



RESOURCES FOR ARTISTS IN PRISON



BOOKS TO PRISONERS:

Books Through Bars

4722 Baltimore Ave.

Philadelphia, PA 19143

Phone: 215-727-8170

Email: info@booksthroughbars.org

Website: <http://booksthroughbars.org/>

“**Books Through Bars** is a volunteer-run organization that distributes free books and educational materials to incarcerated people in PA, NJ, NY, MD, DE, VA, and WV.”

They also have an education program geared toward incarcerated individuals in Pennsylvania who tend to have little access to educational options. And they operate a zine program that presents stories from prisoners of their experiences around prison conditions and reentry.



Books to Prisoners

c/o Left Bank Bookstore

92 Pike St. Box A

Seattle, WA 98101

Phone: 206-527-3339

Website: <http://www.bookstoprisoners.net/>

Books to Prisoners is a non-profit organization that sends tens of thousands of free books each year to prisoners across the country.

Books to Prisoners also has three associate organizations: Portland Books to Prisoners, Books to Prisoners Olympia, and Bellingham Books to Prisoners (contact information available on website).



International Bible Society

1820 Jet Stream Drive

Colorado Springs, CO 80921

Phone: 719-488-9200

Website: <https://www.prisonactivist.org/resources/international-bible-society>

The **International Bible Society** offers a free copy of the Bible (English or Spanish) and a booklet to inmates.



Love Press

P.O. Box 1608

Tarpan Springs, FL 34688

Phone: 787-938-2020 ext. 2200; 1-800-282-9905 ext. 2200

Email: linda@lovepress.com

Website: <http://www.lovepress.com/index.htm>

Love Press sends Dr. Gill's books free of charge to jails, prisons, and military bases in the United States. Head chaplains must order.



Prison Book Program

1306 Hancock Street, Suite 100

Quincy, MA 02169

Phone: 617-423-3298

General info: info@prisonbookprogram.org

Volunteer info: volunteer@prisonbookprogram.org

Book donations: bookdonations@prisonbookprogram.org

Website: <http://prisonbookprogram.org/>

The **Prison Book Program** sends free books to prisoners.



Prison Library Project

915-C W. Foothills Blvd., PMB 128

Claremont, CA 91711-3356

Phone: 909-626-3066

Email: claremontforum@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.claremontforum.org/prison-library-project/>

The **Prison Library Project** offers free reading materials to inmates around the country, with a focus on education and self-help books. They also offer services to a variety of communities within the prison system, including librarians, chaplains, drug and alcohol recovery groups, domestic abuse, and HIV/AIDS support groups.

Their website also provides categorized resources lists for inmates nationwide.



Prisoners Literature Project

c/o Bound Together Books

1369 Haight Street

San Francisco, CA 94117

Website: <http://www.prisonlit.org/>

The **Prisoners Literature Project** is a non-profit, volunteer-operated group that sends free books by request to inmates around the country.

Book requests can only be sent by mail to the address above.



Women's Prison Book Project

C/O Boneshaker Books

2002 23rd Ave. S.

Minneapolis, MN 55404

Email: womensprisonbookproject@gmail.com

Website: <https://wpbp.org/>

The **Women's Prison Book Project** is an all-volunteer, grassroots organization that provides free reading materials on a variety of topics to women and transgender persons in prison. They also head the Midwest Trans Prisoner Penpal Project (MWTPPP), which, through letter writing, "seeks to connect Midwest-based incarcerated trans/gender non-conforming people with other trans/gender non-conforming and allied community member pen pals for friendship."



CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS/EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:

Blackstone Career Institute

1011 Brookside Road, Suite 300
P.O. Box 3717
Allentown, PA 18106
Phone: 610-871-0031 (Toll free: 800-826-9228)
Fax: 610-871-0034
Email: info@blackstone.edu
Website: <http://blackstone.edu/>

Blackstone Career Institute is an accredited online career-training institute. Blackstone offers an accredited legal assistant/paralegal program.



