph's Book will soon be Released!**



### **Chairman's Corner**

Please check Back Next Month

### **Political Prisoners/Prisoners of War**

#### **POLITICAL PRISONER OF THE MONTH**

Please Check Back Next Month

## Medical Updates

**Russell Maroon Shoatz:** “We’re reaching out to update our global network with the latest news on Maroon’s health, and to ask for your continued support as we aim to ensure that he’s as well taken care of as possible. As you all are likely aware, Maroon was diagnosed with Stage 4 colorectal cancer this past summer, and since recovering from surgery, has begun an intensive chemotherapy regiment.”

**Imam Jamil Al Amin:** Medical Alert: We have been informed by Imam Jamil (H Rap Brown) that he is suffering from cataracts and is being denied immediate treatment to relieve him of this burden-by newafrikan77

## Legal Updates

### Jalil Muntaqim



“Jalil Muntaqim was given a 12-month hit by the NYS Parole Board. This was a unanimous decision by the Board, despite the fact that Jalil has been in prison since August 28, 1971

As many of you know, Jalil has been to the parole board twelve times since 2002, when he first become parole eligible.

Jalil has been denied each time for a variety of reasons, all of which

are tantamount to the nature of the crime—something that will never change.

Pursuant to NYS Constitutional Article IV, Section 4, Jalil has filed an Application to Commute the Sentence to Time Served with NYS Governor Andrew M. Cuomo. Governor Cuomo has the authority to grant the Application and order Jalil’s immediate release from NYS DOCCS custody.

Since the Application’s submission it has been revealed that the NYS Board of Parole had a “secret deal” with the NYC Police Benevolent Association (PBA), permitting them to submit opposition letters directly to the Board of Parole from their website. These opposition letters negatively influenced the decision-making process, ensuring Jalil would not receive a fair and impartial parole hearing. During Jalil’s 2014 parole hearing, he was told that “current and former members of law enforcement” were parole commissioners, many of whom decided to deny his release.

On December 4th & 5th, 2016, The New York Times published an extensive exposé entitled “The Scourge of Racial Bias in New York States Prisons” that informed: “The racism can be felt from the moment a black inmate enters New York’s upstate prisons.” This implacable racism has been institutionalized in the entire parole system, permitting subjective biases of parole commissioners to influence parole decisions.

Since the submission of the Application to Commute the Sentence to Time Served, Governor Cuomo has received many letters and communications urging him to grant Jalil’s Application. However, due to the revelation of political collusion between the Board of Parole and the PBA, and the PBA/media backlash and scrutiny of the Parole Board’s release of Jalil’s co-defendant, it has become necessary to launch this initiative in support of Jalil’s Application.

Jalil exceeds all requirements for release. His release on parole has been supported by activists,

academics and community leaders from across the country and around the world, including Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the family of one of the victims. The political nature of his conviction has prevented parole commissioners from giving fair and impartial consideration to his release, despite the overwhelming community support.

#### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During his 48+ years of his imprisonment, Jalil has accomplished the following: Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology, Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology, Certificate of Architectural Drafting, Certificate of Computer Literacy.

He has established many programs, such as the first Men's Group for therapeutic training in the NY State prison system, an African/Black Studies program, a computer literacy class, a Sociology class and a poetry class. He has received two commendations for preventing prison riots. He has raised money for the children's fund, was office manager of the computer lab and a teacher's aide for GED classes. Jalil is also the recipient of several certificates for rehabilitation programming, and is a published author, poet, educator and blogger.

As a human rights advocate, he had the first U.S. prisoners national petition heard and recorded by a Special Committee at the United Nations on U.S. prisons and the existence of U.S. political prisoners. He has litigated several civil rights complaints on behalf of prisoners. In 2000, Essence magazine featured an article on father-daughter relationships. The article, entitled "Daddy Says," quoted Jalil stressing the importance of maintaining these relations even during incarceration.

We request that people do the following for Jalil throughout the months of November and December: We are requesting that Friends and Supporters call, tweet, email and write NYS Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's office and appeal to him to grant Jalil's Application to Commute the Sentence to Time Served.

We also request that this initiative be widely posted on social media platforms, encouraging freedom loving people around the world to join in this initiative.

Since this will be ongoing throughout the months of November and December, we propose that people tweet and/or email Governor Cuomo every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and call and write the Governor every Tuesday and Thursday."

Communications to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's office must refer to Jalil as: ANTHONY JALIL BOTTOM, 77A4283, Sullivan Correctional Facility, P.O. Box 116, Fallsburg, New York 12733-0115.

Write the Governor:

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor of the State of New York  
Executive Chamber

State Capital Building  
Albany, New York 12224

Call the Governor: 1-518-474-8390

Tweet the Governor: @NYGovCuomo

Email the Governor: <https://www.governor.ny.gov/content/governor-contact-form>

For more information concerning Jalil's case, check his

website: [www.freejalil.com](http://www.freejalil.com) and <https://thejerichomovement.com/>

**Dr. Mutulu Shakur:** "2019 was once again an eventful year for long-term political prisoner Dr. Mutulu Shakur: The habeas petition on behalf of Dr. Shakur, challenging the government's interpretation and application of U.S. law by the U.S. Parole Commission that has unjustly held Dr. Shakur past his max release date, continues to work its way through the courts. This lawsuit filed by the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law, the Post-Conviction Justice Project (USC Gould

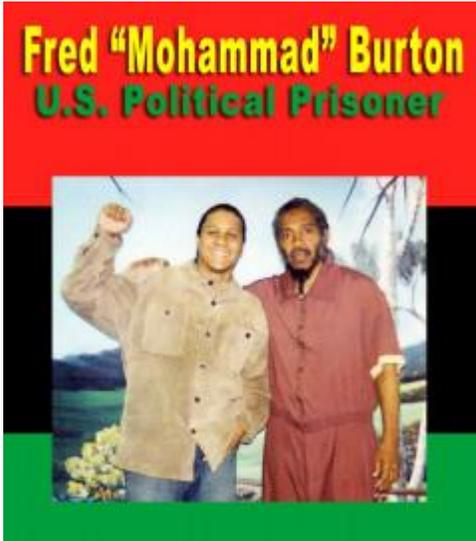
School of Law), the National Conference of Black Lawyers, and the National Bar Association early this year, was then amended in July.” “The habeas petition on behalf of Dr. Shakur, challenging the government's interpretation and application of U.S. law by the U.S. Parole Commission that has unjustly held Dr. Shakur past his max release date, continues to work its way through the courts. This lawsuit filed by the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law, the Post-Conviction Justice Project (USC Gould School of Law), the National Conference of Black Lawyers, and the National Bar Association early this year, was then amended in July. We will update via Facebook, Twitter and Instagram as it works its way through the courts.” See <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2307112286>

## Birthdays

**Please send a card!**

### December Birthdays

**Fred "Muhammad" Burton: Birthday December 15**



Contact Information/Prison Address

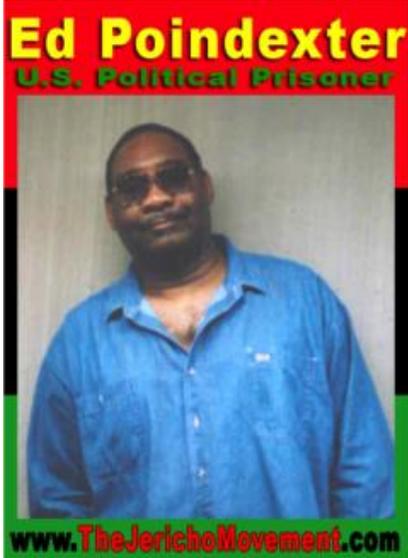
Smart Communications/PA DOC Burton, Fred "Muhammad" AF 3896

SCI Somerset, Post Office Box 33028, St Petersburg, FL 33733

United States <http://www.advocateforjustice.net/SupportFreedomForFrederickBurton.html>

### November Birthdays

**Ed Poindexter: Birthday November 1, 1944**



**BLACK PANTHER PARTY**

Contact Information/Prison Address

#27767--Nebraska State Penitentiary, P.O. Box 2500, Lincoln, NE 68542

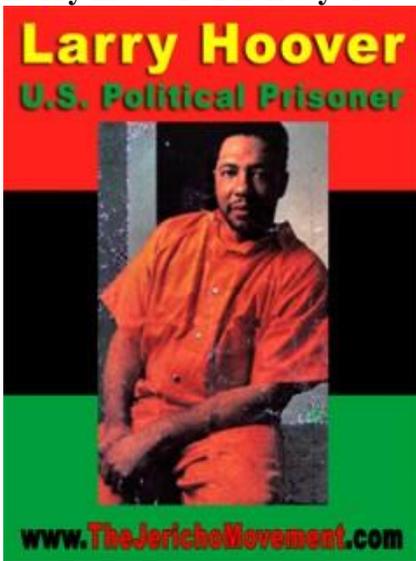
Affiliation: Black Panther Party, Captured: 1971-life. Denied parole 4 times.

“A breakthrough in Poindexter’s case could have important ramifications for Mondo we Langa (formerly known as David Rice, gone to the ancestors), who exhausted his appeals thirty years ago.

Amnesty International has classified Mondo we Langa and Ed Poindexter -- known as the Omaha Two at the time of their trial in 1971 -- as “prisoners of conscience.”

nebraskansforjustice.org/ and <http://n2pp.info> and <http://omahatwo.wordpress.com> Author

**Larry Hoover: Birthday: November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1950**



Contact Information/Prison Address

#86063-024-Florence ADMAX, P.O. Box 8500,, Florence, CO 81226

Captured: 1973 –150 years

Excerpt from 1993 Call For Peace: "...And finally, in my sincere appeal for peace and unity: Those of us that have experienced being our brothers' keeper — We must educate our members around us. Education brings about awareness. Awareness generates the ability to think. Our youth must know the end result of crime is shame, disgrace, and imprisonment to themselves, as well as the community. We must come to the point of outlawing those who willfully disrupt our communities and our call for peace and unity. " <http://newafrikan77.wordpress.com/>

**The National Jericho Movement sends our Beloved PP's/POW's  
Love, Respect, and Honor as we Celebrate your Birthday  
with Continued hope and Determination for Freedom...Now!**



## **Political Prisoners/POWs (Past & Present) Art, Writings, Statements, Interviews**

### **Leonard Peltier's 2019 Thanksgiving Message: "Walking on Stolen Land"**

by Levi Rickert Published November 23, 2019

"COLEMAN, FLORIDA – Leonard Peltier, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, who is incarcerated at the U.S. Penitentiary in Coleman, Florida, for his 1977 conviction in connection with a shootout with U.S. government forces, where two FBI agents and one young American Indian lost their lives. Peltier, who is considered a political prisoner of war by many, released this statement on Thanksgiving through the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee:

"The year of 2019 is coming to a close and with it, comes the day most Americans set aside as a day for Thanksgiving. As I let my mind wander beyond the steel bars and concrete walls, I try to imagine what the people who live outside the prison gates are doing, and what they are thinking. Do they ever think of the Indigenous people who were forced from their homelands? Do they understand that with every step they take, no matter the direction, that they are walking on stolen land? Can they imagine, even for one minute, what it was like to watch the suffering of the women, the children and babies and yes, the sick and elderly, as they were made to keep pushing west in freezing temperatures, with little or no food? These were my people and this was our land. There was a time when we enjoyed freedom and

were able to hunt buffalo and gather the foods and sacred medicines. We were able to fish and we enjoyed the clean clear water! My people were generous, we shared everything we had, including the knowledge of how to survive the long harsh winters or the hot humid summers. We were appreciative of the gifts from our Creator and remembered to give thanks on a daily basis. We had ceremonies and special dances that were a celebration of life.

With the coming of foreigners to our shores, life as we knew it would change drastically. Individual ownership was foreign to my people. Fences?? Unheard of, back then. We were a communal people and we took care of each other. Our grandparents weren't isolated from us! They were the wisdom keepers and story tellers and were an important link in our families. The babies? They were and are our future! Look at the brilliant young people who put themselves at risk, fighting to keep our water and environment clean and safe for the generations yet to come. They are willing to confront the giant, multi-national corporations by educating the general public of the devastation being caused. I smile with hope when I think of them. They are fearless and ready to speak the truth to all who are willing to listen. We also remember our brothers and sisters of Bolivia, who are rioting, in support of the first Indigenous President, Evo Morales. His commitment to the people, the land, their resources and protection against corruption is commendable. We recognize and identify with that struggle so well. So today, I thank all of the people who are willing to have an open mind, those who are willing to accept the responsibility of planning for seven generations ahead, those who remember the sacrifices made by our ancestors so we can continue to speak our own language, practice our own way of thankfulness in our own skin, and that we always acknowledge and respect the Indigenous lineage that we carry.

For those of you who are thankful that you have enough food to feed your families, please give to those who aren't as fortunate. If you are warm and have a comfortable shelter to live in, please give to those who are cold and homeless, if you see someone hurting and in need of a kind word or two, be that person who steps forward and lends a hand. And especially, when you see injustice anywhere, please be brave enough to speak up to confront it.

