The 11th National Conference on Higher Education in Prison is hosted at the Denver Marriott Tech Center in Denver, CO. All events for the conference take place at the conference hotel.

The National Conference on Higher Education in Prison is using the following rooms/spaces:

**Ground Level**
- Rocky Mountain Event Center
- Cottonwood I & II
- Aspen Amphitheater
- Larkspur (Wellness Room)
- Conifer Ballroom
- Evergreen A–F
- Atrium

**Pikes Level–2nd Floor**
- Mezzanine:
  - Maroon Peak
  - Blanca Peak
  - Longs Peak

**Map Key**
- 1. All Gender Bathroom
- 2. Meals
- 3. Registration, Exhibit Hall, Breaks
- 4. Wellness Room
- 5. Keynote & Plenary Sessions
Welcome to the 11th National Conference for Higher Education in Prison (NCHEP). After the difficult decision of canceling the conference in 2020, and the successful experiment of the Virtual NCHEP in March 2021, we are delighted to return to an in-person gathering, which will surely foster a renewed sense of community through the celebration of the work you all do.

Inspired by a series of reflections on past conferences, we decided to perform a number of significant changes to the NCHEP structure and vision. The 11th NCHEP was conceived through a question: What Is To Be Done? Posed more than a century ago, it has since inspired generations of revolutionary thinkers and activists to interrogate the intersections of theory and practice, to reflect upon their own positionalities in the face of power and oppression, and to seek the most effective strategies to organize and build resistance. Moreover, it is a simple and yet powerful question that many have asked during the past year when faced with the scarcity of resources allotted to higher education in prison programs, with the isolation that many currently incarcerated students had to endure amidst a deadly pandemic, with the widening of class divides, and with a reckoning around systemic oppression and white supremacy. We hope that the space of this conference will represent an opportunity to discuss these issues and to enliven political conversations in the field; that is also the reason why, this year, we will host presentation formats that attempt to privilege collaboration, mutual support, and participation.

This conference would not have been possible without the efforts of the community at large, which helped our planning efforts along the way through numerous monthly virtual conversations: thank you for your fundamental feedback, suggestions, and questions. We would like to express our gratitude to the many volunteers who reviewed the conference submissions in a timely and generous manner—your assessment of the ideas that animate this field has helped presenters to enrich their work in an invaluable manner. We also want to acknowledge the conference registrants who donated additional funds to the Financial Aid Program, helping to make this event more accessible and equitable: we are thankful to all of you. The 11th NCHEP could not have happened without the generous support of our Conference Sponsors, who among others, made the Financial Aid Program possible: more specifically, we wish to thank Ascendium Education Group, ECMC Foundation, Knowlton Foundation, Laughing Gull Foundation, Porticus North America, and Trellis Foundation. Lastly, we are grateful to the Alliance’s Director, Mary Gould, who advanced and supervised the many moving parts that orchestrating a national conference entails: the 11th NCHEP could not have happened without your precise support and infinite attention to detail.

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

As the 1902 pamphlet “What Is To Be Done?” recites, “we are marching in a compact group along a precipitous and difficult path, firmly holding each other by the hand.” It is from this space of desired unity after (and still very much into) perilous and crucial times, that we welcome all of you to the 11th National Conference on Higher Education in Prison, and we look forward to thinking collectively about a path toward solidarity, struggle, and abolition.

With our warmest wishes and welcome to this event,

The Alliance for Higher Education in Prison 11th NCHEP Planning Team
Steven Aburdis
Valeria Dani
Jesse Gant
Lauren Reed

COVID-19 GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS

The 11th NCHEP is back to an in-person format: while we are thrilled to reconvene in person, we want to acknowledge the exceptional circumstances that surround our gathering and prioritize the safety of all attendees. As the current COVID-19 variant continues to persist throughout the country, we are committed to address the concerns of attendees as well as to follow facility, state, city and federal guidance regarding the health and safety of participants. We rely on the full cooperation of all: thank you very much for your patience. The following is a concise list of the regulations in place during the 11th NCHEP:

I. While working in tandem with the hotel in order to support safe and physical distancing during sessions, the Alliance is providing masks, hand sanitizer, and disinfectant wipes, which can be found at the registration desk and in the Wellness and breakout rooms throughout the duration of the 11th NCHEP (free of charge to all attendees).

II. We are not asking for vaccination proof (although we have strongly recommended attendees to travel and attend only if vaccinated, which is also consistent with CDC guidelines), nor a recent negative test to attend the conference.

III. We instead rely on each other’s sense of community and responsibility, and require all participants to always wear a mask during NCHEP so as to protect the most vulnerable people around us (except when eating or drinking).

IV. Those who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms during the conference should quarantine in their rooms, notify the NCHEP Planning Team immediately, and seek testing as soon as possible (which the Planning Team can help arrange).

It is important to remember that the city of Denver is situated at a high altitude: the 5,280 elevation can cause a variety of symptoms (such as light-headedness, fatigue, rapid heartbeat, and/or nausea) that could be easily mitigated with a series of precautions. The effects of alcohol may feel more pronounced while in the Mile High City, due to its altitude. The most effective measures to avoid altitude sickness and to adjust to this environment are:

I. Drinking plenty of water to adjust to Colorado’s dry air;
II. Eating foods high in potassium to replenish electrolytes;
III. Hydrating your skin to restore the lack of moisture caused by the arid air and high winds;
IV. Dressing in layers to be prepared for the weather’s variability.

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The Alliance for Higher Education in Prison 11th NCHEP Planning Team
Steven Aburdis
Valeria Dani
Jesse Gant
Lauren Reed
CONFERENCE NOTES

The 2021 National Conference on Higher Education in Prison is hosted at the Denver Marriott Tech Center in Denver, CO. All events for the conference take place at the conference hotel.

**Hotel Address:** 4900 S Syracuse Street, Denver, CO 80237 • **Hotel Phone:** (303) 779-1100

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### Transportation

**Denver International Airport**
Denver International Airport (DEN), locally known as DIA, Address: 8500 Peña Blvd, Denver, CO 80249

**Denver Light Rail**
Denver International Airport (DEN) to Denver Marriott Tech Center: Greenwood Village by bus, tram and walk. The journey time between Denver International Airport (DEN) and Denver Marriott Tech Center, Greenwood Village is around 1h 4m and covers a distance of around 30 miles. This includes an average layover time of around 23 min. The fastest journey normally takes 49 min. Operated by Regional Transportation District (RTD), the Denver Airport (DEN) to Denver Marriott Tech Center, Greenwood Village service departs from Denver Airport Station Gate 9 and arrives in Denver Marriott Tech Center, Greenwood Village. Typically 150 services run weekly, although weekend and holiday schedules can vary (please check in advance).

Please visit the RTD website for turn-by-turn directions: https://www.rtd-denver.com/app/plan

**Cost/Fare of Light Rail**
Light Rail Fare from the Airport: $10.50

**Ride Share Option with the Whova Conference App**
The Whova app provides a space to coordinate ride shares with other conference attendees. The ride share option is not coordinated by the Alliance.

https://whova.com/webapp/carpool/nchep_202111/

**Driving Directions From the Airport**
Exit the Airport to I-70 west. Take I-70 west to I-225 south. I-225 south to the Yosemite exit. Turn Left on Yosemite going (east) to Union. Turn right on Union to S. Syracuse. Turn left on S. Syracuse, and the Denver Marriott is on the right-hand side.

