

Early Voting Comes to NYS

New York State has joined 39 other states and the District of Columbia in early voting options. The early voting legislation was part of several new voting reforms signed by Governor Cuomo earlier this year.



WHEN:
Nine Days of Early Voting

Saturday, October 26 - Sunday, November 3

Weekdays
12 noon - 9:00 p.m.
Weekend
12 noon - 6:00 p.m.

Where can I vote?

You will now be able to vote during a nine-day period from Saturday, October 26 through Sunday, November 3. Polling places will be open from 12 pm - 9 pm on weekdays and 12 pm - 6 pm on the weekend dates.

Where do I vote?

Erie County will have 37 voting sites from which you can choose. During early voting, you can vote at any of the these sites. However, on voting day, Tuesday, November 5, you must use your designated site. To learn more about the sites, go to www.elections.erie.gov/erie-county-polling-sites/#streets.

Who is on the Ballot this year?

To check out who is on Erie County Ballot in 2019, go to www.elections.erie.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Offices-To-Be-Elected-7-16-2019.xlsx If you have any questions, please contact Jewish Community Relations Director, Mara Koven Gelman (mara@buffalojewishfederation.org).

Valentino Dixon: Drawing My Way To Freedom

By Mara Koven-Gelman

Twenty-seven years in prison for a crime he didn't commit. Buffalo artist Valentino Dixon was exonerated last fall and within one year of being free, he will have his first-ever installation in a world class art museum. "Drawing My Way To Freedom" opens with a special preview Thursday October 10th at 5:30 p.m. and an artist's talk at 7 p.m. at the Burchfield Penney Art Center. Mr. Dixon will share his story of how art, resilience and a Georgetown law school professor and his class helped build a case to exonerate him.

Jewish Community Relations Council is partnering with the Burchfield Penney Art Center to exhibit Valentino's work and testimony. The Goldman/Golden Philanthropic Fund will support creating the exhibit and Mr. Dixon's public lectures.

Why is the Jewish community involved? Grounded in the Torah's commandment (*Deuteronomy* 16:20): "Tzedek, tzedek tirdof" ("Justice, justice you shall pursue"), JCRCs have worked nationally with partners to identify and communicate the overwhelming inequities in the criminal justice system. As Jews, we are committed to these values for ourselves and others who are negatively impacted.

Studies show that mass incarceration (prison population exploded in the 1970's) contributes to poverty, income inequality, and family

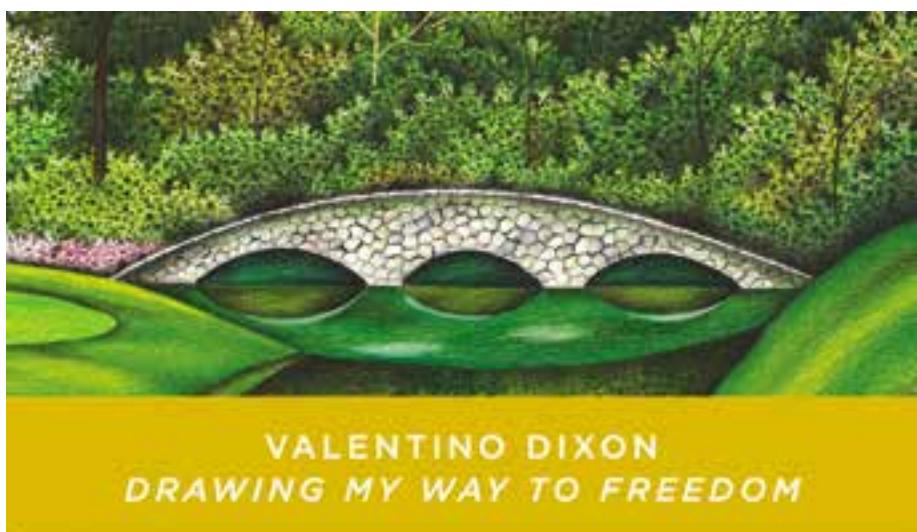


instability. There is much work to be done, requiring the involvement of the community at large.

JCRC key priorities include social justice (including criminal justice), combatting hate and anti-Semitism, and building bridges with communities and legislators. By means of education, we can ensure that the Jewish community can better advocate, and move all of Western New York in an improved direction.

Please come see and hear Valentino Dixon. His message speaks for itself.

Mara Koven-Gelman is Director Jewish Community Relations Council.



**VALENTINO DIXON
DRAWING MY WAY TO FREEDOM**

ON VIEW OCTOBER 11, 2019 TO MARCH 28, 2020

Join the Burchfield Penney and the Buffalo Jewish Community Relations Council for the unveiling of drawings by Valentino Dixon. Arrested for a murder he didn't commit and exonerated after 27 years behind bars, Dixon's passion for art sustained him. Don't miss a **special preview October 10** at 5:30pm, with an artist talk at 7:00pm, as Dixon shares his story and discusses criminal justice reform. For more information, visit BurchfieldPenney.org.



BURCHFIELD PENNEY ART CENTER
at SUNY Buffalo State

Above: Valentino Dixon, *Homes Of Our Own* (Detail), 2016. Acrylic on canvas; Courtesy of the Artist.