

**BEYOND THE BARS**



**BREAKING THROUGH**

**4th Annual Criminal  
Justice Conference**

**March 8, 2014**  
Columbia School  
of Social Work

**A Community Collaborative Event**

# Schedule of Events

**March 7, 2014**

## **FRIDAY NIGHT KICKOFF EVENT**

**7:00 – 9:30 pm**

Angela Davis  
Fania Davis  
Beth Richie  
Soffiyah Elijah

Impact Repertory Theatre  
Bryonn Bain  
NYCbeatbox  
Jacob Cohen

**March 8, 2014**

## **SATURDAY MORNING PANELS**

**9:00 AM – 10:00 AM**

**Check-In**

*Panel #1: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM*

**Transforming Systems: Education at the Center**

*Panel #2: 11:45 AM – 1:15 PM*

**Transforming Systems: Imagining Justice and Safety without Mass Incarceration**

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**1:15 PM – 2:15 PM**

**Lunch Break** *(Lunch provided on first-come basis to those registered for morning panels.)*  
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## **AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS**

**Block #1**

**2:15 PM – 3:45 PM**

**Workshops**

**Block #2**

**4:00 PM – 5:30 PM**

**Workshops**

# Morning Panels: Saturday, March 8th

**Panel #1 10:00-11:30 am**  
**Room 311/312**

## **Transforming Systems: Education at the Center**

This panel will examine how the criminal justice system is deeply intertwined with the education system. Education at the Center means dismantling the school-to-prison pipeline, putting resources into schools and not prisons and supporting education for those in prison and coming home. Transforming the criminal justice system means transforming the education system and transforming the education system means transforming the criminal justice system.

### ***Moderator:***

**Michelle Fine**, *Professor of Social Psychology, Women's Studies and Urban Education, Graduate Center, CUNY*

### ***Speakers:***

**Glenn Martin**, *Founder and Chief Risk Taker, JustLeadershipUSA*

**Fred Patrick**, *Director, Pathways from Prison to Postsecondary Education Project, VERA Institute*

**Susan Sturm**, *Director, Center for Institutional and Social Change*

**Julie Zuckerman**, *New York Public School Principal, Castlebridge Elementary School*

**Panel #2 11:45-1:15 pm**  
**Room 311/312**

## **Transforming Systems: Imagining Justice and Safety without Mass Incarceration**

This panel will explore alternatives to the punishment paradigm and mass incarceration. The panel will examine alternative frameworks including a public health lens and restorative justice practices, and review concrete examples both inside the United States and internationally.

### ***Moderator:***

**Mikail DeVeaux**, *Co-Founder, Citizens Against Recidivism*

### ***Speakers:***

**Fania Davis**, *Executive Director*, Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth

**Ernest Drucker**, *Scholar in Residence and Graduate Faculty*, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of NY, *Adjunct Professor of Epidemiology*, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health

**Clinton Lacey**, *Deputy Commissioner of Adult Operations*, New York City Office of Probation

**Marie Verzulli** *Victim/Survivor Advocate*, New Yorkers for Alternatives to the Death Penalty

**Sara Sullivan**, *Senior Program Associate*, Center on Sentencing and Corrections, Vera Institute of Justice

## **Afternoon Workshops:**

**Saturday, March 8**

***Block #1: 2:15-3:45pm***

### **Humane Alternatives to Long-Term Solitary Confinement**

#### **Room 405**

This workshop will paint a picture for what solitary confinement looks like, both generally and in New York State. The inhumane conditions that lead to human deterioration within solitary will be explained. The points of a bill that can change the system of torture that exists today will be discussed.

