

Saturday 15.09.12, 15:30-17:30: Letter Writing Party for CeCe McDonald, transwoman of color in the U.S who is now in prison for defending herself against racist, transphobic assholes. She is one of many incarcerated trans* and queer people who need our support, to know that she is not forgotten in the racist prison system. One way we can do this is by writing her letters. Feel free to bring your own writing supplies to make zazzy snail mail. Donations would also be appreciated to cover cost of postage.

Some more information about CeCe and her case can be found below.

[Excerpts from supportcece.wordpress.com]: Around 12:30 am on June 5, 2011, CeCe was walking to the grocery store with some friends, all of them young, African American, and LGBTIQ or allied. As they passed a local bar, the Schooner Tavern, a group of older, white people who were standing outside the bar's side door began hurling racist and transphobic slurs at them, without provocation.

When CeCe approached the group and told them that her crew would not tolerate hate speech, one of the women said, "I'll take you bitches on," and then smashed her glass into CeCe's face. She punctured CeCe's cheek all the way through, lacerating her salivary gland. A fight ensued, during which one of the attackers, Dean Schmitz, was fatally stabbed.

The only person arrested that night was CeCe. After her arrest, CeCe was quickly charged with second-degree murder. In short, she was prosecuted for surviving a violent, racist, transphobic attack. On May 2, 2012, as jury selection for CeCe's trial was underway, CeCe accepted a plea agreement: she pled guilty to a reduced charge of 2nd degree manslaughter, which carries a sentence of 41 months. CeCe is currently being held in the men's prison in St. Cloud, MN.

More info about CeCe and her case can be found here:

<http://supportcece.wordpress.com/>