I want to thank all who are kind enough to remember me and my family in your thoughts and prayers. Thank you for continuing to support and believe in me. There isn't a minute in any day that passes without me hoping that this will be the day I will be granted freedom. I long for the day when I can smell clean fresh air, when I can feel a gentle breeze in my hair, witness the clouds as their movement hides the sun and when the moon shines the light on the path to the sacred Inipi. That would truly be a day I could call a day of Thanksgiving.

Thank you for listening to whomever is voicing my words. My Spirit is there with you.

Doksha,

In the Spirit of Crazy Horse,

Leonard Peltier

Editor: Levi Rickert, a tribal citizen of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, is the publisher and editor of Native News Online. Previously, he served as editor of the Native News Network. He is a resident of Grand Rapids, Michigan."

## **Maroon Discusses Chemotherapy Treatment**

"Maroon recently shared with us this written update amidst a round of chemotherapy:

I've been at SCI-Fayette in Southwest Pennsylvania since August, being kept in the prison's infirmary, only allowed out of my room for two hours in the morning, afternoon, and evening, with no outside exercise. My family had to struggle for me to have visits in the visiting room, because I've long had a prison-imposed "escape risk" separation from another prisoner here. We also had to struggle to get

approval for me to wear long sleeves under the short-sleeve jumpsuit they make all prisoners wear in the visiting room, as the chemotherapy causes me to be cold.

I underwent three chemo sessions and will have a fourth tomorrow, on November 12th. I'm prescribed three-day sessions every three weeks, for six months, which is to be followed by a test at an outside hospital to judge the results of the treatment. The side effects leave me "beat up" for two weeks every month.



In Solidarity,  
Maroon"

This is the place Pennsylvania state prisoners are concentrated to receive chemotherapy. Can you believe the prison has been cited for its extreme toxicity, due to being built over or next to mounds of coal waste?!

Lawyers of the Abolitionist Law Center (ALC) exposed it in a powerful piece, and I'm fortunate to have the ALC assisting us in our multi-pronged healthcare struggle. As of a few days ago, MOVE political prisoner Chucky Africa was transferred here and placed two doors from me. He also is battling very serious health issues!

My family and I continue to be grateful for the outpouring of well wishes and support!

## Community Calls for Action

**HANDS OFF GAZA!**  
**BAY AREA RISE UP & MAKE NOISE**

**WE WILL NOT BE FREE  
UNTIL GAZA IS FREE**

**SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 16TH  
@1PM**  
**ISRAELI CONSULATE  
(456 MONTGOMERY ST,  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94104)**

CALLLED FOR BY THE PALESTINE ACTION NETWORK

**Nov. 16:**  
**Emergency  
Protest - Hands  
Off Gaza!** Israeli  
Consulate -456  
Montgomery  
Street, San  
Francisco, CA  
In just a few days,  
Israel has killed at  
least 34  
Palestinians in  
Gaza. Join us this  
Saturday at the  
Israeli Consulate  
(456  
Montgomery  
Street) at 1:00  
PM in protest of  
Israel's crimes."

“Please RSVP and share the Facebook event! <https://www.facebook.com/events/920440765002758/>

**Support the Nina Droz Franco GoFundMe Account!**

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/nina-quiere-retomar-su-vida...>

Puerto Rican Political Prisoner Nina Droz Franco needs our support! Transitioning into civilian life isn't easy!



Photo from <https://www.prolibertad.org/>

Give a donation! Help her get back on her feet! See: <https://www.prolibertad.org/>

**Get on the Bus: Join us in Albany on January 14<sup>th</sup>- Release Aging People in Prison**

“Have you RSVP'd yet for our big Day of Action in Albany on January 14th? We are just over one month away from marching, rallying, and meeting with legislators to demand an end to death-by-incarceration sentences and to promote parole justice.

“Nearly 250 people have already RSVP'd. We want at least 250 more so that our presence is felt throughout the Capitol in Albany. Invite your friends and networks and share the flyer far and wide.”

We will march, rally, and meet with legislators in support of our work to end death-by-incarceration and promote parole justice.”

For More info and to RSVP, please see <http://bit.ly/35dlul> “

RSVP today using this form”

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfKzDBaAUapDjy61yEVBsoH6jcskotOwSiEcBZ2Cf3dNL62RQ/viewform>

nycaic.org

rappcampaign.com

## Human Rights Day Harlem Town Hall to #HALTsolitary & #FreeOurElders

**Tuesday, December 10, 6-8 pm**

Raw Space Gallery  
2031 Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Blvd

December 10 is Human Rights Day. Join us to learn about grassroots and legislative efforts to end the human rights atrocities taking place behind the prison and jail walls, including death by incarceration and the torture of solitary confinement. Find out how you can join this movement to end solitary, and pass Elder Parole, and Fair and Timely Parole, more!



## BRING THEM HOME!

END DEATH-BY-INCARCERATION SENTENCES &  
PROMOTE PAROLE JUSTICE



**DAY OF ACTION AT NYS CAPITOL IN ALBANY**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2020**

RSVP HERE: [HTTP://BIT.LY/35ZDLUL](http://bit.ly/35ZDLUL)

**FREE TRANSPORTATION & FOOD PROVIDED**

QUESTIONS?  
CONTACT ROSIE RIOS:  
[RMR2198@COLUMBIA.EDU](mailto:RMR2198@COLUMBIA.EDU)

PAROLE  
PREPARATION  
PROJECT  
A PROJECT OF THE NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD  
NEW YORK CITY CHAPTER



### Commutation Campaign to Gov Cuomo for Jalil Muntaqim

We request that people do the following for Jalil throughout the months of November and December: We are requesting that Friends and Supporters call, tweet, email and write NYS Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's office and appeal to him to grant Jalil's Application to Commute the Sentence to Time Served. We also request that this initiative be widely posted on social media platforms, encouraging freedom loving people around the world to join in this initiative. Since this will be ongoing throughout the months of **November and December**, we propose that people tweet and/or email Governor Cuomo every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and call and write the Governor every Tuesday and Thursday. Communications to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's office must refer to Jalil as: ANTHONY JALIL BOTTOM, 77A4283, Sullivan Correctional Facility, P.O. Box 116, Fallsburg, New York 12733-0115. Write the Governor:

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, Executive Chamber  
State Capital Building, Albany, New York 12224

Call the Governor: 1-518-474-8390

Tweet the Governor: @NYGovCuomo

Email the Governor: <https://www.governor.ny.gov/content/governor-contact-form>



## **Jalil also requests that the following article be included in his campaign:**

**“I-Team: Gov. Cuomo's Program for More Clemency Applications Appears to Stall, As Prisoners Wait and Hope for a Second Chance** By Melissa Russo and Hilary Weissman

Published Nov 1, 2019 at 10:50 PM |

Updated at 8:51 AM EST on Nov 3, 2019

Hundreds of lawyers volunteered to help

convicts serving long sentences apply for clemency after Gov. Cuomo put out the call in 2017, but now those lawyers say the New York governor has failed to act on any of their cases. There have been 107 applications for clemency filed through a partnership, of which Cuomo has acted on none. NBC New York’s Melissa Russo reports. (Published Friday, Nov 1, 2019)

### **WHAT TO KNOW**

1. Gov. Cuomo's program to help more prisoners apply for clemency in NY appears to be stalled, leaving prisoners waiting for a second chance
2. In 2017, Cuomo asked lawyers to volunteer to identify prisoners worthy of mercy, and assist them in making their best case
3. More than two hundred lawyers stepped up, but after two years and 107 clemency applications filed, Cuomo hasn't taken action on any of them

Governor Andrew Cuomo’s program to help more prisoners apply for clemency in New York State appears to be stalled and the Governor’s office is declining to explain why.

In 2017, Cuomo asked lawyers to volunteer to help identify prisoners worthy of his mercy and assist them in making their best case for a shortened sentence.

More than two hundred lawyers stepped up. But two years and thousands of pro bono hours later, Governor Cuomo has neither approved nor denied any of the 107 clemency applications filed through the program. “It’s discouraging. We’ve put a lot of resources into it.” said Norman Reimer, executive director of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, which partnered with Families Against Mandatory Minimums and the State at the Governor’s request.

“We put people away for ridiculous amounts of time, often for mistakes they made when they were very young,” Reimer added. Lawyers involved in the NACDL/FAMM project tell News 4 because there has been no action in these cases, they are reluctant to take on new prisoners. More than 1,600 prisoners are currently waiting to be assigned attorneys through the project.

“The idea that you can’t find a single one of those to grant is inconceivable to me. There’s just no greater feeling than giving somebody freedom,” said NYU Law Professor Rachel Barkow and author of “Prisoners of Politics.” The power to commute a prisoner’s sentence rests solely with the Governor. NACDL says the Cuomo administration has been highly cooperative, producing records and helping to vet cases. Cuomo administration insiders familiar with the clemency review process say the problem is not that these cases are being ignored. Sources with first hand knowledge say the cases submitted by NACDL/FAMM were carefully reviewed by a team of attorneys inside the office of the Counsel to the Governor. They say the team identified a group of worthy candidates for a possible mid-year clemency grant this past Spring, but the Governor did not act. Timing, they speculated, may have played a role, citing pushback from some law enforcement groups for Cuomo’s role in the early release of Judith Clark in May 2019. Clark was the getaway driver in the deadly 1981 Brink’s robbery and the Governor commuted her sentence to make her eligible for early parole.

One person who has discussed the project at length with the Governor’s senior staff described a sense

that politically speaking, “the bang was not worth the buck.”

Several sources familiar with the internal review process say the Governor’s office may have been taken aback by the large number of applications lawyers submitted on behalf of prisoners who committed violent felonies. These cases are more politically sensitive for a governor, because it is not uncommon for district attorneys, law enforcement groups and family members of victims to oppose early release. But Norman Reimer says if the severity of the crimes is the reason for Cuomo’s inaction, that’s not how the governor’s office promised to approach this process.

“What I like about Governor Cuomo’s initiative is he didn’t limit it based on the nature of the crime,” said Reimer. “We pressed that issue and it was an affirmative decision by them to let the person’s record of rehabilitation speak the loudest, even in violent crimes.”

Governor Cuomo’s office did not respond to repeated requests for an explanation for his inaction on the NACDL/FAMM cases, nor for a breakdown of the clemency grants he has issued.

According to public reports, Cuomo has commuted at least 18 sentences in almost nine years, including three in 2018. Barkow says compared with some other Democratic governors, Cuomo has used his executive clemency powers sparingly. Gavin Newsom of California commuted the sentences of 23 prisoners since September of this year, including prisoners involved in violent felonies.

Under the guidelines for Cuomo’s clemency program, a prisoner must have served more than half of his or her sentence, demonstrated rehabilitation, remorse, personal growth, strong prospects for safe re-entry to the community and be more than a year away from parole eligibility.

Dominic Dupont, who served 20 years of a 25-to-life term for killing a man while defending his twin brother, was one of the prisoners to whom Cuomo afforded clemency in recent years.

“I think that the Governor can do more. I really do,” said Dupont. “There are other people who are deserving of a second chance. And I think the Governor recognized that when he made that statement to the press and got these lawyers together.” Dupont says he’s eternally grateful for the life-changing mercy Cuomo showed him, adding that he does not feel awkward about pressuring Governor Cuomo to sharpen his clemency pen. Dupont has joined a public clemency campaign by the group New Yorkers United for Justice. Dupont called it “a legitimate question” when asked whether he thinks Cuomo intentionally raised expectations about clemency grants before entering his 2018 reelection cycle without a real commitment to action.

In last year’s primary, the progressive wing of the Democratic party hammered Cuomo for what they considered insufficient criminal justice reforms. “The people who care about these issues want to see real results,” said Professor Barkow. “They want to see that people are walking the walk and not just kind of throwing talk out there.” As for Cuomo’s record on justice issues like clemency and marijuana legalization, Barkow added “It seems like the pattern is to wait and just make sure where the political winds are blowing.” See <https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/Gov-Cuomo-Program-for-More-Clemency-Applications-Appears-to-Stall-Prisoners-Wait-for-Second-Chance-564261291.html?amp=y>

For more information concerning Jalil’s case, check his website: [www.freejalil.com](http://www.freejalil.com) and <https://thejerichomovement.com/>

### **Parole Prep Welcome Home Party and Fundraiser on Nov. 21st**

“On November 21st at 7pm at Riverside Church, we’ll celebrate the homecoming of more than 30 Parole Preparation Project applicants, many of whom spent decades in prison. Please join us for this momentous occasion! We’ll laugh, cry, eat good food and stay up late. Tickets start at \$25. We also have sponsorship options at three levels: \$1,000 (three tickets), \$2,500 (five tickets) and \$5,000 (ten tickets and a special shout out). If you can’t join us, you can donate tickets to former Project applicants and their families. See you next week!” Parole Preparation Project, 6th Annual Welcome Home Party and Fundraiser Thursday, November 21st at 7pm, Riverside Church, South Hall\*, 490 Riverside Drive,

New York, NY 10027 <https://ticketbud.com/events/6445369c-d4a0-11e9-8432-42010a717007>

**Emergency! Comrade Malik calls for our help: ‘Don’t allow the feds to assassinate me!’  
November 18, 2019 by Comrade Malik, aka Keith Washington**

“Revolutionary greetings, comrades!

