

**MOURNING OUR LOSSES  
TRAVELING MEMORIAL  
CURATED BY MICHELLE DANIEL JONES**

**FEATURED ARTISTS CATALOG**

Summer/Fall 2023

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**DOROTHY BURGE**

**MICHELLE DANIEL JONES**

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**MAKES ME  
WANNA HOLLA:  
ART, DEATH &  
IMPRISONMENT**

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**LOGAN CENTER GALLERY**

**JULY 7–SEPT 10, 2023**

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# INTRODUCTION

The Mourning Our Losses Traveling Memorial (MOLTM) is designed to bring to directly impacted communities the experience of our digital memorial that honors the lives of people who died in prisons, jails, and immigration detention facilities in the United States during the COVID-19 pandemic. The MOLTM is an immersive exhibit providing attendees with a multi-sensory experience of COVID-19 in prison. It is educational, displaying critical information and statistics on the pandemic in America's prisons. It is also an interactive space wherein members of the community can bring items and add to the exhibit, creating a public altar for reflection and remembrance. The MOLTM showcases the artistry of those incarcerated and formerly incarcerated through portraiture and other works that speak to the horrors of the pandemic. We remember the lives of people who died from abominable public health conditions, as family, friends, residents and as employees. We believe a loss of any human life warrants mourning and our traveling memorial, through art, education, and lived experience, shares that message across the United States.

We invited incarcerated and formerly incarcerated artists to submit visual works, including, but not limited to, drawings, paintings, and collages, in any art style (e.g., realism, impressionism, abstract, graffiti, pop art, etc.) for consideration. Works were not limited by medium or size and we welcomed poetry. We asked all submitted pieces to respond to the theme: Captive Living and Dying With COVID-19.

This catalog provides artist biographies and, when available, descriptions of and reflections about each work in the exhibit. It is organized by individual artists and collaborating artists.

Logan Center Exhibitions, the Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture (CSRPC), and the Pozen Center Human Rights Lab (HRL) at the University of Chicago are pleased to present ***Makes Me Wanna Holla: Art, Death & Imprisonment*** featuring 2022-23 "Artist for the People" Practitioner Fellows **Dorothy Burge** and **Michelle Daniel Jones** with **Mourning Our Losses**.

# INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS

## ARTIST NAME

## ARTWORK TITLE

<p><b>Adamu Chan, CA</b></p> <p>Adamu Chan is a filmmaker, writer, and community organizer from the Bay Area who was incarcerated at San Quentin State Prison during one of the largest COVID-19 outbreaks in the country. He produced numerous short films while incarcerated, using his vantage point and experience as an incarcerated person as a lens to focus the viewer's gaze on issues related to social justice. In 2021, he was a recipient of the "Docs in Action Film Fund" through Working Films, and was tapped to produce and direct his award-winning film, "What These Walls Won't Hold." In 2022, Adamu directed a documentary short for the doc-series "Bridge Builders," partnering with ITVS/Independent Lens, about a community member working at the intersections of immigration, incarceration, and gender justice. He is also a 2022 Stanford University Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity Mellon Arts Fellow, and a 2023 Rockwood Institute Documentary Leaders Fellow. Adamu draws inspiration and energy from the voices of those directly impacted and seeks to empower them to reshape the narratives that have been created about them through film.</p>	<p><b>"WHAT THESE WALLS WON'T HOLD"</b> documentary film</p> <p>Synopsis - Set against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic at San Quentin State Prison, "WHAT THESE WALLS WON'T HOLD" chronicles the organizing and relationships of people who came together beyond the separations created by incarceration, to respond to this crisis. Filmmaker Adamu Chan, who was incarcerated at San Quentin during the height of the COVID-19 outbreak in 2020, documents his path through incarceration and beyond.</p>
<p><b>Alberto Nunez, OR</b></p> <p>My name is Alberto Nunez. I am very grateful for being given the opportunity to be part of something so special. Thank you. I am very driven to someday opening my own tattoo business. And I just love to watch things come to life when you paint them; it's like you're telling a story through your artwork.</p>	<p><b>"Remember Me"</b> ink and watercolor on canvas</p> <p>Chino was a friend of mine who was incarcerated here in Sheridan, OR when I arrived. I was sent to 4-A where I met him and we would play dominoes, cook food in our unit and he loved to share. He liked to joke, laugh, and was very respectful. It's been almost 6 months since I last saw him due to COVID and infection in his blood. It's sad that I never got the chance to say goodbye. So I feel like this is my chance to honor him in a way that I love through my artwork. So, I dedicate this piece to a friend that we will all miss dearly.</p>

