

FREE

A stylized black and white illustration of a hand holding the word 'FREE' in a bold, blocky font. The hand is positioned as if holding the letters from the right side.

OUR

The word 'OUR' is written in a stylized, cursive font and is contained within a heart shape. The heart is formed by the negative space around the letters.

MAMAS

A stylized black and white illustration of a hand holding the word 'MAMAS' in a bold, blocky font. The hand is positioned as if holding the letters from the right side.

#ENDCASHBAIL #PRISONSDONTWORK

FREE OUR MAMAS! SISTERS! QUEENS!
A project by the People's Paper Co-op



FREE OUR
QUEENS

NO ONE IS FREE UNTIL ALL
MOTHERS ARE FREE

#endcashbail #prisonsdontwork

PEOPLE'S PAPER CO-OP FELLOWS 2016-2020:

Faith Bartley (Lead Fellow), Aesha Barnett, Val Bell, Rusty Bentley, Carmelita Bird, Evonia Bivens, Latyra Blake (Peer Mentor), Jonquil Brown, Catherine Brown, Toni Brown, Antionette Carter, Crystal, Kelly Conway, Hakima Cooper, Kerri DeLeo, Jamila Harris, Stephanie Jackson, Kitty Marrero, Rosa McKnight, Latonya "T" Myers, Tonya Randolph, Veronica Rex, Ros Ryder, Teresa Saunders, Michelle Scales, Lisa Shorter, Nikkie Lee-Smith, Sheri Lopez, Carolyn Smith, Amy Tlapa, Stephanie Waters, and Heather Wiester.

Notes On Printing

THE PAPER: This limited edition is printed on handmade paper made by formerly incarcerated women in the People's Paper Co-op's Art and Advocacy Fellowship. Criminal records from legal clinics and public workshops were torn, pulped, and transformed into new sheets of handmade paper that act as blank slates for this collective vision for transformative justice. The People's Paper Co-op is an ongoing initiative of the Village of Arts & Humanities, in North Philadelphia.

THE PRINTERS: Each of these posters was hand printed on handmade paper by either the collaborating artists, or by the women in the People's Paper Co-op Art and Advocacy Fellowship.

THE ENVELOPE: This poster series is encased in an envelope printed and constructed by our amazing friends and collaborators at the Paper Machine print shop in New Orleans.

COVER ART: Shoshana Gordon

INSIDE COVER ART: Aryanna Tischler

This is edition 3 / 10

♡ PPC

FREE OUR MAMAS! SISTERS! QUEENS!

Using art to free Black mothers and caregivers while fighting to end cash bail

THE PROJECT: The PEOPLE'S PAPER CO-OP (PPC), is a women led, women focused, women powered art and advocacy project at the Village of Arts and Humanities in North Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The PPC looks to women in reentry as the leading criminal justice experts our society needs to hear from, and uses art to amplify their stories, dreams, and visions for a more just and free world.

Since the spring of 2018, the PPC has collaborated with the Philadelphia Community Bail Fund (PCBF) on their Mama's Day Bail Out campaign. The PPC has organized exhibitions, parades, press conferences, and events to raise awareness and funds for their campaign (more than \$85,000 has been raised through art sales) while sharing the stories and demands of formerly incarcerated women with tens of thousands of people across Philadelphia and beyond.

In the spring of 2020, amidst the Covid-19 pandemic, PPC Fellows (meeting virtually, and having only met in person twice!) created portraits and poetry that they shared with artists across the U.S. to collaboratively create the artwork in this portfolio. Both a limited, hand printed edition and digitally printed edition were created, and within a month, the art raised over \$44,000 to bring Black mamas and caregivers home to their families and communities, where they belong, in time for Mother's Day.

In the wake of George Floyd's murder by police officers in Minneapolis, MN, and the international uprising that followed, the posters were used to raise more than \$17,000 in 3 days to bail out protesters who were arrested in Philadelphia, PA.

Thank you for your support! We hope you will put these prints in your homes, schools, public spaces, offices, and anywhere you feel these amazing women need to have their voices heard.

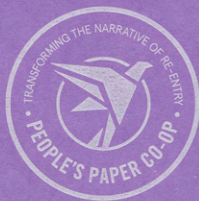
Endless thanks to the artists who contributed to this series: Pippin Frisbie Caller, Melanie Cervantes, Katie Kaplan, Malachi-Maggie Lily, Ashley Lukashevsky, Nicole Marroquin, Shani Peters, Sharita Towne, Swoon, Mary Tremonte, Kah Yangni

In loving memory of our friends, Catherine Brown, Kelly Conway, and Amy Tlapa.

