

Artist Statement — 30th Annual Exhibition of Artists in Michigan Prisons

Artist Name: _____

DURING MY PREVIOUS YEARS OF INCARCERATION I WAS CONSCIOUS OF THE ONGOING SEPARATION FROM FRIENDS AND FAMILY, SO I USED MY ART AS A WAY OF CLOSING THAT DISTANCE AND SHARING MY LOVE IN THE FORM OF GIFTS. THIS WAS MY FINAL YEAR OF MY SENTENCE, SO MY FOCUS HAS SHIFTED TO INCLUDE THE POSSIBILITIES I LOOK FORWARD TO EXPERIENCING UPON MY RELEASE — COMFORTABLE, CLEAN CLOTHING; REESTABLISHING A REWARDING CAREER; AND THE PEACE AND SAFETY OF HOME. THAT'S WHY MY SUBMISSIONS THIS YEAR ARE PART OF AN INTERDISCIPLINARY SERIES I CALL HOME GOING.

I WANT TO THANK UOFM, PCAP, AND ESPECIALLY NORA FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH A UNIQUE, EXCITING, AND REWARDING PROGRAM. I WILL MISS PARTICIPATING AS AN ENTRANT BUT LOOK FORWARD TO ASSISTING IN THE PROGRAM'S CONTINUED SUCCESS AS A MEMBER OF THE LINKAGE COMMUNITY. MY RELEASE DATE IS THREE DAYS AFTER THE CURATION VISIT; I AM GOING TO ATTEMPT TO SECURE A PASS TO ATTEND THE EXHIBITION OPENING IN THE SPRING, AND BE ONE OF THE RARE FEW TO EXPERIENCE IT FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE FENCE.