<p><b>Anonymous, CO</b></p> <p>I've been through a lot but, faith and hope have gotten me through it all. I'm proud of who I am and who I've become.</p>	<p><b>"Hope"</b> pencil and colored pencil</p> <p><b>"Life/Faith"</b> pencil and colored pencil</p>
<p><b>Anthony Ehlers, IL</b></p> <p>I am a former death row inmate, now serving life. I have been in prison for 30 years. I am an activist and artist. I draw and paint, and I write articles for the Prison Journalism Project and the <i>Chicago Reader</i>. Feel free to check them out.</p>	<p><b>"James Scott"</b> pencil</p> <p>This portrait is of James Scott. He was my cellmate for 5 years and my best friend. He was a good, loving, caring, intelligent person and the strongest man I knew. We were some of the first to have COVID here, and it killed him in less than two weeks. He is missed dearly.</p>
<p><b>Anthony "Sonny" Ramirez, CA</b></p>	<p><b>"William COVID"</b> ink</p> <p><b>"Declaration of Anthony M. Ramirez"</b> poem</p> <p>Curator's note: These works, along with exhibits from the <i>San Quentin News</i> and a memorandum from Health Care Services, take you deep into the experience of COVID-19 inside San Quentin Prison from the artist's personal experience.</p>
<p><b>Brian Hindson, TX</b></p> <p>I thought being locked in a cell only being able to get out 3x/week for a shower/phone (1 hour) was worse than catching COVID in an open dorm setting. I believe if all inmates were tested for having had COVID, even if they never admitted to having it to officials, the numbers would be shocking.</p>	<p><b>"Social Distancing"</b> acrylic on yupo</p> <p><b>"Safety Protocol"</b> acrylic on yupo</p>
<p><b>Carlos J. Ayala, IL</b></p> <p>Carlos J. Ayala is an American artist born in 1978 in Arecibo, Puerto Rico. He grew up on the Northside of Chicago, where he graduated from Mather High School in 1997. Being incarcerated</p>	<p><b>"Stateville Lost Soul's"</b> graphite</p> <p>I want to show that my fellow comrades are not forgotten. While at Stateville Prison in Illinois, I saw individuals I knew for twenty years pass</p>

<p>for over twenty years, he gained the knowledge of different mediums to become a self-taught artist. While incarcerated, Ayala has achieved his paralegal, psychology, and social worker certificates and has become a painter, printmaker, and sketch artist. His art expresses a wide range of themes from race, violence to representing positive outlooks on life, and social along with prison reform.</p>	<p>away from COVID-19, so the opportunity to represent them is an honor in and of itself.</p>
<p><b>Cedar Annenkovna, CO</b></p> <p>I am an artist/poet/activist/lover of freedom, the earth, and all of creation trying to overcome the recent designation of my identity becoming reduced to a number within the system. My hope is that I may succeed in making this experience into an opportunity for betterment vs. a detriment to my state of being. May I become a light in a dark place and offer solidarity and strength to those also caught up in the struggle. May we remain compassionate and human, progressive in consciousness, despite numbing circumstances that may pressure us to become otherwise.</p>	<p><b>"R.I.P."</b> graphite and colored pencils</p> <p>Being incarcerated prior to and during COVID, I witnessed sickness, death, panic, and despair. It was a horrible time for us. The drawing is meant to commemorate those lost to COVID-19.</p>
<p><b>Cuong "Mike" Tran, CA</b></p> <p>Greetings! Thanks for checking out the art. I'm completely self-taught, having discovered my talents in prison. Art is life and freedom for me, transcending these prison walls.</p>	<p><b>"Put Your Mask on Dirty Inmate!"</b> acrylic on canvas board</p> <p>Since the start of the pandemic, incarcerated persons have been required to wear face masks. Failure to comply results in disciplinary action, however, our "captors" (prison guards and staff) often do not wear their own masks. As incarcerated persons, we are closed off from the public. So how do we get infected? How does the coronavirus come into prisons? One could argue that prison staff who do not practice safety protocols are guilty of attempted murder and malice intent. Where is the accountability?</p>
<p><b>D. Nicholls, CO</b></p> <p>I began watercolor painting to help with the grief and trauma in my life, as a creative outlet. I am fighting a wrongful conviction and art has</p>	<p><b>"Palm vs. Storm"</b> watercolor</p>

<p>saved my spirit in the harshest, most wrong of situations.</p>	
<p><b>Darrell Fair, IL</b></p> <p>Darrel Fair is a 55 year old American artist, published writer, animator. Wrongfully convicted for 26 years. Torture Survivor. 2019 graduate from Northeastern Illinois University, current North Park University MDA student. Proud father of Maria. Community activist, organizer, builder. Currently awaiting oral arguments in Illinois Supreme Court.</p>	<p><b>"Invisible No More"</b> acrylic, colored marker, ink, and colored pencil</p>
<p><b>Devon Daniels, IL</b></p> <p>My name is Devon Daniels. I've been creating art since 2007. I'm self-taught, but inspired by many. Graphite is my first love. I also can create in other mediums: oil, acrylic, watercolor, colored pencils, etc. I've always appreciated art, but I have come to love my artwork and creating it as well.</p>	<p><b>"Untitled"</b> graphite, colored pencil</p> <p><b>"Big Spank"</b> pencil, colored pencil</p> <p>This piece is in remembrance of my homie Big Spank. He lost his life too soon and to something called COVID-19.</p>
<p><b>E. L. Burnside, IL</b></p> <p>My name is Elbonie Burnside. I have spent the past 22 years incarcerated, but I am now validated through the Northwestern Prison Education Program (NPEP) and Prison + Neighborhood Arts/Education Project (PNAP).</p>	<p><b>"Running"</b> poem</p> <p>The poem I wrote is about Ms. Short, a person who had a wonderful spirit despite her circumstance. She succumbed to COVID-19 in 2021 and her passing hit the Logan community very hard.</p>
<p><b>Efrain Alcaraz, IL</b></p> <p>I'm Efrain Alcaraz. I am currently incarcerated at Stateville where I am serving a natural life sentence. Although I'm wrongfully convicted, a long time ago I used to be the caterpillar that was eating the peace from my community. Now I find peace through poetry and art.</p>	<p><b>"The Tree"</b> poem and painting</p> <p>My words are who I am and sometimes I paint a picture that only my eyes can see. Some days the load of my past is too heavy and other days I feel that I have the energy of a giant tree. Sometimes I feel like I'm under the water and other times I feel that my soul flies like a bird, a bird that flies to the skyline.</p>

