

FASHION EXHIBIT + LIVE STORYTELLING EVENT



# NOT FOR SALE: ENDING EXPLOITATION

EVENT PROGRAM

A POWERFUL EVENT TO RAISE FUNDS FOR



SAFE EXIT  
INITIATIVE

# NOT FOR SALE: ENDING EXPLOITATION

PRESENTED BY SAFE EXIT INITIATIVE

MAY 1, 2025

## 4:30PM | EXHIBIT OPENS

*Explore fashion designs and creative expressions by local artists  
and Survivors in the gallery*

## 6:00PM | LIVE STORYTELLING BEGINS

*Listen as Survivors provide insight into their lived experiences  
Video by Eric Walker*

## 6:40PM | FUND THE NEED

*Hosted by Audrey Morrissey and Alex Powell*

## 7:00PM | DANCING IN THE GALLERY

*Enjoy music by DJ Jon Strader*



# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



ERIC WALKER



# ARTISTS & DESIGNERS

## Alex Powell (zie/zhir)

*Artist*

“As a survivor of the sex trade and person in long-term recovery, writing and painting have been a major part of my healing process. Writing has been a way for me to recover and process memories from brain injury and previous substance use. Through my pieces, I also try to capture the intense emotions and internal cognitive struggle that I have been living with in a way that others who have not lived through this might understand a bit better.”



## Alyssa Morales

*Designer*

“I was inspired by vintage clothing patterns from the 1940s. I went through multiple design iterations before the final dress began to take shape. The beaded shoulder strap is inspired by the beading from the time and helped inform how I wanted the rest of the dress to be decorated.”



## ARTISTS & DESIGNERS

# Amina Ameer

### *Designer*

“I wanted to play around with modesty while using a traditionally feminine silhouette, intertwining it with the vibrant allure of red, juicy fruits — commonly used as symbols of sexuality.”



# Chloe Collins

### *Artist*

“I had dissociative identity disorder (DID) from being trafficked by my parents from birth to college. My memories returned at age 37 and these poems reflect my thoughts and feelings as I grapple with this reality.

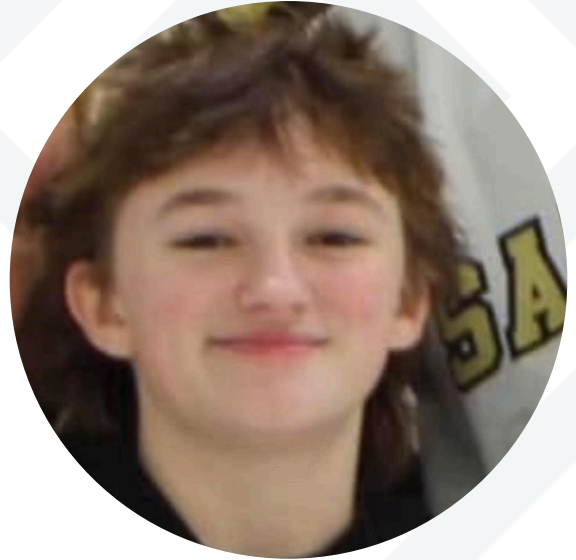
I am a survivor of multigenerational RAMCOA and government abuse. While I obtained a Juris Doctor and work hard to advocate for myself there is still very little recourse for myself and other survivors of these horrific abuses. I am comforted by organizations that work to bring a light to the harsh reality and lift up the voices of survivors”.

## ARTISTS & DESIGNERS

# Finn Santora

## *Designer*

“What inspired the design concept was the enchanting and magical feeling of fairy tales, particularly the moment when Cinderella transforms and goes to the ball. I wanted the dress to capture that dreamlike quality and elegance, making anyone who wears it feel like they’re stepping into a fairy tale.”



# Gretchen Neff Lambert

## *Artist*

“All people deserve to have agency and choice in their own lives. SEI is fighting for this and also supporting people when they most need it. People who are in the sex trade are often considered “less-than” or otherwise judged, but SEI treats them as the whole human beings that they are.



These folks are our neighbors and community members, and organizations like SEI help everyone remember that and treat them as such. Anyone could end up needing this kind of support, and it’s good to know it exists in our community in Worcester.”

## ARTISTS & DESIGNERS

# Helen Segil

*Designer*

“This dress, crafted from ceramic chains, serves as both a burden and a shield. It symbolizes the balance between strength and vulnerability, embodying the complex interplay of individual elements that form a unified whole.”



# Perri Sylvester

*Designer*



“The vision for this piece was born while I was working on the show Cabaret, and watching the performance of the song, Cabaret, which honors the life of a girl named Elsie who rented rooms by the hour. It got me thinking about how people and performers can rely on their bodies to make a

living and the pressure and vulnerability that comes with that. This design honors the idealism of a dream and the hope we hold in our hearts, no matter how different each individual's journey to get there may be. However, even an achievement such as walking the red carpet comes with expectations of perfectionism and greater opportunities of being projected upon, thus perpetuating the cycle.”

## ARTISTS & DESIGNERS

# Valentina Ventura XX

## *Designer*

“For my look, I drew inspiration from how the female form is perceived and valued in different contexts. Bridalwear stood out as a moment when women are traditionally seen as most “valuable,” and a quick search for “high-value woman apparel” reinforced this with bridal gowns appearing first.



I merged elements from Queen Elizabeth’s attire—originally inspired by Mother Mary’s symbolic dress—with modern bridalwear, highlighting areas of the body often used for purposes beyond a woman’s own needs, such as the womb for creating life and breasts for nourishment. By exposing typically concealed areas, my design challenges patriarchal standards of femininity, urging the viewer to confront what clothing is meant to hide and recognize the humanity beneath.”



SAFE EXIT  
INITIATIVE

Providing Resources and Advocating for Change.





# ABOUT OUR FEATURED VIDEO

## ERIC WALKER

Freelance cinematographer who works on corporate, commercial, and documentary projects in New England.

Email: [hello@ericwalkervideo.com](mailto:hello@ericwalkervideo.com)

Instagram: [@sounditoutfilms](https://www.instagram.com/sounditoutfilms)

Website: [ericwalkervideo.com](http://ericwalkervideo.com)

"Working with Eric was an real privilege. He was incredibly easy to collaborate with, sensitive to the needs of our community, professional, organized, and brought a creative eye that truly showcased our strengths and told our story beautifully. We would highly recommend Eric to any organization looking for a talented partner to help bring their story to life."

Kyla Pacheco

Director of Marketing & Development  
Safe Exit Initiative

# ABOUT US

Safe Exit Initiative (SEI) is a survivor-led nonprofit based in Worcester, MA, with additional outreach locations in Springfield, MA, and Baltimore, MD. SEI supports individuals with histories of commercial sexual exploitation by providing essential resources, specialized programming, and facilitating community connections.



## OUR MISSION

Creating safe and sustainable exits from exploitation and the sex trade through quality programming, strategic partnerships, and comprehensive legislative initiatives.





# GET INVOLVED

We invite community members to get involved by volunteering professional services and mentorship to support SEI participants, joining our pro bono lawyer network, offering career training opportunities, and facilitating skill development and educational programs at Jana's Place and Harbor (Worcester, MA).

Online donations are gratefully accepted year-round at [givebutter.com/SEIgive](https://givebutter.com/SEIgive).


To volunteer, please email [hello@safeexits.org](mailto:hello@safeexits.org).





## CONTACT

---

 508-762-9660

 [hello@safeexits.org](mailto:hello@safeexits.org)

 534 Cambridge St, Worcester

 [safeexitinitiative.org](http://safeexitinitiative.org)