

**SHRINKING THE
PRISON
INDUSTRIAL
COMPLEX**
STRATEGIC ABOLITIONIST
ORGANIZING IN THE
21ST CENTURY



Monica Trinidad, *Abolition Now*, micropen and paper, 2015

Mariame Kaba

Organizer, educator, curator,
founder and director of Project NIA,
co-founder of Survived & Punished

<http://mariamekaba.com/>

**4:00pm • Wednesday
September 18, 2019**

**Knight Auditorium
Spurlock Museum**

600 South Gregory, Urbana
University of Illinois
at Urbana-Champaign

Cosponsored by:

Center for Advanced Study
Department of Asian American Studies
Department of Gender & Women's Studies

This event is free and open to the public.

For more information please contact

cas.illinois.edu

Prisons are not 'broken' nor are they rehabilitative. They exist to punish and control. In fact, the prison industrial complex (PIC) reinforces and reproduces systems of oppression that perpetuate the violence we experience. Founded in 2009, Project NIA has been organizing to end the PIC by developing solutions that transform violence. Project NIA is part of a movement whose goal is to build a world focused on accountability, healing and transformation for everyone. In this lecture, Mariame Kaba will argue that shrinking the PIC by relying on non-reformist reforms can help move us towards an abolitionist future, offering examples of past and current abolitionist campaigns.

This talk is part of the **CAS 2019-20 Initiative *Abolition***, which examines the interconnected power dynamics across prisons, police, immigration, gendered and sexual violence, environmental justice, disability justice, and more, in order to propose an abolitionist democratic present and future.

CAS Resident Associates Toby Beauchamp (Gender and Women's Studies) and Naomi Paik (Asian American Studies) oversee this initiative which includes a year-long public events series and a graduate seminar (CAS 587) in Spring 2020 among other activities.