

# *PTI Matters*

*The Official Voice of the Prison Teaching Initiative @ Princeton University*



---

Our Statement on Change	2
What's happening this fall?!	3
Coming Attractions	3

---



## **Welcome back!**

Tara Ronda - Newsletter Editor

Greetings, PTI family!

It's probably a bit weird for us to welcome YOU back to the newsletter, since the newsletter hasn't been distributed since 2017 (!!). So I suppose we're actually welcoming ourselves back to your inboxes. If you've seen our newsletter before, you'll recognize some changes. Check out our fancy new template! So here we are with a semi-new identity, and we want YOU to be involved in it. If you or your group would like to be featured in the July issue, please email me at [tronda@princeton.edu](mailto:tronda@princeton.edu). This offer is open to all current and former volunteers, former students, and community members. We look forward to hearing from you!

---

# Our Statement on Change

As we continue to self-isolate and/or march through the streets, we in the PTI office wanted to write this week with a message of hope. We hope that the horrific violence once again unveiled against Black civilians in this country will spark real change. We hope that our students and former PTI students will be able to inhabit a world absent of excessive policing. We hope that returning citizens across the country will be given the right to vote, the right to work in careers that they are passionate about, the right to walk the streets as truly free people without fear. We hope that education equity is achieved such that PTI will become obsolete in our lifetimes. We hope we can rise to this moment to confront systemic racism and violence against Black people. We in PTI commit to anti-racist practice in and out of the classroom. We also commit to supporting community actions taken by our alumni to work against injustice. If you have other ideas for work PTI might consider in this moment, please let us know.

~Jill, Jenny, Sarah, + Tara

**ERIC GARNER - JOHN CRAWFORD III - MICHAEL BROWN - EZELL FORD  
DANTE PARKER - MICHELLE CUSSEAU - LAQUAN MCDONALD - GEORGE MANN  
TANISHA ANDERSON - AKAI GURLEY - TAMIR RICE - RUMAIN BRISBON - JERAME REID  
MATTHEW AJIBADE - FRANK SMART - NATASHA MCKENNA - TONY ROBINSON - ANTHONY HILL  
MYA HALL - PHILLIP WHITE - ERIC HARRIS - WALTER SCOTT - WILLIAM CHAPMAN II  
ALEXIA CHRISTIAN - BRENDON GLENN - VICTOR MANUEL LAROSA - JONATHAN SANDERS  
FREDDIE BLUE - JOSEPH MANN - SALVADO ELLSWOOD - SANDRA BLAND  
ALBERT JOSEPH DAVIS - DARRIUS STEWART - BILLY RAY DAVIS - SAMUEL DUBOSE  
MICHAEL SABBIE - BRIAN KEITH DAY - CHRISTIAN TAYLOR - TROY ROBINSON  
ASSHAMS PHAROAH MANLEY - FELIX KUMI - KEITH HARRISON MCLEOD - JUNIOR PROSPER  
LAMONTEZ JONES - PATERSON BROWN - DOMINIC HUTCHINSON - ANTHONY ASHFORD  
ALONZO SMITH - TYREE CRAWFORD - INDIA KAGER - LA'VANTE BIGGS  
MICHAEL LEE MARSHALL - JAMAR CLARK - RICHARD PERKINS - NATHANIEL HARRIS PICKETT  
BENNI LEE TIGNOR - MIGUEL ESPINAL - MICHAEL NOEL - KEVIN MATTHEWS - BETTIE JONES  
QUINTONIO LEGRIER - KEITH CHILDRESS JR. - JANET WILSON - RANDY NELSON  
ANTRONIE SCOTT - WENDELL CELESTINE - DAVID JOSEPH - CALIN ROQUEMORE - DYZHAWN  
PERKINS - CHRISTOPHER DAVIS - MARCO LOUD - PETER GAINES - TORREY ROBINSON - DARIUS  
ROBINSON - KEVIN HICKS - MARY TRUXILLO - DEMARCUS SEMER - WILLIE TILLMAN  
TERRILL THOMAS - SYLVILLE SMITH - ALTON STERLING - PHILANDO CASTILE - TERENCE  
CRUTCHER - PAUL O'NEAL - ALTERIA WOODS - JORDAN EDWARDS - AARON BAILEY  
RONELL FOSTER - STEPHON CLARK - ANTWON ROSE II - BOTHAM JEAN  
PAMELA TURNER - DOMINIQUE CLAYTON - ATATIANA JEFFERSON - CHRISTOPHER WHITFIELD  
CHRISTOPHER MCCORVEY - ERIC REASON - MICHAEL LORENZO DEAN - BREONNA TAYLOR  
G E O R G E F L O Y D**

*Image courtesy of NPR Code Switch (Click on the image to go to the website where the image was originally posted.)*

# What's happening in the fall?!

Great question...to which we must reply (at least as of June 18, 2020), we aren't sure. Hopefully [these FAQs](#) will give you a little guidance, and of course we'll let you know as more information becomes available!

## Coming Attractions (and other things of interest)

### EVENTS CALENDAR

ALL MONTH LONG

Stream films like *Selma*, *13th*, and *Just Mercy* for free on most streaming services!

June 18 @ 5pm

[Princeton Juneteenth Block Party](#)  
Princeton Family YMCA Field

June 18 @ 5pm

[Juneteenth: Unfreedom with Dr. Walter Greason](#)  
The Library Co. of Philadelphia

June 19 - All day!

[Juneteenth: A Worldwide Celebration!](#)

### MISCELLANY

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT NEEDED!** Princeton's Black Leadership Coalition has organized a [fundraiser for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund](#), and they're challenging faculty and staff to match what they've raised 2:1 (they've already hit their \$10k goal!!).

### PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

The Petey Greene Program is a national nonprofit based in Princeton that provides academic support to incarcerated students seeking their GEDs. They've come up with some great ways of keeping volunteers engaged throughout the pandemic. [Stay up-to-date on their activities here!](#)

### STAY IN THE KNOW

If the pandemic's got you down, lots of great local and regional organizations are hosting fascinating webinars and other online activities. Here are a few to check out:

- [Labyrinth Books](#) (reopening July 8!)
- [McCarter Theatre @ Home](#)
- [Not in Our Town Princeton](#)
- [Princeton Public Library](#)
- ["Rethinking Social Change in the Face of Coronavirus"](#) (a series from the Stanford Social Innovation Review)
- [The Urban Institute](#)
- [PGP's Resource Guide on the Fight Against Racism + Injustice](#)
- [Eastern State Penitentiary Museum](#)

