



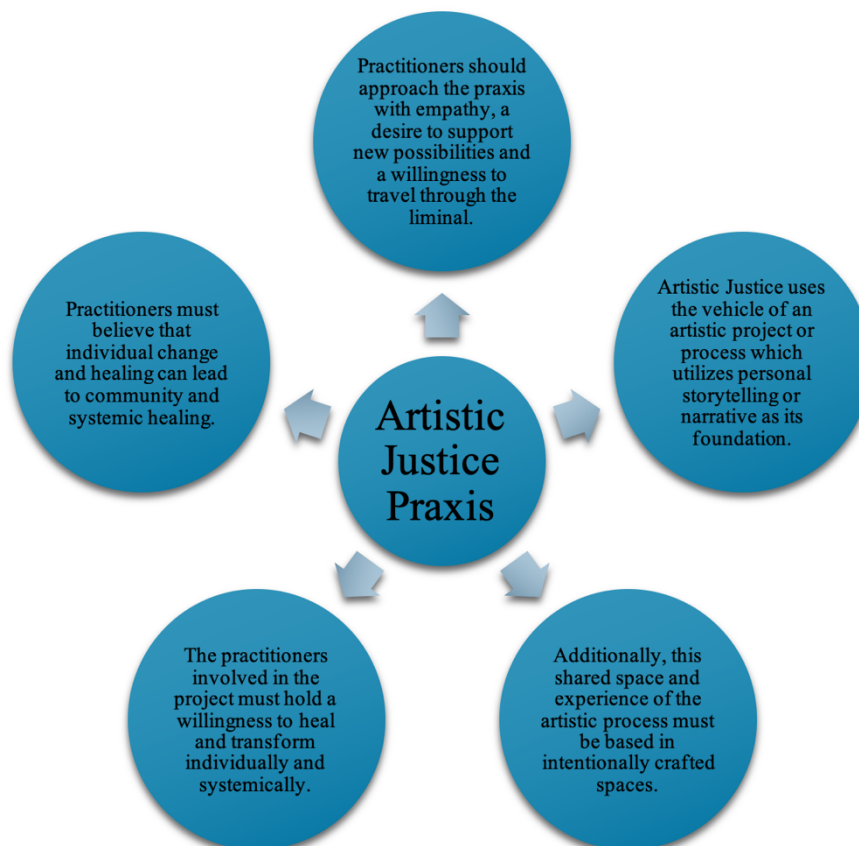
## **The DU Prison Arts Initiative Artistic Justice Trainings and Certification Tracks Overview and Application**

### ***What is Artistic Justice (AJ)?***

**Artistic Justice is a praxis (a theory and a practice) that strives to create individual and community connection and healing in and around the criminal justice system through storytelling.** (George Chavez, Andrew Draper, Dr. Ashley Hamilton, Matthew LaBonte, Angel Lopez, Terry W. Mosley Jr. and Brett Phillips; 2021)

The Artistic Justice praxis evolved and was claimed through the on-going practice, programming, study and work of the University of Denver’s Prison Arts Initiative (DU PAI), and its work across several artistic and academic mediums. The praxis was specifically claimed through a recognition of something transformative that occurred for the IF LIGHT CLOSED ITS EYES interview team (George Chavez, Andrew Draper, Dr. Ashley Hamilton, Matthew LaBonte, Angel Lopez, Terry W. Mosley Jr. and Brett Phillips) during the creation of their play, an interview-based theatre process which occurred from 2019-2022. Artistic Justice was formally named in the summer of 2021, after that same interview team created their first workshop (now called *Artistic Justice: The Foundation*) for incarcerated residents and correctional staff, throughout the Colorado Department of Corrections (CDOC). With a desire to give their community an entry point into their experiences and learnings, the team has used the praxis to produce a series of lectures, workshops, trainings, certifications, projects and programming that engage incarcerated folks, correctional staff and the larger community to use storytelling to transform the criminal justice system. Artistic Justice has even led to the founding and creation of a new correctional facility within the CDOC, The Beacon at Skyline: A Correctional Community.