#### ***Moderator***

**Scott Paltrowitz**, *Associate Director*, Prison Visiting Project Correctional Association of New York; *Member*, Campaign for Alternatives to Isolated Confinement

#### ***Speakers***

**Tyrrell Muhammad**, *Correctional Association of New York*, *Survivor of 7 years of solitary*

**Yvette Gonzales**, *Survivor of 6 years of solitary*, Housing Works

**Gabriel Torres**, *Political Prisoner of 10 years*, Community Service Society

**Daniel Dromm**, *New York City Councilman*

## **Faith-Based Communities: Their Roles in the Criminal Justice System**

### **Room 304**

What might it mean for congregations and communities to engage powers and principalities that diminish life? This workshop explores this question by utilizing the study of the bible as a pedagogical tool for pushing beyond a prison ministry of presence to one that engages the structural issues that undergird our current system of incarceration

#### ***Moderator:***

**Aregenys Taveras**, *MSW and Seminary Student*, Union Theological Seminary

#### ***Speakers:***

**Reverend Janet Wolf**, *Co-Creator, D. Min. in Prisons*, Public Policy and Transformative Justice with New Brunswick Theological Seminary

**Leroy Jones**, *Formerly Incarcerated*

**Jacqueline D. McLeod**, *Executive Director*, Healing Communities Network

## **Immigration Detention and Mass-Deportation**

### **Room 311/312**

This workshop will discuss current laws on the local and federal level that are funneling non-citizen and undocumented immigrants into immigration detention centers, and will explore the impact of this practice on families and our society.

#### ***Moderator:***

**Evelia Ilarraz**, *CSSW Student*, Families for Freedom

#### ***Speakers:***

**Tina Reynolds**, *Co-Founder and Chair*, Women on the Rise Telling HerStory (WORTH)

**Donald Anthonyson**, *Organizer*, Families for Freedom

**Cindy Martinez**, *Organizer*, Families for Freedom

**Christina Hilo**, *Organizer*, Migrant Power Alliance

**Annabelle Sibayan**, *Advocate for Trafficking Survivors*

## **Campaign Development 101: Through the Lens of Raise the Age**

### **Room 404**

This workshop will examine strategies and tactics for building a campaign. It will focus on the Raise the Age Campaign as an example. The workshop will provide information and lead discussions so that participants can “workshop” the development of a campaign.

#### ***Moderator:***

**NuLeadership**

#### ***Speakers:***

**Dr. Divine Pryor**, *Executive Director*, Center for NuLeadership on Urban Solutions

**Kyung-Ji Kate Rhee**, *Juvenile Justice Director*, Center for NuLeadership on Urban Solutions

**Chino Hardin**, *Project Coordinator*, ARCHES Mentoring Program

## **The Impact of Parental Arrest on Children**

### **Room C06**

This workshop will explore how arresting parents impacts children from various viewpoints. Panelists will share personal experiences, psychological effects on children, and discuss proposed legislation around child-sensitive arrests.

#### ***Moderator:***

**Tanya Krupat**, *Program Director*, NY Initiative for Children of Incarcerated Parents, The Osborne Association

#### ***Speakers:***

**Senator Velmanette Montgomery**, *New York State Senator*, 25th District

**Barbara “Bobby” Blanchard-Lewis**, *Senior Staff Associate*, Center for Children and Families and Columbia University School of Nursing

**Charisse Simmons**, *Advocate for the rights of children and families who have been affected by incarceration*

**Nyasha Perez**, *Youth Advisory Board Member*

**Coryne Bonner**, *Youth Advisory Board Member*

## **Reproductive Health Rights in Prison**

### **Room 305**

This panel will discuss the issues around women's reproductive health and reproductive rights inside prisons, and the reproductive rights issues that feed into the prison industrial complex, focusing on current local and national campaigns. Issues include the shackling of women who give birth in prisons and advocacy efforts for women who have lost their right to make decisions about their own reproductive health in states that have criminalized abortion

#### ***Moderator:***

**Amanda Geller**, *Assistant Professor*, Mailman School of Public Health

#### ***Speakers:***

**Farah Diaz-Tello, JD**, *Staff Attorney*, National Advocates for Pregnant Women (NAPW)

**Victoria Law**, Birthing Behind Bars campaign, Women on the Rise Telling Herstory (WORTH)

**Sa'Vanna Stokely**, Birthing Behind Bars campaign, WORTH

**Tamar Kraft-Stolar**, *Director*, Women in Prison Project at the Correctional Association

**Bridgette Biggs**, *Coalition for Women Prisoners*, Women in Prison Project

## **Women, Reentry, and Gender Responsive Programming**

### **Room C03**

This discussion will center around women and re-entry, including the history of women in prison, the impact on communities, and the implications, successes and downfalls of gender-responsive programming.

