

# From the Desk of Jennifer Beach and Noelle Hanrahan

## WHEN WE FIGHT WE WIN!

September 15, 2022

Dear Name

“Despite all the deprivation and torture you endured, Albert, you found a way to maintain your humanity, your dignity and your integrity. You found a way to be generous when you had nothing to give. You are my role model. So I don't lose faith that something beautiful and positive can happen.”

an excerpt from Prison Radio supporter Valentina Warner's letter to Albert Woodfox after reading *Solitary*

Massive walls and razor wire try to disappear incarcerated people. Prison Radio's work resists that. We maintain and strengthen connections between people living inside prison and their communities outside. Together with your help, we keep the voices of incarcerated people in public discourse.

Separation tries to dehumanize us. When we stand together, it cannot.

At Prison Radio, everything we do amplifies our shared humanity. Everything you do to support our work preserves this precious point of connection.

### **Your support is more important than ever.**

More people from more places are calling us and sharing their stories: Mumia Abu-Jamal is our lead correspondent, and he is joined by Kenjuan Congo Jr., Eddie Treadwell, Krystal Clark, and many others. These commentaries analyze current events, document unjust conditions, explore family relationships, declare solidarity, elevate the value of community, and call us to action. Our correspondents demand decent health care, ponder the power of art, explore ideas about accountability, decry the assault on abortion rights, discuss gender, racism, spirituality, and mental health. Through all of these missives, a call for freedom is a constant thread.

Listen to our commentaries. Go to [prisonradio.org](http://prisonradio.org) to hear dispatches from Michigan, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Indiana, and California, all recorded within the last few weeks.

Any time you shake your head about underfunded social services, healthcare, public schools, and transportation, remember the resources diverted to this massive prison apparatus. Our correspondents give us a glimpse over the giant concrete prison walls into the human beings living on the other side.

### **And we cannot do this work without you.**

Every commentary includes a story of collective pain, resilience, and insistence for justice. To build solutions, we must first listen. Prison Radio helps those of us on the outside understand the cost paid by those on the inside.

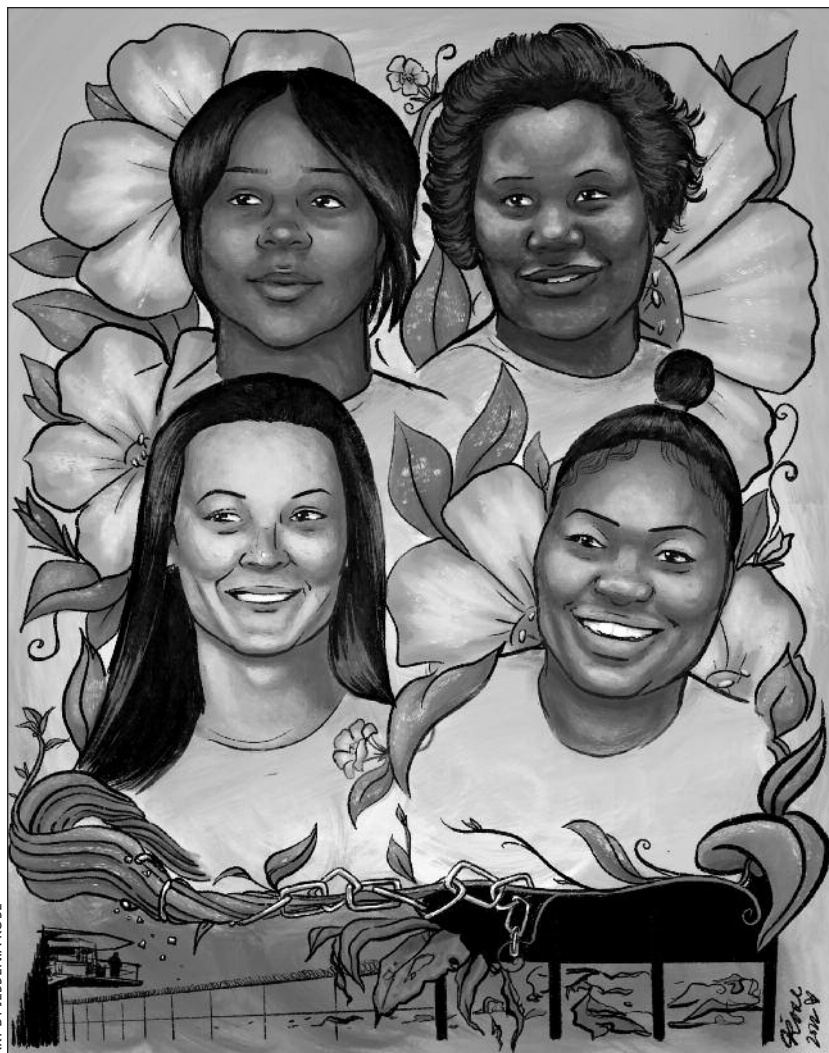
Go to our website and listen to Mumia's beautiful tribute to the great freedom fighter Albert Woodfox, of the Angola 3. His passing is an unmeasurable loss to our community and our movement. His release was the greatest tribute to struggle and victory! Thank you Nyati "Bo" Bolt, Marina Drummer, Scott Fleming,

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Malik Rahim, Gordon and Anita Roddick, and so many others. Read Albert's book *Solitary*. If you don't have it, run right out and get it. His story of resilience, dignity, and the life-saving impact of the Black Panthers is powerful.

