

UNCHAINED MELODIES



ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING INCARCERATED WRITERS

OVERVIEW

A wonderful group of organizations are connected to *Unchained Melodies*.

- Review the information about each organization
- Learn how to contact them
- Decide who you want to contact

Have an idea for other organizations we should include? Let us know!

ORGANIZATIONS

FREER Records and FREER Music

Formerly Die Jim Crow Records, FREER Records is the first record label for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated artists. FREER Music is their publishing arm, currently seeking finished projects for distribution.

Mailing Address:

FREER Records / FREER Music

174 Eldridge ST 1C

NYC NY 10002

URL: <https://www.freerrecords.com>



American Prison Writing Archive

The mission of the American Prison Writing Archive (APWA) is to replace misrepresentation of prisons and imprisoned people with first-person witness by those living in legalized confinement.

No single essay can tell us all that we need to know, but a mass-scale national Archive can begin to strip away widely circulated myths and replace them with a sense of the true human costs of the current legal order. By soliciting, preserving, digitizing and disseminating the work of imprisoned people and volunteers, we hope to ground national debate on mass incarceration in the lived experience of those who know prisons best.

In our current stage of development, our goal is to triple APWA holdings, with particular efforts to expand witness from people in the Archive who are women, gender non-conforming, Spanish speaking, and representative residents from all states and territories. We invite all APWA visitors who are formerly incarcerated, work with or know incarcerated people to help us in increasing contributions that document the prison experience.

The Archive is built on the belief that incarcerated people are always the leading experts on practices and policy of legal confinement's effects. They can offer a generative index of state and civil society's (mis)managing of criminal legal systems and public safety. APWA writers are spokespeople for the challenges, aspirations, hopes, and enduring resistance and resilience of imprisoned people.

Mailing Address:

American Prison Writing Archive

Johns Hopkins University

3400 N. Charles St.

Baltimore, MD 21218

URL:



Truthout and the Keeley Schenwar Memorial Essay Prize

The Truthout Center for Grassroots Journalism is an independent media outlet that highlights the voices and analysis of incarcerated people to understand the prison industrial complex. They offer an annual prize for incarcerated writers in honor of Keeley Schenwar.

The Keeley Schenwar Memorial Essay Prize is awarded for essays authored by currently incarcerated and formerly incarcerated writers. This program is an effort to uplift the work of authors who've experienced incarceration, and increase opportunities for these writers' narratives to educate the public about the impact of imprisonment and policing.

Each year they award two prizes, each for an original essay of 1,500 words or less on the topic of prisons, policing or a related subject. Essays can be written in the first person and can be personal narratives (although they do not have to be). The prize for each winning essay is \$3,000. Essays can be submitted by email (essayprize@truthout.org) or by mail.

Mailing Address:

Keeley Schenwar Memorial Essay Prize
c/o Truthout
PO Box 276414
Sacramento, CA, 95827

URL: <https://truthout.org/articles/keeley-schenwar-memorial-essay-prize/>



United Black Family Scholarship Foundation

The United Black Family Scholarship Foundation fosters accessible, high-quality education for individuals of all races, driving systemic change in political structures that perpetuate poverty and inequality. Their initiatives go beyond traditional academic credentials, focusing on education as a tool for “Rebuilding the Community from Within.” They empower communities with the knowledge and resources to lead grassroots movements and promote transformative social and political change.

Mailing Address:

United Black Family Scholarship Foundation

P.O. BOX 862
BRISTOW OK 74010

URL:



UBFSF Home

Empower communities through education & action. Combat poverty...

ubfsf.org

ZO Media

Zo Media Productions, LLC is a multi-media publishing and production subsidiary operating under the United Black Family Scholarship Foundation (UBFSF) nonprofit charter. Their core objective is to specifically collect, edit, publish, promote, and disseminate works that deal with the social, political, and economic conditions within America's prison system.

Mailing Address:

Zo Media

P.O. BOX 862
BRISTOW OK 74010

URL: <https://zomediaproductions.com>

Exchange for Change

Exchange for Change offers educational and communication skills-building courses to students who are incarcerated, amplifying and bringing their voices to the outside. Through advocacy and education, Exchange for Change provides empathy and understanding on both sides of the fence.

Mailing Address:

Exchange for Change

550 NW 42nd Ave

Miami, FL 33126

URL: <https://www.exchange-for-change.org>

PEN America

For more than five decades, PEN America's Prison and Justice Writing program has amplified the work of thousands of writers who are creating while incarcerated in the United States. By providing resources, mentorship, and audiences outside the walls, they help these writers to join and enrich the broader literary community. Committed to the freedom to write in U.S. prisons as a critical free expression issue of our time, they leverage the transformative possibilities of writing to raise public consciousness about the societal implications of mass incarceration and support the development of justice-involved literary talent. There are annual awards with monetary prizes.

Mailing Address:

PEN America

Prison and Justice Writing Program

120 Broadway

26th Floor North

New York, NY 10271

URL: <https://pen.org/prison-and-justice-writing/>

Prison Journalism Project

A nationwide project that trains incarcerated writers to be journalists, offering a range of programs and a newsletter.

Mailing Address:

Prison Journalism Project

Attn: _____ (Please be sure to note if your mail is for Art, Learning, or Publishing)

490 43rd St., Unit 360

Oakland, CA 94609

URL: <https://prisonjournalismproject.org>

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