



**VIRTUAL  
NCHEP  
2021**

**AMPLIFYING ACCESS**

hosted by the Alliance for  
Higher Education in Prison

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## WELCOME

Welcome to the *Tenth National Conference for Higher Education in Prison (NCHEP)*. While we are delighted to celebrate a decade of gatherings with you, this year's events also represent a novelty: the first *Virtual NCHEP*.

When it became clear that an in-person *2020 NCHEP* was not going to be possible, we looked for ways to facilitate conversations about the challenges our unprecedented times pose to the field and to the lives of currently incarcerated students. We decided to honor the original theme of the *10th NCHEP* conference -- 'Amplifying Access' -- by inviting everyone who previously submitted their work to take part in this virtual space. Of course, this will never be able to replace the vibrant and extemporaneous exchanges that in-person interactions can afford this community, as we painfully learn every day. And yet, potentialities exist amidst the current limitations: we hope that the remote format will afford more people than in previous years the possibility to attend the vast array of presentations and special events this conference has to offer.

We would like to express our gratitude to the members of the 2020 NCHEP Planning Committee: Lisa Akheituame, Tahirih Anthony, James Bullington, Ivelisse Gilestra, Kathryn Green, Matthew Holman, Tiffany Jones, Deanna Kabler, Annie Le, Aris Mangasarian, Majid Mohammad, Eric Pereira, Brittany Riggins, Maggie Shelledy, Dameon Stackhouse and Rachel Zolensky. Although their planning efforts got abruptly interrupted by the pandemic, this conference could not have happened without their committed support.

Mostly, we are thankful for your presence, and for the opportunity to learn from you, your scholarship, and your experiences.

We would like to open this conference with a quote by Antonio Gramsci, founder of the Italian Communist Party, incarcerated for many years by Mussolini's fascist regime. In his *Prison Notebooks*, which constantly remind us about how visions of abolition, resistance, and struggle must inform all of our actions, he writes: "The challenge of modernity is to live without illusions and without becoming disillusioned." It is from this in-between space that refuses to become disillusioned, despite the present crisis, that we welcome all of you to the National Conference on Higher Education in Prison, and we thank you for your fundamental work.

With our warmest wishes,

The Alliance for Higher Education in Prison *Virtual NCHEP* Planning Team

Valeria Dani  
Jesse Gant  
Mary Gould  
Stephanie Iasiello  
Ved Price  
Lauren Reed

## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

### Keynote Session

**Dr. Bettina Love**  
**March 2, 2021 at 7:00PM**  
***We Gon' Be Alright, But That Ain't Alright: Abolitionist Teaching and the Pursuit of Educational Freedom***

Dr. Love's talk will discuss the struggles and the possibilities of committing ourselves to an abolitionist goal of educational freedom, as opposed to reform, and moving beyond what she calls the educational survival complex. Abolitionist Teaching is built on the creativity, imagination, boldness, ingenuity, and rebellious spirit and methods of abolitionists to demand and fight for an educational system where all students are thriving, not simply surviving.

**Dr. Bettina L. Love** is an award-winning author and the Athletic Association Endowed Professor at the University of Georgia. She is one of the field's most esteemed educational researchers. Her writing, research, teaching, and activism meet at the intersection of race, education, abolition, and Black joy. Dr. Love is concerned with how educators working with parents and communities can build communal, civically engaged schools rooted in Abolitionist Teaching with the goal of intersectional social justice for equitable classrooms that love and affirm Black and Brown children. In 2020, Dr. Love co-founded the Abolitionist Teaching Network (ATN). She is the author of the books *We Want to Do More Than Survive: Abolitionist Teaching and the Pursuit of Educational Freedom* and *Hip Hop's Li'l Sistas Speak: Negotiating Hip Hop Identities and Politics in the New South*. Her work has appeared in numerous books and journals, including the *English Journal*, *Urban Education*, *The Urban Review*, and the *Journal of LGBT Youth*.



### Plenary Session

**Danielle Sered**  
**March 3, 2021 at 7:00PM**  
***Accessing Repair: Transforming Violence Beyond Prisons***

What repair is owed when violence is committed, and what would it mean to commit to creating access to such repair every time? Danielle Sered will speak about her book, *Until We Reckon: Violence, Mass Incarceration, and a Road to Repair*, and the work she leads at Common Justice, which develops and advances solutions to violence that meet the needs of those harmed, advance racial equity, and do not rely on incarceration. She will talk about what restorative justice offers as an approach to repairing serious harm, including violence, about why prisons almost always fail at the project of repair, and about what broader repair is required for the harms done by both violence and mass incarceration.