<p><b>Erika Ray, IL</b></p> <p>Student in Northwestern Prison Education Program. Restorative Justice team member with Northwestern Pritzker School of Law. Advocate and activist for women's rights. Author of <i>Yasir's Idea</i> and upcoming book, <i>42 and Freedom</i>.</p>	<p><b>"Mourning Our Losses Poem"</b> poem</p>
<p><b>Ernesto Valle, IL</b></p> <p>I am Ernesto Valle, a 34-year-old young man. I am in Stateville C.C. Well, allow me to tell you a little bit about myself. I graduated high school in 2005 from East Aurora High, and then my life took a turn and I have been incarcerated since. It has been 16 long years, and I am still in my appeal process. And God willing, I will have another chance to society. During my incarceration I applied for and completed many programs. During that time I found two talents that I didn't know I had. I write poems and paint.</p>	<p><b>"Too Many Years to Count"</b> acrylic on posterboard</p> <p><b>"Fighting to Breath (Breathless)"</b> poem in pencil on posterboard</p> <p>I hope that everyone who sees my poems can understand the volume of what life throws at us.</p>
<p><b>George Paniagua, CA</b></p> <p>My name is George Paniagua. I came into or was incarcerated in 1989 for Murder 1. I was 15 years old. My introduction to art was when I was 10. I fell in love with Lowrider art, jailhouse art, etc. Since then I took up drawing.</p>	<p><b>"R.I.P. Beautiful"</b> graphite</p> <p>I am sending my art through my PROJECT PAINT group/class. I lost my mother to COVID-19. Her name was Bellicima (Italian for Beautiful). Thank you for giving me the opportunity to participate in this.</p>
<p><b>JA-HEE, IL</b></p>	<p><b>"COVID-19 Pandemic, I Survived"</b> poem</p>
<p><b>Jami, IL</b></p> <p>I am just me. Often confused about life while on a constant journey for peace and enlightenment. I trust in a power higher than humanity to guide me through these obstacles. I hope my journey helps the next one along this path.</p>	<p><b>"I Will Rise"</b> watercolor</p>
<p><b>JD, IL</b></p> <p>My name is Jimmie Moody. I've been incarcerated for the past 19 1/2 years.</p>	<p><b>"Untitled"</b> poem</p> <p>The COVID-19 pandemic is the worst I've ever seen, so many lives lost, within these walls and</p>