The PPC is coordinated by Courtney Bowles and Mark Strandquist.

The People's Paper Co-op has only been made possible through the time, energy, and love of so many people. This series was made possible through the incredibly generous support of the following organizations: Bread and Roses Community Fund, New Century Trust, and our home, the Village of Arts and Humanities in North Philadelphia.

PEOPLES PAPER CO-OP.COM // PHILLYBAILOUT.COM // NATIONALBAILOUT.ORG



#PRISONSDONTWORK

WWW.PEOPLESAPERCO-OP.COM

Free is just breathing the fresh air,
watching the moon and stars.



Free is watching children run and play in the parks, with no worries.

Hearing their laughter and watching the smiles on their pretty faces.

Just enjoying themselves without a care in the world.

Free is being able to enjoy life. Being able to come and go as I choose.

Free is a kind and caring word to one another.

Free is saying I love you, I miss you

Free is removing all the hurt and pain away.

Free is just breathing the fresh air, watching the moon and stars.

Free is a mother holding her baby close to her breast, smiling and saying I love you.

-Veronica Rex

RESISTANCE
FAMILIES



I AM
A QUEEN.
NOT A PRISONER.

9/16

ORIGINAL COPY
DATE: 11/11/11

Studio NY 2000



LIKE THE BIRD IN THE SKY,
I FLY SO HIGH.
FREE OF THE TREES BENEATH ME,
LAND AND WATER IS WHAT I SEE.
I AM NOT A HER, NOR AM I A HIM,
AS FREE AS THE MIND CAN PRETEND.

I SAY IT OVER AND OVER AGAIN,
FREE AS A BIRD.

I FLY SO HIGH,
NOTHING CAN COMPARE
TO WHAT'S UP IN THE SKY.
PLACES I CAN'T PRONOUNCE.
LAND UPON A CLOUD,
WHAT A BOUNCE!
FREER THAN
ANYTHING I EVER FELT,
FREE LIKE BUTTER
WHEN IT MELTS.
FREE LIKE A BIRD,
I FLY SO HIGH.

Shit Time

سيفين،
الارماقة، الصبح حورية
البحر

الارماقة، الصبح حورية
البحر

Montgomery Co



FREEDOM
IS MY
DIVINE
RIGHT



**"YOU'RE WRONG ABOUT ME.
I'M NOT A CRIMINAL.
NOT A MONSTER.
NOT A STATISTIC.
I'M A WOMAN
WHO MADE A MISTAKE."**

**A DAUGHTER AND A MOTHER.
I HAVE A LIFE.
I HAVE MY DREAMS
EVERYONE DESERVES
A SECOND CHANCE."**



ED 10

melanie Arvantes 2000

4114
4114
4114
3921
3921
3921

Sentence

3921

0



IF YOU'RE WRONG ABOUT ME,
I'M A SISTER AND A DAUGHTER,
A MOTHER, AUNT, GRANDMOTHER,
NOT A CRIMINAL, NOT A STATISTIC.

TODAY I AM FREE
I AM STRONG



I HAVE A LIFE I DREAM
I AM A QUEEN NOT A PRISONER



3/15

KatieK 2020

**I STAND UP
FOR INCARCERATED
WOMEN BECAUSE...**

I am her

She is me

**FREE OUR MAMAS!
LET'S GET FREE!**



1918 802

Ward
Co

1918 802

3/15

1918 802

25/100

Ward

I need to be free because...

I've got work to do that can't be done in there.



**I need to be free to educate,
and keep my family and community together.**

I need to raise my children.

I need to help other women.

3/10

V. 1820

Like a bird in the sky
I fly so high.



freer than anything
I've ever felt.
freer than butter
when it melts.

THE
MUSEUM OF
ART AND
ARCHITECTURE
CITY OF NEW YORK

1/12

1/12 2010

Freedom to me is
to be dedicated
not to the woman
I was,
or became,
but the
woman
I am
today.





Small, faint, illegible markings or text on the left side of the paper.

Small, faint, illegible markings or text on the right side of the paper.

20/0

♡ KAH



I Am
her
She is
me, Free

our Mothers
Let's get free!

LET'S GET FREE

FREE



Apr
2020