**Danielle Sered** envisioned and directs Common Justice, which develops and advances practical and groundbreaking solutions to violence that advance racial equity, meet the needs of those harmed, and do not rely on incarceration. Before planning the launch of Common Justice, Danielle served as the deputy director of the Vera Institute of Justice's Adolescent Reentry Initiative, a program for young men returning from incarceration on Rikers Island. She is the author of *The Other Side of Harm: Addressing Disparities in our Responses to Violence*, *of Accounting for Violence: How to Increase Safety and Break Our Failed Reliance on Mass Incarceration*, and the book *Until We Reckon: Violence, Mass Incarceration, and a Road to Repair*.



## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

### Plenary Session

#### Panel of Historians March 4, 2021 at 7:00PM

##### **Panel Discussion on the History of Policing**

The audience is invited to join a conversation with Dr. Marisol LeBrón (University of Texas at Austin), Dr. Simon Balto (University of Iowa), and DeAnza Cook (Harvard University), who will be discussing the history of policing.

**DeAnza Cook** began her doctoral studies at Harvard University as a Presidential Scholar in 2017 after graduating from the University of Virginia. At Harvard College, Cook serves as a Teaching Fellow and Course Development Fellow for the History Department and History & Literature Program. She is also an undergraduate advisor and Resident Tutor at Cabot House. Her forthcoming dissertation traces the rise of proactive “community-oriented” and “problem-oriented” policing in Greater Boston and beyond and examines the role of the police, police partners, and African Americans in revamping police business at the dawn of the twenty-first century. In addition to her doctoral work, she is also the course administrator for a new multidisciplinary seminar, “Civil Rights, Law Enforcement, and The Constitution,” designed for law enforcement officers in her home state of Virginia.



**Dr. Marisol LeBrón** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mexican American and Latina/o Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. Prior to arriving at UT, Dr. LeBrón was an Assistant Professor of American Studies at Dickinson College and a Postdoctoral Associate in Latino/a Studies in the Global South at Duke University. Dr. LeBrón received her PhD in American Studies from New York University and her bachelor’s degree in Comparative American Studies and Latin American Studies from Oberlin College. An interdisciplinary scholar, Dr. LeBrón’s research and teaching focus on social



inequality, policing, violence, and protest. Her book, *Policing Life and Death: Race, Violence, and Resistance in Puerto Rico* (University of California Press, 2019), examines the growth of punitive governance in contemporary Puerto Rico. Dr. LeBrón is an active contributor to popular conversations about policing as well as Puerto Rico and its diaspora. She has published op-eds in The Washington Post, The Guardian and Truthout and has been interviewed by a number of news outlets.

**Simon Balto** is an assistant professor of History and African American Studies at the University of Iowa, and author of the award-winning book *Occupied Territory: Policing Black Chicago from Red Summer to Black Power*. His writing has appeared in many different publications, from Time, The Washington Post, and The Progressive to academic journals such as The Journal of African American History and The Journal of Urban History. His new research projects include a critical biography of Fred Hampton (under contract with Haymarket Books); an examination of the phenomenon of white criminals donning blackface before committing crimes during the United States’ Jim Crow era; and a history of white mob terrorism in post-Reconstruction America and the political effects thereof. These new projects are currently supported by fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Council of Learned Societies.



## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

### Plenary Session

#### Reginald Dwayne Betts March 5, 2021 at 7:00PM **Felon: An American Washi Tale**

Dwayne will present an excerpt of the solo show that he is developing based on the poems in his collection *Felon*. The work addresses the experience of incarceration and the challenges of having a complicated conversation about crime and punishment in contemporary America. This presentation is built of three parts. First, a segment of dramatic performance that combines recitation of verse with storytelling. Second, a discussion framing the show within the contemporary political moment but also the literary context reaching back to the work of Etheridge Knight, Lucille Clifton, and John Edgar Wideman. Finally, there will be a question-and-answer period allowing Dwayne to explore the issues raised with the audience.



Photo: Rachel Eliza Griffiths

**Reginald Dwayne Betts** is a poet and lawyer, and the founding director of the Million Book Project. More significant than the books he has published and the awards he has won as a writer is that he’s helped get three men he served time with out of prison, and he is working now to get others home. His books include his latest poetry collection, *Felon*; the memoir, *A Question of Freedom*; and two previous collections of poetry, *Shahid Reads His Own Palm* and *Bastards of the Reagan Era*. In 2019, Betts won the National Magazine Award in the Essays and Criticism category for *Getting Out*, his *New York Times Magazine* essay that chronicles his journey from prison to becoming a licensed attorney. He holds a J.D. from Yale Law School.

### Virtual NCHPEP Networking Event

#### Monday, March 1, 2021 at 5:30PM

All conference attendees are invited to join the Virtual Networking Event. This event will be an occasion to come together and connect with others in the community who might be working outside of your immediate area or region.

