

5TH ANNIVERSARY
BAY AREA
BOOK
FESTIVAL

MAY 4 + 5, 2019
DOWNTOWN BERKELEY
225 AUTHORS • 100 SESSIONS
FREE OUTDOOR FAIR



FOR TICKETS + INFO:
BAYBOOKFEST.ORG

Solitary and Together: Talks on Incarceration

Saturday, May 4

12:15 - 1:15

American Prison: Interview with Shane Bauer (Chronicle Stage)

Shane Bauer interviewed by John Diaz

"Solitary in Iran nearly broke me. Then I went Inside America's prisons." That was the title of the award-winning 2012 Mother Jones story by reporter Shane Bauer, who, after being detained for two years in a notorious prison in Iran, returned to journalism and took on an astonishing assignment: to go undercover as a guard in a private prison in Louisiana. His book ""American Prison: A Reporter's Undercover Journey into the Business of Punishment"" is a riveting, blistering indictment of the private prison system—a relic of Southern slavery—and the powerful forces that drive it. One of President Obama's favorite books of 2018, it was named a New York Times Top 10 Best Book of the year. Sponsored by Mother Jones Magazine.

3:15 - 4:30

Beyond the Bars: Alternatives to Prison and Punishment (Berkeley City College Theater)

Lara Bazelon, Tony Platt, Albert Woodfox

What could the world look like without prisons? What kinds of healing—what new definitions of justice—could take their place? Join University of San Francisco law professor Lara Bazelon ("Rectify"), activist Tony Platt ("Beyond These

Walls"), and Albert Woodfox ("Solitary"), one of the Angola 3 who spent decades in solitary confinement for a crime he did not commit. They look at the violent history behind mass incarceration and imagine alternatives.

Sunday, May 5

1:30 - 2:45

A Conversation with Tayari Jones (Freight & Salvage)

Tayari Jones interviewed by Brooke Warner

Few writers have captured the spirit of the American South—its heart, its small-town intimacy, its scars from centuries of institutional racism—like Tayari Jones. Jones has the power to "touch us soul to soul with her words," said Oprah, who dubbed Jones' newest book, "An American Marriage," a Book Club Pick for 2018. In her novels, Jones takes these scars, including traumas around wrongful incarceration, and rubs them raw, creating masterful works of fiction with the power to transform a reader. She is interviewed by Brooke Warner of She Writes Press. Sponsored by She Writes Press.

5:00 - 6:15

The Unbreakable Human Spirit: Albert Woodfox on Survival in Solitary (Freight & Salvage)

Albert Woodfox interviewed by Shane Bauer

One of the "Angola 3," Albert Woodfox endured four decades of solitary confinement for a crime he did not commit. While his story has been profiled by many publications, today we have an opportunity to hear from him directly. From the epilogue of his just-published memoir, "Solitary," come these powerful words: "To those of you who are just entering the world of social struggle, welcome. To those of you who have spent years struggling for human rights and social justice, don't give up. Look at me and see how the strength and determination of the human spirit defies all evil." In our closing keynote session, Woodfox will be interviewed by Mother Jones reporter Shane Bauer, author of "American Prison" and himself a survivor of solitary confinement when he was arrested in Iran and held for two years in the notorious Evin Prison.