

**FROM INCARCERATION
TO THRIVING**

INTHRIVE

FILM FESTIVAL

Arlington 2024 Program

Schedule

Noon - **Welcome**

12:05pm - **Shorts by Filmmakers Who Survived Incarceration**

1:00pm - ***Calls From Home***. Followed by panel discussion focusing on being the loved one of an incarcerated person.

2:15pm - **Life After Incarceration Shorts**

3:00pm - **Spoken Word Performance**

3:15pm - ***District of Second Chances***. Followed by panel discussion featuring incarceration survivors.

4:55pm - **Closing Remarks**

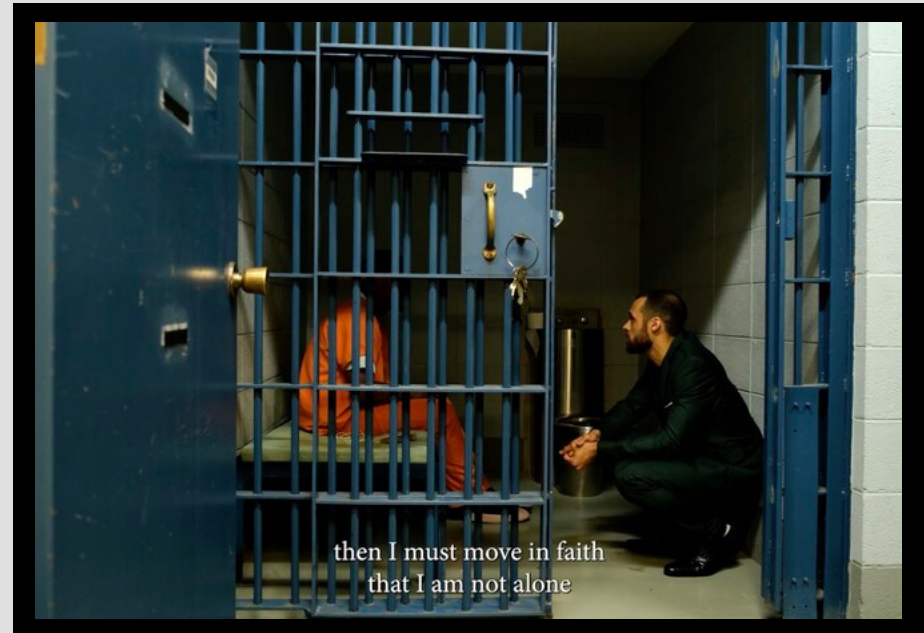
Shorts by Filmmakers Who Survived Incarceration

12:05pm

Two Wolves (6 min)

Prison is dark and hopelessness is darker. But the path forward starts with self-empowerment and there are many examples before and around us of how to reach our potential and achieve liberation.

Directors: Shannon Ross, Kaleigh Atkinson



Broken Systems (18 min)

The Impact of Incarceration on a person is profound, often leaving traumatic, mental and emotional scars long after stepping out of prison. Here we see the true story of how restrictive and sometimes arbitrary parole terms extend incarceration, making it easier for a person to recidivate.

Director: Twyana Davis



Shorts by Filmmakers Who Survived Incarceration

Seeing The Real Object (3 min)

Sometimes we miss what is right in front of our eyes. Seeing the real object is a story about seeing... When a boy finds a crystal ball on a park bench is his delightfully surprised by what he sees when he looks upon it with his heart.

Director: Michael L. Harris



Until We All Count (16 min)

“Until We All Count” reveals felony disenfranchisement as a remnant of Jim Crow, designed to suppress the votes of Black Georgians — and celebrates the roots-up advocacy of formerly incarcerated women in Georgia working to win back our rights.

Director: Page Dukes

Featuring: Page Dukes & Kareemah Hanifa



Calls From Home

1:00pm

Calls From Home (32 min)

In an intimate portrait of rural prison expansion, *CALLS FROM HOME* documents WMMT-FM's longstanding radio show that sends familial messages of love over public airwaves to reach people incarcerated in Central Appalachia. For many, the show is a lifeline to the world outside. Directed by Sylvia Ryerson, a former DJ for the show, the film portrays the many forms of distance that rural prison building creates—and the ceaseless search to end this system of racialized mass incarceration and family separation.



Panel Discussion

Festival Director David Smith moderates a discussion between Director Sylvia Ryerson and Michelle Griffin, featured in the film, as they discuss *Calls From Home*, the impact of incarceration on loved ones, and more.



