

TAMMS YEAR TEN FAMILY ROOM

Tamms Year Ten and Laurie Jo Reynolds

Tamms Year Ten (TY10) is a grassroots legislative campaign launched in 2008—at the ten-year anniversary of the opening of the notorious supermax prison in Tamms, Illinois—initiated by men formerly incarcerated in Tamms, their family members, advocates, and artists. TY10 sought to persuade legislators and the state governor to reform or close the prison, which was designed to hold men in solitary confinement in conditions of sensory deprivation. In 2009, Governor Pat Quinn initiated reforms and in 2012 proposed the outright closure of the supermax facility. That year TY10 advocates installed the *Tamms Year Ten Campaign Office* at SAIC's Sullivan Galleries, which contained files and ephemera from their long political battle and served as the hub of their continued efforts. On January 4, 2013, Governor Quinn courageously shuttered Tamms supermax. While this marked a major victory for TY10, opponents vowed to reopen the prison. Meanwhile Quinn began a battle for re-election. As TY10 turned their focus to support the Governor's campaign, they also returned to the Sullivan Galleries as part of the *Proximity of Consciousness* exhibition, creating a family room in the site of their 2012 office. The room was filled with furniture and memorabilia from their homes, including portraits taken of each TY10 member in their domestic space, giving viewers an opportunity to think about how families are impacted by both the prison system and state electoral politics. After Quinn's loss in the gubernatorial election, and the subsequent push to reopen Tamms, the living room served as a meeting place for TY10 members to gather, grieve, debrief, determine next steps, and explore the possibility of forming a new political or social collective.

ON THIS YEAR
PERSONAL ITEMS
FROM PRISONERS & Family
MEMBERS WHOM DILIGENTLY
STOOD THE TEST OF TIME FOR
PRISON REFORM IN
ILLINOIS

Dear TMO friends,
Please sign a card for
→ Annette Pappas who lost her mom
→ Melvin Hayward who lost his mom
→ and Pastor B. Herbert Martin Sr
of the Peoples Church who
has been sick



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...m PRISONERS & Family
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...RISON REFORM IN
...ILLINOIS



Portraits: Soohyun Kim