#### ***Moderator:***

**Yolanda Peterkin-Johnson**, *Director of Program Operations for Re-Entry Services*, Women's Prison Association

#### ***Speakers:***

**Sharon White**, Housing Plus Solutions

**Eugene Jackson**, *Case Manager*, Fortune Society

**Melissa Rios**, *Program Director*, Justice Homes at WPA

**Nicole Nembard**, *Co-Founder*, MOVE

**Andre Ward**, *Program Manager*, Justice Community, Osborne Association

## Block #2: 4:00-5:30pm

### **The Intersection of Higher Education and the Criminal Justice Systems**

#### **Room C03**

This panel will focus on three campaigns about higher education and the criminal justice system: 1) reinstating higher education in prison; 2) abolishing the box that asks on college applications about felony convictions; and 3) the prison divestment campaign concerning colleges investing in prison-related products including private prisons. The participants will learn through personal life stories about the role of higher education for people returning from prison and the obstacles they face.

#### ***Moderator:***

**Julia Mendoza**, *New York University*, Department of Social and Cultural Analysis

#### ***Speakers:***

**Ronald Day**, *Director of Workforce Development*, Osborne Association

**Imani Brown**, *Students Against Mass Incarceration*, Columbia Prison Divest

**Yasmin Safdie**, *Community Organizer*, Education from the Inside Out Coalition

**Ronnell “Charzell” McGill**, *How Our Lives Link Altogether*

### **Our Elders Behind Bars, Our Families Divided: Transforming the Parole System**

#### **Room 305**

The number of incarcerated elders in New York and nationally continues to rise as people with long sentences age. Yet incarcerated elders pose the lowest risk to public safety and could contribute mightily to bettering our communities. How does continued incarceration and perpetual punishment affect elders, their families, friends and communities? AND: How can we win their release and heal our families and communities? How can we transform the parole system?

#### ***Moderator:***

**Laura Whitehorn**, *formerly incarcerated*, RAPP organizer



### **Speakers:**

**Larry White**, *formerly incarcerated*, AFSC

**Barbara Inniss**, *family member*, Sparkles of Joy Ministry

**Dequi Kioni-Sadiki**, *family member*, New York Jericho Movement

**Tyrrell Muhammad**, *formerly incarcerated*, Correctional Association

**Ariane Davisson**, *Columbia graduate student*

## **Restorative Justice in the Context of Domestic Violence: Exploring Culturally Sensitive Practices in Communities of Color**

### **Room C06**

This workshop will explore how the concept of restorative justice intersects with domestic violence and communities of color in practice. Panelists will discuss how professionals work with victims of domestic violence and the culturally sensitive practices that are required in serving communities of color. A call to action will provide ways that participants can get involved in working with communities of color in the domestic violence field today.

### **Moderator:**

**Jaya Vasandani**, *Associate Director*, Women in Prison Project (WIPP), Correctional Association of New York

### **Speakers:**

**Wanda Best-DeVeaux**, *Co-founder*, Citizens Against Recidivism

**Linda Lopez**, *Deputy Director*, Sanctuary for Families Center for Battered Women's Legal Services

**Shihomi Tonogawa**, *Assistant Director*, New York Asian Women's Center

**Rommell Washington**, *Clinical Social Worker*, St. Luke-Roosevelt Hospital Crime Victims, Treatment Center, *Board Member*, Male Survivor

**Soniya Munshi**, *Assistant Professor Sociology*, CUNY Borough of Manhattan Community College

## **Policing Under Bratten: A New Era or Business as Usual?**

### **Room 304**

NYPD Commissioner Bill Braxton announced that “the stop and frisk issue” has been solved. Bill de Blasio himself declared the end to the police reform movement. Has the new regime actually brought change to the streets of NYC? Is now a time to celebrate our wins or keep our foot on the gas? This workshop will explore these questions and the idea of community control as an alternative to current practices.