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • MONDAY, MARCH 1

11:00AM–12:30PM

### ***The Possibility Report: From Prison to College Degrees in California***

**Danny Murillo**, Campaign for College Opportunity

1:00PM–2:15PM

### ***Individual Papers: Surveying the Landscape***

*Access to Higher Education in Prison via Distance Learning: Emotional Costs and Rewards*

**Prof. Helen Irma Lepp Friesen**, University of Winnipeg

*Access and Barriers: Lessons Learned From Second Chance Pell Grant Institutions*

**Audrea Dakho**, University of Michigan - Dearborn

*Towards a Research Infrastructure for Higher Education in Prison*

**Meagan Wilson**, Ithaka S+R

**Michael Fried**, Ithaka S+R

**Julia Karon**, Ithaka S+R

*Amplifying Freedom: Increasing the Carceral Society's Access to HEP Through Incarcerated Scholars*

**Timothy Russell**, Prison Programs, The College at Southeastern, Wake Forest, NC

2:30PM–3:30PM

### ***The Role and the Impact of Theological Education in the Prison Setting***

**William Eric Waters**, New York Theological Seminary

**Mark Chapman**, New York Theological Seminary

**John Ducksworth**, New York Theological Seminary

**Darren Ferguson**, New York Theological Seminary

4:00PM–5:00PM

### ***Where's the STEM? Understanding the factors that limit and support access to high-quality STEM education in prisons and reentry programs across the United States***

**Jill Farrington Stockwell**, Princeton University

**Neil Schiavo**, Education Development Center

**Robert Matthews Tynes**, Bard Prison Initiative

**Stanley Andrisse**, Prison Cells to PhD, Johns Hopkins University, Howard University

**Adam Alvarez**, Rowan University

**Veronica Horowitz**, SUNY Buffalo

**Andrew Cannon**, SUNY Buffalo; Eden Badertscher, Education Development Center

5:30PM–6:30PM

### ***Virtual Networking Event***

All conference attendees are welcome to participate.

7:00PM–8:00PM

### ***Works-In-Progress***

*Applying for Educational Justice: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Community College Reentry Program Grant Applications*

**Elif Asli Yucel**, University of Southern California

*One of These Three Just Doesn't Belong: College, Employment, & Criminal History*

**Catrina Palmer Johnson**, Rutgers University; Nicole Jones Young, Franklin & Marshall College

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • TUESDAY, MARCH 2

11:00AM–12:30PM

### ***Undanced Dances through Prison Walls During a Pandemic***

**Suchi Branfman**, Dancing Through Prison Walls, Justice Education at Claremont Colleges, Scripps College

**Selina Ho**, Dancing Through Prison Walls, Scripps College

**Ernst Fenelon, Jr.**, Dancing Through Prison Walls, Prison Education Project

1:00PM–2:00PM

### ***College, Responsibility, Re-entry: MyTERN, A Collaboration Between College, Community, and Corrections***

**Hilary Janine Binda**, Tufts University, Tufts Educational Re-entry Network (TERN)

**Arthur Bembury**, Partakers, College Behind Bars Mentoring, Tufts Educational Re-entry Network (TERN)

**Jeffrey Raphael**, Tufts Educational Re-entry Network (TERN)

**Claudia Guetta**, Tufts University, Tufts Educational Re-entry Network (TERN)

**Shakir Abdullah**, Tufts Educational Re-entry Network (TERN)

**Joseph Irizarry**, Tufts Educational Re-entry Network (TERN)

**Davon McNeil**, Tufts Educational Re-entry Network (TERN)

**Arlice Daveiga**, Tufts Educational Re-entry Network (TERN)

**Calvena Davoe**, Tufts Educational Re-entry Network (TERN)

**Hector Bannister**, Tufts Educational Re-entry Network (TERN)

**Rahim Gray**, Tufts Educational Re-entry Network (TERN)

2:30PM–3:30PM

### ***Individual Papers: The Politics of Higher Education in Prison***

*Terms of the Debate: Higher Education in Prison as Represented in New York Print Media Coverage, 2013-2020*

**Patrick Filipe Conway**, Boston College

*Today, I Have a Voice*

**Jose (Hozer) Flores**, College of the Redwoods Pelican Bay Scholars Program

*Crossing Borders for Access: Amplifying the Role of Identity Narratives in Prison Education*

**Tim Barnett** representing a collective of students from Northeastern Illinois University and the Prison+Neighborhood Arts/Education Project (PNAP)

