

BEYOND THE BARS



Women Transcending Collective Leadership Celebration

*Honoring the Leadership
of Women Impacted by
Incarceration*

Thursday, April 4, 2024
The Schomburg Center, New York City

About the Women Transcending Collective Leadership Institute (CLI)

The Women Transcending Collective Leadership Institute is a one year leadership development program for formerly incarcerated and directly impacted women across the nation. CLI offers leadership development that includes: capacity building, legislative and advocacy tools, community organizing, and communication skills. We also include sessions on connecting the history of different women's movements, healing practices, and participatory action research throughout the year. It is inspired by our radical hope to strengthen and expand our leadership and capacity that contributes to the growing women's justice movement.

About Right/Write to Heal (RWH)

The Right/Write to Heal: Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women in Their Own Voices is an initiative with the Center for Justice at Columbia University and incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women in New York and Maine where we encourage women to write and share their own stories. RWH aims to humanize the individual and collective experiences of women, share how incarceration has impacted lives, families, and communities, and change the narrative on how people understand the impact of criminalization on women. We see art as a form of activism to grow and solidify our collective imagination for a more just world.

Program:

Welcome

Batalá New York and CLI Procession

Opening: Land Acknowledgment

Tribute and Legacy: Chesa Boudin

Celebrate the Life of Judith Johnson:
Tammara McCoy

Call to Action #1: Fox Rich

Performance by Right/Write to Heal:
Why Women, Why Now

WTCLI Cohort 5 Graduation

The Tree of Life Ceremony

Performance by Kierah “Kiki” King:
Black Women Why?

Call to Action #2: National Council
March on Washington - Andrea James

Welcome and Introduction of Incoming
CLI Cohort 6

Closing Performance Batalá New York

Graduating Cohort:

Abigail Cook, Georgia

Anita Robinson, Arkansas

Ayana Thomas, New Jersey

Carla Taylor, Georgia

Danielle Donaphin, New York

Dijon McCoy, New York

Ghania Miller, New York

Kimberly Woodson, Michigan

Latanya Pierce, New Jersey

Lauren Johnson, Texas

Leah Faria, New York

Linda Small, Maine

Marquitta Rucker, Georgia

Minerva Pasqual, New York

Naquasia Pollard, New York

Natatasha White, Virginia

Patricia Berger, Missouri

Ruby Welch, Arkansas

Sharon McKinney, Texas

Vanessa Garrett, Georgia



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Incoming Cohort:

Barbara Ornelas, *Texas*
Chermaine Black, *Pennsylvania*
Dara Baldwin, *Washington D.C.*
India Johnson, *Maryland*
Janet Hughes, *California*
Jessica Drew Umberger, *Georgia*
Justine Taz Moore, *New York*
Katrina Butler, *Georgia*
Lisa Guss, *Alabama*
Maria Morris, *Oklahoma*
Marion Rodriguez, *Texas*
Marsha King, *Virginia*
Melinda Johnson, *California*
Michelle Daniel Jones, *Indiana*
Noreen McClendon, *California*
Sannecia Davis, *Arkansas*
Sappho Fulton, *Pennsylvania*
Susannah Bannon, *Texas*
Tammara McCoy, *New York*
Traletta Banks, *North Carolina*
Virginia Douglas, *New Jersey*



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