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Breaking: Danny Glover and Sister Helen Prejean Announced as Keynote Speakers at the [Seattle Social Justice Film Festival](#) this October 10-13

Danny Glover and Sister Helen are both actively involved in issues surrounding incarceration and will thus speak to this year's special festival section on 'Prisoner Justice.'

Sister Helen Prejean will be the keynote speaker at the October 12th evening program on the death penalty. Danny Glover, actor, producer, and humanitarian, will appear on October 13th as part of an exclusive post-screening Q&A about his support of political prisoners and his other involvements with incarceration and prisoner reform.

Sister Helen is a leading death-penalty abolition advocate and author of *Dead Man Walking*, the book that inspired the award-winning film starring Susan Sarandon and Sean Penn.

Mr. Glover's most recent involvement with incarceration and prison reform has been with the nonprofit [Barrios Unidos](#), based out of Santa Cruz, CA. He also advocates for political prisoners like Gerardo Hernandez of the Cuban 5, Mumia Abu Jamal, and others. Last year, he spent 2 weeks in summer 2012 shooting the film "[Long Day Journey](#)" at Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola, Louisiana.

The Social Justice Film Festival, to take place in venues around Seattle, including the historic Pike Place Market Theater, is back for its second year. Revived by the national group Books to Prisoners, the festival program will include feature and short films on broad issues of social justice such as the environment, food safety, LGBT rights, women's issues, racial equality, student debt, and economic justice.

The bulk of the films, however, will pertain to this year's special section on prisoner justice and imprisonment. Potential topics include prisoner literacy and education, three strikes, the death penalty, the Innocence Project, New Jim Crow, the drug war, juvenile justice, solitary confinement, immigration and detention, prison alternatives, incarcerated mothers, and the prison industrial complex.

The festival is also sponsoring a "Youth Visions" program to encourage youth and young adults (21 and under) to complete short films on issues of prisoner justice.

Co-sponsors of the film festival so far include the the American Civil Liberties Union of WA (ACLU of WA), the Campaign for Safe and Just Alternatives, and ProForum.

Main festival sponsor Books to Prisoners is an all-volunteer organization that, in affiliation with Left Bank Books, has been working in Seattle for the last 40 years on behalf of U.S. prisoners who submit requests for reading material. Each year, Books to Prisoners mails about 15,000 packages of books to inmates; the group recently received one of nine "Light-a-Fire" awards from the Seattle Foundation in the category of "Purely for the Love"--for doing the most with the least.