Please visit the RTD website for turn-by-turn directions: https://www.rtd-denver.com/app/plan

**Parking**
The Denver Marriott Tech Center offers parking for those participants who are driving to the conference or renting cars for the duration of the conference. The hotel also offers six complimentary Electric Car Charging Stations.

Discounted Overnight Self-Parking: $5.00 (Discounted from $15)
Valet Parking Fee: $25.00 daily

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### General Conference Registration and Check-In

**Location:** Atrium

The conference registration table will be open and staffed the following hours:

- **Thursday, November 11:** 3:00pm–5:00pm and 7:00pm–9:00pm
- **Friday, November 12:** 9:00am–12:30pm and 1:30pm–5:30pm
- **Saturday, November 13:** 9:00am–12:30pm and 1:30pm–5:30pm
- **Sunday, November 14:** 9:00am–10:00am

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### Lost and Found

Items will be received and held at the Conference Registration Desk during the registration times, and will be secured when the registration desk is closed.

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### The Wellness Room

The Wellness Room is a dedicated quiet space where conference attendees are welcome to stretch, read, practice yoga, meditate, or simply relax. It is equipped with meditation cushions, yoga mats, pillows, heating pads, exercise balls, and simple first aid supplies.

**Location:** Larkspur

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### Social Media and Wifi

- **#NCHEP**
- **#WhatToDoInPrison**
- **#higheredinprison**

Please follow the NCHEP Facebook and Twitter accounts: @OfficialNCHEP

Network: Marriott Conference Password: 2021NCHEP

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### Whova Conference App

The 11th National Conference on Higher Education in Prison’s official app, Whova, is here! Get agenda, maps, event info, and network with other attendees, free!

Download the app: https://whova.com/portal/webapp/nchep_202111/

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### Exhibit and Resource Hall

The Exhibit and Resource Hall will be open the following hours:

- **Thursday, November 11:** 5:00pm–9:00pm
- **Friday, November 12:** 9:00am–9:00pm
- **Saturday, November 13:** 9:00am–9:00pm
- **Sunday, November 14:** 9:00am–11:00am

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### Time Zone

Denver is in the Mountain Time Zone. (12:00pmMT = 2:00pmET, 1:00pmCT, and 11:00amPT)
Thursday, November 11, 7:30–9:00 pm  
**Plenary Session**  
**Barriers that Formerly Incarcerated Female Leaders in Higher Education Face**

**Presenters**  
Robert Ortiz Archila, California State University, Fullerton  
Irene Marie Sotelo, Project Rebound, California State University, Long Beach  
Priscilla Terríquez, California State University, Long Beach  
Summer Bratner, Project Rebound, California State University, Los Angeles  

**Abstract**  
The discussants of this plenary session will engage in conversation that delves into “Barriers that Formerly Incarcerated Women Leaders Face in Higher Education”. Their overview on this topic is defined by their own personal experiences and reentry journeys. Drawing from their experiential knowledge, this dialogue will highlight the challenges that formerly incarcerated women face in academia. They will discuss the difficulties of being hired on a college campus, balancing motherhood and their academic obligations, and growing Project Rebound as Program Directors at their respective campuses. Their experiences are shaped by on-the-job harassment, patriarchy, and various forms of violence. The panelists will employ an intersectional lens to discuss their lived experiences as formerly incarcerated women in higher education.

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Friday, November 12, 9:00–10:30 am  
**Plenary Session**  
**Radical Moves: Building an Abolitionist Feminist Politic and Practice**

**Presenters**  
Monica Cosby, Acting OutSide  
Gina Dent, University of California, Santa Cruz  
Alice Kim, University of Chicago Pozen Family Center for Human Rights  
Erica Meiners, Northeastern Illinois University  

**Abstract**  
With examples and analysis generated from participants’ work connected to education/prison/abolition initiatives—teaching/learning, organizing, research—this plenary session surfaces everyday practices that illustrate the pathways and futures that abolitionist feminists continue to imagine and to build. Abolition works for the obsolescence of policing and prison, but, as importantly, instigates key and necessary public dialogues while generating “alternatives” to the carceral state. What must be transformed and built to eliminate harm, cultivate radical communities, and create forms of authentic public safety? In what ways are higher education in prison programs a part of these solutions?

Abolition involves dismantling institutions that reproduce and mask harm, but it also demands the equally central work to facilitate self-determination. This radical tradition—the labor to build community responses to end gender-based and other forms of sexual violence and to challenge the indefinite caging of communities—has always been a part of the Black/WOC feminist genealogy. This conversation explores these questions in the context of participants’ expertise in starting and sustaining a range of kinds of educational work both inside and outside of universities and prisons.

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Friday, November 12, 7:15–8:45 pm  
**Keynote Address**  
**Whose Voices? The Future We Want for Higher Education in Prison**

**Terrell A. Blount**  
Formerly Incarcerated College Graduates Network (FICGN)

**Abstract**  
In his keynote address, Terrell will share lessons he’s learned through his journey from incarceration to community leader, what he envisions for the future of higher education in prison post-Pell grant restoration, the need to legitimize the voices of currently and formerly incarcerated students, and preparing and supporting them for leadership.

**Bio**  
Terrell A. Blount is a motivational speaker and activist for justice reform and civil rights. In his pursuit of education rights and justice, he advocates for postsecondary education opportunities in prison, higher education reentry pathways, and smarter policies affecting justice-involved people. His transformative journey from incarcerated student to community leader began while in confinement in a New Jersey prison. Terrell, who was 19 at the time, set a personal goal to earn a degree from Rutgers University upon release. His mantra—“If I can do five years in prison, I can do five years in college”—was what kept him motivated to achieve his goal in that exact amount of time, as he earned his Bachelor degree in Communication. Another five years later, he achieved his Master in Public Administration with a concentration in Nonprofit Management, also from his alma mater.

Today, Terrell serves as the Director of the Formerly Incarcerated College Graduates Network (FICGN), a nonprofit that supports justice-involved people in college credential attainment and career opportunities in reentry. As a Program Associate with the Vera Institute of Justice, he collaborated with formerly incarcerated scholars and college and department of correction leaders in Michigan to successfully remove policy language that banned incarcerated people from accessing a state financial aid grant, resulting in increased college enrollment of incarcerated students in the state. In Ohio, he helped increase the correctional education budget for postsecondary education and worked to open eligibility for college programs to people in maximum security prisons. From 2015 to 2020, Terrell has been an advocate for Pell grant restoration for people in prisons, a feat that was reached in December 2020. Terrell also spent time in philanthropy as the Higher Education in Prison Program Officer of the Laughing Gull Foundation, making grants to college-in-prison programs in the U.S. South.

