



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
SETTING THE STAGE
FOR GOOD



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Shakespeare in Prison

Marin Shakespeare Company is largest provider of Shakespeare in Prison programs in the world, having created and pioneered a Drama Therapy-based program that focuses on:

- self-reflection
- self-expression
- emotional intelligence
- creative problem solving
- goal-setting
- through exploring the powerful themes and characters in Shakespeare's plays

PROGRAMS

Programs include:

- Shakespeare study and performance
- Autobiographical Story-telling through theatre
- Acting for Veterans
- Drama for Re-Entry: "rehearsing" how to "act" upon return to society
- Returned Citizens Theatre Troupe: autobiographical story-telling by formerly incarcerated actors

Currently, we provide programs in 13 California State Prisons including San Quentin, Old Folsom, Folsom Women's Prison, two Juvenile prisons, and a maximum security yard at High Desert in Susanville.

BENEFITS

Dr. Larry Brewster conducted a study of four prison arts programs including Marin Shakespeare Company's Shakespeare at San Quentin program in 2014.

- The study found positive and statistically significant correlations between participation in arts programs and time management, achievement motivation, intellectual flexibility, active initiative, and self-confidence.
- A significant majority attributed arts programs with giving them greater confidence and self-discipline to pursue other academic and vocational opportunities.
- 61% who participated for 5 or more years reported a reduction in disciplinary write-ups.
- 58% said art brought them closer to family and nurtured identity as an artist rather than a convict.
- Most reported better relationships with other inmates and prison staff.

PRISON FACTS

The United States has the largest number of prisoners in the world.

- The U.S. has 5% of the world's population and 25% of the world's prisoners.
- In 1973 we incarcerated 315,000 people, today we incarcerate almost 2.2 million.
- Black men are incarcerated 6 times more often than white men; 25% of black males born today will be incarcerated one day if the current rate continues.
- It costs Californians over 75,000 per year per inmate, more than an Ivy League tuition.
- 95% of inmates will one day return to society.

"My small parts in the wonderful productions put on by your company have stripped away the anger and hate and armored myself in... I may not be a great actor but...I have become a better man."

- Az Ford, Actor, Shakespeare at San Quentin

"Shakespeare changed and improved race relations at Solano State Prison - no other program I saw in 23 years of incarceration ever had the same impact." - Dameion Brown, Actor