4:00PM–5:00PM

### ***Amplifying Access to Prison Journalism and Prison Journalism Education***

**Kate McQueen**, University of California Santa Cruz

**Yukari Kane**, Northwestern University; Shaheen Pasha, Penn State University

**Jesse Vasquez**, San Quentin News; Razvan Sibii, University of Massachusetts Amherst

5:30PM–6:30PM

### ***Accessing the Past: Connecting the Past and Present in Carceral Spaces***

**Laura Rogers**, Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

**Patrick Berry**, Syracuse University

**Tobi Jacobi**, Colorado State University at Fort Collins

**Mary Ellen Sanger**, Colorado State University at Fort Collins

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • TUESDAY, MARCH 2

### KEYNOTE ADDRESS • 7:00PM–8:00PM

#### ***We Gon' Be Alright, But That Ain't Alright: Abolitionist Teaching and the Pursuit of Educational Freedom***

**Dr. Bettina Love**

Dr. Love's talk titled "We Gon' Be Alright, But That Ain't Alright: Abolitionist Teaching and the Pursuit of Educational Freedom" discusses the struggles and the possibilities of committing ourselves to an abolitionist goal of educational freedom, as opposed to reform, and moving beyond what she calls the educational survival complex. Abolitionist Teaching is built on the creativity, imagination, boldness, ingenuity, and rebellious spirit and methods of abolitionists to demand and fight for an educational system where all students are thriving, not simply surviving.

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

11:00AM–12:30PM

#### ***The Intersectionality of Inside Out***

**Donna Randolph**, My New Journeys

11:00AM–12:30PM

#### ***Equity in Access: Do your classroom reflect the demographics in your prison?***

**Ruth Delaney**, The Vera Institute of Justice

**Kayla James**, The Vera Institute of Justice

**Allan Wachendorfer**, The Vera Institute of Justice

1:00PM–2:00PM

#### ***Individual Papers: Equity in Policy***

*Upholding Pedagogical Values During a Crisis, and Thereafter*

**Dr. Robert Tynes**, Bard Prison Initiative

*The Threat of Recreating Inequity by Offering a Bachelor's Degree*

**Daniel McGloin**, Wesleyan University

*Inspired Minds: Creative Writing for Good Relations and Anti-Colonial Critique*

**Nancy Van Styvendale**, University of Alberta, Canada

**Karrie Auger**, Norquest College, Canada

1:00PM–2:00PM

#### ***Individual Papers: Equity in Policy***

*Covid19 and the Political Landscape? Witnessing the Costs of the Current Legal Order*

**Prof. Doran Larson**, Hamilton College and The American Prison Writing Archive

*Amplifying Technological Equity*

**Dr. Kurtis Tanaka**, Ithaca S+R

*Watering the Roses that Grew from Concrete*

**Dr. Anacany Torres**, Santiago Canyon College

2:30PM–3:30PM

#### ***Zooming Toward Amplified Access***

**Deanna Kabler**, Prison Programs, The College at Southeastern

**Timothy Russell**, Prison Programs, The College at Southeastern

**Dustin Green**, Prison Programs, The College at Southeastern

**Kelvin Smith**, Prison Programs, The College at Southeastern

**Barry Mintz**, Prison Programs, The College at Southeastern

**Christopher Jacobs**, Prison Programs, The College at Southeastern

2:30PM–3:30PM

#### ***Can We Provide Access to Campus Without Housing?***

**Eric Pereira**, NJ-STEP, Rutgers University

**Chris Agans**, NJ-STEP, Rutgers University

**Tia Ryans**, NJ F.O.R.T.E. House

**Regina Diamond-Rodriguez**, NJ-STEP, Rutgers University

**Tyreek Rolon**, NJ-STEP, Rutgers University

**Vernon Johnson**, NJ-STEP, Rutgers University

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

4:00PM–5:00PM

### ***Meet The Landscape Project Cohort***

**Christina Dawkins**, A4Abolitionists, Cohort Program Facilitator  
**Members of the Higher Education in Prison Landscape Project Cohort**

4:00PM–5:00PM

### ***Utilizing Education Technology to Support Expanded Program Access***

**Noah Freedman**, Nucleos  
**Emmanuel Luvert**, Multnomah Education Service District - Juvenile Detention Education Program  
**Noel Vest**, Stanford University; Dirk van Velzen, Prison Scholars

7:00PM–8:00PM

### ***Humanizing Mathematics: Is An Accessible and Creative Mathematics Even Possible?***

**Eden Meredith Badertscher**, Education Development Center  
**Otis Brian Jennings**, Objective Data Systems  
**Amy Shapiro**, Bard Prison Initiative  
**Jason O'Malley**, Re-Entry Coaching Academy  
**Avery Agles**, The Prison Teaching Initiative at Princeton University  
**Jodie Lambert**, Operation Restoration

## PLENARY SESSION • 7:00PM–8:00PM

### ***Accessing Repair: Transforming Violence Beyond Prisons***

**Danielle Sered**, Common Justice

What repair is owed when violence is committed, and what would it mean to commit to creating access to such repair every time? Danielle Sered will speak about her book, *Until We Reckon: Violence, Mass Incarceration, and a Road to Repair*, and the work she leads at Common Justice, which develops and advances solutions to violence that meet the needs of those harmed,

advance racial equity, and do not rely on incarceration. She will talk about what restorative justice offers as an approach to repairing serious harm, including violence, about why prisons almost always fail at the project of repair, and about what broader repair is required for the harms done by both violence and mass incarceration.