	<p>out. My poem just reflects how we're treated inside these prison walls, my expression of what I see and feel. My condolences to anyone who lost somebody to COVID-19.</p>
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<p><b>Jeff-Free G. Raff, CA</b></p> <p>Jeff-Free G. Raff is a nonbinary artist and political advocate. They are an incarcerated activist for LGBTQIA+ rights, AAPI and BLM in the liberal left political party who creates to spread unity through the diversity in their work. Published author in the 2022 <i>Iron City Magazine</i> of their song "Boxers in Heaven," they did illustration prior for Black and Pink News, worked with Initiate Justice, and currently signs the majority of artwork to the Justice Arts Coalition. Jeff-Free loves giraffes, the color yellow, dandelions, and friends call them "Free," short for freedom of expression and a reminder of their long term goal after growing up on an adult life sentence since the age of 14—to be free within so as to one day be free and out.</p>	<p><b>"From Pandemic Pain"</b> collage/sketch</p> <p>Collage/sketch in memory of Jeff-Free's, mom, Ann Redelfs, who passed away from COVID-19 on 04/14/2020.</p> <p><b>"I Say Their Names"</b> t-shirt</p> <p>T-shirt with names of all the loved ones of Jeff-Free who died during their incarceration—starting with mourning those who died from COVID-19.</p>
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<p><b>John W. Zenc, CA</b></p> <p>I love to create art. I wanted to continue to create art in prison to show people I did not waste my time in here. I create art to show society how important it is; how it is so vital to be able to express myself.</p>	<p><b>"22 Hours in My Mind"</b> colored pencil</p> <p><b>"The Tipping Point - The Angry Mob"</b> colored pencil</p>
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<p><b>Jonathan Marvin, CA</b></p> <p>My name is Jonathan Marvin. I was born to a military family and moved a lot growing up. The upside: I experienced a lot of culture and had to learn to make friends on a tight timeline; the downside: the abandonment of a life like that. I rebelled as a young man and continued until receiving a life sentence in the state of California.</p> <p>I love life. Art makes loving life lovelier. Being born into an artistic home and then fast forwarding to prison (life in between) puts life</p>	<p><b>"Offering"</b> cut paper on board</p> <p>There are 100 adventures before and after, and art has been a grace from God, a constant anchor for my soul. COVID challenged all that. Being locked down in a pandemic was bad. People died. A lot. This piece represents a parable Jesus gave of the Kingdom of God and how it relates to his own death: That unless a seed (dies) and falls to the ground it can't truly live. Those who have passed in this pandemic in prison are part of this parable in my thoughts.</p>
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<p>into a perspective that makes every moment passionate. So my mission is to explore that as best I can. I love life and believe the best of life is yet to come.</p>	
<p><b>Joseph Dole, IL</b></p> <p>Joseph Dole is a writer, artist, and activist. He earned a BA from Northeastern Illinois University and the University Without Walls. He is one of the cofounders and currently policy director of the nonprofit organization Parole Illinois.</p>	<p><b>"Room with a View"</b> acrylic on poster board</p>
<p><b>Juan Luna, IL</b></p> <p>Juan Luna is a self-taught artist that is into realism, tattooing, and any art that gives/shows a strong message to the people. It is art in a style of tattooing that shows Chicano/a art, Aztec art, and some Mexican culture. He also wants to do murals that send a message about immigrants who are in prison that don't speak English. Not only is he an artist, he is also an activist and wants to make a difference with his art.</p>	<p><b>"Get Vaxxed"</b> colored pencil</p>
<p><b>Lloyd R. Caldwell, CA</b></p> <p>Just wanted to show my gift. Thank you.</p>	<p><b>"COVID Relief"</b> colored pencil</p>
<p><b>Lonnie Smith, IL</b></p> <p>I am an artist, survivor, and peace maker trying to bring humanity to people who are dying by death by incarceration.</p>	<p><b>"My heart, my mind, my breath"</b> poem</p>
<p><b>Maikio, CA</b></p> <p>Maikio is a native artist who paints, draws, tattoos, and beads traditional jewelry. My art is dedicated to my elder "Indio" Gary Caiac who was finally set free to the "spirit world" after years and years of incarceration. 25 to life for slapping another man's hand! When COVID-19</p>	<p><b>"Spirit World"</b> acrylic on canvas board</p> <p><b>"Medicine Man"</b> charcoal</p>