There is no such thing as coincidence when you are an outspoken servant of the people. Everything happens for a reason.

When I embraced this life as a freedom fighter and whistleblower, I knew there would come a time when the oppressors would place me in harm’s way and then feign ignorance.

I think it’s time we all got more serious about protecting our most advanced political elements.

Whether it be Kevin “Rashid” Johnson or Sean Swain, we must protect our comrades who are trapped inside these razor wire plantations!

Dare to struggle, Dare to win. All Power to the People!

Send our brother some love and light: Keith H. Washington, 34481-037, USP Beaumont, P.O. Box 26030, Beaumont, TX 77720.”

“What does Malik mean?

On Nov. 17, supporters learned of this cryptic message (transcribed word for word above), which Malik headlined “Don’t allow the feds to assassinate me!” Although he gives us no clue to exactly what is happening to him, those words are clear: Comrade Malik fears for his life. His life is indispensable to the burgeoning movement to “End prison slavery,” words he made famous, and he deserves a response by all justice-loving people. To try to understand what Comrade Malik – Keith “Malik” Washington – is writing between the lines, here’s a reminder of recent events in the life of one of the most effective and popular prisoner advocates in the country, who has volunteered to come to San Francisco upon his release to become Bay View editor. Malik was unexpectedly paroled in August after 12 years in Texas prisons and transferred to the federal Bureau of Prisons to serve the final 18 months of an old sentence. Upon his assignment to USP Beaumont, known as “Bloody Beaumont” for the frequency of violent assaults and murders, he was set up for a vicious beating, thrown in the “hole” (solitary confinement) and held incommunicado for more than a month. Only in the last few days has any of his mail to supporters been received. The reason Malik names fellow prisoners Kevin “Rashid” Johnson, minister of defense of the New Afrikan Black Panther Party, and Sean Swain, an anarchist prisoner, is apparently that they are also in danger of assassination.” “For more information, contact Nube Brown, [nube@prisons.org](mailto:nube@prisons.org), or Mary Ratcliff, (415) 671-0789, [editor@sfbayview.com](mailto:editor@sfbayview.com), of the Comrade Malik Support Group, [ComradeMalik5@gmail.com](mailto:ComradeMalik5@gmail.com).”

**PLEASE DONATE TO WITH HELP RUSSEL MAROON SHOATS MEDICAL NEEDS!**

“We’re reaching out to update our global network with the latest news on Maroon’s health, and to ask for your continued support as we aim to ensure that he’s as well taken care of as possible. As you all are likely aware, Maroon was diagnosed with Stage 4 colorectal cancer this past summer, and since recovering from surgery, has begun an intensive chemotherapy regiment. Before sharing with you his latest thoughts, we ask that you consider making a donation in support of his health. We know you all are social change champions, and that your e-mail boxes are likely full with #GivingTuesday appeals. Please consider the urgency of Maroon’s current status and help us help him at whatever level you’re capable of. As much if not more so than ever before, we need our community’s backing. As we approach the holiday season, we share with you our profound gratitude for your commitment to and support of Maroon. It’s of course been a challenging last few months, but we continue to fight, emboldened by the care, concern, conviction, and advocacy of our extended community. Thank you all for being with us on this journey, and for amplifying our calls to bring Maroon home. DONTATE

HERE <https://www.paypal.com/donate/?token=zrcc7P>

We hope to share more celebratory news in the new year. In the meantime, we encourage you to write Maroon directly (in the event you have more to share than a one- or two-minute voicemail can convey!):

Smart Connections/PA DOC, Russell Shoats #AF-3855, SCI-Fayette PO Box 33028  
St Petersburg, FL 33733

And we again invite you to consider making a donation to our ongoing fundraising on Maroon's behalf. Wishing you and yours a healthy and inspired end of the year,  
The Shoatz Family and Friends"

**Imam Jamil Al-Amin** "is suffering from cataracts and is being denied immediate treatment to relieve him of this burden. Imam Jamil is 75 years old and has been incarcerated for going on 20 years even though the facts of his case proves his innocence. We waged a campaign against the Federal Bureau of Prisons previously when Imam Jamil was diagnosed with Smoldering Myeloma and was being denied treatment. This was attempted assassination by medical neglect. Now we have to call out the BOP again to get this man who has been at the forefront of the struggle of human rights since his teenage years the treatment that he is owed. This is a campaign to bombard the BOP with phone calls and emails as advocates on behalf of Imam Jamil. The number to reach the BOP is (202) 307-3198 option 2. The email is info@bop.gov. Imam Jamil is currently held at USP Tucson in Arizona, while our ultimate goal is to get him exonerated and released we want him to be moved closer to his family and lawyers, preferably in Georgia or the south eastern portion of the US. Any relevant info can be found on this page or WhatHappened2Rap.com. Peace and Blessings."

<https://newafrikan77.wordpress.com/2019/12/11/medical-alert-%f0%9f%9a%a8for-imam-jamil-al-amin-h-rap-brown/>

## Community News, Articles and Updates

### **50 Years After the Occupation of Alcatraz, Native American Activists Gather—and Resist**

By Jillian Jetton, photographs by Janet Delaney November 30, 2019 11:00 AM

"Frigid air and wet ground did little to deter the 4,500 people who gathered before dawn on Alcatraz Island in the San Francisco Bay this Thursday for the annual Unthanksgiving Day. It has been 50 years since the 1969 Occupation of Alcatraz—regarded by many as the birthplace of the modern Native American rights movement—when Indians of All Tribes, a group of young activists, laid claim to the island with the hopes of building a community, spiritual, and ecological center staffed by Native people. Under 1868's Treaty of Fort Laramie, unused federal lands were open to claims by certain Native Americans, and the prison on Alcatraz had recently been shut down and designated as "surplus" federal land.

The occupation lasted 19 months, and at its height, hundreds of people lived on the island, including several families. Already arduous conditions intensified when the government turned off the electricity and phone lines. Although the occupiers' claims and proposals were denied, their protest helped end the termination laws that were taking tribes' lands and attempting to negate their sovereignty. It also inspired acts of civil disobedience among indigenous people across the Americas.



“Photographed by Janet Delaney 2019”

Every year, indigenous people and supporters return to Alcatraz for a sunrise ceremony to honor their ancestors, foster community, and raise awareness about current indigenous struggles. “The first occupiers had every legal right,” says activist Pennie Opal Plant, who is of Yaqui, Mexican, Choctaw, Cherokee, and European ancestry, on the 4:15 a.m. ferry ride to the island for this year’s sunrise ceremony. “Where we were once invisible, we became very visible.” Her husband, Michael Horse, an actor and activist of the Yaqui tribe, describes the original occupation as “an awakening for a lot of us.” Early Thursday morning, under a star-spotted sky, the crowd winds its way from the dock to an outdoor gathering place, forming a large circle around a bonfire. Representatives from the Stand with Standing Rock and Protect Mauna Kea protests number among the 18 speakers who address the crowd, along with six dance groups. Lenny Foster, a Diné spiritual advisor to incarcerated Native Americans who was present at the first occupation, implores non-indigenous people to “continue to support our resistance, [and] make every effort to raise your level of consciousness.”



“Lenny Foster (left), a Diné spiritual advisor to over 2000 Native American inmates, and Tony Gonzales. Gonzales, director of the American Indian Movement—West, was in Vietnam during the 1969 action. “We need to Indianize 7 billion people,” he says, to foster in them a “connection to nature, to our allies of the animal and plant world. Photographed by Janet Delaney 2019”



”Colin Kaepernick, former quarterback for the 49ers and political activist, greets attendees. Photographed by Janet Delaney 2019”

“The land is still here and so are the indigenous people,” offers Liko Martin, one of the Protect Mauna Kea representatives. “We are one world, one people—we should gather around the same fire and protect the same water. We are one heart, one breath, one life.”



“Liko Martin and Laulani Teale, representatives of the Protect Mauna Kea protest in Hawai'i. We are here to “recover from the last 500 years and look forward to the next 500 years,” says Martin. Photographed by Janet Delaney 2019”



“John Beausage: “[I am] here for the movement, for the resistance. Wake that ass up and be present.”  
Photographed by Janet Delaney 2019”



“Photographed by Janet Delaney 2019”

**JUSTICE DEMANDS ABU-JAMAL’S FREEDOM - NOT CONTINUED IMPRISONMENT TO APPEASE THE F.O.P.**

“Mumia Abu-Jamal and his supporters are closer than ever to winning his release after 38 years in prison for a crime he didn’t commit. The Fraternal Order of Police, former district attorneys, and other political higher ups who participated in the frame up are now shaking in their boots because an innocent man may be given a new trial in which judicial, police and prosecutorial misconduct will be exposed. Formerly hidden evidence disclosed by current District Attorney Larry Krasner justifies a new

trial and Abu-Jamal's immediate release. That decision is currently in the hands of State Superior Court judges. Pam Africa, of the International Concerned Family and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal and a MOVE member, said "Abu-Jamal should have been released by Krasner on the basis of judicial and prosecutorial misconduct--as many others have been recently. By doing this, Krasner would be following the color of the law." For full article see

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Qo1jrdfgPWggtIbLi\\_TlqknyBwz5lZtwCTVnUjJOtr4/edit?usp=s\\_haring](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Qo1jrdfgPWggtIbLi_TlqknyBwz5lZtwCTVnUjJOtr4/edit?usp=s_haring)

**COME OUT & JOIN US THIS WEEKEND ON BOTH FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15th & SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16th FOR THESE TWO "REVOLUTIONARY MINDED" DINNER & CULTURAL EVENTS IN SUPPORT OF OUR U.S. GOVERNMENT CAPTURED FREEDOM FIGHTERS!**

**FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS**

**LAS LOLITAS NYC INVITE YOU TO  
LOLITA'S  
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION**  
NOV. 15, 2019  
AN EVENING OF FOOD, LIVE MUSIC, DANCING  
AND SPECIAL GUESTS

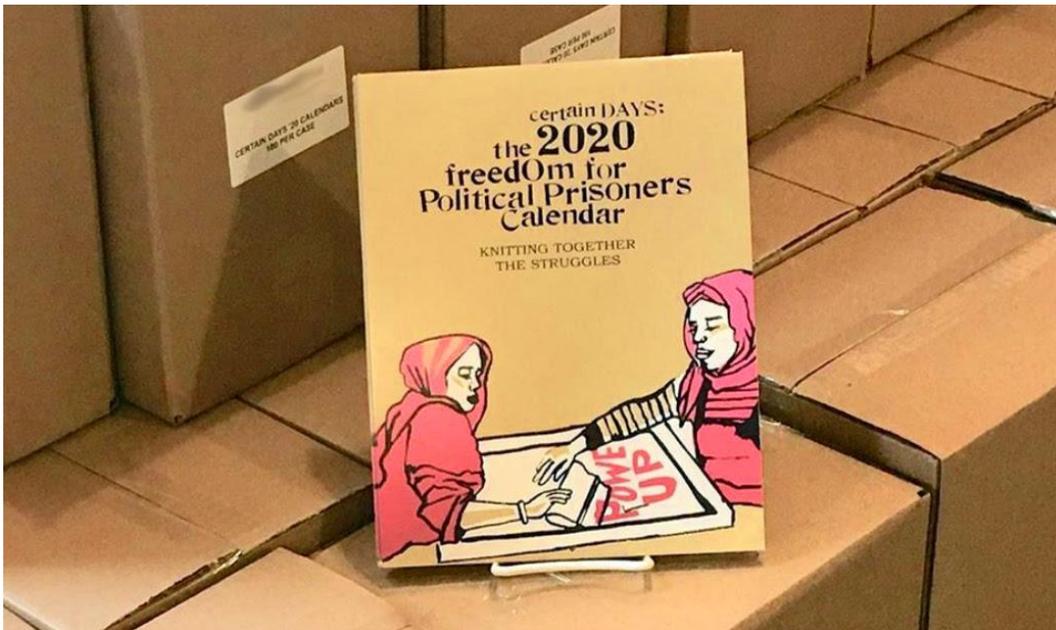
*Honoring Lolita's Legacy*

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR  
LABOR CENTER  
310W 43RD ST.  
FROM 6:30-10:00PM

Suggested donation is \$25  
*includes a dinner plate*

Proceeds will go to Nina Droz and Ana Belen  
Cosponsor SiemPResente

## Certain Days 2020 Calendars: It's time to start getting organized for 2020!



“Burning Books has developed a strong partnership with the Certain Days collective over the last few years. Certain Days has been producing a beautiful and incredible wall calendar, focused on Freedom for Political Prisoners, since 2000. Our partnership has helped to streamline US sales and more than double the number of Certain Days calendars hanging on walls or radical spaces around the globe. Get a Certain Days calendar now and help support political prisoners and prison reform/abolition efforts while having the coolest calendar in town. Better yet, get 10 or more calendars wholesale with online coupon code "BULK," and sell/distribute them in your community however you please. 2020 will be here before we know it. Be ready for it with a Certain Days: Freedom for Political Prisoners Calendar from Burning Books.”