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • THURSDAY, MARCH 4

11:30AM–12:30PM

### ***Aligning Access: Creating a Network of Post-secondary Opportunity in Tennessee's Prison System***

**Lauren Solina**, Tennessee Board of Regents

11:30AM–12:30PM

### ***NY-CHEP and the Transformative Power of Collaborative Partnerships***

**Timothy McCorry**, Medaille College  
**Rachel Sander**, SUNY System Administration  
**Lisette Bamenga**, Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison  
**Marianne Kupin-Lisbin**, University of Rochester  
**Elisabeth Santiago**, Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison

11:30AM–12:30PM

### ***Making the Barriers Bearable***

**Sal Corbin**, Friendship Place  
**Jean Michel Giraud**, Friendship Place

1:00PM–2:00PM

### ***Individual Papers: Collaboration and Partnerships***

*Towards Empowered and Resilient Students*  
**Max Klapow**, Washington University in St. Louis  
**Victoria Thomas**, Washington University in St. Louis

*Bringing Service-Based Learning to Incarcerated College Students*  
**Dr. Justus Ghormley**, Notre Dame/Holy Cross College

*From Potential to Proposed Bill: Educationally Empowered, Incarcerated Individuals Contribute to Sentencing Reform*  
**Phillip V. Smith II**, Prison Programs, The College at Southeastern, Wake Forest, NC  
**Timothy W. Johnson**, Prison Programs, The College at Southeastern, Wake Forest, NC

*Orange is the New Black: How Higher Education in Prison De-stigmatizes People Returning from Prison to a Racist Society*  
**Kentel Weaver**, Tufts University

1:00PM–2:00PM

### ***Elevating Voices and Bridging Distance through Narrative and the Creative Arts***

**Hannah Rachel Bacon**, Marymount Manhattan College  
**Erin Greenwell**, Marymount Manhattan College  
**Aileen Baumgartner**, Bedford Hills College Program

**Jennifer Fecu**, Stand Up Speak Out  
**Jazzelle Bustos**, Stand Up Speak Out  
**Christina Remley**, Stand Up Speak Out

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • THURSDAY, MARCH 4

1:00PM–2:00PM

### *Culturally Diverse Populations in Collegiate Recovery Programs*

**Anna Lee Trevino**, Texas Tech University Center for Collegiate Recovery Communities

**Thomas Kimball**, Texas Tech University Center for Collegiate Recovery Communities

**Lyle Yates-Bourasa**, Texas Tech University Center for Collegiate Recovery Communities

**Jaime Devenport**, Texas Tech University Center for Collegiate Recovery Communities

**Justin North-Olague**, Texas Tech University Center for Collegiate Recovery Communities

2:30PM–3:30PM

### *Lessons from Saint Dolly: Working Toward an Ethic of Mutual Aid in the HEP Community*

Members of the Southern Higher Education in Prison Collective

2:30PM–3:30PM

### *Creative Collaboration: Curating a New Partnership Between the Division of Youth Services and CSU Pueblo*

**Kathryn Elizabeth Starkey**, Colorado State University Pueblo

**Kristyn Noelle White Davis**, Colorado State University Pueblo

**Erin Osterhaus**, Division of Youth Services

**Emma Mitchell**, Colorado State University Pueblo

**Jason Engel**, Colorado State University Pueblo

2:30PM–3:30PM

### *Characterizing the Intersection of Substance Use Disorder, Mental Illness, and Higher Education in Prison Re-entry*

**Noel Vest**, Stanford University School of Medicine  
**O'Dell Johnson**, Research Institute of Social Equity (RISE)

**Donna Madison-Bell**, Five Keys Charter Schools and Program  
**David Morelos**, Research Institute of Social Equity (RISE)