<p>came for him, he told me he was ready to go . . . and I believed him.</p>	
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<p><b>Marshall Stewart, IL</b></p> <p>Marshall Stewart, an unworthy servant of God, utilizes his suffering (especially during COVIDIOCY) transitionally as fuel to pray with/for his brothers born in adversity at Stateville prison. As a Spanish speaking servant, he can bless those suffering with the tools within him—which he probably is doing this very moment. Additionally, he is a Northeastern Illinois University-University Without Walls alumni (2019) and has just earned his Master of Arts degree in Restorative Justice Ministry from North Park University (2023) as a prisoner &amp; Chippewa Tribal Member...but will die behind the wall: Defacto Death sentencing.</p>	<p><b>“Ayuda! (Help!)”</b> watercolor</p> <p><b>“Anxiety”</b> watercolor and acrylic</p> <p>In the fall of 2022 IDOC transferred over 400 of its Stateville Correctional Center residents due to NO HOT WATER and years of complaints of smelly brown water and legionella bacteria. IDOC responded by failing lead testing in regard to its water at Stateville prison. Subsequently, all water was shut off and men in custody were given bags of water to drink, wash with, and bathe in. Shower trucks were brought into the prison and men were required to stand in the rain and cold pre/post showers. Currently, hot water has returned, but the sink water still smells and is often metallic and copper tasting. Many men not only test COVID-19 positive daily and are isolated in the "HOLE" (X-House), but now an uptick in H. Pylori seems to be the norm.</p>
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<p><b>Mary Elizabeth Baxter, PA</b></p> <p>Mary Enoch Elizabeth Baxter, also known by her hip-hop name, “Isis Tha Saviour,” is an award-winning Philadelphia-based artist who creates socially conscious music, films, and visual art through an autobiographical lens. Since her release from a Pennsylvania prison 10 years ago, Mary’s time spent on the inside continues to shape the direction of her art and practice. Her entertaining but poignant works offer a critical perspective on the particular challenges women of color face when they become immersed in the criminal justice system. Mary is a 2017 Soze Right of Return Fellow, 2018 and 2019 Mural Arts Philadelphia Reimagining Reentry Fellow, and a 2019 Leeway Foundation Transformation awardee.</p>	<p><b>"The Fall of America"</b> video - 2020</p> <p>(color, sound) 3 minutes, 2 seconds Written and Directed by: Mary Enoch Elizabeth Baxter aka Isis Tha Saviour Video edited by: Nimi Hendrix Music Produced by: Colossus</p> <p>This video explores how the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated existing inequalities in the United States and exposed, in the artist’s words, how “racism and white supremacy remain one of the world’s most deadly diseases.” Combining archival footage and contemporary media coverage of racial uprisings with an original song written and performed by the artist, the video is a visual and sonic reflection of the nation as being in the midst of a second civil war that centers on the legacies of slavery.</p>
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<p><b>Mary “Sketch” Vctor, IL</b></p>	<p><b>“Freedom = Mind Blown”</b> acrylic</p> <p>I would like to say that I am hoping everyone sees these pieces of art and realizes that we have a lot of talented people incarcerated. I’d also like to say keep faith &amp; much love &amp; respect.</p>
<p><b>Mesro Dhu Rafa’a, CA</b></p> <p>Mesro Dhu Rafa’a is an emcee and graffiti artist working toward prison reform, restorative justice, and social change. When he is not writing lyrics or drawing, he spends his time tutoring students, playing role-playing games, and studying. This piece is a tribute to the many lost during San Quentin’s outbreak, and so many others...</p>	<p><b>“Smile and Wave”</b> poem</p> <p>My piece is called “Smile and Wave” and is a tribute to those lost to COVID-19 during the outbreak. I got these names on the news even though they died right here at San Quentin. I wrote the piece because I was feeling distraught and anxious and wanted to pay my respects. This is a chance to do so.</p>
<p><b>Michael Sullivan, IL</b></p> <p>I once believed that an artist is something you become. So I made a commitment to draw as much as possible. It was only when I wasn’t drawing that I realized that an artist is who I am.</p>	<p><b>“Master of Puppets”</b> colored pencil</p> <p><b>“Black Love”</b> pencil</p>
<p><b>Michelle Daniel Jones, IN</b></p> <p>Artist, Scholar, Organizer and Curator of <i>Mourning Our Losses’ Makes Me Wanna Holla: Art, Death and Imprisonment 2023</i> exhibition. <a href="http://www.michelledanieljones.com">www.michelledanieljones.com</a></p>	<p><b>“Freedom in Death”</b> poem – 2023</p> <p>The poem reaches outward from inside, expressing how, for some of my friends, their freedom came not from a sentence modification, post-conviction relief petition, or exoneration.</p> <p><b>“Unshackled: Freedom in Death”</b> acrylic – 2023</p> <p>The painting provides a visible representation of the poem highlighting the all-encompassing nature of COVID and the release that comes from ending all suffering. Suffering meaning both that of COVID-19 and incarceration.</p>

<p><b>Randy Colón, NY</b></p> <p>I'm a 42-year-old man that has spent the majority of my life going in and out of prison, now being held until my death. I was raised in extreme poverty clear across the Eastern seaboard of the US and continued my travels around the world into my adult life. I was an ill child and began drawing at a very early age during my stays in hospitals.</p>	<p><b>"One Life, One Love, One Blood"</b> acrylic on canvas</p> <p>I guess it would be considered impressionism, but I just call it my style from what 20 years ago I considered new school. Note: I would so use her as my female avatar in the metaverse! When COVID first entered the system those of us that were initially infected were forced into absolute isolation with no reading or writing materials, no phone access, no visits, not even a notification to our loved ones, no music, no TV, no outside air and no face to face contact with anyone for 14 days. It may sound like a small discomfort, but when you don't know what you're infected with and are unsure if you're going to live or die, those 14 days seem an eternity, which I tried to reflect by putting nothing in the distant background.</p> <p><b>"This Can Not Be Life"</b> acrylic on canvas</p>
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<p><b>Reginald BoClair, IL</b></p> <p>My name is Reginald BoClair and I currently am housed at Stateville. I am a recent graduate of the 2022 Class of Northeastern Illinois University's University Without Walls. I am a scholar, artist, writer, and abolitionist. I subscribe to Black feminist praxis centering feminist masculinity and Afrofuturism.</p>	<p><b>"Reimagined Spaces"</b> collage</p>
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<p><b>Renaldo Hudson, IL</b></p> <p>Renaldo Hudson identifies as an artistic expressionist committed to ending mass incarceration. His art is reflective of the pain and the beauty of resisting the status quo. While on death row, Renaldo learned to express himself with oil and acrylic paints to escape the horrors of death row. Now that he is free, he makes art to expose the inhumanity of death by incarceration facing people with life sentences, also known as the other death penalty. Renaldo is the 2021 Inaugural "Artist for the People"</p>	<p><b>"The Forgotten Women of COVID-19"</b> acrylic - 2021</p>
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<p>Practitioner Fellow with the Pozen Center Human Rights Lab and the Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture at UChicago. He is also the Education Director at the Illinois Prison Project.</p>	
<p><b>Rick, TX</b></p> <p>Rick is an eclectic artist who works with multiple media and subjects. He believes art crosses all boundaries and has the beneficial ability to bring all living beings together because as Goethe stated, "Art is art because it is not nature."</p>	<p><b>"Astro Zombies Gig Poster"</b> colored pencil</p> <p>This poster was created for the Memorial Day concert in 2020 –because of COVID-19, the show never happened. Intentionally, I left the show dates blank so we could revise the poster by splicing it in, but we never played together again. Music brings us all together and we feel its loss in the sight of unplayed instruments and players who have left ahead of us.</p>
<p><b>Robert Curry, IL</b></p> <p>Robert Curry was born on the Southeast Side of Chicago in the Bronzeville community in August 1987. Robert is the firstborn son, grandson, and nephew of his maternal family's tribe. He is seeking his bachelor's degree through Northeastern Illinois University's University Without Walls program. His depth area is Community Architecture with a focus on Psychological Healing through the Arts, Spiritual Transformation, and Economic Development. His goal is to help build a vibrant community grounded in creativity and cultural significance.</p>	<p><b>"Release"</b> acrylic</p>
<p><b>Stan-Bey, CA</b></p> <p>Hello, my name is Stan-Bey. I've been interested in art most of my life. I knew nothing of stippling (dots with ink). I was shown how by an art instructor while in prison. This type of art forms takes patience. I've learned to apply that patience in daily life, and like stippling, patience seems to create an interesting life.</p>	<p><b>"Why Me COVID?"</b> acrylic</p> <p>This piece was inspired the men who are in prison and physically challenged. I am their caretaker, or Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) worker. Many of them died here in San Quentin. I share my hope and prayers with them, but COVID still took them. The stippling (or dots) reflect the people I've seen fall prey to those microorganisms of COVID-19. "Here's to you and your families guys!"</p>