### “Hope you can make it to the launch party for the 2020 Certain Days launch party!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2431281240493656/>

Certain Days: Freedom for Political Prisoners 2020 Calendar Launch Party

December 6, 2019 7:30pm 168 Canal Street, 6th floor, Manhattan.

Free Contact: [info@certaindays.org](mailto:info@certaindays.org)

“Hope to see you all on Friday for the Certain Days 2020 calendar launch. Come out and say hi and see calendar contributors teeV, Vikki Law and (hopefully) No New Jails talk about their contributions to the 2020 calendar. We will also have Jose Saldana and Laura Whitehorn from Release Aging People in Prison - RAPP on hand to talk about their amazing work in New York fighting for parole justice. We will have calendars for sale, NYC Anarchist Black Cross on hand with info on political prisoners and some snacks/beverages. With Release Aging People in Prison (RAPP), Vikki Law and other calendar contributors! We will have calendars on sale at this event and will hear from people involved in making the calendar and artists and authors that have donated their work to this year's calendar.”

### Havana turns 500! Cuba marks anniversary with celebrations

“Happy birthday, Havana! It's been 500 years since the capital of Cuba was established, and there were huge celebrations across the country to mark the anniversary!

More Photos of the Fireworks and Celebration <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/50457436>

Havana on its 500th birthday– then and now. The Cuban government is planning a jubilee week as the capital city celebrates the anniversary of its birth, with hundreds of events at restored monuments and historic sites, a visit from the Spanish royal family and fireworks over the Malecon seaside promenade. Archive photographs show how much, and how little, the capital has changed. Check these amazing photos by Havana's Historian's Office -- the same scenes in 1959 and now.”  
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/nov/18/havana-on-its-500th-birthday-then-and-now>

**WHAT: Political Prisoner Letter-Writing Dinner**

“WHEN: 7pm sharp, Tuesday, November 26th, 2019 WHERE: The Base – 1302 Myrtle Avenue Brooklyn, New York 11221

NOTE: The Base is on the ground floor, is wheelchair accessible, and has a gender neutral toilet. COST: Free

It’s supper time again, and NYC ABC is back at The Base for our every-other-week Political Prisoner Letter Writing Dinner. As anarchists, it should come as no surprise that we don’t celebrate Thanksgiving—we’ll take your damned day off from work, but not in exchange for commemorating the historic and ongoing genocide of indigenous folks and the 250 million turkeys who are killed each year. While we might be eating the fruits of the fall harvest, don’t confuse that with an acceptance of the Thanksgiving myth. This Tuesday’s dinner will focus on indigenous political prisoners Leonard Peltier, Rattler, and Red Fawn Fallis.” <https://nycabc.wordpress.com/2019/11/21/thanksgiving2019>

**David Gilbert New Address is:**

David Gilbert #83A6158  
 Shawangunk Correctional Facility  
 P.O. Box 700  
 Wallkill, NY 12589-0700

Take the time to write him a letter or mail a card to let him know he is in our hearts and on our minds.

**Alameda County Sheriff, Aramark Are Forcing Prisoners Into ‘Involuntary Servitude,’ New Suit Says** Elizabeth Weill-Greenberg Nov 21, 2019

“Some pre-trial prisoners and immigration detainees are forced to work without pay in violation of the 13th Amendment, according to attorneys.

In a class action lawsuit filed Wednesday, attorneys accused the Alameda County, California, sheriff and Aramark Correctional Services of forcing some pre-trial prisoners and immigration detainees to work without pay in violation of the 13th Amendment, which prohibits slavery and involuntary servitude, except if used as punishment for a person who has been convicted of a crime. As of June, about 85 percent of people at the jail had not been sentenced, according to state data.” See

<https://theappeal.org/alameda-county-sheriff-prisoners-involuntary-servitude/>

**A Hail Mary Pass by Philly’s Fraternal Order of Police: A King’s Bench Petition to the PA Supreme Court - Prison Radio: FOP Hail Mary- Police Kings Bench Petition in Mumia’s Case**

“The Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) promised big firms to fight Mumia’s freedom. They got George Bochetto, a pugilistic lawyer who owed the FOP a favor, and a weak petition full of vague inferences of bias. They are throwing random information up against the growing storm of accountability as a strategy of distraction.” See <https://www.prisonradio.org/letter/nov-12-19-kings-bench-petition-faulkner-bochetto>

## AIM West Conference-Honoring Indians of All Tribes'-50th Anniversary and Reunion

November 25 to 26 2969 Mission St., San Francisco



“The AIM West Conference in San Francisco invitation extends to all our relations from the four directions to join with us to see what good we can do for our communities, for children and for our

Mother the Earth! Special guests include Len Foster, Madonna Thunder Hawk, Yvonne Swan, Bill Means, Fred Short and Puksu Iqualikinya (Ku-na-Panama), Fawn Oakes, daughter of Richard Oakes, and more.

On this occasion, we honor “Indians of All Tribes”, women and men who sacrificed their livelihoods to reclaim Alcatraz Island beginning on November 20, 1969. Congratulations on their 50th Anniversary and Reunion! The agenda will include prayers and blessings at 9:45, following the Welcome.

The Inter-Tribal Drum Group “Red Lightning Women Power Singers” will follow, as well as presentations by the Chairwoman of the Ohlone Tribal Nation and the California Amah Mutsun Tribal Peoples.

Keynote speaker Dr. LaNada War Jack will speak on “From Alcatraz to Standing Rock”, followed by the film “Alcatraz is Not an Island.”

Afternoon presentations include the topics of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, the Kurds of the Middle East as Indigenous Peoples, Alcatraz 50th anniversary—Inspiration and Achievements, Sacred Sites and and the Environment, Tribal Colleges including DQ University in California, the Census, Elections, and a call for Leonard Peltier as Vice President on the Peace and Freedom ballot.

Presentations and panels on Nov. 26 cover topics including International Indigenous Movements in the Global South, the BDS Movement and Palestine, UN initiatives including those on sustainable development and a study on sterilization of Indigenous women, LGBTQ and Two Spirit groups and issues, Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women, Youth Incarceration, Political Prisoners including Red Fawn Fallis and Leonard Peltier, the US-Mexico border and militarization, and more.” See

### **Will Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts honor his oath of office and examine the case of Black Panther Edward Poindexter or will his death penalty advocacy get in the way?** by

richardsonreports

“Pete Ricketts is a “law and order” governor who led a campaign to restore the death penalty in Nebraska after the legislature outlawed capital punishment. Ricketts can be depended upon to be unsympathetic to Edward Poindexter, an imprisoned Black Panther leader accused of murdering a policeman in a bombing ambush. However, it lies within the power of Ricketts to order a sentence

commutation review to examine Poindexter's case for wrongful conviction.

Poindexter and co-defendant David Rice (later Wopashitwe Mondo Eyen we Langa) were convicted for the August 17, 1970 murder of Omaha Patrolman Larry Minard at a 1971 trial marred by conflicting police testimony, perjured testimony, planted evidence, and a withheld FBI Laboratory report. The two men were leaders of the National Committee to Combat Fascism and targets of the clandestine COINTELPRO program of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.” See <https://richardsonreports.wordpress.com/2019/11/25/will-nebraska-governor-pete-ricketts-honor-his-oath-of-office-and-examine-the-case-of-black-panther-edward-poindexter-or-will-his-death-penalty-advocacy-get-in-the-way/>

### **Eddie Conway’s Update on Forgotten Political Prisoners** November 19, 2019

“EDDIE CONWAY: I’m Eddie Conway, host of Rattling the Bars. As many well-known political prisoners like Mumia Abu-Jamal continue to suffer in prison...

MUMIA ABU JAMAL: In an area where there is corporate downsizing and there are no jobs and there is only a service economy and education is being cut, which is the only rung by which people can climb, the only growth industry in this part of Pennsylvania, in the Eastern United States, in the Southern United States, in the Western United States is “corrections,” for want of a better word. The corrections industry is booming. I mean, this joint here ain’t five years old.

EDDIE CONWAY: ...The media brings their stories to the masses. But there are many lesser-known activists that have dropped out of the spotlight, grown old in prison, or just been forgotten. For Rattling the Bars, we are spotlighting a few of their stories. There was a thriving Black Panther party in Omaha, Nebraska, headed by David Rice and Ed Poindexter. By 1968, the FBI had began plans to eliminate the Omaha Black Panthers by making an example of Rice and Poindexter. It would take a couple of years, but the FBI would frame them for murder.” See <https://therealnews.com/stories/eddie-conway-update-forgotten-political-prisoners>

### **NEW YORKER MAGAZINE ARTICLE HIGHLIGHTS PAROLE BOARD INJUSTICES**

“Today, The New Yorker Magazine published a 10,000-word article exposing some of the devastating problems with the New York State Parole Board. While we, the Parole Preparation Project, and so many others have pushed the Board to release more people from prison in recent years, they still continue to deny freedom to thousands of New Yorkers in prison, their families, and communities across New York State. The article featured the incredible work our partners at Parole Prep do with currently incarcerated people serving parole-eligible life sentences. It also featured RAPP Director, Jose Saldana, RAPP co-founder Kathy Boudin, and the devastating story of Richard Lloyd Dennis, a currently incarcerated elder who the Parole Board has denied release to 13 times.” See <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2019/12/02/prepping-for-parole>

### **Let’s Disarm Them!**

“WHAT: Presentation WHEN: 7:00pm, Saturday, November 16th, 2019

WHERE: The Base – 1302 Myrtle Avenue Brooklyn, New York 11221

NOTE: The Base is on the ground floor, is wheelchair accessible, and has a gender neutral toilet. COST: Free

Join NYC ABC as we host a member of Let’s Disarm Them! to describe the workings of state violence and the evolution of policing in France, from a historical and radical perspective. The collective Let’s Disarm Them! was founded in 2012 by anarchists who for several years have faced state violence and been directly affected by the use of grenades and rubber bullets. Between 2011 and 2015, Let’s Disarm

Them! took part in major radical anti-capitalist and ecological struggles. During this time the collective met other groups opposed to police violence; street medics; but also many victims—themselves mutilated or close to people killed by the police.” For full article see [https://nycabc.wordpress.com/2019/11/12/french\\_state\\_violence](https://nycabc.wordpress.com/2019/11/12/french_state_violence)

### **Mumia to Speak in Philadelphia on Global Youth Against Empire**

“Black Agenda Radio with Nellie Bailey and Glen Ford

The nation’s best known political prisoner will mark his 38th year behind bars at a “Youth Rise Up Against Empire” event, December 7th in Philadelphia. “It is not by chance that a Mumia movement is focusing on US imperialism,” said Suzanne Ross, of International Family and Friends of Mumia Abu Jamal, since he’s written a trilogy on the subject, titled “Murder Incorporate.” See

<https://www.blackagendareport.com/black-agenda-radio-week-november-18-2019>

### **The Internationalism of Black Panther Women**

“Black Agenda Radio with Nellie Bailey and Glen Ford

The women of the Black Panther Party embraced the models established by women in Vietnam, North Korea and China, in part “to change the culture within the party,” said Benjamin Young, a professor at Dakota State University and author of an article in the political journal “Soul” titled, “Imagining Revolutionary Feminism: Communist Asia and the Women of the Black Panther Party.” “There were a lot of issues within the party when it came to the treatment of women,” said Young.” See

<https://www.blackagendareport.com/internationalism-black-panther-women>

### **Rodricks: Why is Maryland keeping an 85-year-old man and four other octogenarians in prison?**

“In a new report being released Wednesday, the JPI accords Maryland special status: Among all states, we lead the nation in incarcerating young black men, and we keep them in prison longer than any other state. In that specific category, Maryland leads not just by a little, but by a lot, with a rate of incarceration that is 25% higher than the next state: Mississippi.’ For full article see

<https://www.baltimoresun.com/opinion/columnists/dan-rodricks/bs-md-rodricks-11-20191105-gqhbklfpl5b3jbynv5gebwjgey-story.html>

### **Report: Proportion of Maryland black prison population is more than double the national average of 32%**

“The rates of incarceration for young black males is the highest of anywhere in the country,” said Marc Schindler, executive director of the Justice Policy Institute, a Washington, D.C., nonprofit, that aims to reduce incarceration. On Wednesday, the group released a report on the racial disparities in Maryland prisons.” For full article see <https://www.baltimoresun.com/news/crime/bs-md-cr-black-prison-population-report-20191106-k4frv4ksfbfqrigrnwt4biflua-story.html?outputType=amp-ff43-11e9-8cec-673d676eb542.amp.html>

### **How serious is California about parole for juvenile offenders?**

“William Palmer was sentenced to life with parole three decades ago when he was 17. Denied parole repeatedly through the years, he finally was freed when he challenged his latest parole denial. He’s now at the center of a test case involving new state rules requiring parole officials to give greater weight to a parole candidate’s age at the time of his or her offense. Prosecutors aren’t happy with the new standard.” For full article see <https://www.themarshallproject.org/2019/11/18/he-was-17-when-he-went-to-prison-how-much-should-that-matter-to-the-parole-board?>

Celebrate ProLibertad's 25th Anniversary/Fundraiser for Nina and Ana!