4:00PM–5:00PM

### *California Statewide Student Caucus (for Rising Scholars Network)*

**Nohealani Casperson**, FITE/ LIFE  
**Laura Electa Hayes**, FIRST/CORE  
**Jasmin Lopez**, FIRST/CORE

**Brittany Morton**, Homeboy Industries  
**Isaac Gonzales**, ELAC  
**Amada Alvarez**, ELAC

4:00PM–5:00PM

### *College Gateway*

**Linda Agripino**, College Gateway at Red Rocks Community College  
**Dr. Neil Gowensmith**, University of Denver

**Cathy Lachman**, Founder of College Gateway at Red Rocks Community College

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • THURSDAY, MARCH 4

4:00PM–5:00PM

### *Bringing Business Schools to Prison*

**Tierney T. Fairchild**, Resilience Education

**Whitney Johnson**, Resilience Education

**Sandra Navalli**, Columbia Business School, Tamer Center for Social Enterprise

**Damon Phillips**, Columbia Business School, Tamer Center for Social Enterprise

**Domini Ebron**, Graduate of Resilience Education Programs and Entrepreneur

**Dr. Wendy Lyle-Jones**, Principal of Buckingham, Dillwyn and Rustburg Men's Correctional Centers

5:30PM–6:30PM

### *Jamii Sisterhood: Building a Movement For and About Black Women in Higher Education in Prison*

**Dr. Erin Corbett**, Co-founder and CEO of Second Chance Educational Alliance

**Dr. Bahiyah Muhammad**, Associate Professor of Criminology at Howard University

**Dr. Breea Willingham**, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at SUNY Plattsburgh

5:30PM–6:30PM

### *From the Facility to the Community*

**Dr. Michael Tyrone Williams**, North Carolina Department of Public Safety

7:00PM–8:00PM

### *A New Digital Tool to Expand Access to College and Reentry Services*

**Erin Castro**, University of Utah  
**Terrell Harris Jr.**, Ithaca College

**Gauri Jain**, Cornell University  
**Rob Scott**, Cornell University

7:00PM–8:00PM

### *Collaborative Research in a College-in-Prison Program*

**Heather Erwin**, University of Iowa  
**Aliza Fones**, University of Northern Iowa  
**Katie Rodgers**, Coe College

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • THURSDAY, MARCH 4

7:00PM–8:00PM

### ***Expanding Equity and Access Through a Robust Network: How California’s Rising Scholars Network Implements Statewide Change***

**Rebecca Silbert**, Foundation for the California Community Colleges  
**Leslie LeBlanc**, California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office  
**Kellie Nadler**, California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office  
**Javier Rodriguez**, California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office

**Chelsea Esquibias**, California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office  
**Rafael A. Montano**, Imperial Valley College  
**Eric Gentry**, Chabot College  
**Jessica Dobson**, Norco College

## PLENARY SESSION • 7:00PM–8:00PM

### ***Panel Discussion on the History of Policing***

**Dr. Simon Balto**, University of Iowa  
**DeAnza Cook**, Harvard University  
**Dr. Marisol Lebrón**, University of Texas at Austin

The audience is invited to join a conversation with Dr. Marisol Lebrón (University of Texas at Austin), Dr. Simon Balto (University of Iowa), and DeAnza Cook (Harvard University), who will be discussing the history of policing.

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • FRIDAY, MARCH 5

11:30AM–12:30PM

### ***Pretexts & Pedagogy***

**Chris Dickson**, College Unbound  
**Peter Dickson**, College Unbound

11:30AM–12:30PM

### ***Teacher Perceptions of Teaching and Learning both Students Currently Incarcerated and “Traditional” Students***

**Joanna Weidler-Lewis**, The Pennsylvania State University

1:00PM–2:00PM

### ***Virtual NCHPEP Conference Debrief***

All conference attendees are welcome to participate.

1:00PM–2:00PM

### ***How Accessible is Critical Pedagogy?***

**Logan Middleton**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
**Celena Todora**, University of Pittsburgh  
**Nate Maertens**, Inver Hills Community College

2:30PM–3:30PM

### ***Higher Education in Prison: A Faculty Perspective in Changing Times***

**Brenda Lyseng**, Inver Hills Community College  
**Vicky Knickerbocker**, Inver Hills Community College

**Nate Maertens**, Inver Hills Community College  
**Christine Petrich**, Inver Hills Community College

2:30PM–3:30PM

### ***Amplifying In-Person: Reframing the Debate on Technology in the Prison Classroom***

**Sheila R. Meiman**, Raritan Valley Community College RISE  
**Kurtis Tanaka**, Ithaca S + R  
**Ethan Annis**, Mt. Tamalpais College (formerly the Prison University Project)

**Heather Erwin**, University of Iowa Liberal Arts Beyond Bars  
**Dr. Erin Corbett**, Second Chance Educational Alliance, Inc.