<p><b>Tara Betts, IL</b></p> <p>Tara Betts is the author of <i>Refuse to Disappear</i>, <i>Break the Habit</i>, and <i>Arc &amp; Hue</i>. She served as the inaugural "Poet for the People" Practitioner Fellow with University of Chicago's Pozen Center Human Rights Lab and the Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture. She is currently a Professor of Practice and Poet in Residence at DePaul University's Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies Program. Tara also serves as Poetry Editor at <i>The Langston Hughes Review</i>. She also coedited <i>Carving Out Rights From Inside the Prison Industrial Complex</i>, <i>The Beiging of America: Being Mixed Race in the 21st Century</i>, and a critical edition of Philippa Duke Schuyler's memoir, <i>Adventures in Black and White</i>.</p>	<p><b>"The Idea of Etheridge"</b> poem - June 2023</p>
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<p><b>William Jones, IL</b></p> <p>I'm a writer, and I love preaching the word of God. I've been locked up for 43 years for a crime I didn't commit. I want freedom for everyone.</p>	<p><b>"Marching"</b> watercolor</p> <p>My art is an expression of love for all people. For this is what the world needs in these times.</p>
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<p><b>Willie Spates, IL</b></p> <p>I am Willie Spates, a 60-something prisoner here at Stateville. I am no artist, but I try to have fun by thinking and imagining hope and change beyond the box or rather "cage" of prison. I am a multilingual scholar (M.S, pilot, musician); among other diverse interests: Theology, Sets, and Archaeology is my thang. COVID has caused us to think, imagine, and reach beyond our human conditions ~ to activate our faith and hope ~ when we feel lost, alone or future-less.</p>	<p><b>"There is 'One' who cares"</b> pen and colored pencil</p> <p>A lonely sick prisoner obtains a glorious final relief while he yet prays in faith and unquenchable hope.</p>
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# COLLABORATING ARTISTS & WORKS