**FREE THE PUERTO RICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS:**

## *Celebration for Nina Droz Franco and Ana Belen Montes!*



**Join us for ProLibertad's 25th Anniversary Celebration! Join ProLibertad for a night of culture, solidarity, fun, and CELEBRATION!**



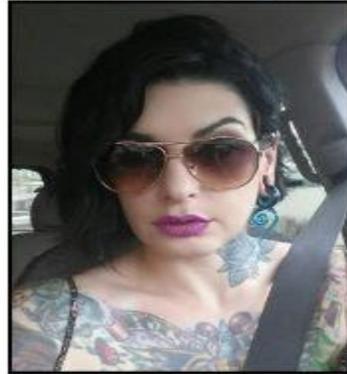
Puerto Rican Political Prisoner Nina Droz Franco will be out of prison in November. Ana Belen Montes is scheduled to be released in early or late 2022. This fundraiser is to help raise money to help in their transition into Civilian Life! All the proceeds from this event will go to Nina and Ana's accounts!



**We will be joined by AfroBoricua Folkloric collective BombYo and incredible Poets, Rafael Landron, Bonafide Rojas, NOT4PROPHET, and...**

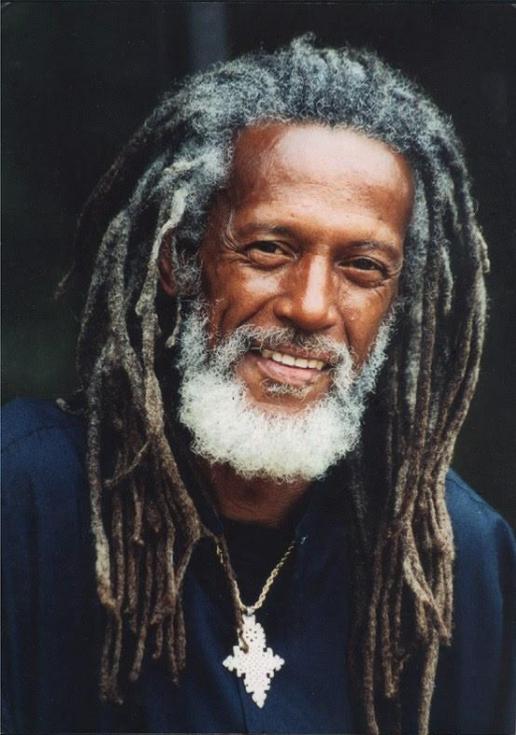


**Saturday, Dec. 7th, 2019  
@ 7-9 p.m.  
The People's Forum  
320 W. 37th St.  
(Btwn 8th-9th Ave.)  
Take the 1,2,3,7, A, C,  
E, M, N, R, Q**



**The ProLibertad Freedom Campaign**

For more information contact us at [ProLibertad@Hotmail.com](mailto:ProLibertad@Hotmail.com) or 718-601-4751.  
Website: [www.ProLibertad.org](http://www.ProLibertad.org) Facebook: [Facebook.com/ProLibertadFC](https://www.facebook.com/ProLibertadFC)  
Twitter: [@ProLibertad](https://twitter.com/ProLibertad) Instagram: [@ProLibertadFC](https://www.instagram.com/ProLibertadFC)



### **2020 "Elder" Freeman Policy Fellowships Available!**

“The Ronald “Elder” Freeman Memorial Policy Fellowship is a project of Legal Services for Prisoners with Children. Ronald “Elder” Freeman was a legendary revolutionary pillar in the Bay Area, a lifelong Freedom Fighter in the Black Liberation Struggle, and an original member of the Southern California chapter of the Black Panther Party. This fellowship honors his work and legacy. We are looking for three (3) formerly incarcerated people to join our team for an intensive 12-month fellowship program to learn grassroots organizing, legislative and administrative advocacy, and other strategies to run local and state campaigns with the goal of elevating the leadership of formerly incarcerated people in criminal justice reform.

The 2020 Policy Fellowship will collaborate with the UC Berkeley Underground Scholars program to give fellows the opportunity to work and train together in a supportive environment. Our fellows will represent individuals with diverse backgrounds and life experiences fighting collectively to reform the criminal justice system. The work

is based at the Lin Oakland, CA, with trainings conducted on the UC Berkeley campus, led by Azadeh Zohrabi, Director, Berkeley Underground Scholars, and regular travel to Sacramento during the legislative session.” Please contact the LSPC <https://prisonerswithchildren.org/contact-2/> for more information.

### **Will Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts honor his oath of office and examine the case of Black Panther Edward Poindexter or will his death penalty advocacy get in the way?**

Michael Richardson - November 25, 2019

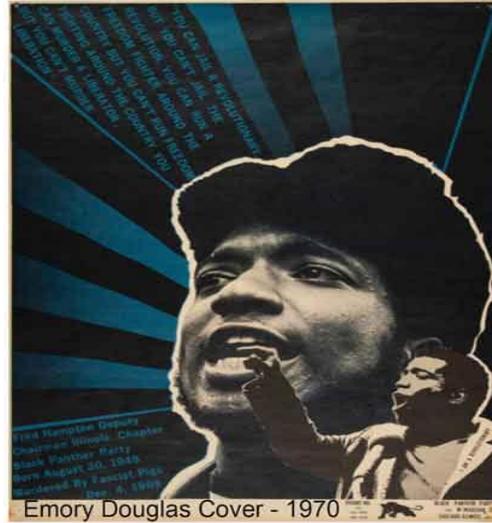
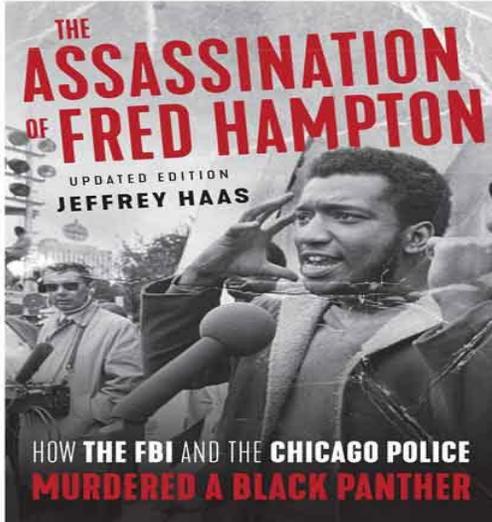
“Pete Ricketts is a “law and order” governor who led a campaign to restore the death penalty in Nebraska after the legislature outlawed capital punishment. Ricketts can be depended upon to be unsympathetic to Edward Poindexter, an imprisoned Black Panther leader accused of murdering a policeman in a bombing ambush. However, it lies within the power of Ricketts to order a sentence commutation review to examine Poindexter’s case for wrongful conviction”. See

<https://richardsonreports.wordpress.com/2019/11/25/will-nebraska-governor-pete-ricketts-honor-his-oath-of-office-and-examine-the-case-of-black-panther-edward-poindexter-or-will-his-death-penalty-advocacy-get-in-the-way/>

### **Mumia to Address December 9 Conference in Philadelphia**

Black Agenda Radio with Nellie Bailey and Glen Ford

“The nation’s best known political prisoner will mark his 38th year behind bars by addressing a “Youth Rise Up Against Empire” event in his hometown. Mumia Abu Jamal credits the late Howard Zinn, author of “A People’s History of the United States,” with inspiring his latest, three-volume work: “Murder Incorporated,” a history of US imperial crimes. Abu Jamal and co-author Stephen Vittoria loved Zinn’s “ideas about what was called ‘history from below’ – how average, everyday people built movements for freedom and human rights” See <https://www.blackagenda.com/mumia-address-december-9-conference-philadelphia>



Emory Douglas Cover - 1970

## ***Honoring Fred Hampton on the 50th Anniversary of his Murder***

**Sunday, December 8th - 4pm  
1125 Valencia St - San Francisco**

**Join Jeff Haas & Emory Douglas  
and the Freedom Archives for this  
*Howard Zinn Book Fair* event!**

**50 years ago Chicago police with FBI support raided Black Panther Fred Hampton's Chicago apartment assassinating him and Mark Clark and injuring 4 others. Attorney Jeff Haas exposes the conspiracy behind the execution in this updated book. Emory Douglas, then Minister of Culture for the Black Panther Party, will also join us.**



*Sponsored by the Freedom Archives - for more information 415 863-9977*

**Upcoming Event in the Bay Area!**

**Healing & Justice: A Fundraiser feat. Holistic Treatments- Saturday, December 7th – 1-6pm**  
 “Six Fishes Neighborhood Acupuncture – 2308 Grays Ferry Ave  
 We are pleased to announce the first Philadelphia-based Healing & Justice benefit event: a day of rejuvenation and inspiration in honor of Dr. Mutulu Shakur!”

**Healing & Justice**  
 A benefit offering holistic healthcare in  
 honor of Dr Mutulu Shakur

Saturday, December 7th 2019  
 1:00PM - 6:00PM

Six Fishes Acupuncture (Accessible Space)  
 2308 Grays Ferry Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19146  
 \$25-\$50 Sliding Scale

**Acupuncture  
 Massage  
 Herbal Consults**

**Appointments recommended!  
 (walk ins will be accepted)**

Funds benefit  
 Dr Mutulu  
 Shakur and  
 Russell  
 Maroon Shoatz

Make appointments here -> [bit.ly/32zurkW](https://bit.ly/32zurkW)

### **Political Profiteering off the Trauma of Black Women**

“In state and national elections, Democratic politicians court the power of Black women's votes. But are the issues that shape and impact the lives of Black women really respected by, and reflected in, the policies of the political class that courts them so heavily?” See <https://therealnews.com/stories/political-profiteering-trauma-black-women>

### **Palestinian Prisoner Placed in Solitary Confinement after 40 Years in Israeli Jail**

November 18, 2019

“Palestinian prisoner Nael Barghouthi yesterday entered his 40th year in Israeli jails yesterday and was placed in solitary confinement for seven days, the Palestinian Prisoner’s Society (PPS) said. Barghouthi, the longest-serving Palestinian prisoner in Israeli jails, had spent 33 years in Israeli jails before being released in the Egypt-brokered prisoner exchange deal between Hamas and Israel in

October 2011.” See <http://www.palestinechronicle.com/palestinian-prisoner-placed-in-solitary-confinement-after-40-years-in-israeli-jail/>

### **Settlement Ends Solitary Confinement for All People Sentenced to Death in Pennsylvania November 18, 2019**

“HARRISBURG, Pa. — The American Civil Liberties Union, the ACLU of Pennsylvania, Abolitionist Law Center, and counsel from Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP and Kairys, Rudovsky, Messing, Feinberg & Lin LLP announced a settlement today in a class action lawsuit against the state’s Department of Corrections. The suit, which was filed in January of 2018, claimed that Pennsylvania DOC’s automatic, irrevocable practice of holding all people sentenced to death in permanent solitary confinement violates the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments.” See <https://mailchi.mp/5db08ee9bf5a/deathrow-solitary-abolished?e=8271292659>

### **RAPP Co-Founder and Former Director Mujahid Farid**

“One year ago today, RAPP Co-Founder and Former Director Mujahid Farid died at 69 years old. In the final days of his life, Mujahid Farid (translated to mean “Unique Warrior”) asked our RAPP family to gather in his living room. In the weeks leading up to this moment, someone from RAPP was with Farid twenty-four hours per day. He was at a point where he needed hospice care and we were there for him. Take Action in Support of Farid’s Legacy Help RAPP dismantle mass incarceration, end death by incarceration, and fulfill Farid’s vision of transforming the criminal justice system. Get involved in our work by taking action in the following ways:

- 1.) Join our upcoming membership meetings in NYC, Albany and Long Island (flyers and info below).
- 2.) Attend our upcoming Day of Action in Albany on January 14th (more info below). RSVP here.
- 3.) Support RAPP financially by becoming a sustainable donor. Donate here today to help cover our organizing expenses across the state.
- 4.) Celebrate the freedom of many of those who Farid’s work and legacy most recently benefited. Join us tomorrow, November 21st for the Parole Preparation Project’s Annual Welcome Home Party and Fundraiser, 7pm at the Riverside Church in Harlem. Tickets can still be purchased here <https://ticketbud.com/events/6445369c-d4a0-11e9-8432-42010a717007> .”