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Saturday, November 13, 9:00–10:30 am  
**Plenary Session**  
**What Is To Be Done for Equity: Recommendations from The Education Trust’s Inaugural Justice Fellows**

**Presenters**  
Omarí Amill, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust  
Mary Baxter, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust  
Montrell Carmouche, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust  
Wil Del Pilar, The Education Trust  
Kayla G. Elliott, The Education Trust  
William Freeman, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust  
Alexa Garza, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust  
Rabia Qutub, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust  
Patrick Rodriguez, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust  
Satra Taylor, Operation Restoration  
Jarrod Wall, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust

**Abstract**  
As incarcerated students gain access to Pell, higher education leaders, instructors, and researchers must understand justice-impacted students of color and the policies which impact how they experience education. The Education Trust is committed to elevating the voices of individuals who are directly impacted by the legal system. The inaugural Justice Fellows Policy Program centers around a vibrant and nurturing community of eight formerly incarcerated individuals who have overcome the odds and attained their bachelor’s or master’s degree, created programs and organizations for the formerly incarcerated community, engaged in state legislative advocacy efforts, and more. During this session, the Justice Fellows will each share a “flash talk” which integrates their lived experience and their development as equity advocates.
Thursday Session Schedule

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

3:00 pm–5:00 pm
General Conference Registration and Check-in
Location: Atrium

4:00 pm–9:00 pm
Wellness Room

Please note all times listed are in Mountain Standard Time (MST).

DINNER • 6:30 pm
ROCKY MOUNTAIN EVENT CENTER

Sunday, November 14, 7:15 pm–9:15 pm
Plenary Session
Since I Been Down: Documentary Screening and Conversation

Presenters
Gilda Sheppard, Filmmaker
Tonya Wilson, The Freedom Project

Abstract
Join us for a screening of Since I Been Down followed by a talk back and Q&A session with the film director, Gilda Sheppard, and a cast member, Tonya Wilson.

The film, told by the people who have lived these conditions, unravels intimate stories from interviews brought to life through archival footage, cinema verité discussions, masquerade, and dance. Unravelling why children commit violent crime and how these children -- now adults -- are breaking free from their fate by creating a model of justice that is transforming their lives, our humanity and a quality of life for all our children.

PLENARY SESSION • 7:30 pm–9:00 pm
EVERGREEN ABC

Barriers that Formerly Incarcerated Female Leaders in Higher Education Face

Robert Ortiz Archila, Sober Scholars, California State University, Fullerton
Irene Marie Sotelo, Project Rebound, California State University, Long Beach
Priscilla Terriquez, California State University, Long Beach
Summer Bratner, Project Rebound, California State University, Los Angeles

The discussants of this plenary session will engage in conversation that delves into “Barriers that Formerly Incarcerated Women Leaders Face in Higher Education”. Their overview on this topic is defined by their own personal experiences and reentry journeys. Drawing from their experiential knowledge, this dialogue will highlight the challenges that formerly incarcerated women face in academia. They will discuss the difficulties of being hired on a college campus, balancing motherhood and their academic obligations, and growing Project Rebound as Program Directors at their respective campuses. Their experiences are shaped by on-the-job harassment, patriarchy, and various forms of violence. The panelists will employ an intersectional lens to discuss their lived experiences as formerly incarcerated women in higher education.

SPEAKERS LIST

Saturday, November 13, 7:15 pm–9:15 pm
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Since I Been Down: Documentary Screening and Conversation

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Gilda Sheppard, Filmmaker
Tonya Wilson, The Freedom Project

Abstract
Join us for a screening of Since I Been Down followed by a talk back and Q&A session with the film director, Gilda Sheppard, and a cast member, Tonya Wilson.

In their childhood, Kimonti and a group of his peers maneuver through a non-negotiable pathway to joining gangs as early as 11-years-old. This is a community profoundly impacted by our policies in the 1990s which label kids super-predators leading to outcomes of poverty, dead-end prospects for thriving in school and in life, and to outcomes such as committing violent crimes and spending life in prison.

The film, told by the people who have lived these conditions, unravels intimate stories from interviews brought to life through archival footage, cinema verité discussions, masquerade, and dance. Unravelling why children commit violent crime and how these children -- now adults -- are breaking free from their fate by creating a model of justice that is transforming their lives, our humanity and a quality of life for all our children.

Sunday, November 14, 9:00 am–10:30 am
Plenary Session
Hear Us: Writing From the Inside During the Time of COVID

Presenters
Tina Barrett, Hear Us author
Kathie Klarreich, Exchange for Change
Antoine Murphy, Hear Us author
Kathryn Nowotny, COVID Prison Project; University of Miami

Abstract
The newly released anthology Hear Us: Writing From the Inside During the Time of COVID documents, in real time, how Covid-19 and George Floyd’s murder impacted incarcerated writers, their families, and prison staff nationwide. Hear Us contributors Antoine Murphy and Tina Barrett, Exchange for Change’s founder Kathryn Klarreich, and COVID Prison Project co-founder Kathryn Nowotny will discuss the importance of this anthology for those in the free world as well as those still suffering behind bars. This collection showcases works of fiction, non-fiction and poetry from a variety of voices from 58 contributors spanning 12 states, from Alaska to Florida to California and Wisconsin. The panel will include voices of those directly impacted and provide an update on the current COVID-19 situation in prisons across the country.

Copies of the anthology will be available for conference attendees to take to their students.
BREAKFAST • 7:30 am
ROCKY MOUNTAIN EVENT CENTER

8:00 am–9:00 pm
Wellness Room

BREAKFAST MEETINGS • 7:45 am–9:00 am

7:45 am–9:00 am • Breakfast Meeting
Community Speaker’s Bureau
Steven Abundis, Alliance for Higher Education in Prison
Jesse Gant, Alliance for Higher Education in Prison
For those looking to develop their public speaking skills, the Community Speaker’s Bureau offers a great opportunity to do just that. It also promises to be an important hub for conversation and ideas in the field for years to come! Please join us in the work of amplifying the voices of the incarcerated, the formerly incarcerated, and their many allies wherever they are needed.

7:45 am–9:00 am • Breakfast Meeting
Video Presentation “This is Life” with Lisa Ling
Jason Bryant, Creating Restorative Opportunities and Programs
Jim Micheletti, Palma School & Creating Restorative Opportunities and Programs
Join us for this 50-minute episode from CNN’s “This is Life” with Lisa Ling highlighting the work of Exercises in Empathy (EinE) through Palma School in conjunction with the Correctional Training Facility (CTF) of Soledad, a medium security prison in Central California. EinE, created by presenter Jim Micheletti, focuses on both restorative and transformative justice, healing through an ethos of personal responsibility and an understanding of harm inflicted by unjust institutions.

7:45 am–9:00 am • Breakfast Meeting
Breakfast with Ascendium
Rebecca Villarreal, Ascendium
Join Ascendium’s Director-Education Philanthropy for breakfast, an informal networking opportunity for current or prospective Ascendium grant partners.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

PLENARY SESSION • 9:00 am–10:30 am
EVERGREEN ABC

Radical Moves: Building an Abolitionist Feminist Politic and Practice
Monica Cosby, Acting OutSide
Gina Dent, University of California, Santa Cruz
Alice Kim, University of Chicago, Pzen Family Center for Human Rights
Erica Meiners, Northeastern Illinois University
With examples and analysis generated from participants’ work connected to education/prison/abolition initiatives—teaching/learning, organizing, research—this plenary session surfaces everyday practices that illustrate the pathways and futures that abolitionist feminists continue to imagine and to build.