## ARTIST NAMES

## ARTWORK TITLE

<p><b>Chanthon Bun, CA</b></p> <p>Chanthon Bun is a 1.5 generation Khmer community member and a model of how we can transform the community by transforming ourselves. He was incarcerated for 23 years. He is passionate about immigration work, supporting formerly incarcerated people in their reentry journeys, and freeing his community from ICE. A father of 3 boys, he loves drawing and fishing in his spare time.</p> <p><b>Luci Harrell, GA</b></p> <p>Luci Harrell is a researcher, law student, co-founder of MOL, 2022 Soros Justice Fellow and Founder of the Atlanta Community Support Project whose work focuses on the intersection of poverty and incarceration.</p> <p><b>Michael Poor, IL</b></p> <p>Michael Poor (b. 1960), affectionately known by his family as 'Papa Tinker,' has been building, creating, and tinkering for the greater part of 40 years. He graduated from The Ohio State University with his degree in Industrial Design ('82) and has run an interior design business (Interiors by Feld's) with his wife and mother in Greencastle, IN, for the past 35 years. No project has ever been too large for Michael. From building models with his two daughters, Ruth and Lainey, to constructing the home he lives in now, Michael puts his all into his work. In his free time, Michael plays drums in local bands and spends time relaxing with his two dogs.</p> <p><b>Michelle Daniel Jones, IN</b> (see under individual artists)</p>	<p><b>“Solitary Deaths”</b> installation</p> <p>COVID is here! We all saw it with fear. Each day our movements are constricted, news flash of death around the world. As the days pass into weeks, the nights are filled with the screams, Man Down! In the morning we found out who left last night. We heard that folks with COVID were being locked up in solitary and dying alone. As the news flash of deaths, we pray for our families. There was no communication with our families or love ones. With no care and inhumane treatment, we are left to die alone.</p> <p>Cell curation and COVID-19 impact interviews - Michelle Daniel Jones</p> <p>Cell vision and design - Chanthon Bun</p> <p>Cell construction and finish - Michael Poor and Ruth L. Poor</p> <p>"Prison Soundscape" - Luci Harrell audio - 2023</p> <p>This song was scary to create. Mixing and editing in headphones triggered post-incarceration syndrome symptoms on multiple occasions, especially in the late-night, sleepy hours. The song features a mashup of original noise tracks, plus sound samples and news clips. The noise tracks were created by running single synthesizer notes through daisy-chained VST processors. The sound samples are snippets from videos taken and uploaded to YouTube by folks at home and inside, and the news clips are from actual reporting. *Sample credits available upon request.</p>
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<p><b>Ruth L. Poor, IL</b></p> <p>Ruth L. Poor (b. 1989) is an artist, educator/student, and advocate from Indiana, now in the Chicago-area for the last decade, where they teach painting and drawing at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Their artwork explores the mediums of paint, embroidery, screen printing, ceramics, and performance to dismantle colonial imagery in imagined and real spaces. They have art displayed at DePauw University and North Central College and have shown work at the New York Academy of Art and Indiana University. Ruth's previous work has led them to teach and mentor at-risk youth, advocate for Indiana Women's Prison, provide tutoring services for Dixon Correctional, create memorials for Mourning Our Losses, and work for the Prison + Neighborhood Arts/Education Project (PNAP). In addition to this work, Ruth enjoys reading, writing, and playing music.</p>	<p>“COVID-19 impact interviews” audio - 2023</p> <p>Tributes to lost loved ones and memories from the pandemic with DeCedrick Walker, Demitrice Crite, Raúl Dorado, Reginald BoClair, and Rodney Love.</p>
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<p><b><u>DeCedrick Walker, IL</u></b></p> <p>DeCedrick Walker earned his Master of Arts degree in Restorative Justice Ministries and North Park Theological Seminary's award for academic excellence in Theology.</p> <p><b><u>Demitrice Crite, IL</u></b></p> <p>Demitrice Crite is a writer incarcerated in Illinois. Born in Kentucky, he strives to tell the story of the past, present and future of prisons and prisoners.</p> <p><b><u>Raúl Dorado, IL</u></b></p> <p>Raúl Dorado is an incarcerated writer and criminal legal reform advocate. He earned a B.A. in justice policy advocacy from Northeastern Illinois University and is a co-founder of Parole Illinois, a movement to bring a comprehensive and retroactive parole system to Illinois.</p>	<p><b>“Solitary Deaths”</b> COVID-19 impact interviews audio 2023</p> <p>Interviewer - Michelle Daniel Jones</p>
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<p><b><u>Reginald BoClair, IL</u></b> (see under individual artists)</p> <p><b><u>Rodney Love, IL</u></b></p> <p>Rodney Love is a Maroon. He comes from the Southside of Chicago, Back of the Yards. He is a father of three, one boy and two girls. He reads history, studies politics, exercises, and is motivated to teach and help others to the best of his ability.</p>	
<p><b>Janie Field, TX</b></p> <p>Jane Field is a co-founder and core-organizer of Mourning Our Losses. Her interests include trauma-informed memory work, grief and archiving, as well as anti-oppression memory work documenting legacies of violence in the American south. In 2022, she began working as an independent contractor for small community-based archives seeking support building digital archival collections, developing community-centric fundraising practices, and growing capacity. From 2016-2022 she worked for Texas After Violence Project, where, over the years, she managed the oral history program, built the digital After Violence Archive, and oversaw day-to-day operations.</p> <p><b>Luci Harrell, GA</b> (see under Solitary Deaths)</p> <p><b>Michelle Daniel Jones, IN</b> (see under individual artists)</p> <p><b>Page Dukes, GA</b></p> <p>Page Dukes is a native ATLien. She was released from prison in May 2017. She is a founding member of the Athens Reentry Collaborative, Mourning Our Losses, and Georgia Freedom Letters, and a comms associate at the Southern Center for Human rights.</p>	<p><b>“Heart Alcove”</b> memorial altar installation</p> <p>Design and curation - Michelle Daniel Jones</p> <p>Photo sourcing and flowers - Jane Field</p> <p>"Nones 121211 Instrumental Remix" - Luci Harrell with Page Dukes audio - 2023</p>