### **NAARPR CONFERENCE**

“On November 22-24, we will gather in Chicago, Illinois to refound the National Alliance and bring the fight for #CommunityControlNow to cities across the country.

The Refounding Conference of the National Alliance Against Racist & Political Repression will take place in Chicago, Illinois on November 22-24. Activists and organizers from across the country will gather to refound NAARPR and coordinate nation-wide actions against state sponsored racial violence.” For more info & to register see: <https://conference.naarpr.org/>

### **Nebraska governor silent on Black Panther case**

“Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts, a death penalty champion, is silent on a commutation review of Black Panther Ed Poindexter’s case. Poindexter escaped the electric chair but ended up with a life without parole sentence. Is Ricketts afraid of what a review might find?” See

<https://richardsonreports.wordpress.com/2019/11/25/will-nebraska-governor-pete-ricketts-honor-his-oath-of-office-and-examine-the-case-of-black-panther-edward-poindexter-or-will-his-death-penalty-advocacy-get-in-the-way/>

### **Tasering our children in school**

“When your child gets Tasered at school. Hundreds of students across the country have been Tasered by school police since September 2011 and the true number is likely much higher since many incidents are not reported. Indeed, there is no national systematic tracking of episodes where Tasers are deployed at school. Autistic students or those with special needs are especially at risk of electric shock from school police officers who likely are poorly trained in de-escalating conflicts with children” See <https://www.huffpost.com/entry/she-didnt-know-her-autistic-son-could-be-tasered-at-school>

### **The Social Justice Collaboration Quilts Project Gallery Showing – Newark, NJ (October 5th-November 22nd, 2019)**

In October, The Social Justice Collaboration Quilts Project, curated by Maureen Kelleher with contributors from inside prison, opened at Aferro gallery in Newark, New Jersey. This project included a quilt featuring Dr. Mutulu Shakur's name on a woven label (see header) as well as work from quilters both inside and outside prison. In 2020, a second exhibit with new quilts will open, which Dr. Shakur plans to participate in as well.” See <http://mutulushakur.com/site/2019/11/the-social-justice-collaboration-quilts-project/>

### **Eye Steel Film, on the groundbreaking work Dr. Shakur**

“In the new year, the long awaited feature-length documentary, by Mia Donovan of Eye Steel Film, on the groundbreaking work Dr. Shakur accomplished in detox acupuncture and addiction recovery is due to be released! DOPE IS DEATH (2020) is the story of how Dr. Mutulu Shakur, stepfather of Tupac Shakur, along with fellow Black Panthers and the Young Lords, combined community health with radical politics to create the first acupuncture detoxification program in America in 1973 - a visionary project eventually deemed too dangerous to exist in America. Keep your eyes peeled for the premier and showings to be announced!” See <http://www.eyesteelfilm.com/>

### **His Last Wish Unfulfilled: Sami Abu Diak Dies in Israeli Prison** November 26, 2019

“Palestinian prisoner Sami Abu Diak, who was suffering from cancer, has died in prison this morning, according to prisoners advocacy groups. Israel has rejected several appeals to release him on humanitarian grounds so that he can get proper treatment for cancer outside prison.” See <http://www.palestinechronicle.com/his-last-wish-unfulfilled-sami-abu-diak-dies-in-israeli-prison-video/>

### **Agent Provocateurs and the Assassination of Black Panther Fred Hampton**

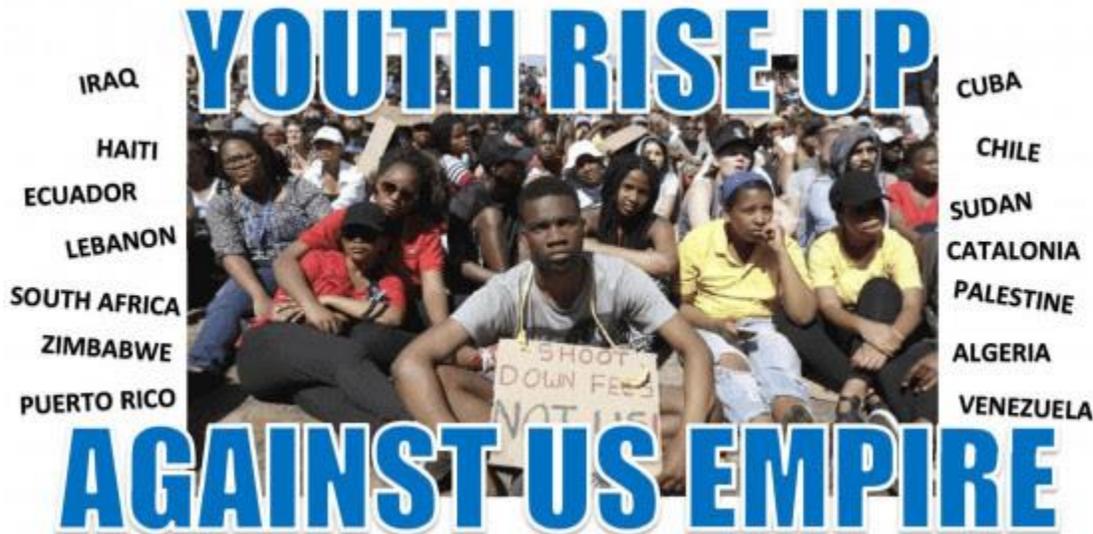
“TRNN’s Eddie Conway honors the 50th anniversary of Hampton’s assassination by describing the event and its significance for social movements today.” (VIDEO) here: <https://therealnews.com/stories/agent-provocateurs-assassination-fred-hampton-anniversary>

### **Fred Hampton remembered as ‘focused, caring’ visionary** By Kathy Chaney Dec 4, 2019

“An early morning raid on an apartment on the West Side a half-century ago left the Black community in an uproar over the deaths of Black Panther leaders Fred Hampton and Mark Clark, and a fellow Panther with one question that’s plucked at his nerves for 50 years. Billy “Che” Brooks, who remembers Hampton as a “focused, caring, full of love and funny visionary,” wants to know, “Who the hell drugged Chairman Fred?” Hampton, 21, and Clark, 22, were ambushed in the Dec. 4, 1969 raid conducted jointly by the Chicago police and officers assigned to the office of then-State’s Attorney Edward Hanrahan. Brooks, the deputy minister of education for the Black Panther Party of Illinois, said the police raided their offices several times that year, and constantly

harassed them.” See <https://chicago.suntimes.com/2019/12/4/20994612/fred-hampton-mark-clark-black-panther-party-billy-che-brooks-edward-hanrahan-monroe-bobby-rush>

## YOUTH AGAINST U.S. EMPIRE! MUMIA WILL BE FREE!



“DECEMBER 7 NOON - 4PM 5301 MEDIA ST, PHILADELPHIA

This event marks Mumia Abu-Jamal’s 38th year of imprisonment. Come hear a report on all the new developments in his legal case. We will also discuss (and have available) his trilogy books on U.S. imperialism. Speakers and videos will express solidarity with mass protests all over the globe, as they call out white supremacist oppression & exploitation by US capitalism.

Featuring: GLEN FORD Black Agenda Report - VICENTE DURAN Chilean activist/rapper - MUMIA ABU-JAMAL - SUSAN ABULHAWA - MEGAN MALACHI - TARYN FIVEK - ANT SMITH - CARMEN GUERRERO - DR KRYSTAL STRONG - MOVE 9 - PAM AFRICA - plus a Special Performance by MIKE AFRICA JR!”

### **Santa Rita Prisoners Suffer Retaliation After Strike-December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

“SANTA RITA JAIL CONDITIONS WORSEN IN AFTERMATH OF WORKERS’ STRIKE AMID DENIALS AND RETALIATION FROM SHERIFF’S OFFICE AND ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Three weeks after a weeklong work stoppage and hunger strike inside Santa Rita Jail, conditions inside the Dublin, California facility have worsened and prisoners are suffering retaliation for their actions. Demands issued by prisoners - many of which detailed basic needs such as cleaning supplies and regular meals - remain unaddressed. Spokespeople for the Sheriff’s Office and the Alameda County Board of Supervisors have publicly denied that conditions inside the jail are at a “crisis level” in the aftermath of the strike.” From: Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee - Oakland iwoc.oakland@gmail.com

### **Accountability for U.S. Torture Finally Makes It to “The Court of Last Resort”**

“Yesterday, arguments began in a historic hearing before the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague, The Netherlands. Senior Staff Attorney Katherine Gallagher is at the court and is presenting argument on behalf of Guled Hassan Duran and Sharqawi Al Hajj, two CIA torture survivors and Guantánamo prisoners, and urged the Appeals Chamber that the ICC should open an investigation into war crimes and crimes against humanity arising out of the armed conflict in Afghanistan, including U.S. torture.” See <https://ccrjustice.org/home/what-we-do/our-cases/accountability-international-crimes-afghanistan>

### **Lost in time: Lift up our brother Sitawa and strike down indefinite incarceration**

“It’s always hard to stomach news that is disheartening. To hear that a brother and comrade has suffered a stroke after spending countless years in solitary confinement, as well as being held on an indefinite sentence for an alleged crime he did not commit, is even more disheartening.

I need not stress the sorrow that is felt amongst the whole prison population for our brother Sitawa Nantambu Jamaa, who, along with countless fearless prisoners, pioneered our Prison Human Rights Movement (PHRM) to the world’s stage. We continue to see men and women incarcerated far too long – beyond anyone’s imagination – and continue to be held indefinitely.

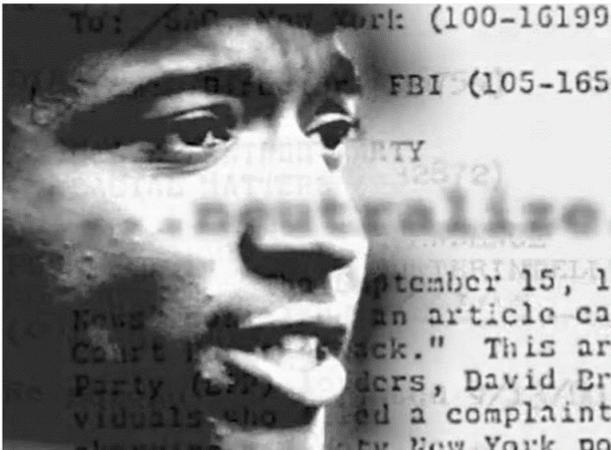
Our beloved brother Sitawa is amongst this class of men and women. The inhumane treatment of prisoners must end.” See <https://sfbayview.com/2019/11/lost-in-time-lift-up-our-brother-sitawa-and-strike-down-indefinite-incarceration/>

### **Jersey Panther Cubs observe the 50th anniversary of the Assassination of the unconquerable Fred Hampton!** The Source Of Knowledge Book Store, 867 Broad Street, Newark at 6pm.

“On Saturday, December 7th, the NJ Black Panther Party Commemoration Committee continues its ‘Real ‘Panther Series with a special gathering called ‘For The Love of Freedom-For The Love of Fred! With Love to Chairman Fred Hampton!’ in observation of the 50th Anniversary of his assassination. Like all NJ Panther Cub gatherings, the evening will also spotlight a Panther political prisoner, Russell ‘Maroon’ Shoatz. Among the presenters will be Professor Kelly Harris of Seton Hall University’s Africana Studies Department, Panther cubs Russell and Sharon Shoatz, the son and daughter of Panther political prisoner Russell ‘Maroon’ Shoatz, and student activist Chris Duran of the Concerned 44 of Seton Hall University, among others.

Radical educator TJ Whitaker of the MAPSO Freedom School will cohost and present with longtime activist and poet Zayid Muhammad. Admission is Free. A Donation is requested. All proceeds will go to help Panther Political Prisoner Russell ‘Maroon’ Shoatz. Fred Hampton was the chair of the Chicago based Illinois chapter of the Black Panther Party. He was one of the most charismatic ascendant figures in the Party and one of its best organizers. Under his leadership, the Party produced some of the largest Community Survival Programs in the country. Hampton was also a great coalition builder. It was Hampton who launched the original Rainbow Coalition, which initially included the Young Lord Party and the Young Patriots. It was known then as ‘The Rainbow Coalition of Revolutionary Solidarity.’ The Young Lords, founded by Jose ‘ChaCha’ Jiminez, are especially important to appreciate because they transformed themselves from a Puerto Rican street gang into a political party inspired by Fred Hampton’s challenge to Chicago’s Black and Brown Street Gangs and the Black Panther Party model. It was this dimension of Hampton’s leadership qualities that made him a target for the FBI and the Chicago Police. “While Fred was trying to make peace on Chicago’s streets, the government was trying to do the opposite.

