

# Stolen Lives Induction Ceremony

Tune in to the livestream on December 3, 2022 at 3PM ET at [youtu.be/sbAECNEh0OY](https://youtu.be/sbAECNEh0OY)



Michael Barrera



Kiana Nicole Blakey



Stonechild Chiefstick



Fred Cox



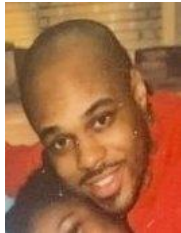
Carl Dorsey



Gregory Edwards



Mohammad Isaifan



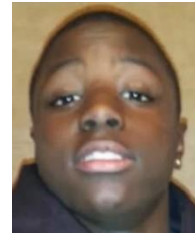
Terrol Micquail Massey



Kwamena Ocran



Phillip Pannell



Sincere Pierce



Bernard Placide Jr.

*These victims of brutal police cannot speak for themselves, but we can and we will*

## THE STOLEN LIVES INDUCTION CEREMONY

The Stolen Lives [Induction Ceremony](#) is a solemn, yet empowering occasion at which recent and past victims of police killings are formally inducted into the roster of the [Stolen Lives Project](#). The Stolen Lives Induction Ceremony is both an affirmation of life and a call to action. It allows the Stolen Life, demonized by the powers-that-be, to be remembered the way they *should* be remembered: by those who love them – and for that truth to be shared with all those in attendance.

Since 1997, thirteen Stolen Lives Induction Ceremonies have taken place in New York City and a half dozen ceremonies have taken place in other cities around the country, in community spaces, schools, and churches. In December 2020, both in consideration of and in taking advantage of the safety precautions during the COVID-19 pandemic, the first national and [virtual ceremony](#) was organized. Families and other loved ones of over 85 Stolen Lives, locally and from other parts of the country, have taken part and received certificates that marked the formal induction. At these ceremonies, families speak of their loved ones and their struggles for justice, their voices joined by community organizers and others in the fight against police violence, as well as artists who contribute their work for healing, for strength, for empowerment. The ceremonies end with a pledge (see below) by all in attendance, as a (re)affirmation of our commitment to the struggle.

This Stolen Lives Induction Ceremony is the third to take place entirely online, with the participation of families in California, Florida, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, and Washington.

# THE PROGRAM

- *Welcome from Families of Stolen Lives*
- *Libations* by **Dr. Kwame-Osagyefo Kalimara**, co-founder of the New Afrikan People's Organization and the Malcolm X Grassroots Organization, educator and priest in the New Afrikan Vodun system; assisted by **Ingrid Hill**, Vice Chair of Internal Affairs/ Corresponding Secretary of People's Organization for Progress, National Family Coalition for Justice
- *Induction Ceremony*
- *Reading of the Stolen Lives Pledge* led by **Efia Nwangaza**, people's lawyer and director of the Malcolm X Center for Self-Determination-Greenville, SC
- *Cultural performances* throughout by:
  - Beth Bliss**, Afro-indigenous Brooklyn native, performing poet, song-writer, mentor, and organizer with Maroon Party for Liberation and Maroon Liberation School and Urban Art Beat
  - Zayid Muhammad**, Black Panther Party cub, founding press officer of NY's Malcolm X Commemoration Committee, NCAP, poet
  - Andree Smith**, writer, editor, and mother of Justin Smith, who was killed by Tulsa, OK sheriffs on August 14, 1998
  - XIKANI**, singer, rapper, poet, and motivational speaker
- *Emcee: spiritchild*
- *Livestream Producer: Lumi of the Peace Poets*

## Guest Presenters:

- **Valerie Cobbett**, sister of retired army major Gulia Dale III, killed by Newton, NJ police July 4, 2021
- **Carl Dix**, co-founder of October 22 Coalition, spokesperson for Revolutionary Communist Party-USA
- **King Downing**, lawyer, organizer with October 22 Coalition, producer and host of *Good Morning Nueva York WBAI*
- **Allegra Padilla**, Los Angeles-based cultural organizer/ producer who spent a decade contributing to the Stolen Lives Project and October 22 Coalition
- **Ralph Poynter**, co-founder of New Abolitionist Movement, member of Black is Black Coalition and Jericho Movement to Free All Political Prisoners. Husband of Lynne Stewart, a political prisoner rescued by the people
- **Juanita Young**, mother of Malcolm Ferguson, killed by NYPD March 1, 2000

# THE STOLEN LIVES PLEDGE



I, \_\_\_\_\_, pledge that the life and the humanity of these Stolen Lives will not be forgotten. I pledge that their highest hopes and aspirations will live on in us, and that I will seek justice for these and all Stolen Lives. In this way I pledge that their memory will stay alive and will inspire us to fight for justice and a better world.