### ***The 5 Aspects of Artistic Justice:***





*What trainings are available in Artistic Justice?*

<b>Training Title</b>	<b>Who can take the training?</b>	<b>How long is the training?</b>	<b>How is the training offered?</b>	<b>Other Information</b>
<b>Artistic Justice: The Foundation</b>	Anyone – Incarcerated Residents, CDOC Staff and the Community	16 hours (2 days)	This is an in-person, arts-based workshop that is currently offered at The Beacon and other CDOC facilities.	The training can count toward CDOC staff training hours.
<b>Artistic Justice: Philosophy Training</b>	Anyone – Incarcerated Residents, CDOC Staff and the Community	12-15 weeks	This training can be completed via correspondence with the DU PAI Artistic and Development Team and/or certified AJ Facilitators.	This training is eligible for Continuing Education Units (CEUs)* through the University of Denver.
<b>Artistic Justice: Collecting Community</b>	Anyone – Incarcerated Residents, CDOC Staff and the Community	15 weeks	This training is offered in-person at The Beacon, and also virtually with the DU PAI Artistic and Development Team.	This training is eligible for Continuing Education Units (CEUs)* through the University of Denver.
<b>Artistic Justice: Circle Keeper</b>	Anyone – Incarcerated Residents, CDOC Staff and the Community	12-15 weeks	This training is offered in-person at The Beacon, and also virtually with the DU PAI Artistic and Development Team.	This training is eligible for Continuing Education Units (CEUs)* through the University of Denver.
<b>Artistic Justice: Facilitation and Pedagogy 101</b>	CDOC Staff and Incarcerated Residents	16 hours (2 days)	This training is offered in-person at The Beacon only, currently.	None
<b>Artistic Justice: Trauma Informed Care</b>	CDOC Staff and Incarcerated Residents	8 hours (1 day)	This training is offered in-person only at The Beacon, currently.	The training can count toward CDOC staff training hours.
<b>Artistic Justice: Collaborative Leadership</b>	CDOC Staff and Incarcerated Residents	8 hours (1 day)	This training is offered in-person only at The Beacon, currently.	The training can count toward CDOC staff training hours.

**\*CEU Credit:** This training is eligible for Continuing Education Units (CEUs) through University College at The University of Denver. Continuing Education Units are transcribed, non-credit credentials and do not “count” toward a degree. They may, however, help you provide documentation and evidence of your learning for college and employment applications. Every college and university has different processes for evaluating credit for prior learning, and some may consider these credentials, while some may not. You must complete a consent form to be considered for these CEUs, at the start of your training or workshop.



## ***What certification tracks are available in Artistic Justice?***

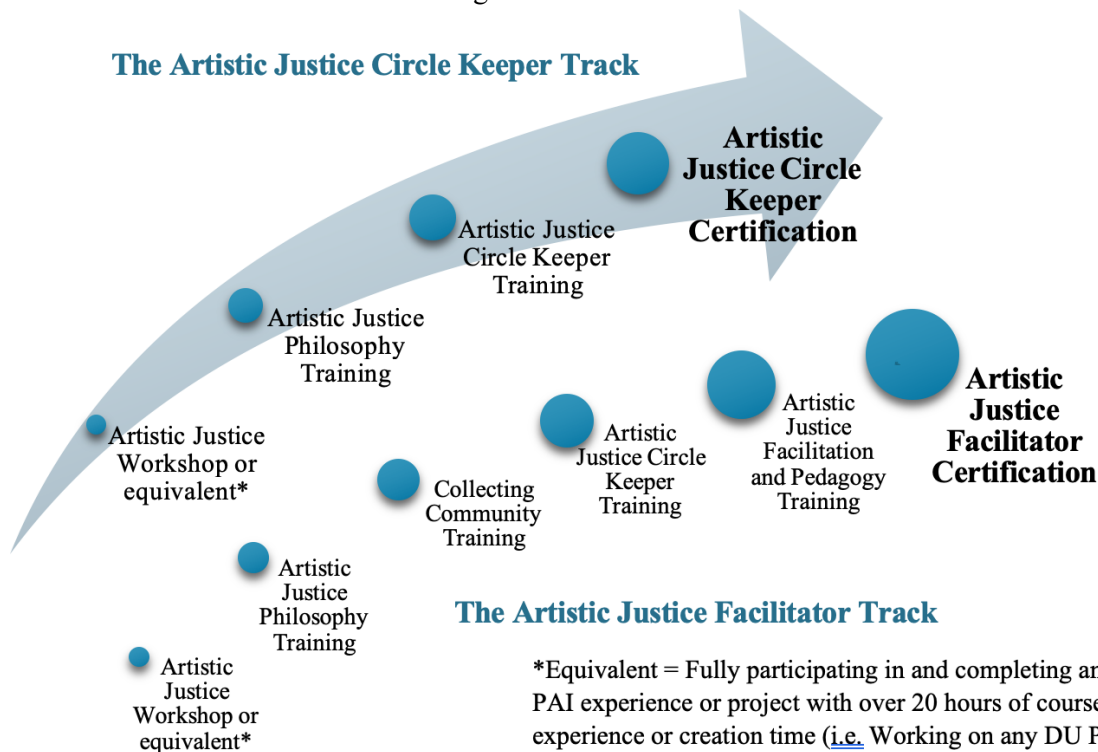
There are currently two certification tracks available to be pursued in Artistic Justice:

### **1. The Artistic Justice Circle Keeper Certification**

If you become certified as an Artistic Justice Circle Keeper, you will be able to hold your own Artistic Justice circles in and with your community, and name them as such. The certification track is a rich process, journeying through several trainings (see below), that share knowledge, education, experience and tools in the philosophy and practice of Artistic Justice – but specifically for the art and practice of circle keeping. On-average, this certification takes 6 months to 1 year to complete based on when trainings are offered and available.