**FOR THE LOVE OF FREEDOM!  
FOR THE LOVE OF FRED!  
A PEOPLE'S TRIBUTE  
TO  
CHAIRMAN I  
FRED HAMPTON!  
Observing the 50th Anniversary  
of his Assassination  
POETRY, FILM, DISCUSSION, AND MORE!  
SATURDAY DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> 2019  
SOURCE OF KNOWLEDGE BOOKSTORE  
867 BROAD STREET NEWARK @ 6PM**



**For more information, please call 973 202 0745  
FREE ADMISSION DONATION REQUESTED  
PROCEEDS TO SUPPORT PANTHER POLITICAL PRISONERS**

“Fred’s stellar example of revolutionary courage and organizing was proving too problematic for their genocidal designs on our community,” explained Muhammad, who fondly invokes Hampton’s legacy for the local work of the Newark AntiViolence Coalition.

On that fateful night of December 4, 1969, after a FBI Agent Provocateur supplied a floor plan of Hampton’s Panther ‘pad’ and having laced the drinks of all those gathered there with a sedative, the Chicago Police led an armed raid and killed Hampton and Mark Clark, a deputy minister who was at the door upon the launching of the raid. It was one of several full scale police attacks on Panthers around the country particularly in Southern California. Fred Hampton was only 21 when he was slain.

Earlier that year, the NYPD charged 21 Panthers with Conspiracy to Destroy prominent institutions. It was a year that marked accelerated

attacks on the Black Panther Party by government and local police forces through what has come to be known as COINTELPRO, an illegal covert operation aimed at destroying the Black Liberation Movement. Upon the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968, the FBI labelled the Black Panther Party “the greatest threat to the internal security of the United States.”

Russell ‘Maroon’ Shoatz was from the Philadelphia chapter of the Black Panther Party. That chapter faced an acceleration of hostility from the Philadelphia Police the following year when it was announced that the Party was going to host the Revolutionary People’s Constitutional Convention, which took place in September 1970, in spite of the increased police hostility.

At the time, the Philadelphia Police was led by the ‘Bull Connor of the North,’ the very polarizing Frank Rizzo. Shoatz, also known ‘Maroon the Implacable’ for his legendary courage, is currently one of the longest held political prisoners in the world. He has been in prison since in 1972, charged with leading an armed attack on a Philadelphia Police Station. He spent most of his sentence in Solitary Confinement (33 years in Confinement) until 2016. He is now not only fighting for his freedom. He is fighting Colon Cancer. His children will present one of his statements on Chairman Fred Hampton and discuss the current phases of his case. Go to <https://russellmaroonshoats.wordpress.com/> for more information about his case and his fight. For more information, please call or text 973 202 0745...”

### **New stage in the struggle to FREE MUMIA!**

By Betsey Piette posted on December 3, 2019

“Political prisoner and world-renowned journalist Mumia Abu-Jamal and his supporters are closer than ever to winning his release, 38 years after he was imprisoned for a crime he did not commit. The Fraternal Order of Police, former district attorneys and other political higher-ups who participated in the frameup are now shaking in their boots because this innocent man may be given a new trial in which judicial, police and prosecutorial misconduct will be exposed. In the late 1970s and early 80s, Abu-Jamal was a daily radio reporter for WHYI and NPR who earned acclaim for his award-winning reporting. As a reporter who supported the MOVE organization against state repression, he drew their ire of the Philadelphia FOP and the notoriously racist Police Commissioner and later Mayor Frank Rizzo”. See <https://www.workers.org/2019/12/44717/>

### **Buttons and the Radical Politics Colouring Book, from Leftwingbooks.net**

“There's less than a month left to 2019 -- we've had a very busy Fall, tabling in Montreal, Ottawa, and elsewhere. One of the nicest parts of which is meeting new people and having conversations; if you were a part of this, it was a pleasure and we look forward to seeing more of you in the new decade. Over the next few weeks, we'll be highlighting some of the new items we have added to our website (leftwingbooks.net) this year, some of which just over the past little while. We're really excited about many of these additions and think you might be too.



Here's to a militant month of December! Kersplebedeb”

### **Lockdown Finally Lifted at Coleman!**

“GREETINGS FRIENDS AND FAMILY-I JUST SPOKE TO THE INFORMATION OFFICER AT COLEMAN 1 AND THE LOCKDOWN HAS BEEN LIFTED....YEA!!! AND THANKS FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT AND LETTERS TO LEONARD. AND ALSO THANKS FOR YOUR

GENEROSITY ON GIVIN TUESDAY ! Miigwech and the works continues. Donate at [www.whoisleonardpeltier.info](http://www.whoisleonardpeltier.info) Paulette”

### **New! “Chiraq” Music Video by Chairman Fred Hampton, Jr.**

"Chiraq" Music Video by Chairman Fred Hampton, Jr. <https://youtu.be/ZQKajOPUmeQ>

### **WHAT: Political Prisoner Letter-Writing Dinner**

WHEN: 7pm sharp, Tuesday, December 10th, 2019 WHERE: The Base – 1302 Myrtle Avenue Brooklyn, New York 11221-NOTE: The Base is on the ground floor, is wheelchair accessible, and has a gender neutral toilet.-COST: Free

“It's rare, but every several years, the calendar works against us. Consistently having an event every other Tuesday for over a decade means eventually one of the events will land on a holiday. That's what would happen if we tried to host our regular letter-writing dinner in another two weeks, or even the week after, so this week will be our last of the year. NYC ABC will reset and come back strong for 2020, but only after co-hosting the annual Send Love Through the Walls holiday card making party with Resistance in Brooklyn, organizing an online fundraiser-DONATE at [https://fundrazr.com/project\\_FANG](https://fundrazr.com/project_FANG)> for project FANG that runs through the end of the year, and after getting loud at our New Year's Eve noise demo. Until then, please join us this week to send letters to the last of the NATO 3 political prisoners, Jay Chase.’ See <https://nycabc.wordpress.com/2019/12/06/jaychase2019>

### **Hunger-striker in Serious Condition** December 9, 2019

“Ahmad Zahran, a Palestinian administrative detainee held in Israeli jails who has been on hunger strike for 78 consecutive days, in protest against his incarceration without charge or trial, is in serious health condition and has been admitted to an Israeli hospital, today, said the Palestinian Prisoner Society (PPS). Zahran, 42, a father of four children from the Ramallah-district village of Deir Abu Mishaal, was detained last March and slammed with an administrative detention order, upon which he was held in prison without charge or trial and based on secret evidence not available even to his lawyer.’ See <https://imemc.org/article/hunger-striker-in-serious-condition/>

### **Rastafarians Were Key to Black Freedom Movement**

“Black Agenda Radio with Nellie Bailey and Glen Ford

The Jamaica-birthered Rastafarian movement played a key role in the emergence of a global movement for African liberation, said Daive Dunkley, professor of Black Studies at the University of Missouri and author of a number of books on the subject. “This spirituality component of Rastafari was part of a package that was geared towards decolonizing Black space in the diaspora,” including the continent of Africa. Dunkley said there are now more Rastafari in South Africa than in Jamaica.”

<https://www.blackagendareport.com/rastafarians-were-key-black-freedom-movement>

### **Climate Change Fuels Hellfire in the City of Angels**

“California’s fire season isn’t over yet, but megafire events have already taken a major toll on the state and its inhabitants, forcing the evacuation of tens of thousands of people. Warm, dry climate change conditions have made housing in LA’s “Wildland-Urban Interface” dangerous.”

<https://therealnews.com/stories/climate-change-fuels-hellfire-in-los-angeles>

**Artivists fundraiser tomorrow 12/7, 4-7pm, for Bay View & Prison Focus: Prison art, performances, fun.. [sfbayview]**

K.A.G.E. UNIVERSAL, QMC, S.F. BayView Black Newspaper & California Prison Focus have partnered together to present the Annual Ratcliff Awards Fundraiser.

# ARTIVISTS IN ACTION & SOLIDARITY



**DECEMBER 7TH**

**4PM - 7PM**

**QUEEN MEMORIAL CHURCH OF GOD  
1324 EAST 24TH ST  
OAKLAND, CA 94606**

For more info, visit [www.prisons.org](http://www.prisons.org)



In Partnership with: Kings and Queens Against Genocidal Environments (K.A.G.E. UNIVERSAL)

**BayView**  
National Black Newspaper



“Artivists fundraiser tomorrow 12/7, 4-7pm, for Bay View & Prison Focus: Prison art, performances, fun! For a good time in the old town tomorrow, don’t miss a great show and warm fellowship:

Artivists in Action and Solidarity, 4-7 p.m., in the Queen Memorial Church of God in Christ, 1324 24th St., Oakland. The principal organizer is Min. King, also known as the rapper Pyeface or William E. Brown Jr., released in August from 20 years behind bars. He planned it from inside and has gathered a great display of prison art for a silent auction plus a variety of performances to Rattle the KAGE. KAGE, Kings and

Queens Against Genocidal Environments, is the popular revolutionary inside-outside prison program he founded promoting peace and unity among racial groups. Click [HERE](https://sfbayview.com/2019/12/artivists-in-action-and-solidarity-rattle-the-kage-dec-7-4-7pm/) to read all about it:

<https://sfbayview.com/2019/12/artivists-in-action-and-solidarity-rattle-the-kage-dec-7-4-7pm/> Then

come on out and let’s have a great time! Invite friends, spread the word and expect a memorable

evening among friends with the courage to envision – and work for – **a world without prisons.**” (Photo from <https://sfbayview.com/2019/12/artivists-in-action-and-solidarity-rattle-the-kage-dec-7-4-7pm/>)

**The ProLibertad Freedom Campaign is EXCITED to share the following updates with you concerning Puerto Rican Prisoner of Conscience Ana Belen Montes:**

“First, we’re overjoyed to share that Ana is still in remission from her Breast cancer and is doing very well. She’s fighting, healing, and keeping her cancer at bay!  
Second, Ana Belen is up for EARLY RELEASE!



She will be released sometime in 2022. It isn’t often that we receive this type of wonderful news!  
As we all know, when prisoners leave jail they need money for clothing, transportation, medicine/health care, and other necessities. In celebration and solidarity, La Mesa de Trabajo por Ana Belen Montes (The Working Group for Ana Belen Montes) is shifting their campaign from one of education to PREPARATION!  
La Mesa is going to start fundraising now to ensure that Ana Belen’s transition is as seamless as possible.  
The ProLibertad Freedom Campaign will be joining La Mesa in this brilliant project by supporting their fundraising efforts. We know that Ana Belen is coming out soon and we won’t wait until she is out to build support-WE ARE DOING IT NOW!  
Once ProLibertad has the proper account information, we will share with all of you in hopes that our supporters can donate, whatever they can, to ensure that our sister Ana Belen enjoys an easier transition to civilian life.

¡Ana Belen Es Nuestra! Ana Belen is ours! Ana Belen

is our...hero, sister, mother, friend, family, and warrior! WE MUST BE THERE FOR HER!” See <https://www.prolibertad.org/ana-belen-montes>

**The Government Has Taken At Least 1,100 Children From Their Parents Since Family Separations Officially Ended** John Washington - December 9, 2019

“You can’t imagine the pain,” Dennis said. “If you’re not a dad, you don’t know what it’s like.” I reached Dennis by phone in a small town in the Copán Department of Honduras, where he lives with his wife and three children. For five months this year, the family was fractured across borders. Sonia, age 11, had been separated from Dennis after they crossed into the United States and turned themselves in to the Border Patrol to ask for asylum. Dennis was deported from Texas, and Sonia sent to a shelter in New York.” See <https://theintercept.com/2019/12/09/family-separation-policy-lawsuit/>

**Historic Radical Organization Relaunches to Fight Police Oppression**

December 9, 2019

“Jacqueline Luqman talks to Max Rameau about the relaunch of the National Alliance Against Racist & Political Repression, and the start of a national effort to advocate for community control over the police.” See <https://therealnews.com/stories/historic-radical-organization-relaunches-fight-police-oppression>

**Lawless Judges and Prosecutors Block Mumia’s Road to Freedom**

“Black Agenda Radio with Nellie Bailey and Glen Ford

Linn Washington, the Philadelphia-based legal scholar, told a New York City teach-in in support of Mumia Abu Jamal that the nation's best known political prisoner would be free already if not for massive prosecutorial and judicial misconduct. "If these judges ever follow the law Mumia will be out immediately – but they don't follow the law," said Washington."

<https://www.blackagendareport.com/lawless-judges-and-prosecutors-block-mumias-road-freedom-0>

### **SOPHIA DAWSON FEATURED @ SCOPE - UPCOMING ART EVENTS**

"LAST WEEK WAS A MOVIE! This was my first year at Miami Art Week as an artist represented by a gallery at a major art fair! I am so blessed to have been one of four artists featured in the Bishop Gallery's installation at SCOPE. Last year I traveled with my work in a giant portfolio on a plane and had two large pieces driven down by an artist friend. At the time I knew that I had to embrace my humble beginnings. Fast forward to this year the Lord really surprised me! (which is something that I actually pray for Him to do.) Stay tuned for an essay that speaks to my experiences both this year and last. ALSO! I have two events coming up below! Hope to see you there. Don't forget to RSVP as space is limited. Thank you for all of your continuous support. God bless you!

