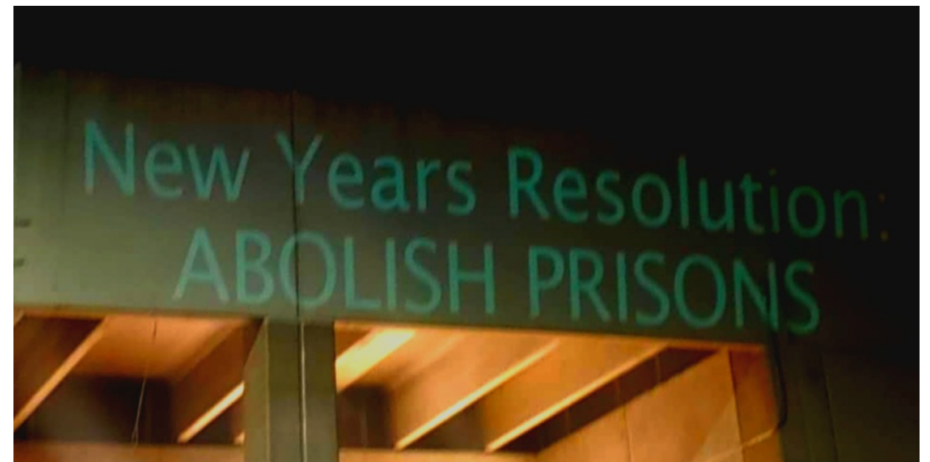
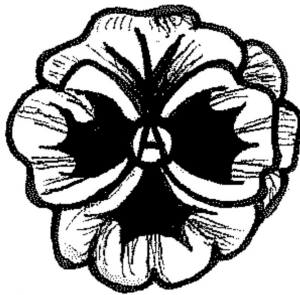


# NEW YEAR NO JAILS

On the Annual Asheville  
New Year's Eve  
Noise Demo and  
Bail Out Action

By Pansy  
So-Called Asheville NC  
2022  
Anti-copyright



Donate or get involved to help us  
get as many of our loved ones and  
community members out of jail as  
possible.

Asheville Community Bail Fund

**[Avlcommunitybail.carrd.co](https://avlcommunitybail.carrd.co)**

**Venmo: BLUERIDGEABC**

**Paypal: AVLCOMMUNITYBAIL**



What to bring to a noise demo:

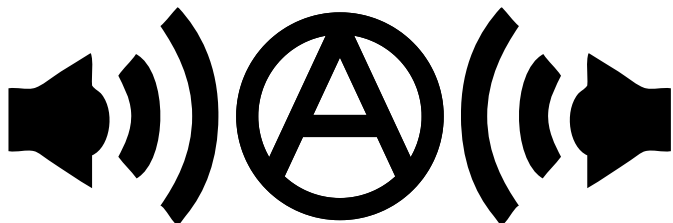
- Things to make noise with!
  - pots, pans, bucket drums, instruments, get creative!
- A warm coat
- a buddy
- handwarmers
- some good chants!
- ear plugs
- a safety plan
  - its always good to make a safety plan when going out in public and attending gatherings!

What NOT to bring to a noise demo

- hater energy
- your dog
- cops
- cop callers
- “Community cop” behavior
  - AKA a need to control others’ actions

Best practices for showing up

- plug in with asheville bail fund
- keep an eye out for your buddies- stick with people you know
- Don’t talk to police ever
- Don’t incriminate yourself or others
- avoid filming others
- wear a mask
- help yourself to any available community offerings- food, drinks, free zines, any available materials



# *Rest In Power*

*Maria Frisbee*

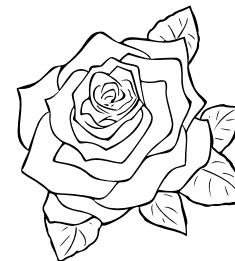
*Demarcus Royal*

*Jacob Biddix*

*Jesse Lee Owenby*

*Michele Smiley*

*All Who Have Died in  
Buncombe County  
Detention Center*



Buncombe County is the Deadliest Jail in NC  
9 people have died inside since 2019

Reflecting on the Asheville New Years Eve noise demos  
New Years Eve Noise Demo December 31st 2016

We went to the first New Year's Eve Noise Demo in Asheville in response to a local call for people to show up outside the downtown jail and make a racket together. Noise demos at detention facilities have been a longstanding tradition across cities with active anarchist communities. This wasn't an unheard of concept to us. It felt exciting for our small town scene to plug in to a wider thing.

The annual practice of noise demos stems from the world of prisoner solidarity work. Actions outside of sites of incarceration are a powerful means to call attention to the unjust treatment of political (all) prisoners.

To understand all prisoners as political prisoners under the hellworld of mass incarceration is to also understand that direct resistance action must be made consistently- and frequently. Or at the very least- annually. Time is an illusion and New Years is arbitrary. What does feel real is that our loved ones and community members are locked in cages awaiting trial.

Calls for NYE noise demos are often made by the Anarchist Black Cross network (it's unclear to me if ABC started the practice or simply carry on the tradition.)

2016 was such a fucking heated year. Between the uprising in Charlotte, Standing Rock, and Trump's election- it felt like time was spiraling us further into hellworld. So why not show up and make some noise about it?

We are loud homos who hate the cash bail system and prisons in general.

We showed up with a banner reading "NO PRISONS/ NO CLOSETS/ NO BORDERS" and found our people huddled in a cold circle sporting bucket drums and noisemakers. We stood in "front" of the jail for a while- the front being a strange alley completely concrete and septic- such a weirdly federal brutalist building foiled against the Art Deco liberal tourist trap of downtown. People are locked in cages within feet of IPA flights.

