



Towards Employment

For Immediate Release

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**Free Watch Party this Sunday:
Film Holds Up Challenges and Triumphs
Of Work and Reentry Experiences for 4 Clevelanders**

October 16, 2023 - CLEVELAND – Dominick Farinacci, international jazz artist, Cleveland native and co-creator of Modern Warrior LIVE, partnered with Towards Employment in June to create a live performance in collaboration with four Clevelanders with involvement in the criminal justice system who faced barriers to finding jobs and careers. The June world-premiere was made possible by a grant from the Char and Chuck Fowler Family Foundation and was professionally filmed so the moving stories of Greg, Torie, Linda, and Daryl, can be shared with the community. A free watch party for the inaugural film release will take place on October 22 in the East Cleveland Public Library.

This heart wrenching, inspirational and joyous Work and Reentry EXPERIENCE holds up the words of the four storytellers using Modern Warrior LIVE’s innovative and immersive model of storytelling, music, and multimedia.

Recipient of the 2022 Cleveland Arts Prize, a TED Speaker, and headliner in the 2023 Tri-C JazzFest Cleveland, Dominick Farinacci co-created the national touring production Modern Warrior LIVE, an immersive music and narrative experience that chronicles the story of US Army veteran Jaymes Poling and his journey through three deployments in Afghanistan and subsequent transition back home. “With this new Work and Reentry EXPERIENCE, people can share the unfiltered reality of their journey, and in doing so carve a path for others hoping for a better tomorrow,” says Farinacci.

Towards Employment is a Cleveland nonprofit that champions the potential of every person to succeed in a rewarding career today, while working to create a more equitable and inclusive workforce for tomorrow. Founded in 1976, Towards Employment has helped over 208,000 people prepare for jobs, navigate employment obstacles and secure long-term careers.

This initial showing of the filmed performance will take place on Sunday October 22 at 4PM in the Greg L. Reese Performing Arts Center, located in the East Cleveland Library, 14101 Euclid Ave, East Cleveland, Ohio. The filmed performance is free and open to the public. Register at <https://form.jotform.com/231347402279051>

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Note: See https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14_65mS9Hns2hmIHb0xjHAMDyXtz8CRPs?usp=sharing for art associated with this release

- *Includes Modern Warrior and Towards Employment Logos, pictures of community storytellers, Dominick Farinacci and Jaymes Poling*

Cutline: Modern Warrior EXPERIENCE and Towards Employment present a Watch Party for the filmed Work & Reentry Experience, featuring the stories of four Clevelanders who pushed through adversity and pain to find healing and wisdom on Sunday October 22 at East Cleveland Library's Greg Reese Performing Arts Center. Register for free performance at <https://form.jotform.com/231347402279051>.