CLEP (College Level Exam Program)

P.O. Box 6600
Princeton, NJ 08541
Phone: 800-257-9558 or 212-237-1331
Fax: 610-628-3726
Email: clep@collegeboard.org (professionals) or celp@info.collegeboard.org (students)
Website: <https://clep.collegeboard.org/>

CLEP offers college credits for knowledge gained through a variety of education formats.



College Guild

P.O. Box 6448
Brunswick, ME 04011
Phone: 207-729-0043
Email: collegeguild@gmail.com
Website: <http://collegeguild.org/>

The **College Guild** is a non-accredited, volunteer-based program that provides prisoners with free, non-traditional correspondence courses.



Distance Education Accrediting Commission

1101 17th Street NW, Suite 808

Washington, D.C. 20036
Phone: 202-234-5100
Fax: 202-332-1386
Email: info@deac.org
Website: <http://www.deac.org/>

The **Distance and Education Accrediting Commission** is a private, non-profit organization that does accreditation work of distance education institutions. Contact for a list of accredited institutions, including correspondence schools, prison programs, and institutions with paralegal programs.



Office of Correctional Education

U.S. Dept. of Education
400 Maryland Ave. S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202
Contact Sean Addie:
Phone: 202-245-7374
Email: sean.addie@ed.gov

Contact Sean Addie for information on prison arts and education programs.



The Paralegal Institute at Brighton College

8777 E. Via de Ventura, Suite 300
Scottsdale, AZ 85258
Phone: 800-354-1254
Fax: 612-202-0502
Website: <https://www.theparalegalinstitute.edu/programs/paralegal-studies-programs/>

The Paralegal Institute at Brighton College is a distance learning institution accredited by the DEAC that offers an online Paralegal Diploma Program and an online Associate Degree in Paralegal Studies program.



EDUCATION, AID, AND AWARENESS:

Journal of Prisoners on Prisons
C/O Justin Piché, PhD
Assistant Professor

Department of Criminology
University of Ottawa
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
K1N 6N5
Phone: 613-562-5800
Fax: 613-562-5304
Email: jpp@uottawa.ca
Website: <http://www.jpp.org/index.html>

The ***Journal of Prisoners on Prisons*** is a prisoner written, non-profit, and academically oriented and peer-reviewed journal that “brings the knowledge produced by prison writers together with academic arguments to enlighten public discourse about the current state of carceral institutions.”

Cost: \$15 for one year for prisoners; \$30 for one year for non-prisoners; \$60 for one year for prison libraries and schools and institutions



The Prisoner's Guide to Survival: A Comprehensive Legal Assistance Manual for Post-Conviction Relief and Prisoners' Civil Rights

PSI Publishing, Inc.
413-B 19th Street #168
Lynden, WA 98264

The Prisoner's Guide to Survival is a 700+ page legal guide for prisoners and those helping them.

Cost: From PSI Publishing = \$49.95 plus \$5 shipping & handling for prisoners; \$64.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling for non-prisoners. This item can also be found on amazon.com.



Prison Legal News (PLN)

P.O. Box 1151
1013 Lucerne Ave.
Lake Worth, FL 33460
Phone: 561-360-2523
Fax: 866-735-7136
Email: info@prisonlegalnews.org
Website: <https://www.prisonlegalnews.org/>

Prison Legal News provides monthly “review and analysis of prisoners’ rights, court rulings and news concerning criminal justice-related issues.”

Cost: \$30/year for prisoners; \$35/year for non-prisoners; \$90/year for lawyers, government agencies, and corporations.



“Take Charge of Your Future” (PDF)

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/take-charge-your-future.pdf>

“**Take Charge of Your Future**” is a Department of Education publication that provides resources and direction for pursuing various educational opportunities.



THEATER:

Ten Thousand Things

Phone: 612-203-9502

Email: contact@tenthousandthings.org

Website: <http://www.tenthousandthings.org/>

Ten Thousand Things is a theater company that brings theater to those with little access to the arts. They perform for free at places that meet the previously stated circumstances, including homeless shelters, correctional facilities, low-income senior centers, reservations, after-school programs, women’s shelters, and locations in rural-Minnesota.