Hellworld.

Once we walked around to the back side of the building we could see silhouettes of people looking out through tiny slit windows at us. They were waving and flashing their lights. People could hear us making noise from inside. Fuck yeah. That was our only goal.

We were all celebrating together. (Everyone except the pigs.)  
We chanted "you are stronger than their walls" over and over. We dispersed together and went on with our own New Years plans.

Our crew walked away talking about the turn out, how glad we were that the cops left everyone alone, and how much we hate jails. That night we invented a new drink we called the Asheville Carbomb. It's a shot of Aristocrat in a glass of kombucha. Happy New Year.

New Years Eve Noise Demo December 31st 2017

2017 was as wild of a year as 2016. Many of our people in Asheville were facing repression from the state and local white supremacists. Meanwhile- our anarchist community was building collective power and learning to support each other however we needed to. The year for us was shaped by Another Carolina Anarchist Bookfair, resisting Trump's inauguration, and resisting fascists in Charlottesville. I had personally beat a misdemeanor charge in Buncombe County that year- so I was feeling extra excited to walk past the court house banging and clanging pans allegedly hocking a loogie at courtroom 1A. I wondered if people flashing their lights from inside their cell were locked inside that jail on the same charges I had. It doesn't take a long time of dealing with the judicial system to know that it's a system rigged to fail. We followed the same route as the year past- with roughly the same people. The notable improvement of the action was the acquisition of a megaphone. We hollered and screeched until our chants became hoarse and lost rhythm. We wore ourselves out walking around the jail and making noise.

New Years Eve Noise demo reportback December 31st 2018

At this point- end of 2018- the NYE demo was starting to catch on as a tradition in town. The one notable thing I remember from this action was that someone brought a battery powered projector loaded with posi abolitionist quips. It warmed my soul to see our chants projected onto the side of the building for folks inside to read. We watched several people get bailed out that night. One guy in particular joined us after getting out and cheered for a while. Maybe its just because its a holiday- but this particular action had a wholesome feel. Simply making noise.

New Years Eve Noise demo December 31st 2019

From what I remember- there was a pretty low turnout to the Noise demo at the end of 2019. It was really cold. We had the projector and a few friends held it down- hootin and hollerin as usual. We saw cops watching us from across the street when we came around to the back side of the jail. I remember feeling frustrated.. Why is it another year and this jail still exists? The action was over by 8 or 8:30. Has the noise demo become another empty liberal event? What's the point again?

New Years Eve Noise demo December 31st 2020

In 2020- organizers from Charlotte jail support/charlotte uprising came up to get down with us. We took over the Pack square amphitheater and had live screenprinting, a dj, free food and drink, and tabling info about Asheville and Charlotte Jail Support. There was a robust network of people who skilled up during 2020 hanging out with us.

Those who showed up were vibing together- making noise and flashing lights.

There were tons of people and tons of support- the people on the inside were partying as hard as ones on the outside. At this point- flashing lights from inside the jail is as much a tradition of the noise demo as making noise outside is.

At this point- I've met people who happened to be locked up in Buncombe county during NYE and have described what it was like spending New Years inside. It means a lot to know that disruptions and loudness can travel through walls and cages. Disruption is stronger than their walls. Our celebration is stronger than their repression....

....Continued

New Years Eve Noise Demo Dec 31st 2021

Last year's New Year's Eve noise demo happened in conjunction with the launch of the Asheville Community Bail Fund. We worked together to raise money to bail out as many people as possible. We ended up getting 11 people free! It was amazing to get to see a community bail fund launch in such an incredible way. We cheered outside while our friends worked tirelessly throughout the night waiting hours for bail to get processed, coordinating with loved ones, giving rides and cigarettes to people they were getting free. There was such an air of community care and such an amazing turnout.

Bail out plan 2022

It's now been a year of the Asheville community bail fund in action. They have done incredible work setting up their hotline- so that people who need to get bailed out can contact the fund and get support to get free.

We want to build upon the tradition last year and set a community New Years resolution: to get at least 23 people bailed out of Buncombe County by 2023!

You can find us making noise around the buncombe county jail downtown this New Year's Eve- causing a scene and bailing people out!

### **Call from the NYC Anarchist Black Cross (ABC) for solidarity noise demonstrations outside of jails, prisons, and detention centers.**

"This is a call for a night of strong solidarity with those imprisoned by the state. Historically, New Year's Eve is one of the noisiest nights of the year. This year, most of which has been consumed by a global pandemic, we encourage folks to take whatever measures are necessary to insure individual and community well-being, in response to both the virus and the state, understanding the balance each of us must strike for ourselves. Given our current reality, on New Year's Eve gather your crew, collective, community, organization, or just yourself to raise a racket and remind those on the inside that they are not alone.

Internationally, noise demonstrations outside of prisons are a way to remember those who are held captive by the state and a way to show solidarity with imprisoned comrades and loved ones. We come together to break the loneliness and isolation.

We know that prison is beyond reform and must be completely abolished. It is a mechanism of repression used by the state to maintain a social order rooted in white supremacy, patriarchy, and heteronormativity. To come together outside of the sites of repression is to also stand in defiance of what they represent.

The logic of the state and capital—of punishment and imprisonment, must be replaced by a rejection of oppression and exploitation. This call is one step in that direction.

Wherever you are, meet on New Year's Eve at the prisons, jails, and detention centers, be loud in solidarity with those imprisoned and to push forward the idea of a world free from domination.

We send this call in solidarity with those defying state repression of large scale dissent: from the George Floyd uprisings to ongoing defiance in Greece by those facing repression as anarchists, and all of those in the spaces between.

We want a world without walls and borders.

We will fight together until everyone is free!"