

# From the Desk of Prison Radio

WHEN WE FIGHT WE WIN!

Dear

Let me tell you why I feel this is a promising moment to be alive.

I can feel the seismic shift. The breadth, seriousness, and success of the abolition movement has been steadily building.

Throughout the country we are literally gaining ground. We are winning the hearts and minds of the people. We are winning specific campaigns. We are asking the right questions and are strategically focused on dismantling the prison industrial complex and freeing our people. To see and hear about the work as it happens, please sign up for our regular email updates.

Twelve years ago I moved to Philadelphia. My family has deep roots here. Living here, I have been able to join the front lines of a dramatic abolitionist movement. It is harrowing, exciting, and mission critical. Once you experience how heartless and ghoulish the prison industrial complex is, there is no going back.

The purpose of mass incarceration is to prevent community self-determination and to commodify prisoners. It siphons off money and drains resources from the people and families that are the most marginalized. Once you understand this — it is impossible to remain silent.

**We are offering you the opportunity to join the resistance.**

I can feel the community power built and led by the formerly incarcerated here on the ground in Pennsylvania, by the Abolitionist Law Center (ALC), Straight Ahead, Amistad Law Project, Human Rights Campaign, Let's Get Free, CADBI (Coalition to Abolish Death by Incarceration) and all of their amazing partners. This collective power is creating a sea change; leveraging the power of 5,000 lifers in PA and their families. Our comrades are coming home and those still behind the walls will be free. Governor Shapiro (who, mark my words, will run for President) put ALC Executive Director Saleem Holbrook on his transition team. He endorsed Kendra Brooks, the abolitionist socialist running for re-election to the Philadelphia City Council. This is all about power. And the formerly incarcerated are building it.



Abolitionist Law Center's 10th Anniversary, event September 20th World Cafe Live WHYY, Philadelphia. Robert Saleem Holbrook ED of Abolitionist Law Center and Straight Ahead; Debbie & Mike Africa; Ghani Kempis Songster; and Noelle Hanrahan, Co-founder of Prison Radio. These leaders have a total of 137 years of imprisonment behind them, and the future ahead.



**PRISON RADIO**

A project of the Redwood Justice Fund

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These centers of power are popping up all over the country.

Mumia will be free.

Krystal Clark will be free.

Jerome Hoagie Coffey will be free.

Dennis Solo McKeithan will be free.

Marvin Shaka Walker will be free.

Charles Diggs will be free, and so many others.

“We are our own liberators” —Robert Saleem Holbrook

Prisoners who lead these movements study together inside.

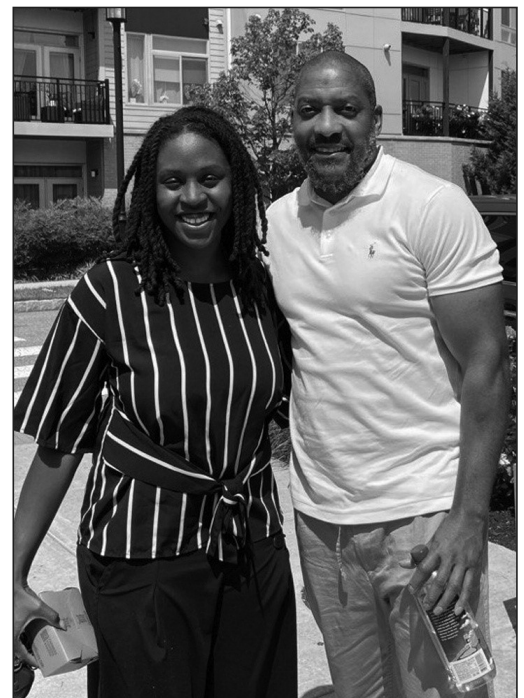
Using George Jackson & Russell Maroon Shoatz as liberatory beacons, they dive deep. They are returning to the outside educated and ready. They hit the ground running as organizers, Kerry Shakaboona Marshall, Saleem Holbrook, Ghani Kempis Songster, John (JT) Thompson, Sergio Hyland and so so many others.

Our resistance insists on celebrating the humanity of every single person that has been gobbled up, kidnapped and taken. As we fight to bring them all home, and as we, each of us, inside and out, heal and take care of ourselves, we invite you to join us.

Prison Radio's role in this is to hold the microphone for the folks still inside, and we can only do that because you support us.



A 25th anniversary gathering in September 2023 at Angela Davis's home of the original convenors of Critical Resistance, Jennifer Beach, co-founder of Prison Radio was one of the original CR organizers.



Abolitionist Law Center, staff attorney Nia Holston and John Yahya Moore. John was released after 27 years inside on July 11, 2023. Noelle Hanrahan, Esq. PI was the investigator on this case, providing key support to ALC and Mr. Moore, in his quest to be released.

We value and thank every gift. We need a building. We welcome stock and cryptocurrency transfers. We need checks and Mandatory Retirement Distribution gifts. We need monthly sustainers.

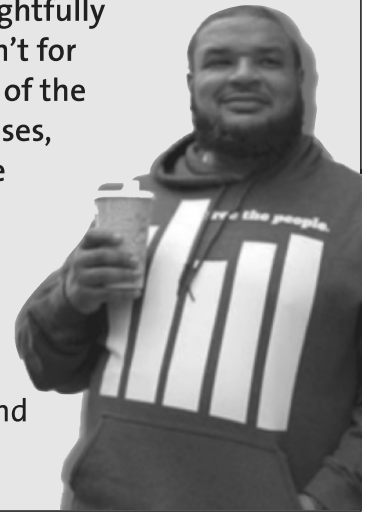
Here is what we are looking at doing this Fall! We need some capital and large scale gifts to help stabilize our base.