Abolition works for the obsolescence of policing and prison, but, as importantly, instigates key and necessary public dialogues while generating “alternatives” to the carceral state. What must be transformed and built to eliminate harm, cultivate radical communities, and create forms of authentic public safety? In what ways are higher education in prison programs a part of these solutions?

Abolition involves dismantling institutions that reproduce and mask harm, but it also demands the equally central work to imagine and to build up vocabularies, and communities that facilitate self-determination. This radical tradition— the labor to build community responses to end gender-based and other forms of sexual violence and to challenge the indefinite caging of communities— has always been a part of the Black/WOC feminist genealogy. This conversation explores these questions in the context of participants’ expertise in starting and sustaining a range of kinds of educational work both inside and outside of universities and prisons.

BREAK • 10:30 am–11:00 am
ATRIUM

CONCURRENT SESSION I • 11:00 am–12:15 pm

11:00 am–12:15 pm • Roundtable
College Readiness Programs for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Students: Why and How?
Chiara Benettolo, The Petey Greene Program
Elizabeth Catchmark, University of Maryland
Norma Dhanaraj, The Petey Greene Program
Regina Diamond-Rodriguez, Rutgers University, New Jersey Scholarship and Transformative Education in Prisons (NJ-STEP)
Een Jabriel, The Petey Greene Program
The Petey Greene Program (PGP) has developed a College Bridge Writing Program, piloted in correctional facilities in Washington, DC in 2020-2021 and in New Jersey and Massachusetts starting in the fall of 2021. This roundtable brings together PGP program staff, college bridge instructors, and NJ-STEP, a provider of higher education in prison and a partner in the design and implementation of the NJ pilot.

11:00 am–12:15 pm • Workshop
Exercises in Empathy Initiative
Jason Bryant, Creating Restorative Opportunities and Programs
Megan Sara McDrew, Hartnell College
Jim Micheletti, Palma School & Creating Restorative Opportunities and Programs
Exercises in Empathy (EinE) is a powerful program that bridges the gap between campus and incarcerated students where program participants choose academic reading that is then discussed over six-eight weeks for three hours. This is a profound program that EinE and Creating Restorative Opportunities and Programs are growing nationwide amongst higher education institutions.
## Conference Schedule • Friday, November 12

### 11:00 am–12:15 pm • Roundtable
**What Should Be the Role of Distance Learning in College Programs for Incarcerated Students? And Who Should Offer It?**

Moshe Canty, Konchess Mind Ventures, LLC
Eitan Freedenberg, University of Rochester
Thomas Gais, State University of New York, System Administration
Robin Riecker, Herkimer County Community College
Robert Scott, Cornell Prison Education Program
Peter Shea, School of Education & College of Engineering and Applied Science, The State University of New York at Albany
Klarisse Torriente, State University of New York, System Administration

The pandemic forced many college-in-prison programs that had offered only in-person instruction to work with students in other ways, including correspondence, conference calls, and ad hoc video connections. It also opened up discussions between New York’s higher education institutions and the state department of corrections over the use of technology for college instruction, a discussion made urgent by the department’s approval of an exclusively distance-learning program offered by an out-of-state university.

### 11:00 am–12:15 pm • Roundtable
**Research Opportunities and Trauma-informed Mentorship for Justice Impacted People in Higher Ed**

Rob Demarco, Prison Teaching Initiative, Princeton University
Christopher Etienne, Prison Teaching Initiative, Princeton University
Kelly Fowler, Prison Teaching Initiative, Princeton University
Damien Stackhouse, Prison Teaching Initiative, Princeton University
Nicholas Gomes, Prison Teaching Initiative, Princeton University

During our roundtable session, The Prison Teaching Initiative will discuss the effectiveness of some strategies by citing research, highlighting past success stories, and having former REU (Research Experiences for Undergraduates) students share their experiences and speak on the benefits of mentorships and research opportunities. We hope to engage with HEP program reps interested in creating meaningful research experiences and think collaboratively about building supportive networks for formerly incarcerated student researchers.

### 11:00 am–12:15 pm • Workshop
**Healing…. A Call for Radical Self-Care**

Ayoola Mitchell, National Healing Collective

The National Healing Collective was born out of a need to bring awareness and facilitate healing for people whose lives have been impacted directly and indirectly by America’s Punishment without being defined by them. This presentation will discuss the methods by which the GTT resists models of higher education in prison that reinforce theories and practices utilized by systems to categorize, separate, and then reduce people to their relationship to crime and incarceration.

### 11:00 am–12:15 pm • Roundtable
**From Incarceration to Campus: How Do You Actually Set Up Long-term Self Efficacy for Your Students**

Stephanie Bazell, College & Community Fellowship

The intention of this workshop is to get people to think through a holistic approach to ensuring alumni long-term success and self-efficacy while having their students at the forefront of creating these programs. The workshop is designed to be interactive and to welcome all types of expertise in a lively and spirited discussion.

## Conference Schedule • Friday, November 12

### 11:00 am–12:15 pm • Workshop
**We Don’t Have to Wait: Working for Liberation Begins with Being Liberatory with One Another**

Carrie Ann Hutnick, Graterford Think Tank
Nina Johnson, Graterford Think Tank
Harry King, Graterford Think Tank
Marco Maldonado, Graterford Think Tank
John Pace, Graterford Think Tank

The Graterford Think Tank (GTT) is a group of scholars, learners, teachers, and community members, navigating differences...
12:45 pm–2:00 pm • Lunch Meeting

The Coalition for Carceral Access to Literature and Learning (CALL)
Best Practices for E-readers in Prisons and Other Carceral Sites

Anthony Johnson, PEN America

In response to current practices by e-reader vendors, we formed the Coalition for Access to Literature and Learning (CALL), a group of advocates interested in protecting the literary needs of incarcerated individuals. During this meeting, our best-practices document will serve as a practical guide for educators, service providers, and prison officials.

12:45 pm–2:00 pm • Lunch Meeting

Higher Education in Prison Reading Project

Steven Abudis, Alliance for Higher Education in Prison
Valeria Dani, Alliance for Higher Education in Prison

Join us for a conversation around ideas, scholarships, and inspiring political analyses in the field (and beyond). We will discuss current and future books of interest, the main topics we want to address through this initiative, and the contours of the Alliance’s Reading Project.

12:45 pm–2:00 pm • Lunch Meeting

Learn About Ascendium’s Ready for Pell Initiative

Lucretia Murphy, Jobs For Future

JFF is managing Ascendium’s Ready for Pell initiative and excited to manage the process to select grantees to participate in this initiative. During this time, Lucretia will be available to meet with any post-secondary providers with questions about the initiative or the proposal process.

12:45 pm–2:00 pm • Lunch Meeting

Plying the Master’s Tools: Review and Revision of Universities’ Admissions Policies Pertinent to Justice-Involved Applicants

Patrick Bahls, University of North Carolina, Asheville
Sarah Humphries, Nazionale, University of North Carolina, Asheville

During the past year, the facilitators of this meeting worked together (and with others) on policy-related initiatives in their university system. Based on their experiences, the facilitators will lead a conversation on working within university systems to affect justice- and equity-oriented policy changes benefiting justice-involved individuals as they seek out educational opportunities.