Life After Incarceration Shorts

2:15pm

Roommates (10 min)

After completing lengthy prison terms, two women forge a strong bond within a nursing home catering to the formerly incarcerated. Creating a positive present tense in the wake of complicated pasts, these survivors cling to simplicity, routine, and each other.

Directors: J Brooke & Beatrice Alda



STILL HERE (17 min)

A profoundly personal film about a Latino family in the Midwest, we see the story of three brothers whose coming of age was stained by violence, poverty, and prison. The brothers confront childhood trauma and the compounding loss of freedom. But this isn't a story about hopelessness — it's an intimate exploration of a love that endures decades of separation. A love that has kept these brothers together now, and indefinitely.

Director: Mariah Barrera



Spoken Word

3:00 pm and other times

Breaking Free Poets

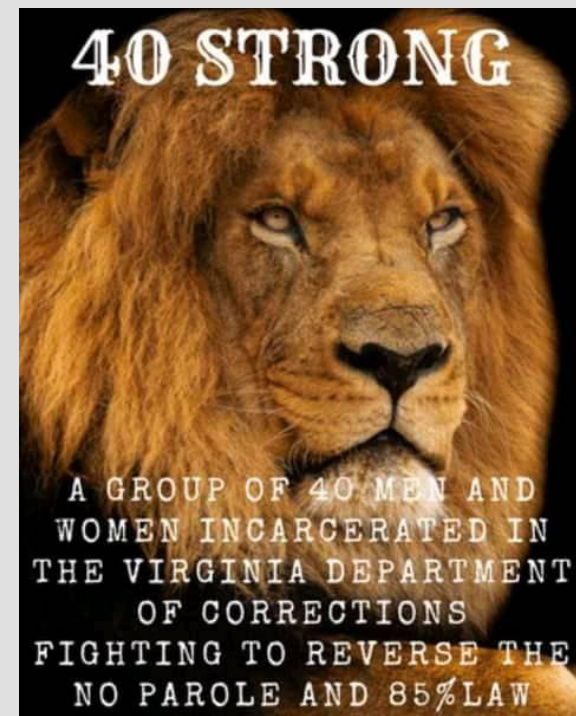
Mike Newman and Davon Bland first performed spoken word poetry while at Petersburg FCI. Today they are part of Breaking Free Poets, a group of Poets and Teaching Artists formed inside of a Federal prison. Their work highlights their experience-from the prison to the streets.



The 40 Strong

The 40 Strong was founded 2021 by Virginia DOC prisoner Free and Nairobi X. Free wanted a newsletter full of information that could reach the population and Nairobi helped to bring that vision to life.

The 40 Strong is committed to bringing change to mass incarceration and community issues. We stand firm behind our members voices being heard and using every possible angle to create CHANGE!



District of Second Chances

3:15 pm

District of Second Chances (77 min)

Delve into the heart of 'District of Second Chances', a documentary that captures more than just individual stories; it's a reflection of a societal shift. This film brings to light the real-life impact of 'second chance' legislation through the eyes of those it directly affects. In a world where justice and redemption are often elusive, 'District of Second Chances' offers a poignant look at the journey towards hope and reform. Join us as we explore the making of this powerful narrative and the lives it intertwines, painting a picture of struggle, resilience, and the human capacity for transformation.

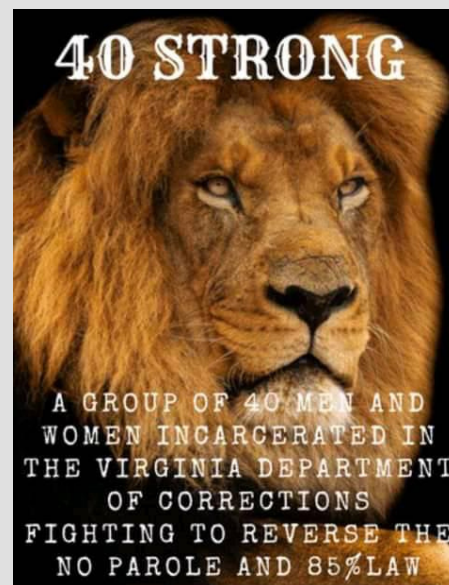


Panel Discussion

Festival Director David Smith moderates a discussion with Colie Levar Long, Gene Downing, and Anthony Petty who tell their stories about second chances after DC passed second look legislation.

Thank you to our Planning Partners!

*Without the help of these organizations, the Inthrive Film Festival:
NOVA would not have been possible*



Listen Out Loud | Media



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Thank you to our Community Partners!

*Please visit our Community Partners in the Multipurpose Room
across the art gallery from the auditorium.*

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Calls From Home

Together We Bake

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elevate the voices of
incarceration survivors?**

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