- 1) Purchase of a storefront or warehouse to house the Redwood Justice Fund Studio and Archives. We just need a building that is watertight. Look, even though we are running on fumes, that has never ever prevented us from dreaming big.
- 2) \$20,424K per year, travel to the prisons (\$1,702 per month). This is not even including the car note, this is just the tolls, the 5 hour drive, the gas, it really adds up.
- 3) \$20K per month Prison Radio bread and butter: staff time, database management, recording studio upkeep: 30+ commentaries recorded each month, database rebuild (\$6K), studio equipment new remote employee, (\$2K); training and travel new hire (\$3K); staff salaries are \$15K.

We have no big foundation funding. We rely on you.

“When I was on the inside, I was a correspondent for Prison Radio. And I can rightfully say that if it weren’t for Prison Radio, a lot of the injustices, the abuses, and the inhumane treatment that prisoners suffer from daily would never be exposed.”

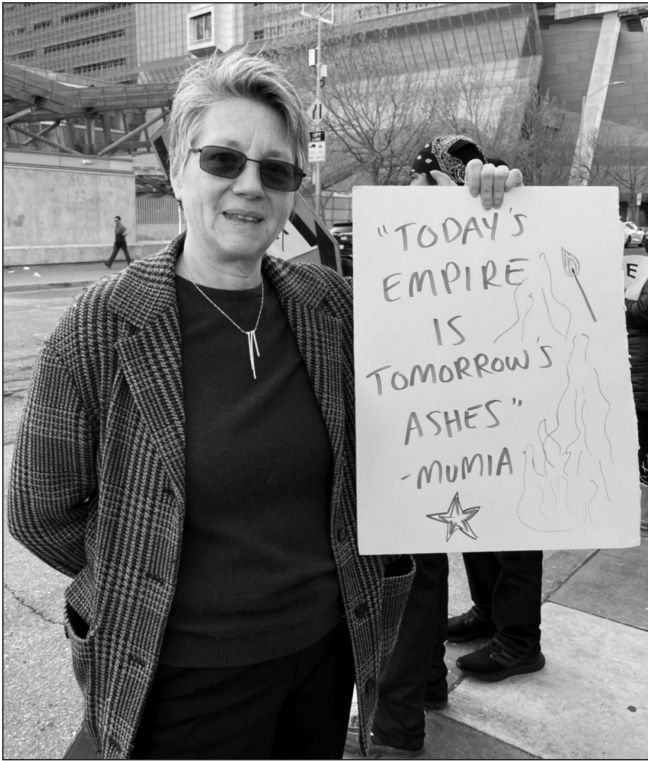
— Sergio Hyland



Ant Smith and Noelle Hanrahan at the WEB Dubois Movement School for Abolition and Reconstruction’s inaugural weekend conference August 2023



“Mumia Abu-Jamal: A Portrait of Mass Incarceration,” 28 boxes that were shipped to Noelle Hanrahan on Dec. 17th 2011 after Mumia was take off of death row, have now found an archival home. The manuscripts, art, and hard worn evidence of his recordings and writings are now open and preserved at Brown University’s Hay Library and Pembroke Center.



Prison Radio founder and Co-Director, Jennifer Beach.



Kerry Shakaboona Marshal founder of the Human Rights Campaign, former Prison Radio correspondent and leader with Noelle Hanrahan, Esq. P.I.

Prison Radio and the entire abolition movement know that leadership from behind the prison walls must be amplified. Now more than ever we need to hear what people inside have to say. Take a moment and listen to the prisoner’s voices and then act. Take a moment to join us. Consider a gift of \$250, \$50, \$35 or even \$1000.

We continue because many of you are there for us, standing right with us, and helping bring these voices to the airwaves. Will you make a gift today to continue winning, and turn up the volume on voices?

**We value and appreciate every gift.**

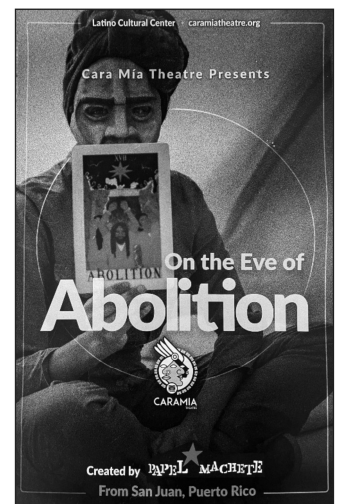
Cuando Luchamos, ganamos. When We Fight, We Win.  
Cuando Amamos, ganamos. When We Love, We Win.  
Cuando Sobrevivimos, ganamos. When We Survive, We Win.

Jennifer Beach  
Co-Director, Prison Radio

Noelle Hanrahan, Esq. P.I.  
Co-Director, Prison Radio

P.S. November 10–13th, 2023 Join us at Stop Cop City Organizing in Atlanta, GA

PPS. Join us in December 8–10th, 2023 in Santurce Puerto Rico for the “On the Eve of Abolition” by AgitArte



**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](http://prisonradio.org). Subscribe to our podcasts and social media platforms.