<p><b>Joanne DeCaro, CA</b></p> <p>Joanne DeCaro is a doctoral candidate in the department of Criminology, Law and Society at UCI. She researches trauma and incarceration, and long-term incarceration.</p> <p><b>Michelle Daniel Jones, IN</b> (see under individual artists)</p>	<p><b>“Education Alcove”</b> interactive installation</p> <p>Design and curation - Michelle Daniel Jones</p> <p>Quiz creation &amp; format; material &amp; equipment sourcing - Joanne DeCaro</p>
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<p><b>Jane Field, TX</b> (see under Heart Alcove)</p> <p><b>Kirsten Pickering, CA</b></p> <p>Kirsten Pickering is a co-founder of Mourning Our Losses, and leads the Research &amp; Tracking team, which keeps a record of people who have passed away behind bars during the pandemic.</p> <p><b>Luci Harrell, GA</b> (see under Solitary Deaths)</p> <p><b>Michelle Alexander, OH</b></p> <p>Michelle Alexander (born October 7, 1967) is an American writer and civil rights activist. She is best known for her 2010 book <i>The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness</i>. Since 2018, she has been an opinion columnist for <i>The New York Times</i>.</p> <p><b>Page Dukes, GA</b> (see under Heart Alcove)</p> <p><b>Susannah Bannon</b></p> <p>Dr. Susannah "Susie" Bannon is a formerly incarcerated, award-winning teacher, scholar, and public servant with an extensive record of success in higher education and public advocacy. As a rhetorical critic, her research examines the ways discourse constitutes identities, influences public policy, and structures the world and the role of communication in social movement. In addition to her work as an educator and</p>	<p><b>“Education Alcove”</b> video</p> <p>Slides and organizational information - Susannah Bannon</p> <p>Voiceover scripts - Luci Harrell and Page Dukes</p> <p>Vocal narration - Page Dukes</p> <p>Special statement - Michelle Alexander</p> <p>Special curated footage - Jane Field</p> <p>Names of mourned - Kirsten Pickering</p> <p>"October Song," written and arranged by Luci Harrell (background audio - 2022)</p> <p>Audio and video editing - Luci Harrell</p>
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<p>researcher, Susie is a committed advocate for formerly incarcerated people and is a founding member of the Formerly Incarcerated College Graduates Network, where she also sits on the Board of Directors. Dr. Bannon successfully defended her dissertation, “The Rhetoric of Second Chances: Formerly Incarcerated Activists and the Reentry Movement in the US South” in August of 2020.</p>	
<p><b>Justice, Politics and Culture Think Tank, IL</b></p> <p>Composed of incarcerated scholars and creatives working with outside educators in the Prison + Neighborhood Arts/Education Project, the Think Tank works to transform the material and ideological conditions created by carceral logics. With the understanding that "we walk into the future by visualizing it today," as articulated by Devon Terrell, we seek to make key interventions to the broader movement to end mass-incarceration. Humansofliferow.com is a narrative project initiated by the Think Tank.</p>	<p><b>“Humans of Life Row: A Playlist for Survival”</b> playlist and liner notes- 2023</p> <p>This playlist and the accompanying liner notes were developed by a group of incarcerated scholars in Illinois who identify as humans of life row because they are serving life sentences without the possibility of parole or a defacto life sentence of thirty years or more. Their playlist represents a time capsule of songs that were a source of inspiration and solace during the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>

# **MAKES ME WANNA HOLLA: ART, DEATH & IMPRISONMENT**

## **EXHIBITION TEAM**

**Logan Center Programming and Production Staff:** Jan Brugger, Ben Chandler, Caleb Clemente, Emily Hooper Lansana, Rooke Hyde, Anika Steppe, Marcus Warren, David Wolf

**CSRPC Programming and Production Staff:** Beth Awano, Anaga Dalal, Tierra Kilpatrick, Alice Kim, Tracye A. Matthews, Marilyn Willis

**MOL Traveling Memorial Team:** Susie Bannon, Michelle Daniel Jones, Joanne DeCaro, Page Dukes, Jane Field, Luci Harrell, Kelsey Kauffman, Chanthon Bun. Additional assistance from Project PAINT: The Prison Arts Initiative and North Park Writing Center.

**Visual Resources Center Technical Consultants:** Bridget Madden, Allie Scholten

**Curatorial, Research, and Design Contributors:** Amber Ginsburg, Sarah Ross & the *Interpretations* class at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Joaquin F. Verges

**Prison + Neighborhood Arts/Education Project:** Tim Barnett, Gabrielle Christiansen, Alice Kim, Jason LaFountain

**Production Volunteers:** Taji Chesimet, Susan Mart, Ruth L. Poor, Michael Poor, Indigo Wright

*Makes Me Wanna Holla: Art, Death & Imprisonment* is presented by Logan Center Exhibitions, the Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture, and the Pozen Center Human Rights Lab at the University of Chicago. Practitioner Fellows are supported in part by a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to the Centering Race Consortium, a partnership between race studies centers at Brown University, Stanford University, UChicago, and Yale University to center the study of race in the arts and humanities. MOL's Traveling Memorial is also supported Illinois Humanities.