12:45 pm–2:00 pm • Lunch Meeting

Meeting of The Education Trust Justice Fellows Policy Program

Kayla C. Elliott, The Education Trust
Will Del Pilar, The Education Trust

A private meeting of The Education Trust’s Justice Fellows and Advisory Board. Due to COVID, this will be the first time fellows, staff, and advisory board members are able to connect and fellowship in person.

2:30 pm–3:45 pm • Workshop

Ban the Box in Higher Education: Updates and Strategies for State Legislation

Erin Corbett, Second Chance Educational Alliance, Inc.
Morgan Godvin, Portland State University
Kimberly Haven, Prison to Professionals
Kristy Laschbero, Southern Oregon University
Patrick Rodriguez, Georgia Coalition of Higher Education in Prison
Noel Adam Vest, Stanford University

Our workshop represents work being done to engage a larger coalition of formerly incarcerated students in colleges and universities nationally to participate and get involved in the legislative process. We hope to provide the tools and resources to disseminate this policy and support formerly incarcerated students, advisors, and faculty to engage in policy making and advocating around this issue.

2:30 pm–3:45 pm • Roundtable

Know Your Worth: Pay Inequities in Higher Education in Prison

George Bogner, NJ-STEP Mountainview Communities at Rutgers University (MVC)
Eric Pereira, NJ-STEP Mountainview Communities at Rutgers University (MVC)
Lauren Reed, Alliance for Higher Education in Prison
Tyreek Rolon, The New Jersey Scholarship and Transformative Education in Prisons (NJ-STEP)

The HEP field needs to reckon with exploitation of its workers through unfair wages, specifically in regards to workers with lived experience. “What is to be done?” should be asked in order to organize a concerted effort in boycotting exploitation in labor practices in HEP & the prison system and reproducing an unfair wage system that is undermining the radical abolitionist potential of this field.

2:30 pm–3:45 pm • Roundtable

Fostering Inclusive Leadership of Prison-Based Postsecondary Education: A Roundtable Discussion

John Bae, Public Welfare Foundation
Christopher Beasley, University of Washington Tacoma; Formerly Incarcerated College Graduates Network
George T. Chochos, Vera Institute of Justice
Zaria Davis, New Direction Coaching & Consulting
Terry McTier, Prison Education Project at Washington University in St. Louis

This roundtable aims to generate knowledge and understanding that will foster more inclusive teaching and leadership of prison-based postsecondary education programs. Higher Education in Prison listserv conversations and the NCHEP call for proposals indicate a need for change in the field and this conversation centers on the need for greater inclusion and respect for formerly incarcerated and BIPOC people.

2:30 pm–3:45 pm • Workshop

Getting Our Own House In Order: Supporting Justice-Impacted Students on Main Campus

Elysha Danae Aseltine, Towson University

The purpose of this workshop is to share strategies that advocates can employ to address policies/practices on their main campuses in order to better support justice-impacted students. Strategy discussions will include: increasing campus stakeholder (i.e., students, faculty, staff and administration) awareness and buy-in, identifying allies and building campus-based coalitions; creating partnerships with external stakeholders; tackling common campus policy/practice roadblocks, among others.
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

2:30 pm–3:45 pm • Workshop
Research in the Prison English Classroom
Nina Marie Knight, Jackson College
COVID-19 brought many challenges to teaching in the Corrections Education Program (CEP) and compounded the issues of conducting research in the English writing classroom. This workshop will discuss how Jackson College met those challenges through the creation of the CEP Library Research Packet and by streamlining CEP research.

BREAK • 3:45 pm–4:30 pm
ATRIUM

CONCURRENT SESSION III • 4:30 pm–5:45 pm

4:30 pm–5:45 pm • Workshop
Full STEAM Ahead! How To Implement a Rich STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) Curriculum Inside Correctional Facilities
Lena Basta, Princeton University
Erin Flowers, Princeton University
Sheila Meiman, Raritan Valley Community College
Alisha Seroczyński, Cross College
Many HEP programs avoid in-depth science classes: most lab courses require materials and equipment that would be difficult, if not impossible, to bring into a correctional institution. This workshop is designed to support programs in the implementation of courses that are often deemed impossible to successfully bring inside.

4:30 pm–5:45 pm • Workshop
Building a Trauma-Responsive Educational Practice: Entering the Work
Em Daniels, Me Out Loud, LLC
The topic of trauma and education (broadly) has become more and more urgent as colleges attempt to deal with an ongoing pandemic and the repercussions of systemic and intergenerational oppression and harm. I will present an overview of the impacts of trauma on adult learning (drawn from my forthcoming text “Building a Trauma-Responsive Educational Practice: Lessons from a Corrections Classroom”), then introduce alternative Points of Entry into trauma work and the Trauma-Responsive Educational Framework.
20 Friday Session Schedule

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

4:30 pm–5:45 pm • Workshop  Location: Evergreen F

Academic Success Coaching: A Holistic Model for Incarcerated Student Support

Sherrie Brann, University of Maine at Augusta
Colleen Coffey, University of Maine at Augusta

At the University of Maine (Augusta), we offer Academic Success Coaching and Prison Release Coaching, which are rooted in liberating practices of adult education theory, to five locations throughout the state. This workshop presents the Academic Success and Release Coaching methods with a slideshow presentation, then allows participants to fill out their own intake, and in groups take turns practicing coaching approaches to student support.

4:30 pm–5:45 pm • Workshop  Location: Conifer Ballroom

Preparing Returning Citizens: Entrepreneurial Mindset as a Core Competency for Higher Education in Prison

Linda Eiler, Colorado Department of Corrections
Susanna Spaulding, Correctional Educator

This workshop addresses how to leverage academic and personal skills and experiences, bringing together researchers and practitioners to advance the understanding of how the entrepreneurial mindset prepares incarcerated students to develop the social and emotional skills needed for successful community reentry. Workshop participants will learn and practice approaches to designing a curriculum for delivery in prisons that embeds the entrepreneurial mindset into existing accredited college courses.

4:30 pm–5:45 pm • Workshop  Location: Aspen Amphitheater

Understanding and Telling Your Transition Story or The Power of Storytelling as a Transition Device

Chandra Adams, Georgetown University
Joshua Miller, Georgetown University
Jeannine Turner, Georgetown University

Over the past three years, Georgetown University’s Pivot Program has used storytelling as a tool to help returning citizens both understand the story that they were telling themselves about their incarceration, as well as help them to tell their story to external audiences. This workshop will describe the narrative method and provide workshop participants the opportunity to use it themselves as well as learn how to share it with others.

4:30 pm–5:45 pm • Workshop  Location: Maroon Peak

Building Trust from the Inside Out

Katie Owens-Murphy, University of North Alabama-Limestone Prison Programming Initiative
Yaschica Williams, University of North Alabama-Limestone Prison Programming Initiative

This workshop explores the question “What is to be Done?” through the lens of restorative practices and relationship-building as important organizing work that counters the isolation enacted by the carceral system. In this workshop, we consider the challenges, possibilities, and limitations of building trust through the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program model.