Special thanks to Dorien De Vidts for moderating the live chat

# PARTICIPATING FAMILIES OF STOLEN LIVES

## *Families of the below inductees:*

- **Michael Barrera**, who was killed by Woodland police on February 8, 2017
  - ♦ Receiving certificate: sister **Marissa Barrera**
- **Kiana Nicole Blakey**, who was killed by a Cleveland off-duty police officer on August 19, 1989
  - ♦ Receiving certificate: oldest brother **Arthur Blakey II**
- **Stonechild Chiefstick**, who was killed by Kitsap County police on July 3, 2019
  - ♦ Receiving certificate: ex-wife and mother of his four children, **Trishandra Pickup**
- **Fred Cox**, who was killed by a Davidson County deputy on November 8, 2020
  - ♦ Receiving certificate: mother **Tenicka Shannon**
- **Carl Dorsey**, who was killed by Newark police on January 1, 2021
  - ♦ Receiving certificate: sisters **Madinah Person** and **Nyeemah Dorsey-Bey**, and stepfather **Abdul-Malik Muhammad**
- **Gregory Edwards**, who died in custody in Brevard County Jail on December 9, 2018
  - ♦ Receiving certificate: mother-in-law **Margarita Bonilla**
- **Mohammad Isaifan**, who was killed by Akron police on December 15, 2019
  - ♦ Receiving certificate: former wife **Kimberlee Vaughn**
- **Kwamena Ocran**, who was killed by Gaithersberg police on January 8, 2021
  - ♦ Receiving certificate: mother **Melody Cooper**
- **Phillip Pannell**, who was killed by Teaneck police on April 10, 1990
  - ♦ Receiving certificate: sister **Natacha Pannell** and mother **Thelma Pannell-Dantzler**
- **Sincere Pierce**, who was killed by a Brevard County sheriff on November 13, 2020
  - ♦ Receiving certificate: mother **Cynthia Green**
- **Bernard Placide, Jr.**, who was killed by Englewood police on September 2, 2022
  - ♦ Receiving certificate: mother **Myrlene Laurince Hilaire**
- **Terrol Micquail Massey**, who died from unknown injuries while incarcerated in Southport Correctional Facility on January 3, 2022
  - ♦ Receiving certificate: mother **Nora Massey**

## *Supporting families:*

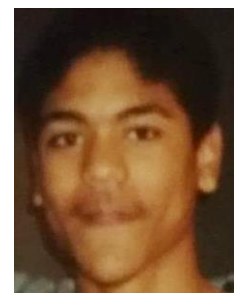
- **Valerie Cobberrt**, sister of retired army major **Gulia Dale III**, who was killed by Newton, NJ police on July 4, 2021
- **Andree Smith**, mother of **Justin Smith**, who was killed by Tulsa, OK sheriffs on August 14, 1998
- **Juanita Young**, mother of **Malcolm Ferguson**, who was killed by NYPD on March 1, 2000



Gulia Dale III



Malcolm  
Ferguson

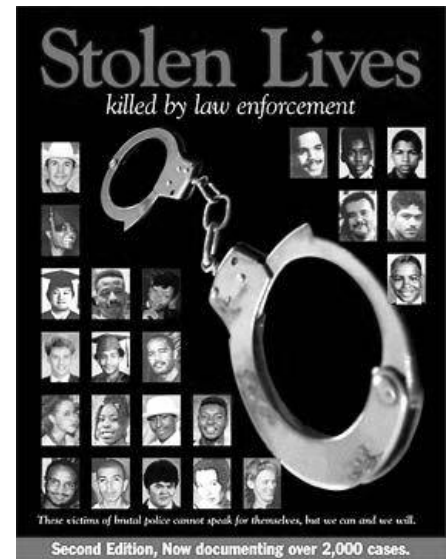


Justin Smith

# THE STOLEN LIVES PROJECT

The mission of the [Stolen Lives Project](#) is to assemble a national list of people killed by law enforcement agents from 1990 to the present. Through grassroots efforts, over 2000 cases were documented in the second edition of the *Stolen Lives book*, which was published in 1999. Although just the tip of the iceberg, these 2000+ were evidence of a horrifying national epidemic of police brutality. The victims of police violence were part of our society, but rarely are their lives or names publicized, or the real circumstances surrounding their deaths investigated and made known. The Stolen Lives Project aims to restore some dignity to the lives lost. Though their lives have been stolen from us, we will not allow them to be forgotten.

Since Amadou Diallo was killed in February 1999, over 370 people have been killed by NYPD. According to [Victims of U.S. Police](#), over 2,000 people have died through an encounter with law enforcement in 2020 alone.