***Moderator:***

**Randolph Carr III**, *Investigator*, Bronx Defenders

***Speakers:***

**Noha Arafa**, *Staff Attorney*, Legal Aid Society

**Norm Segal**, *Former Director*, American Civil Liberties Union

**Margarita Rosario**, *Activist*

**Julien Terrell**, *Lead Organizer*, Brotherhood Sister Sol

**Fahd Ahmed**, *Legal and Policy Director*, Representative Lead Organizer

**Tracking Trans\* Individuals Across the Justice System Continuum: Identifying Service Gaps and Promoting Safety**

**Room 404**

This workshop will explore how trans\* individuals are treated along the spectrum of the criminal justice system, focusing on three key points: interaction with the police on the streets, interaction with the police and courts as survivors of violence, and experiences in institutional corrections. Speakers will provide a short overview of the obstacles faced, followed by a discussion about how to change and improve service delivery and general treatment. The panel will conclude with a “What’s next?” discussion, outlining existing activist individuals and organizations who are working on these issues, and a discussion of what workshop attendees can bring back to their own organizations to start to create or improve services for their trans\* clients and community members.

***Moderator:***

**Stacy Soria**, *Senior Case Manager*, Doe Fund

***Speakers:***

**Kim Watson**, *Founder*, CK Life

**Shaniece Powell**, *Community Group Organizer*, NYC Pride

**Sydney Kopp-Richardson**, *Training and Education Coordinator*, NYC Anti-Violence Project

**Crystal DeBoise**, *LMSW*, *Managing Director*, Sex Workers Project of the Urban Justice Center

## **How Can it Be Done Better? An International Comparison of Justice Systems**

### **Room 311/312**

This panel will examine criminal justice policies in the Netherlands, Germany, France and Spain. The panel will explore sentencing policies, prison conditions, reentry policies and the overall values and culture about crime and punishment.

#### ***Moderator:***

**Charlotte Gossett**, *Graduate Student*, School of International and Public Affairs & Social Work

#### ***Speakers:***

**Sara Sullivan**, *Senior Program Associate*, Center on Sentencing and Corrections, Vera Institute of Justice

**Lila Kazemian, Ph.D.**, *Associate Professor*, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

**Laura Negrodo**, *Research Analyst*, Research and Evaluation Center at John Jay College of Criminal Justice

## **Theatre for Social Change in an Era of Mass Incarceration**

### **Room 405**

Theatre for Social Change (TSC) artistic director and TSC performers will explore the role of devised theatre and performance in advocating for criminal justice reform and empowering communities disproportionately affected by mass incarceration. Exercises will focus on participant-generated themes relating to oppression and mass incarceration.

#### ***Moderator:***

**Elizabeth Mirarchi**, *Director*, Theater for Social Change

#### ***Speakers:***

**Edna Sams**, *Member*, Theater for Social Change

**Selena Fulford**, *Member*, Theater for Social Change

**Leslie Campell**, *Member*, Theater for Social Change

**Alesa Simmons**, *Member*, Theater for Social Change

**Denise-McFarlin**, *Member*, Theater for Social Change

**Yolanda Johnson-Peterkin**, *Member*, Theater for Social Change

Beyond the Bars is organized by the Criminal Justice Caucus, the Justice Initiative at Columbia University, the Criminal Justice Initiative: Supporting Children, Families, and Communities and Columbia School of Social Work, in collaboration with students, faculty and community members across New York City. For more information, visit the Justice Initiative at [ji.columbia.edu](http://ji.columbia.edu).

## Co-Sponsors

Criminal Justice Initiative: Supporting Children,  
and Communities

Professional Development & Self-Awareness (PDSA)

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Columbia University Office of Government and Community Affairs

## Special Thanks

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