## Stand with folks living inside Huron Valley Correctional Facility in Michigan



Krystal Clark (top-left), Naykima Hill (top-right), Desarae Bodnovich (bottom-left), and Marcia Graham (bottom-right)

Dispatches from Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility brought the story of a tangled mess of malicious abuse and criminal neglect to our airwaves. Organizers in Michigan then launched a grassroots campaign to demand a state investigation. This is just one example of leadership from the inside guiding work on the outside. We are ready to share these stories with the world. Almost every aspect of prison life is unhealthy: food, confinement, and isolation. Over decades, this all does great damage. Please send the enclosed postcard. Make sure the state of Michigan knows we demand relief and freedom, and that we stand with these women.

Airing these stories shapes our collective work for liberation.

### We need your support

The movement for prison abolition is growing, and the uncensored voices of the people living inside offer leadership to this movement. Our phone lines are permeating prison walls to amplify those voices. **And we need your help.**

We just finished a summer full of dynamic interns who worked on transcription, archiving our historical work, building sentence mitigation packets for Dennis Solo McKeithan, and supporting the Philadelphia-based Love Not Phear project to secure freedom for our lead correspondent, intellectual giant and political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Mail the postcard.  
Order more at  
[prisonradiostore.com](http://prisonradiostore.com)

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# Join Jamal Jr. in demanding Mumia Abu-Jamal's Freedom

**“I am literally alive today because of Prison Radio. In American prisons ‘life’ means death. It is now time to return to you, to come home to freedom and return to the living.”**

—Mumia Abu-Jamal

For 42 years, Mumia has appealed for a new trial in the 1981 shooting death of Philadelphia police officer Daniel Faulkner. Mumia's trial judge, Albert Sabo, was a stone-cold racist, who famously said during the original trial, “I am going to help them fry the n\*\*\*\*\*.” The then-D.A. of Philadelphia, Ed Rendell, and then-mayor, Frank Rizzo, knew exactly what the cops were doing: everyone knew. The Fraternal Order of Police's (FOP's) goal now is to block the white-hot spotlight shining on Philadelphia's sordid racist history. In opposing Mumia's appeal, the current Philly D.A., Larry Krasner, seeks to defend the system that victimized a generation.

**“We know that Mumia Abu-Jamal will be free. We just want to delay Mumia's release as long as possible.”**

—Maureen Faulkner, at Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Lodge 5

Join us in Philadelphia at 9 am on October 19, 2022, at the intersection of Filbert and 13th St, to stand with Mumia Abu-Jamal as Judge Clemens decides if he will get a new trial. Subscribe to our e-newsletter for updates at [prisonradio.org](http://prisonradio.org).

In July, Jamal Jr. and Brenda Arjona, hosted by the ‘Libérons Mumia’ Collective and the town of Villejuif, attended the dedication of murals depicting Nelson Mandela and Mumia Abu-Jamal, both honorary citizens of the municipality. Jamal shared Mumia's message (in French!)

**“Art is a weapon best used to be an inspiration to all who have the opportunity to decipher it. My grandfather, an artist, journalist, philosopher, and family man, galvanizes the revolutionary mind and soul of those seeking his revolutionary analysis...”**

—Jamal Jr.  
with Brenda  
and artist  
Mustapha  
Boutadjine in Paris



## Our Quest for Freedom Continues

Our phones are ringing and we are working hard to keep up with the crisis and possibility behind every phone call. We are all in for this fighting-for-justice work and we need your help. We have a small part-time staff who work very hard. We pay for health insurance and transportation. Showing up. Recording incarcerated people. Seeking their liberation. Working towards freedom adds up. **Can you help us?**

**You are a critical part of our circle of supporters that help us keep our bills paid and our phone lines open and answered.** Please consider sending a check today. Or going online and clicking Donate.

*Cuando luchamos, ganamos!  
When we fight, we win!*



*Jennifer Beach & Noelle Hanrahan,  
Co-Founders Prison Radio*

Listen to our latest  
commentaries and  
see our archive:  
**Prisonradio.org**  
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P.S. We are on the eve of abolition:  
Take action with us! Send and share postcards,  
come to Mumia's hearing, engage even more  
deeply with your communities. Thank you  
for your solidarity.

### Donate now:

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**Prison Radio** is a project of the Redwood Justice Fund (RJF), which is a California 501(c)(3) (California tax ID no. 680334309) not-for-profit foundation dedicated to the defense of the environment, and of civil and human rights secured by law. For more information on how to give, and planned giving, contact Noelle Hanrahan at 415-793-7958. Visit [prisonradio.org](https://prisonradio.org). Subscribe to our podcasts and social media platforms.





ART BY JESSENIA ROSE

## PRISON RADIO

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1st Class  
Stamp

Governor Gretchen Whitmer  
P.O. Box 30013  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Governor Whitmer,

We stand with the women at Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility. Please summon your courage and:

- Use clemency to release women who have served decades inside or qualify for compassionate release
- End the shackling of sick, terminally ill, and elderly women
- Address inhumane conditions such as pervasive mold, overcrowding, and the lack of ventilation, heat, cleaning supplies, and yard time
- Shut down unsafe, dilapidated buildings
- Provide better COVID protection and treatment, and require regular testing for MDOC staff
- Investigate abuse and retaliation
- Ensure quality medical, mental health and rehabilitative services

People across the U.S. are watching WHV. Comply with state and federal law in protecting incarcerated people, and end cruel and unusual punishment.

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