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • FRIDAY, MARCH 5

4:00PM–5:15PM

### *Individual Paper Presentations*

*Preparing Incarcerated Students for Change*

**Marianne Goodfellow**, North Country Community College

**Sarah Kilby**, North Country Community College

**Dan Snyder**, North Country Community College

*Carceral Health is Public Health*

**Patrick Franklin Hibbard**, O'Neill School of Public and

Environmental Affairs

**Andrea D Jonata**, INPEP, Project ECHO (Fairbanks School of Public Health-IUPUI)

*Drawing One's Own Conclusions: Teaching Graphic Narrative*

*Memoir in Prison*

**Gina Hausknecht**, Coe College

*Tumultuous 2020: Amid a Pandemic Success and*

*Resilience Prevails*

**Marco Rios**, College of the Redwoods--Pelican Bay Scholars

4:00PM–5:00PM

### *Ensuring Access During COVID-19 Using Learning Technologies*

**Maura Kathleen Grady**, Ashland University

**Mary Deloe**, Ashland University

**Miles Wood**, Ashland University (alumnus)

**Ben Castro**, Ashland University (alumnus)

**Kristen Theriot**, Ashland University (alumna)

**Carrie Tomko**, Ashland University (faculty)

**Candace Chambers**, Ashland University (faculty)

**Kelly Crowl**, Ashland University (instructional designer)

**Ginny Maher**, Ashland University (site director)

5:30PM–6:30PM

### *(Re)Imagining Teaching and Learning Pedagogies and Practices within the Carceral Context*

**Julissa Muñiz**, Northwestern University

**Miguel Quezada**, The Ahimsa Collective

**Sujey Reynoso**, University of California, Berkeley

5:30PM–6:30PM

### *Gender is Learned: On Gender and Sexuality Studies in the Carceral Classroom*

**Reuven Lorin Goldberg**, Princeton University

**Valeria Dani**, Alliance for Higher Education in Prison/

Cornell University

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

PLENARY SESSION • 7:00PM–8:00PM

### *Felon: An American Washi Tale*

**Reginald Dwayne Betts**, Million Book Project

Dwayne will present an excerpt of the solo show that he is developing based on the poems in his collection *Felon*. The work addresses the experience of incarceration and the challenges of having a complicated conversation about crime and punishment in contemporary America. This presentation is built of three parts. First, a segment of dramatic performance that combines

recitation of verse with storytelling. Second, a discussion framing the show within the contemporary political moment but also the literary context reaching back to the work of Etheridge Knight, Lucille Clifton, and John Edgar Wideman. Finally, there will be a question-and-answer period allowing Dwayne to explore the issues raised with the audience.

## AN OVERVIEW OF THE 2021 VIRTUAL NCHEP

### Call for Proposals

For ten years, the *National Conference on Higher Education in Prison (NCHEP)* has served as a space for collaboration, listening, discussion, dissent and debate. It exists as a hub for the exchange of information, and for opportunities to network in support of deepening the important academic, advocacy and activist work happening in #highereducation across the country. Bringing all of this work together, the planning committee for the 2020 NCHEP is pleased to invite proposals that advance efforts to strengthen the field of higher education in prison and **Amplify Access** for students.

The 2020 *National Conference on Higher Education in Prison (NCHEP)* will mark the 10th Annual national convening of the higher education in prison community. Though we are excited about this historic conference, we acknowledge that the COVID-19 pandemic affects us all and will shape the conference itself in profound ways, including ways we cannot fully anticipate. We understand the gravity and sensitivity of the situation while at the same time desiring to create a spirit of togetherness in spite of the difficulty. We hope to continue building momentum and strengthening our community while remaining flexible during these trying times.

The 2020 Conference has a central goal: to build upon and mobilize the energy, expertise and experience of the higher education in prison community. Each year, the NCHEP plays a vital role in helping our community expand access to quality higher education in prison, as well as academic re-entry support services, to people who are currently and formerly incarcerated.

The theme for this year's conference, as chosen by its Planning Committee, is **Amplifying Access**, which opens doors for a wide range of presentation topics, and to a wide range of possible presenters. We seek proposals that take up this theme in aspirational, transformational, disruptive and productive ways. "Amplifying Access" expresses a call to action to center issues of accessibility and equity across the field of higher education in prison. Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we especially invite presentations that address any of the many access-related challenges for the higher education in prison community that we already have or will continue to face (e.g., partnerships, transition resourcing or sustaining funding). **We also see "Amplifying Access" as a challenge to the field to think aspirationally about our work. It is an invitation to embrace the possibilities and challenges presented to our work as it gains popular support, to operate from an abundance rather than a scarcity mindset, and to take the field in directions not yet traveled and through barriers not yet traversed. It is an invitation for growth and innovation.**

We envision the conference as a space to imagine creative collaborations and partnerships, strategies and solutions to amplify access and generate productive and accessible conversations. We emphasize "amplifying" access because envisioning new ways to work together is to imagine the future, which could mean alternatives to or the abolition of prisons, equitable access to excellent education inside and outside of

prisons, and full opportunities for all people within prisons and in the community. We hope proposals will also think expansively about what "amplifying" could look like.

