The University of Denver Prison Arts Initiative (DU PAI) generates creative and collaborative learning experiences across the state of Colorado, in order to empower incarcerated individuals to improve the quality of their lives and support them as they prepare to make positive changes in their communities upon release.

In 2021, DU PAI is launching Inside Wire Radio, the first-ever statewide prison radio station in the U.S., created by and for incarcerated artists. The core radio leadership team is composed of residents at Limon Correctional Facility, working in collaboration with staff in the Colorado Department of Corrections, and with the support and mentorship of DU PAI and consulting experts from the field. DU PAI’s radio initiative is led by our Radio General Manager and Creative Producer Ryan Conarro.

DU PAI is also currently in production for season 2 of With(In), our podcast committed to shifting the conversation on who is in prison through meaningful, complex conversations with incarcerated people and others in and around the system. With(In) is led by DU PAI Executive Director Ashley Hamilton, with a team of co-producers inside and outside Colorado prisons. For more, visit www.thisiswithin.com and https://liberalarts.du.edu/prison-arts.
As of March 2021, DU PAI has...

- Designed, planned, and recorded interviews and stories for Season 2 of our podcast With(In);
- Established Inside Wire Radio’s core leadership team of five incarcerated residents at Limon Correctional Facility;
- Launched a series of leadership and audio production workshops at Limon, including an audio production certification process;
- Collaborated with Colorado Department of Corrections staff to secure equipment and establish studio spaces at several facilities;
- Consulted with friends, colleagues, and leaders in the prison radio, both nationally and internationally;
- Initiated partnerships with media organizations locally and statewide;
- Laid the groundwork for listener announcements to be disseminated to incarcerated residents across the state, as ads in our statewide newspaper, The Inside Report; and
- With the guidance of the Limon radio leadership team, articulated a guiding mission and vision for Inside Wire Radio.