P.S. If you have tapped into this season of giving I encourage you to donate to Artistic Noise. I have been facilitating art workshops through this organization for the past five years. It has brought me to the work that I do with young adults at Rikers and is become an extension of my practice."

Love, Sophia #thankyouJesus

NEXT ART SHOW in NYC 12/14 and raffle entry- <https://popupsoloshowjhbstudios.splashthat.com/>

CELEBRATION OF MURAL COMMISSIONED BY VERA INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE 12/18

[https://muralcelebration.splashthat.com/?utm\\_source=Contacts+2017&utm\\_campaign=a969596e51-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2019\\_08\\_22\\_08\\_32\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_aa1828f784-a969596e51-519394893](https://muralcelebration.splashthat.com/?utm_source=Contacts+2017&utm_campaign=a969596e51-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_08_22_08_32_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_aa1828f784-a969596e51-519394893)

### **War week was fifty years ago when the FBI fought the Black Panthers in Chicago, Los Angeles, and Omaha** by richardsonreports

"War week against the Black Panther Party fifty years ago, in early December 1969, took on lethal ferocity with the murders of Fred Hampton and Mark Clark in Chicago. The killings were orchestrated by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents under a clandestine counterintelligence operation code-named COINTELPRO. FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover had declared war on the Black Panthers and wanted them eliminated. Hoover pushed the FBI field offices to get Panthers off the streets using any tactics necessary." See <https://richardsonreports.wordpress.com/2019/12/11/war-week-was-fifty-years-ago-when-the-fbi-fought-the-black-panthers-in-chicago-los-angeles-and-omaha/>

## **In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela Campaign**

Jericho is spearheading the "In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela" campaign proposed by political prisoner and co-founder of the National Jericho Movement Jalil Abdul Muntaqim. This initiative appeals to the international community, including the International Commission of Jurists, to call for special hearings within the United Nations to review the cases of Political Prisoners.

Several meetings have already occurred in collaboration with interested others, and much headway is being made regarding organizing efforts. The campaign "In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela" is busy framing ideas about how to proceed with the charges for a tribunal and then bring that to main committee and start getting professionals involved nationally.

NYC Jericho's met on Saturday, November 16, 2019 at the Solidarity Center, 147 West 24th Street, 2nd floor from 12:30 p.m. until 3 p.m. For December and January's meetings, please contact

[nycjericho@gmail.com](mailto:nycjericho@gmail.com) if you are interested in becoming involved. We invite you to support this initiative. **Everyone is encouraged to check out the website** <http://spiritofmandela.org>

**“Set your calendars now: The International Tribunal on U.S. Human Rights Violations and Political Prisoners (ITUSHRPP) is set to take place in October 2021.** We intend to document, in detailed evidentiary form and utilizing all available contemporary human rights precedents, the gross violations faced by colonized people and those who have defended basic self-determination principles. But this will not be a narrow or dry legalistic affair. This people’s Tribunal is designed to both educate and mobilize, so renewed fight back movements can emerge and be strengthened. We are aware that we stand on formidable shoulders.

In the 1940’s, W.E.B. DuBois first petitioned the newly-formed United Nations regarding the rights of U.S.-born people of African descent; in the 1950’s Paul Robeson was one of a number who “Charged Genocide” against the U.S. government to the global body. Minister Malcolm X’s formation in 1964 of the Organization of Afro-American Unity was part of a direct campaign to put the case of “the 22 million Black people who are the victims of Americanism” before the Organization of African Unity and the U.N. On Human Rights Day 1978, attorney Lennox Hinds— working on behalf of the National Conference of Black Lawyers, the Commission for Racial Justice of the United Church of Christ, and the National Alliance Against Racism—petitioned the UN’s Human Rights Commission, resulting in a team of seven international jurists investigating cases of gross violations pertaining to U.S. political prisoners. Throughout the 1980’s and 1990’s, Dr. Luis Nieves Falcon and a wide array of petitioners held a variety of Tribunals in Europe, the U.S., and Puerto Rico, with verdicts indicating further abuses of the U.S. prison, police, political, and military systems. And in 2014, the UN Human Rights Committee issued a report criticizing the U.S. for 25 distinct violations of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. We are aware that the people’s voice—including the voices of our long-incarcerated elders—must be heard.

Mutulu Shakur asserted the need for a U.S. process of truth and reconciliation, and many have begun to discuss and implement grassroots forum for truth-telling, where witnesses listen and reflect upon voices “from the margins” to organize for an end to structural and militarized state violence. Jalil Muntaqim has called for campaigns “in the spirit of Mandela,” where the international social and political context which helped revise the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners in 2015 be utilized in the case of those incarcerated in the U.S. Our International Tribunal will call for testimony from both sides of the wall, both on issues of the torturous conditions of political imprisonment and on the root colonial and neo-colonial conditions and repression which inevitably lead to growing numbers of political prisoners. We will not separate the work to free our prisoners with the work to free the land, and for ultimate liberation of all.”

As we continue to launch the In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela, Bring Back the International Jurists Campaign, we are providing links to some important documents. One of these is the United Nations Mandela Rules, unanimously passed by the Security Counsel in December of 2015. Another important document is Jalil Muntaqim's essay regarding the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the International Jurists. Please see links and Docs at:

<http://www.freejalil.com/2017juristsUN.html> **also in German!!** [Click here to read the Report of International Jurists—Visit with Human Rights Petitioners in the United States, August 3-20, 1979.](#)

Political Prisoner/Prisoner of War, Jalil Muntaqim states in his blog “recently the Jericho Amnesty Movement embarked on a new national and international campaign to persuade the U.N. International Jurists to initiate a formal investigation on human rights abuses of U.S. political prisoners. To further demand the U.S. Corporate Government implement the U.N. Minimum Standards on the Treatment of Prisoners, and for the immediate release of our political prisoners. This especially calls for the release of those with COINTELPRO convictions who have languished in prison for 30 to 50 years. These

political prisoners were contemporaries of Nelson Mandela; when he was fighting against Apartheid in South Afrika, they were fighting against Jim Crow segregation and second-class citizenship in the U.S. This Jericho campaign motto is “In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela” and activists across the country are urged to join and support in whatever way they are able in political solidarity toward the building of the National Coalition for the Human Rights of Political Prisoners”.  
(<http://www.freejalil.com/blog47.html>).

***Please read our invitation below and contact us if you are interested in endorsing, sponsoring or otherwise becoming involved in “The Spirit of Nelson Mandela” initiative.***

### **“Greetings of Peace!**

“It is said that no one truly knows a nation until one has been inside its jails. A nation should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizens, but its lowest ones.” —Nelson Mandela  
The IN THE SPIRIT OF NELSON MANDELA COALITION invites you to join our campaign to develop an International Coalition to acknowledge, recognize and push for the release of US held Political Prisoners. The conditions under which US political prisoners are forced to live, and the length of their sentences violates international law and the UN Nelson Mandela Rules. In December 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted its landmark resolution 70/175 entitled “United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules”) (<https://www.penalreform.org/priorities/prison-conditions/standard-minimum-rules/>). These Rules condemn the United States’ policies and practices of punitive solitary confinement, medical neglect and long-term solitary confinement. This particular international initiative stems from a call from Political Prisoner and co-founder of the National Jericho Movement to Free All Political Prisoners, Jalil Abdul Muntaqim. Although efforts to present our issues in the international arena certainly aren’t new—Malcolm X urged such in the 1960s—this Initiative begins with a much-needed renewed energy, focus and commitment.

While constantly organizing and soliciting endorsers and sponsors, our first campaign objective was to contact the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) (<https://www.icj.org>) to initiate a formal investigation into the holding of Political Prisoners in the United States. Representatives from the ICJ had come to the United States before in 1979 to visit Political prisoners Sundiata Acoli and Ed Poindexter. Some forty years later these prisoners still remain in prison. Ultimately, we hope to use this investigation to bring the following results:

- Generate international awareness and attention
- Implore the United Nation to convene a Truth and Reconciliation Tribunal to explore, expose and address the social, economic and political historic conditions of people of color, and particularly black people in the United States, revolutionaries and movement organizations that struggle against these conditions, and the government’s brutal and illegal response to those organizations and people resulting in the deaths and incarcerations of hundreds
- Build political and legal pressure to call for the release of Political Prisoners

We realize that we have a difficult job ahead, but the more national and international solidarity we garner, the greater the chances for victory. We hope you will join the campaign by -

1. Agreeing to support by clearly identifying your organization and contact person;
2. Providing your accurate email and phone number (We will keep you informed of developments of this initiative); and
3. Partaking of the unique experience of collectively brain storming strategies to bring this struggle to the international arena and to the United Nations.

Your input is valued at any level.

In solidarity,

The National Jericho Movement  
In the Spirit of Nelson Mandela Coalition”



**FREE ALL U.S. HELD POLITICAL PRISONERS!!!**

## Moving Forward

As we move towards accomplishing our goals, we seek to continue to form new alliances to help build a more unified front both nationally and internationally. We look forward to expanding our scope of services as well as increasing our dedicated members, especially reaching out to the youth to carry on the torch of justice for not only our beloved freedom fighters who are now elders **still** in these dungeons, but also for those Political Prisoners who are to come in the future-and surely, they will, given the escalating oppression and fascism that is swiftly seeping through every “right” in this country. Unless a sudden change permeates the power structures, the number of political prisoners will grow. COINTELPRO is still alive and running many missives in which to entrap those who oppose the tyrannical, oppressive & racism regime. In the many decades of their operations they have become even more cunning and sophisticated. Our hope is to unify the people who truly want to move forward towards a better future for all, **not just some**-and to use the power of unified numbers to stand as strong as a spider web against those who have chosen a destructive path to abolish human rights.

As our Political Prisoners/Prisoners of War are aging and too many have already died behind these dungeon walls, it is imperative that we as a collective, continue to go even harder in the quest for their freedom. They have been waiting patiently... for 30, 40, 50 years. “For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others.”—**Nelson Mandela**

As Jericho has withstood many obstacles in the past 20 plus years, we are still here, and we will not fall back. We are relentless in bringing our beloved freedom fighters’ home.

## Gratitude and Appreciation

It is with great gratitude that we express our sincere appreciation to you-our supporters. Without your help, we could not accomplish all that we do for our Political Prisoner's/Prisoners of War. From helping their families visit them, to assisting with legal and medical needs, to putting monies in their commissary as well as providing forums wherein we can hold events to educate others about our Political Prisoners/Prisoners of War, your support helps make this possible. We know it, and our Political Prisoner's/Prisoners of War know it as well. There is power in the people, and this is where freedom lies.

It is because of people such as yourselves, who so graciously give of your time, your donations as well as your thoughts towards this cause, that brings us closer to the day when we can finally say-They

are Home at Last....Can you imagine? After sacrificing for the community-the community is the one who brings them home. After languishing in a steel dungeon waiting for freedom for decades, when that door finally swings open and they finally step into their family's arms for good, it will be a powerful day indeed.

We are all links that join together as one. No act, no deed is too small. Together we are strong, powerful. We just have to keep going-as they did back in the days when they were fighting the same old oppressive, racist regime.

*“Freedom can never be taken for granted. Each generation must safeguard it and extend it. Your parents and elders sacrificed much so that you should have freedom without suffering what they did. Use this precious right to ensure that the darkness of the past never return.”—Nelson Mandela.*

Thank you-for safeguarding and extending the fight for justice, freedom and human rights. There is a light down the way, it is called our children's eyes. May they know a better world.

As you know, the obstacles to helping free our political prisoners are immense. It is to challenge the super power and its many facets. It is to fight repression through education, organizing, mobilizing, and creating a movement that embraces freedom and dignity for all people and freedom for all political prisoners.

Your financial support at this time is needed for Jericho's continued work and effectiveness. If you cannot support financially, please do continue to read our newsletters, share them widely, tell others about our Political Prisoners/Prisoners of War-volunteer to help us if you can, for everything matters and no sincere deed is left unnoticed. We are the ones, for a prisoner's options are limited, we have the key, we just have to figure out together, how to unlock those doors.

## **Free all Political Prisoners!**

In Struggle and Gratitude,  
The National Jericho Movement

**Please consider signing up to be a being a Monthly Sustainer!  
Your Generous Contributions  
Help Us Provide Real Support to our Political Prisoners!**

\_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$75 \_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_ \$ Other \_\_\_

There are two ways to donate:

**Please make non-deductible donations to:**

National Jericho Treasury  
Mail to: "Jericho Treasury/Michael Alston"  
Ashanti Alston  
[162 Miller Ave](#)  
[Providence, R.I. 02905](#)

**For tax deductible receipt, send donations to:**

Alliance for Global Justice  
**Please make the check out to:**  
Alliance for Global Justice/The National Jericho  
Movement  
Subject Line: **Jericho**  
Mail to:  
David Archuleta  
Alliance for Global Justice  
[225 E. 26th Street, Suite 1](#)  
[Tucson, Arizona 85713](#)

Or visit our website at: <http://www.thejerichomovement.com/donate> and click our “donate” button.