We invite and encourage a wide range of proposals from all community members, including but not limited to: activists, academic advisors, artists, college/university administrators, faculty, staff and students, community organizers, people who are currently and formerly incarcerated, department of corrections and prison administrators, higher education in prison practitioners and staff and reentry service providers. For 2020, we especially encourage proposals that highlight training and workshops, the value of collaboration and partnerships and creative forms of expression.

Conference submissions should connect with one of the six conference tracks, which are of particular relevance to the higher education in prison community of stakeholders (listed below).

Proposals by currently or formerly incarcerated participants are strongly encouraged. Guidelines for submission by currently incarcerated people without access to the Internet are included in the general submission guidelines on the 2020 NCHEP website. Additionally, we acknowledge that because of COVID-19 it might be challenging or impossible for people currently incarcerated to submit a proposal and as such we will have an extended deadline for proposals with more than 50% people currently incarcerated as submitters. A full overview of the submission deadlines can be found below. Finally, all proposals should connect to the conference theme – **Amplifying Access** – as well as the goals of creating an inclusive stakeholder community committed to access, equity and quality in the field of higher education in prison.

### Presentation Tracks

- Collaborations and Partnerships: Working Across Campus, Corrections, and/or the Community
- Elevating Voices: Narrative, the Arts, and Creative Expression
- Equity in Policy and Practice: Access, Quality, and Pathways to Campus
- In the Classroom: Perspectives on Teaching and Learning
- Surveying the Landscape of Higher Education in Prison: Research, Evaluation, and Assessment
- The Politics of Higher Education in Prison: Advocacy, Activism, and Abolition

### Presentation Formats

- Individual Paper Presentation
- Panel Discussion
- Performance, Media Presentation or Creative Work
- Poster Session
- Work-in-Progress Paper
- Workshop/Training Session

## AN OVERVIEW OF THE 2021 VIRTUAL NCHEP

### Submission Process Timeline

- Call for Proposals Announced: April 6, 2020
- Submission Deadline: May 11, 2020
- Currently Incarcerated Submission Deadline: June 30, 2020
- Submission Review Process: May 11 - May 25, 2020 (July 1–July 15: Currently incarcerated submitters)
- Accept/Decline Announcements Sent: June 15, 2020 (July 15: Currently incarcerated submitters)
- 2020 NCHEP in person was postponed (June 2020)
- Virtual NCHEP was announced (January 2021)
- Virtual NCHEP was hosted via Zoom (March 1–5, 2021)

### 2020 NCHEP Planning Committee

- Dr. Lisa J. Akheituame, Department Chair at Alvin Community College
- Tahirih Anthony, 2020 NCHEP Co-Chair, Legislative Director, New York State Senate
- James Bullington, Coordinator at the Prison College Program, Adams State University
- Ivelisse Gilestra, Community Organizer, College and Community Fellowship
- Kathryn L. Green, Professor of History at Mississippi Valley State University
- Matthew Holman, 2020 NCHEP Co-Chair, Researcher at University of Utah Prison Education Project
- Dr. Tiffany Jones, Senior Director of Higher Education Policy, The Education Trust
- Deanna Kabler, Student Success Coordinator for North Carolina Field Minister Program, College at Southeastern

- Annie Le, PhD Candidate, University of California, Los Angeles
- Aris Mangasarian, Student at University of Southern California, Prison Education Project
- Majid Mohammad, Ambassador with From Prison Cells to PhD
- Eric Pereira, Senior Program Coordinator at Rutgers University, New Brunswick; New Jersey Scholarship and Transformative Education in Prison Consortium (NJ-STEP)
- Brittany C. Riggins, Student Success Navigator at Jackson College Corrections Education Program
- Maggie Shelledy, Assistant Professor at University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Education Justice Project, Freedom to Learn Illinois
- Dameon Stackhouse, Graduate Student at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, Mountainview Community (MVC), NJ-STEP
- Rachel Zolensky, Director of Student Success and Re-Entry Services at the Tennessee Higher Education in Prison Initiative

### Alliance for Higher Education in Prison Staff

- Valeria Dani, Community Engagement Director
- Jesse Gant, Information Manager
- Mary Gould, Director
- Steph Iasiello, Information and Education Director
- Ved Price, Development and Program Coordinator
- Lauren Reed, Communication and Community Engagement Coordinator



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**#AMPLIFYINGACCESS**