4:30 pm–5:45 pm • Workshop  Location: Blanca Peak

Empowering Song: The Arts as a Means of Storytelling Within the Brutality of Relational Realities

Judy Braha, Boston University
Andre deQuadros, Boston University

Boston University is unique as one of the few prison education programs that has maintained a commitment to offering a complete bachelor’s degree for incarcerated people; it is the only one to offer an arts program as well. We position our work in the pedagogical model based in Boal’s Theatre of the Oppressed, in which the traditional student-teacher power dynamic is effectively dismantled in favor of a more equitable and collaborative model.

4:30 pm–5:45 pm • Workshop  Location: Longs Peak

Library Research: Current State of Affairs

Jeannie Colston, Lee College
Jessica Licklider, Lee College

Administrators and practitioners should remember that not only do libraries play an integral role in the college experience, but also that accreditation requires colleges to provide library resources and services; however, doing so in a prison environment presents a unique challenge for academic librarians. For this workshop, recently retired librarian, Jeannie Colston, and current librarian, Jessica Licklider, will share information about the tools they have used to successfully bring scholarly resources to students.

DINNER • 5:45 pm

ROCKY MOUNTAIN EVENT CENTER

KEYNOTE ADDRESS • 7:30 pm–9:00 pm

EVERGREEN ABC

Whose Voices? The Future We Want for Higher Education in Prison

Terrell A. Blount, Formerly Incarcerated College Graduates Network (FICGN)

In his keynote address, Terrell will share lessons he’s learned through his journey from incarceration to community leader, what he envisions for the future of higher education in prison post-Pell grant restoration, the need to legitimize the voices of currently and formerly incarcerated students, and preparing and supporting them for leadership.
Saturday Session Schedule

CONFERENCESCHEDULE • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

BREAKFAST • 7:30 am
ROCKY MOUNTAIN EVENT CENTER

8:00 am–9:00 pm  Location: Larkspur

Wellness Room

BREAKFAST MEETINGS • 7:45 am–9:00 am

7:45 am–9:00 am  Location: Maroon Peak

Networking Session
Hosted by the NCHEP Planning Team
All conference attendees are welcome to participate.

7:45 am–9:00 am  Location: Aspen Amphitheater

UnlockEd: Learning Management & Technology for Prison Education
Haley Shaf, LaunchCode; Unlocked Labs
Peter Tosto, Unlocked Labs; Principia College
For the past several years, a team of currently incarcerated software developers at the Potosi Correctional Center in Missouri have been working on a streamlined, open source Learning Management System specifically for education in correctional environments. We are looking to connect with programs and stakeholders across the country to make our open source system more widely applicable for other states.

PLENARY SESSION • 9:00 am–10:30 am
EVERGREEN ABC

What is To Be Done for Equity: Recommendations from The Education Trust’s Inaugural Justice Fellows
Omari Amili, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust
Mary Baxter, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust
Montrell Carmouche, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust
Will Del Pilar, The Education Trust
Kayla C. Elliott, The Education Trust
William Freeman, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust
Alexa Garza, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust
Rabia Qutab, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust
Patrick Rodriguez, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust
Jarrod Wall, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust

As incarcerated students gain access to Pell, higher education leaders, instructors, and researchers must understand incarcerated students of color and the policies which impact how they experience education. The Education Trust is committed to elevating the voices of individuals who are directly impacted by the legal system. The inaugural Justice Fellows Policy Program centers around a vibrant and nurturing community of eight formerly incarcerated individuals who have overcome the odds and attained their bachelor’s or master’s degree, created programs and organizations for the formerly incarcerated community, engaged in state legislative advocacy efforts, and more. During this session, the Justice Fellows will each share a “flash talk” which integrates their lived experience and their development as equity advocates.

Saturday Session Schedule 23
11:00 am–12:15 pm • Workshop
Prison to College Pathways: Reentry and the Continuum of Care
Chandra Adams, Georgetown University
Joseph Irizarry, Tufts University Prison Initiative and Reentry Network
Joshua Miller, Georgetown University Prisons and Justice Initiative
Ella Misisan, Tufts University
Tyrone Walker, Georgetown University Prisons and Justice Initiative

HEP programs and colleges/universities should support a continuum of care that addresses traumatic experiences, racial/economic/gender-based injustices, and that creates educational experiences before, during, and after incarceration. TUPIT and PJI will facilitate a discussion of the avenues and barriers to supporting students from college-in-prison to college outside.

11:00 am–12:15 pm • Workshop
Leaning in Horizontally: Creating Volunteer Communities for Art-Based Programming
Paige Adamczak, Justice-In-Education Initiative, Columbia University
Nicole Emilía Delgado, Justice-In-Education Initiative, Columbia University
Marissa Gutierrez-Vicario, Art and Resistance Through Education (ARTÉ)
Mia Ruyter, Justice-In-Education Initiative, Columbia University

As practitioners working with incarcerated community members, we frequently think about the question, “what is to be done?”, including learning how to share quality arts programming with incarcerated community members, while also fighting for liberation in the struggle for prison abolition. This workshop involves art creation, reflection, and a discussion practice: we will examine the ways that volunteers in an art program in correctional facilities create opportunities for horizontal (non-hierarchical) learning both in the classroom and amongst themselves.

11:00 am–12:15 pm • Workshop
Charting the Course: A California Case Study
Danny Murillo, Michelle 20MM Foundation

This presentation charts the historical and current landscape of California’s higher education in prison (HEP) and transitional support on campus (TSC) ecosystems as a case study for other states. The goal of this meeting is to inspire stakeholders, especially students with lived experience, to systematize higher education access and support for system impacted scholars.

11:00 am–12:15 pm • Workshop
Creating a Statewide Consortium for Higher Education in Prison
Jennifer Deke-Kerns, Des Moines Area Community College
Emily Guenther, Grinnell College

In recent years, Iowa has recognized the need to work more closely with the Department of Corrections and state level leaders to create new policies to remove the myriad barriers that make it difficult for educators to serve students and has created the Iowa Consortium for Higher Education in Prison. Members of the consortium will lead a workshop for educators from other states who might be considering creating a similar body and walk through the 18-month period creating the consortium, assessing our progress so far in the state.

12:45 pm–2:00 pm • Lunch Meeting
Advocacy at the State and Regional Level
Patrick Bahis, University of North Carolina, Asheville
Karla Coleman-Castillo, Tennessee Higher Education In Prison Initiative
Thomas Fabisak, Chillon Project at Life University
Stephanie Gaskill, Operation Restoration
Katie Owens-Murphy, University of North Alabama

The principles of mutual aid teach us to meet people’s needs, mobilize for residence, and demand transformative change. In this workshop-style meeting, members of the Southern Higher Education in Prison Collective will share information and insight as to how the principles of mutual aid were put into practice through direct-action support and advocacy campaigns.

12:45 pm–2:00 pm • Lunch Meeting
Networking Session
Hosted by the NCHEP Planning Team
All conference attendees are welcome to participate

12:45 pm–2:00 pm • Lunch Meeting
Creating a Statewide Consortium for Higher Education in Prison
Tyrone Walker, Justice-In-Education Initiative, Columbia University

The principles of mutual aid teach us to meet people’s needs, mobilize for residence, and demand transformative change. In this workshop-style meeting, members of the Southern Higher Education in Prison Collective will share information and insight as to how the principles of mutual aid were put into practice through direct-action support and advocacy campaigns.