### **2. The Artistic Justice Facilitation Certification:**

If you become certified as an Artistic Justice Facilitator, you will be able to facilitate Artistic Justice experiences and projects in your community, and name them as such. The certification track is a rich process, journeying through several trainings (see below), that share knowledge, education, experience and tools in the philosophy and practice of Artistic Justice – but specifically for the practice of using art and storytelling as a tool for transformation in and around the criminal justice system for the purposed of healing. On-average, this certification takes 1 to 2 years to complete based on when trainings are offered and available.



\*Equivalent = Fully participating in and completing any DU PAI experience or project with over 20 hours of course experience or creation time (i.e. Working on any DU PAI major media project, a play production, or taking a DU PAI 15-week course. Additionally, if you haven't had access to working with DU PAI, we will consider a similar mission minded project, as explained in your application).

### ***How do I learn more or sign up?***

To learn more about the Artistic Justice trainings or certification tracks, you can reach out to DU PAI at [prisonarts@du.edu](mailto:prisonarts@du.edu) or write to their office at 2135 East Wesley Ave, Office 304, Denver, CO 80210.

**If you want to begin an Artistic Justice training and/or certification track, please fill out the attached application.**



## Application for DU PAI Artistic Justice Training and/or Certification

Full Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

DOC Resident or Staff # (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Current Facility (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you applying for an Artistic Justice training or a certification track?** (See page 2)

\_\_\_\_\_ : Artistic Justice Training (one or more specific training(s))

\_\_\_\_\_ : Artistic Justice Certification Track (Several trainings that produce one or both certifications)

**If you are applying for an individual Artistic Justice training, which one(s)? And, would you like to pursue CEU (Continuing Education Unit) credit from University of Denver, where applicable?** (See pg. 2 for training eligibility and CEU information)

\_\_\_\_\_ : Artistic Justice: The Foundation

\_\_\_\_\_ : Artistic Justice: Philosophy Training

\_\_\_\_\_ : Artistic Justice: Collecting Community

\_\_\_\_\_ : Artistic Justice: Circle Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_ : Artistic Justice: Facilitation and Pedagogy 101

\_\_\_\_\_ : Artistic Justice: Trauma Informed Care

\_\_\_\_\_ : Artistic Justice: Collaborative Leadership

\_\_\_\_\_ : Yes, I want CEU credit\*

\_\_\_\_\_ : No, thank you

\_\_\_\_\_ : Yes, I want CEU credit\*

\_\_\_\_\_ : No, thank you

\_\_\_\_\_ : Yes, I want CEU credit\*

\_\_\_\_\_ : No, thank you

\*Please note that if you would like to pursue CEU credit for a training, you will need to fill out the CEU form at the start of the training to receive the credit. Again, for more information on CEU credit, please see pg. 2.

**If you are applying for an AJ certification track, which one(s)?**

\_\_\_\_\_ : Artistic Justice: Circle Keeper Certification

\_\_\_\_\_ : Artistic Justice: Facilitation Certification

**If you are applying for an AJ certification track, have you already completed the Artistic Justice foundation workshop? Or, have you completed an equivalent offering?**

\_\_\_\_\_ : Yes \_\_\_\_\_ : Date of Completion

\_\_\_\_\_ : Not Yet

\_\_\_\_\_ : I have an equivalent offering (Equivalent = Fully participating in and completing any DU PAI experience or project with over 20 hours of course experience or creation time (i.e. Working on any DU PAI major media project, a play production, or taking a DU PAI 15-week course. Additionally, if you haven't had access to working with DU PAI, we will consider a similar mission minded project))

Please explain equivalent (if applicable):

### Written Response

Please answer the following questions on an attached piece of paper.

1. Why are you interested in this specific Artistic Justice training or certification track?
2. What do you hope to gain from this training and/or certification?
3. Describe a time when story telling transformed you.
4. Do you have any other questions or thoughts at the time?

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your application. Please return this application to the DU PAI office via mail or by emailing [prisonarts@du.edu](mailto:prisonarts@du.edu), or give to your DU PAI staff contact at your facility (if applicable). May your story light the way.