Stolen Lives Induction Ceremony

Live streamed on December 5, 2021 at youtube.com/october22nyc



Antonio C. Armstrong



Stonechild Chiefstick



Alvin Cole



Daniel Covarrubias



Gulia Dale III



Darryl "DeRose" Laqua Fuqua



Marcus Golden



Oscar Perez-Giron



Jaffort Smith



Justin Teigen

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

THE STOLEN LIVES INDUCTION CEREMONY

The Stolen Lives <u>Induction Ceremony</u> is a solemn, yet empowering occasion at which recent and past victims of police killings are formally inducted into the roster of the <u>Stolen Lives Project</u>. 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 <u>virtual ceremony</u> was organized. Families and other loved ones of over 70 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 second to take place entirely online, as well as internationally, with the participation of families in Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin, a special guest in Australia, and our favorite emcee guiding us through the ceremony from Belgium.

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.

THE PROGRAM

- Welcome from Families of Stolen Lives
- Libations by **spiritchild**
- Induction Ceremony
- Reading of the Stolen Lives Pledge
- Cultural performances throughout by:

BroSis Writer's Collective Jendog Lonewolf kei slaughter Kongo The Peace Poets

- Emcee: spiritchild
- Live stream Curator: Lumi

Guest Presenters:

- 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*
- Michelle Gross, president of Communities United Against Police Brutality in Minneapolis, MN
- Ingrid Hill, Vice Chair of Internal Affairs/ Corresponding Secretary of People's Organization for Progress, National Family Coalition for Justice

International Guest Speaker:

 Latoya Rule, sibling of Wayne Fella Morrison, killed in custody of South Australian Correctional Services in September 2016

PARTICIPATING FAMILIES OF STOLEN LIVES

Families of the below inductees:

- Antonio C. Armstrong, who was killed by NYPD on October 6, 2021
 Receiving certificate: mother Shernaleria Eccles
- Stonechild Chiefstick, who was killed by Kitsap County, WA police on July 3, 2019
 Receiving certificate: ex-wife and mother of his four children, Trishandra Pickup
- Alvin Cole, who was killed by Wauwatosa police in Milwaukee County, WI on February 2, 2020
 Receiving certificate: mother Tracy Cole
- Daniel Covarrubias, who was killed by Lakewood, WA police on April 21, 2015
 Receiving certificate: mother Marilyn Covarrubias
- Gulia Dale III, who was killed by Newton, NJ police on July 4, 2021
 Receiving certificate: sister Valerie Cobbertt
 - Darryl "DeRose" Laqua Fuqua, who was killed by Bridgeton, NJ police on February 10, 2017
 Receiving certificate: mother Gwen Byrd Benson
- Marcus Golden, who was killed by St. Paul police on January 14, 2015
 Receiving certificate: aunt Monique Cullars-Doty
- Oscar Perez-Giron, who was killed by King County, WA Deputy on June 30, 2014
 Receiving certificate: mother Maria Giron
- Jaffort Smith, who was killed by St. Paul police on May 9, 2016
 Receiving certificate: mother Anne Smith
- Justin Teigen, who was killed by St. Paul police on August 19, 2009
 - Receiving certificate: fiancé Toshira Garraway Allen

Supporting families:

- Butch Stewart, father of Gil Barber, who was killed by Guilford County, NC Sheriff's Deputy on May 18, 2001
- Joshua Lopez, nephew of John Collado, who was killed by NYPD on September 7, 2011
- Therese Gallagher, mother of Travis Posselt, who was killed by Rock Springs, WY police on May 28, 2004
- Andree Smith, mother of Justin Smith, who was killed by Tulsa, OK sheriffs on August 14, 1998





John Collado



Wayne Fella Morrison



Travis Posselt



Justin Smith

Gil Barber

THE STOLEN LIVES PROJECT

The mission of the <u>Stolen Lives Project</u> 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 <u>book</u>, which was published in 1999. Although just the tip of the iceberg, these 2000+ are 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 360 people have been killed by NYPD. According to <u>Victims of U.S. Police</u>, over 2,000 people have died through an encounter with law enforcement last year.

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 <u>http://stolenlives.org</u> or the <u>Facebook page</u>, or email stolenlivesprojectonline@gmail.com.

To contribute financially, give however much you would like for our 2011 mixtape, <u>Voices Against Police Brutality</u> (please note that contact information on the Bandcamp page is outdated) or send checks to: Malcolm X Center, memo: Stolen Lives Project, 202 Lavinia Avenue, Greenville, SC 29601.

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 <u>National Day of Protest</u> on October 22nd, 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 <u>Stolen Lives Project</u> and jointly produced the second edition of <u>Stolen Lives: Killed</u> <u>by Law Enforcement</u> with the Anthony Baez Foundation and the <u>National Lawyers Guild</u>.

COVERAGE OF PAST STOLEN LIVES INDUCTION CEREMONIES

- "<u>Remembering Stolen Lives</u>" 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)
- "<u>Stolen Lives Induction Ceremony Celebrates the Lives of Those Killed by Police and the Struggle for Justice</u>" in *Revolution* (2010)
- "Stolen Lives Commemorated" in Workers World (2011)
- "On the 2011 NY Stolen Lives Induction Ceremony" in Revolution (2011)
- "<u>Stolen Lives</u>" in News & Record (2016)
- "Newark Activist Among Speakers At 'Stolen Lives' Ceremony" in Patch (2020)

THE ORGANIZATIONS

Communities United Against Police Brutality www.cuapb.org

Malcolm X Center ♦ www.wmxp955.org

People's Organization for Progress • www.njpop.org Revolutionary Communist Party-USA • revcom.us

THE ARTISTS

BroSis Writer's Collective \blacklozenge brotherhood-sistersol.org Jendog Lonewolf \blacklozenge ilovejendog.bandcamp.com kei slaughter \blacklozenge www.keislaughter.com Kongo \blacklozenge www.facebook.com/kongo.haitianroots The Peace Poets \blacklozenge thepeacepoets.com spiritchild \blacklozenge xspiritmental.com