12:45 pm–2:00 pm • Lunch Meeting
Regional and Local Level
The principles of mutual aid teach us to meet people’s needs, mobilize for residence, and demand transformative change. In this workshop-style meeting, members of the Southern Higher Education in Prison Collective will share information and insight as to how the principles of mutual aid were put into practice through direct-action support and advocacy campaigns.
12:45 pm–2:00 pm • Lunch Meeting

The Legal Revolution

Eli Darius, Darius Consulting
Mary Gillen Fenske, North Hennepin Community College
Jon Geffen, Mitchell Hamline School of Law
Kevin Reese, Until We Are All Free
Emily Hunt Turner, All Square

The Legal Revolution is a pipeline from prison to the legal profession working with the Minnesota Department of Corrections to enroll incarcerated individuals in paralegal studies programs. Moreover, the Revolution is working to enroll the first incarcerated individuals in law school with the hopes of enrollment beginning in the Fall of 2022.

12:45 pm–2:00 pm • Lunch Meeting

California Community Colleges: Rising Scholars Meeting

Kellie Nadler, Rising Scholars

All California community college practitioners are invited to meet for a planning and networking session organized by the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office.

12:45 pm–2:00 pm • Lunch Meeting

HEP Research Infrastructure Working Group Information & Recruitment

Rayane Alamuddin, Ithaka S+R
Meagan Wilson, Ithaka S+R

Ithaka S+R is in the midst of a multi-phase project to advance research on higher education in prison (HEP) programming and the next phase of this HEP Research Infrastructure project involves finalizing the composition of three working groups to address key project goals. NCHEP 2021 offers an ideal forum to recruit working group applicants from among the conference’s diverse network of attendees.

12:45 pm–2:00 pm • Lunch Meeting

What Is To Be Done For Equity Part II: In Dialogue with The Education Trust’s Inaugural Justice Fellows

Omari Amil, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust
Mary Baxter, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust
Montrell Carmouch, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust
William Freeman, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust
Rabia Qutab, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust
Patrick Rodriguez, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust
Jarrod Wall, Justice Fellow, The Education Trust

During this meeting, attendees will have a chance to follow-up the Justice Fellows’ morning session to workshop specific strategies for addressing equity in HEP programs in a small setting.

2:30 pm–3:45 pm • Roundtable

Transformation Not Cooptation: Towards Liberatory Pedagogy for All People in Prison

Flor Esquivel, Adler University
Christina Rivers, DePaul University
Sarah Ross, Prison + Neighborhood Arts Project (PNAP)
Chez Rumpf, Benedictine University
Sharon Varallo, Augustana College

This roundtable discussion will begin with a brief introduction to the work of members of the Illinois Coalition for Higher Education in Prison (IL-CHEP) who are founders and organizers of arts and education programs in the state’s prisons. The goal of the roundtable will be to provide the NCHEP community with information of what’s happening in IL around HEP programming and to learn about challenges that others are facing with DOCS, especially as it relates to Pell grant expansion and resuming in-person instruction.
What are We Looking For? Best Practices in Data-driven Decision Making and Planning

Aaron Seligman, University of Wisconsin System

The University of Wisconsin System is planning to offer a B.A. program along with stackable credentials to students in Wisconsin prisons and it is working to define key research questions; set data collection strategies; interpret data; and apply data in key decisions related to project components. During this meeting, we would develop strategies for both qualitative focus groups (to conduct inside prisons and outside) and quantitative surveys for potential employers, key stakeholders, and most importantly, potential students.

Benefits and Challenges of Staff Programs

Scott Berman, Saint Louis University
Ashley Lauren Hamilton, Denver University
Julie Ann O’Heir, Saint Louis University

In 2019, the Alliance for Higher Education in Prison launched the Higher Education in Prison Landscape Project, in collaboration with The People Lab at the University of California, Berkeley, and the Research Collaborative on Higher Education in Prison at the University of Utah. In this workshop the Landscape Project Team will contextualize why data collection at the national level is paramount to advancing equity and inclusion in higher education.

Program Data and Evaluation Workshop: Taking Stock & Building Out

Erin Castro, University of Utah
Mary Gould, Alliance for Higher Education in Prison
Amy Lerman, University of California, Berkeley

In 2019, the Alliance for Higher Education in Prison launched the Higher Education in Prison Landscape Project, in collaboration with The People Lab at the University of California, Berkeley, and the Research Collaborative on Higher Education in Prison at the University of Utah. In this workshop the Landscape Project Team will contextualize why data collection at the national level is paramount to advancing equity and inclusion in higher education.

Building Towards Inclusive Non-Hierarchical Coalitions

2:30 pm–3:45 pm • Roundtable Location: Maroon Peak

Building Towards Inclusive Non-Hierarchical Coalitions

Hannah Bacon, Marymount Manhattan College Bedford Hills and Taconic College Programs
Erin Greenwell, Marymount Manhattan College Bedford Hills and Taconic College Programs
Monica Szlekowics, Marymount Manhattan College Bedford Hills and Taconic College Programs

This workshop will facilitate a conversation that focuses on re-envisioning the pedagogical structure and aim of higher education in prison communities by emphasizing peer-to-peer mentorship and horizontal coalition building. We will facilitate an open dialogue to think through the difficulties and realities of building towards more inclusive non-hierarchical coalitions.

Collecting Higher Education and Corrections Data to Understand and Improve Education Outcomes

Rayane Alamuddin, Ithaka S+R
Thomas Gas, State University of New York, System Administration
Meagan Wilson, Ithaka S+R

In this workshop, we will share strategies for linking HEP programs, universities, and state DOCs around the common goal of measuring and improving educational outcomes. Using the case study of State University of New York’s (SUNY) and the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, we will model the goals, decisions, and processes enabling data collection, protection, and analysis in support of SUNY’s justice-involved students.
Saturday Session Schedule

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

4:30 pm–5:45 pm • Workshop

Location: Maroon Peak

**Learning from Each Other: What Can be Gained from Joining a HEP Cohort?**

2019-2021 Higher Education in Prison Program Cohort

The Higher Education in Prison Cohort Program was formed in October 2019 with twelve members, and each member represented a different facet of the HEP field. During this session, we will share some of the biggest lessons learned around distance learning, creating bridges to college after incarceration, practicing equity, and advocating for our students and alumni.

4:30 pm–5:45 pm • Workshop

Location: Blanca Peak

**The Insurgency Model: Leveraging the Collaborative Processes Across Institutions**

Alec Griffin, Cerro Coso Community College Incarcerated Student Education Program

Establishing a strategic campus model is a specialty and stand-out component of the Cerro Coso Incarcerated Student Education Program. The goal of this workshop is for attendees to identify hard truths in their program and begin to create a strategic goal to manage and leverage strengths, understand and plan with weakness in mind, identify opportunities for personal and programmatic growth, and clearly identify program threats that could be internal and external.

