



# BENDING THE ARC



*The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.*



- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Bending the Arc (BTA)** is an educational program of the Boxser Diversity Initiative, made possible by funding from Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation. This immersive, six-month-long program serves high school students in Sarasota and Manatee Counties, offering an in-depth study of civil rights history and contemporary social justice issues. Through experiential learning and a life-changing travel experience, BTA helps cultivate the next generation of informed, civically engaged leaders.



## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- **Immersive Education:** Students meet 2-3 times monthly as a cohort. They learn through guided readings and group discussions, meetings with civil rights activists and experts, and experiences like a local civil rights history trolley tour, museum visits, film screenings, and theater performances.
- **Monthly Public Programs:** Students attend BDI's monthly discussion series featuring talks and panel discussions with leading scholars, local activists, and Pulitzer Prize winning authors.
- **Weeklong Trip to Alabama:** The program culminates in an educational journey to Alabama's historic civil rights landmarks in Montgomery, Selma, and Birmingham, guided by local experts.

## BTA 2024-25: BY THE NUMBERS

Our inaugural student cohort reflects the rich racial, ethnic, and gender diversity of our community.

24

STUDENTS

11

HIGH SCHOOLS

10

SOPHOMORES

8

JUNIORS

6

SENIORS

