



Bringing STEAM to Life with Our Community Partners

One of the most anticipated events of the season is here—**April STEAM Week!** Beginning April 22, BTGB high school students from Cambridge, Boston, and Somerville are stepping out of the classroom and into a dynamic, hands-on learning experience. Through immersive field trips and interactive activities, students are discovering the wide world of careers in science, engineering, digital technology, and beyond.

From touring advanced labs to collaborating with tech professionals in small groups, our students are gaining a behind-the-scenes look at today's most innovative industries. They're strengthening their science and math skills through guided challenges that mirror real-world scenarios. This year, students explored groundbreaking cancer treatments tailored to individual patients using the body's immune system—examining tumor cells under a five-headed microscope and conducting experiments with a benchtop centrifuge.

Throughout the week, students are visiting top biotech companies and leading research centers across Greater Boston, including the **Koch Institute** for Integrative Cancer Research at **MIT**. At the Community Exploration and Learning Lab (CELL), **Novartis** scientists are offering hands-on biomedical lab experiences and mentoring students on their educational and career journeys.

The week also includes visits to **Google's** offices and exhibitions at the **MIT Museum** and the **Institute of Contemporary Art**, where students explore the intersection of technology, creativity, and innovation. This action-packed week of talks, tours, and exploration is designed to ignite curiosity, deepen academic engagement, and inspire Breakthrough students to envision themselves as future leaders in STEAM fields.



Welcome to Our 2025 Summer Program Teaching Fellows

Following a flurry of applications and interviews last month, we are thrilled to announce the 2025 cohort of incoming Teaching Fellows! More than **80 educators-in-training** from across the country have been selected to join our Summer Program, where they will support students on our campuses in Cambridge, Boston, and Somerville. As part of our unique Students Teaching Students model, the Teaching Fellows program is primarily designed for current undergraduate students aspiring to careers in education.

We've long known that students thrive when learning from younger, college-aged educators. The closer age gap fosters stronger connections and builds excitement around learning—insights consistently confirmed by the enthusiastic feedback we receive from students who value being taught by relatable role models.

We are incredibly excited to welcome this talented and committed group of Teaching Fellows to Breakthrough's 2025 Summer Program, which begins on **Monday, July 7**. We wish all our Teaching Fellows and students a summer filled with growth, connection, and success!



Stronger Together: Standing Up for Fundamental Rights

Since our very first Summer Program more than 30 years ago, Breakthrough Greater Boston has remained steadfast in its mission to expand equitable educational access and close the

threat, as baseless attacks on equity initiatives are being used to justify alarming cuts to federal education funding and the dismantling of key partners like AmeriCorps that help make our programs possible.

“We remain deeply committed to... empowering students through education, even as external forces threaten the stability and safety of those we support.”

Expert research confirms the crucial impact on student success that a diverse staff of well-trained educators can have for students of color, those from immigrant families, and other underserved populations. Students perform better and aim higher when they learn from teachers with shared experiences. Furthermore, training a diverse teaching force addresses a stark need felt across Massachusetts and nationally. To this end, BTGB intentionally recruits teacher trainees who reflect the incredibly diverse backgrounds of our students. In the wake of several local detentions of international students by federal ICE agents and the seeming suspension of due process, BTGB joins the Greater Boston community in fearing for the safety of our program participants, especially our immigrant students and Teaching Fellows.

Your support is more critical now than ever before. Recently, our Co-Executive Directors, Jennifer Stange and Oneda Horne, sent a powerful letter to the Breakthrough community. We invite you to read the full letter [here](#) and to join us in this work.

Against the backdrop of alarming daily headlines, this year’s Breakthrough Gala has taken on a special meaning. If you are able, we encourage you to [join us for our May 13 Gala celebration at the Boston Children’s Museum](#) or, alternatively, consider [making a donation](#) supporting our work. Thank you for being part of this movement. Together, we will keep pushing forward.



Experience the Journey: Join Us at the Breakthrough Gala!

Mark your calendars for an inspiring evening at the 2025 **Breakthrough Gala** on **Tuesday, May 13th** at the **Boston Children's Museum**. Each year, the Breakthrough Gala raises critical funds that ignite a passion for learning, create pathways to and through college, and prepare future educators for rewarding careers through immersive classroom experiences.

celebrate Greater Boston's hardest-working students and educators. The evening will begin with a light reception with food and drink followed by an inspirational program. This year's Gala will feature our largest-ever **Education Station** expo, giving guests a hands-on look at the transformative work we do to change lives and open doors to college and career success.

The Gala plays a crucial role in raising funds to support mentorships that ignite a passion for learning, create pathways to and through college, and prepare future educators through immersive classroom experiences. This is the premiere event championing educational equity and access across Greater Boston and not to be missed. Join us for a very special evening of **impact, inspiration, and celebration!**

Tickets are available for purchase, with discounts available for community members and Breakthrough alumni. For sponsorship, hosting, or other inquiries, please contact Isaac Skelton at iskelton@btgbmail.org. If you are unable to attend but still wish to help sustain our life-changing work, you can [support our work here](#). We look forward to celebrating with you on May 13th!

[BUY TICKETS](#)



[Step Into Summer: Watch Growth in Real Time](#)