WRITING:

Minnesota Prison Writing Workshop

Phone: 651-285-0990

Email: info@mnprisonwriting.org

Website: <http://www.mnprisonwriting.org/>

Minnesota Prison Writing Workshop offers courses in state correctional facilities, covering a wide range of topics from essay writing to oral storytelling and more. The length of the workshops, class length and depth, and the writing experience of the

students vary, the latter ranging from absolute beginners to published writers. MPWW also brings in visiting writers, coordinates readings, publishes a literary journal, and offers mail-based writing mentorships for inmates who have completed at least one course through MPWW.



PEN America

588 Broadway, Suite 303

New York, NY 10012

Phone: 212-334-1660

Fax: 212-334-2181

Email: pen@pen.org

Website: <https://pen.org/prison-writing>

PEN America seeks to “[provide] a place for inmates to express themselves freely and encourages the use of the written word as a legitimate form of power.” The program “sponsors an annual writing contest, publishes a free *Handbook for Writers In Prison*, provides one-on-one mentoring to inmates, conducts workshops, and seeks to get inmates’ work publicly through literary publications and readings.” The mentoring program operates “through individual mail correspondence mentors who are Committee members, working writers or MFA students [who] provide careful criticism, tips on craft, and guidance in the fundamentals of grammar to inmates around the country.”



Prison Writers

New Writer

Prison Writers

P.O. Box 1430

New York, NY 10276

Website: <http://prisonwriters.com/>

Prison Writers provides incarcerated persons with a medium to publish their writing and have their voices heard. Their writing covers a variety of topics based on their experiences in the prison system.

The following is a listing of non-Minnesota, state-specific prisoner arts and education programs.

STATE SPECIFIC (OUTSIDE MN):

Alabama Prison Arts + Education Project

203 Spidle Hall (mailing address)

220 M. White Smith (office address)

Auburn, AL 36849

Phone: 334-844-8946

Fax: 334-844-4515

Email: apaepau@auburn.edu

Website: <http://www.humsci.auburn.edu/apaep/>

The **Alabama Prison Arts + Education Project** brings educational opportunities to inmates in Alabama in the disciplines of the arts, humanities, hard sciences, and human sciences. They also conduct a book donation program and a traveling exhibit of APAEP students' art and produce an anthology of students' work.



Prison Creative Arts Project

1801 East Quadrangle

701 E. University Ave.

Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Phone: 734-647-6771

Fax: 734-763-7712

Email: pcapinfo@umich.edu

Website: <https://lsa.umich.edu/pcap>

Prison Creative Arts Project is a collaborative organization that facilitates engagement with the arts and each other for incarcerated individuals in Michigan and University of Michigan community members. PCAP offers workshops (theater, art, and writing), courses and other educational opportunities, and a reentry arts program, as well as exhibits prisoners' art annually and publishes prisoners' writing in a literary review.



Prison Performing Arts

3547 Olive Street, Suite 250

St. Louis, MO 63103

Phone: 314-289-4190

Email: info@prisonartsstl.org

Website: <http://prisonartsstl.org/>

Prison Performing Arts is a “multi-discipline, literacy and performing arts program that serves incarcerated adults and children” at a number of Missouri correctional facilities.



Rehabilitation Through the Arts

12 Huntville Road
Katonah, NY 10536
Phone: 914-231-7566
Email: info@rta-arts.org
Website: <http://www.rta-arts.org/>

Rehabilitation Through the Arts is a creative arts program that brings programs such as theatre, dance, creative writing, voice, visual art and more to prisoners in five New York correctional facilities.



Shakespeare Behind Bars

P.O. Box 83
Macatawa, MI 49434
Website: <http://www.shakespearebehindbars.org/>
Contact form online

Shakespeare Behind Bars is an organization that offers “theatrical encounters with personal and social issues to incarcerated and post-incarcerated adults and juveniles.” Programs in Kentucky and Michigan.

For additional resources nationwide, check out **The Prison Arts Coalition** at <https://theprisonartscoalition.com/>.

Updated July 2016