4:30 pm–5:45 pm • Workshop

Location: Longs Peak

**Let Your Guard Down: Learning to Use Learning Beyond the Classroom**

Alessia Palanti, Columbia University, Undergraduate Writing Program

This workshop provides a toolkit for teachers and students to teach and learn for transfer. It will include a brief but important foundational review of scholarship in learning transfer theory, genre theory, and writing studies, which offers practical methods we can implement in our own curricula and in our own learning strategies.

**DINNER • 5:45 pm**

ROCKY MOUNTAIN EVENT CENTER

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PLenary Session • 7:15 pm–9:15 pm

**EVERGREEN ABC**

**Movie Screening and Discussion: Since I Been Down**

Gilda Sheppard, Filmmaker

Tonya Wilson, The Freedom Project Washington

Join us for a screening of *Since I Been Down* followed by a talk back and Q&A session with the film director, Gilda Sheppard, and a cast member, Tonya Wilson.

Film Abstract: Meet Kimonti Carter, former president and current member of an over 40-year Washington State program, the Black Prisoners’ Caucus. At 34, Kimonti founded TEACH (Taking Education and Creating History), an innovative education program.

In their childhood, Kimonti and a group of his peers maneuvered through a non-negotiable pathway to joining gangs as early as 11-years-old. This is a community profoundly impacted by our policies in the 1990s which label kids super-predators leading to outcomes of poverty, dead-end prospects for thriving in school and in life, and to outcomes such as committing violent crimes and spending life in prison.

The film, told by the people who have lived these conditions, unravels intimate stories from interviews brought to life through archival footage, cinema verité discussions, masquerade, and dance, unravelling why children commit violent crime and how these children — now adults — are breaking free from their fate by creating a model of justice that is transforming their lives, our humanity and a quality of life for all our children.

**SOCIAL HOUR AND DESSERT • 9:15 pm**

**ATRIUM**

**Formerly Incarcerated Graduate Student Network Event**

The Formerly Incarcerated College Graduates Network (FICGN) is hosting an event for current and potential members to network, wind down, and enjoy the final night of the conference. In addition, we’d like to honor our late founding board member Sue Ellen Allen of Reinventing Reentry by giving an award for “Outstanding Reentry Leadership” to a directly-impacted professional who exemplifies great stewardship and has made an impact for people in reentry.
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE • SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

BREAKFAST • 7:30 am
ROCKY MOUNTAIN EVENT CENTER

8:00 am–11:00 am  Location: Larkspur
Wellness Room

PLENARY SESSIONS

9:00 am–10:30 am  Location: Evergreen D
Hear Us: Writing From the Inside During the Time of COVID
Tina Barrett, Hear Us author
Kathie Klarreich, Exchange for Change
Antoine Murphy, Hear Us Author
Kathryn Nowotny, University of Miami

The newly released anthology Hear Us: Writing From the Inside During the Time of COVID documents, in real time, how Covid-19 and George Floyd’s murder impacted incarcerated writers, their families, and prison staff nationwide. Hear Us contributors Antoine Murphy and Tina Barrett, Exchange for Change’s founder Kathie Klarreich, and COVID Prison Project co-founder Kathryn Nowotny will discuss the importance of this anthology for those in the free world as well as those still suffering behind bars. This collection showcases works of fiction, non-fiction and poetry from a variety of voices from 58 contributors spanning 12 states, from Alaska to Florida to California and Wisconsin. The panel will include voices of those directly impacted and provide an update on the current COVID-19 situation in prisons across the country.

10:30 am–11:00 am  Location: Evergreen D
Conference Wrap-Up Discussion
NCHEP Planning Team
Conference attendees are welcome to join this session in order to reflect upon the conference and the lessons learned during the in-person gathering. The NCHEP Planning Team will also welcome feedback on the conference planning and suggestions for future endeavors.

EXHIBIT HALL

Academic Success Coaching: A Holistic Model for Incarcerated Student Support
Contact: Colleen Coffey
Rooted in liberating practices of education theory, Academic Success Coaches act as a navigational guide through the entire college experience. Learn how we help students prepare for future steps, all while encouraging agency and self-advocacy. Explore how Academic Success Coaching could benefit your students!

From Prison Cells to PhD
Contact: Stanley Andrisse
Get your copy of the newly released memoir of Stanley Andrisse From Prison Cells to PhD: It is Never Too Late to Do Good.

Illuminating the Darkness: Our Carceral Landscape & Don’t Be Afraid to Stand By My Side
Contact: Norynne Caleja
We are excited to share our work with the community! Get a copy of Illuminating the Darkness: Our Carceral Landscape (25 copies available) and Don’t Be Afraid to Stand By My Side (25 copies available) as well as informational pamphlets.

ONE Wake/ Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF)
Contact: Stephon Whitley
Join us to learn about organizing opportunities for formerly incarcerated scholars. IAF has organizations throughout the nation, and would like to tap further into the pool of talented individuals released from prison.

Project Rebound / Insight Garden Program
Contact: Arnoldo Trevino
We will be prepared to share the work of the Insight Garden Program in collaboration with Project Rebound.
Call for Proposals
The 2021 National Conference on Higher Education in Prison asks: What Is to Be Done?

Posed more than a century ago, this burning question has since inspired generations of revolutionaries to interrogate the intersections of theory and practice, to reflect upon their own positionalities in the face of power and oppression, and to seek the most effective strategies to collectively organize and build resistance. We expect many answers to this question, given the diversity of views that make up the field of higher education in prison, including those of current and former students, program directors, teachers, activists, scholars, and other community members.

In light of this vision, which speaks to a renewed commitment to make NCHEP a space of knowledge exchange and an occasion to enliven political conversations in the field, a few changes have been made to the submission formats. In order to question traditional conceptions of conference structures, the 11th NCHEP will host presentations that privilege collaboration, mutual support, and participation by inviting submissions for Open Conversations, Roundtables, Workshops, and Meetings.

Those who are currently incarcerated will also be able to participate in the 11th NCHEP via a virtual connection which can be arranged for any of the presentation types. Incarcerated participants will be able to send a pre-recorded presentation, appoint a delegate to read their work, or take part in a remote three-day session that will be held the week following the in-person NCHEP (November 17-19). All other submitters were asked to be physically present at the conference.

For eleven years the National Conference on Higher Education in Prison has served as a space of collaboration, listening, discussion and debate. It exists as a hub for the exchange of information, and to create opportunities to network in support of deepening the important academic, advocacy, and activist work happening across the country. Bringing all of this work together, the planning team for the 2021 NCHEP is pleased to invite proposals that advance efforts that will serve to define the ever-emerging field of higher education in prison.

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, currently and formerly incarcerated individuals, department of corrections and prison administrators, higher education in prison practitioners and staff and reentry service providers.
# What Is To Be Done?

Hosted by the Alliance for Higher Education in Prison

## Conference Hashtags

- #NCHEP
- #WhatIsToBeDone?
- #higheredinprison

## Download the Conference Whova App

[https://whova.com/portal/webapp/nchep_202111/](https://whova.com/portal/webapp/nchep_202111/)

## Conference Website

[https://www.higheredinprison.org/2021-nchep](https://www.higheredinprison.org/2021-nchep)

## Hotel Wifi

Network: Marriott Conference
Password: 2021NCHEP