## CONTINUING THE STOLEN LIVES PROJECT

The Stolen Lives Project aims to speak for victims of police brutality and murder, their families and loved ones, and for all of us who demand justice. The follow-up to the second edition of *Stolen Lives: Killed by Law Enforcement* will be online as a searchable database, and volunteers are needed to help with the research, writing, coding, and editing. For more information, visit the website <http://stolenlives.org> or the [Facebook page](#), or email [stolenlivesprojectonline@gmail.com](mailto:stolenlivesprojectonline@gmail.com).

To contribute financially, give however much you would like for our 2011 mixtape, [Voices Against Police Brutality](#) (please note that contact information on the Bandcamp page is outdated) or to the [GoFundMe](#) set up for the Stolen Lives Induction Ceremonies.

## OCTOBER 22 COALITION



The October 22 Coalition to Stop Police Brutality, Repression and the Criminalization of a Generation, has been mobilizing every year since 1996 for a [National Day of Protest](#) on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, bringing together those under the gun and those not under the gun as a powerful voice to expose the epidemic of police brutality. The Coalition also works on the [Stolen Lives Project](#) and jointly produced the second edition of *Stolen Lives: Killed by Law Enforcement* with the Anthony Baez Foundation and the [National Lawyers Guild](#).

# COVERAGE OF PAST STOLEN LIVES INDUCTION CEREMONIES

- “[Remembering Stolen Lives](#)” in *Revolutionary Worker* (1999)
- “Stolen Lives Induction Ceremony” in *Greenwich Village Gazette* (2003)
- “[The Stolen Lives Project](#)” in *Gotham Gazette* (2004)
- “[Activists Hold Police Brutality Ceremony](#)” in *Final Call* (2006)
- “Stolen Lives Remembered” in *The New York Amsterdam News* (2006)
- “[Stolen Lives Group Mourns Victims of Police Shootings at Pratt University](#)” in *NY Daily News* (2009)
- “[Stolen Lives Induction Ceremony Celebrates the Lives of Those Killed by Police and the Struggle for Justice](#)” in *Revolution* (2010)
- “[Stolen Lives Commemorated](#)” in *Workers World* (2011)
- “[On the 2011 NY Stolen Lives Induction Ceremony](#)” in *Revolution* (2011)
- “[Stolen Lives](#)” in *News & Record* (2016)
- “[Newark Activist Among Speakers At 'Stolen Lives' Ceremony](#)” in *Patch* (2020)

## WEBSITES FOR INDUCTED SL

- Michael Barrera ♦ [voicesofstrength.info](http://voicesofstrength.info)
- Stonechild Chiefstick ♦ [stonechildpodcast.com](http://stonechildpodcast.com)
- Fred Cox ♦ [fclm.org](http://fclm.org)
- Gregory Edwards ♦ [FB@JusticeforGregoryEdwards](mailto:FB@JusticeforGregoryEdwards)
- Mohammad Isaifan ♦ [change.org/JusticeForMohammad](http://change.org/JusticeForMohammad)
- Kwamena Ocran ♦ [gofundme.com/they-killed-him](http://gofundme.com/they-killed-him)
- Phillip Pannell ♦ [phillippannellfoundation.org](http://phillippannellfoundation.org)
- Sincere Pierce ♦ [act.bencrump.com/a/aj-and-sincere-petition](http://act.bencrump.com/a/aj-and-sincere-petition)

## ORGANIZATIONS

- Malcolm X Center for Self-Determination-Greenville, SC ♦ [wmxp955.org](http://wmxp955.org)
- Maroon Party for Liberation ♦ [maroonparty.com](http://maroonparty.com)
- People’s Organization for Progress ♦ [njpop.org](http://njpop.org)
- Revolutionary Communist Party-USA ♦ [revcom.us](http://revcom.us)

## THE ARTISTS

- Beth Bliss ♦ [IG@beth.bliss](https://www.instagram.com/beth.bliss)
- Lumi ♦ [FB@Lumi.NYC](https://www.facebook.com/Lumi.NYC)
- The Peace Poets ♦ [thepeacepoets.com](http://thepeacepoets.com)
- kei slaughter ♦ [keislaughter.com](http://keislaughter.com)
- spiritchild ♦ [xspiritmental.com](http://xspiritmental.com)
- XIKANI ♦ [on.soundcloud.com/f1xqN](https://on.soundcloud.com/f1xqN)

## RADIO SHOWS

- Dahoud André’s [Haiti: Our Revolution Continues](#)
- King Downing’s [Good Morning Nueva York WBAI](#)
- Zayid Muhammad’s [ALL Politics R Local](#)
- Ralph Poynter’s [What’s Happening WBAI](#) and on [Blog Talk Radio](#)