

## Volunteer Opportunities



Have an hour a week? Become an Academic Mentor! Build a strong relationship with a motivated student, helping them to gain confidence and skills to propel them to academic success.

"She takes initiative and calls me whenever she is having trouble in math. I like seeing how much she cares about school!" – Academic Mentor

Visit [breakthroughgreaterboston.org/volunteer](http://breakthroughgreaterboston.org/volunteer) or contact Emma Samler at 617-349-6647 or [esamler@btgbmail.org](mailto:esamler@btgbmail.org) to learn more.

## Save the Date



**Wednesday, May 1st, 2019 at 6:00pm**

The Cyclorama at The Boston Center for the Arts  
539 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02116  
[breakthroughgreaterboston.org/events](http://breakthroughgreaterboston.org/events)

For sponsorship and hosting inquiries, contact Emma Samler at 617-349-6647 or [esamler@btgbmail.org](mailto:esamler@btgbmail.org).

## Spread the Word About Breakthrough!



Share Breakthrough's student recruitment video and help us reach more students in Greater Boston!

View and share the video at:

<https://youtu.be/k2k25JE2Ms>

PO Box 381486 • Cambridge, MA • 02238-1486  
[www.breakthroughgreaterboston.org](http://www.breakthroughgreaterboston.org)



## News for Breakthrough Supporters March 2019



## BREAKTHROUGH BULLETIN

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## BREAKTHROUGH COMMUNITY GATHERS TO DISCUSS SUPPORTING IMMIGRANT YOUTH



On Wednesday, December 5th more than 150 educators, elected and school officials, and Breakthrough supporters gathered at Google for the 11th annual Breakthroughs in Education event featuring Dr. Roberto Gonzales (Harvard Graduate School of Education), Dr. Christine Leider (Boston University), and Dr. Mariela Páez (Boston College), moderated by the Boston Globe's Marcela E. García.

**"Teachers can master all the techniques of effective instruction, but it will not matter if children, especially immigrant and bilingual children, do not feel valued in the classroom." - Dr. Paez**

**"If children see themselves represented in what they are learning, they will be more invested in learning, and feel more welcome in their classrooms." - Dr. Leider**

**"Young people are already leading the way to a more just and inclusive nation for immigrants; we ought to follow their lead." - Dr. Gonzales**

The event began with a reception where guests had a chance to hear directly from staff and students about the work Breakthrough is doing to support immigrant youth. Breakthrough also presented two awards: the Breakthroughs in the Community Award to the Biogen Foundation for their transformative impact on the local STEM ecosystem, and the Elizabeth D. Hodder Award for Excellence in Teaching to Kristen Ago, Nathaniel Green and Micky Strachota, Breakthrough Teaching Fellow Alumni from our three campuses.

### Student News

#### NEW PARTNERS ENRICH STEM PROGRAMMING

This fall, Breakthrough students benefitted from exciting, hands-on workshops thanks to several new partners, who hosted our students at their laboratories and offices.

**Novartis** welcomed students for Lab Bootcamp, where students learned the basics needed to conduct experiments. **Merck** scientists visited a Breakthrough classroom and led a workshop on lactose intolerance. **Biogen** hosted students to take part in hands-on learning and hear from scientists about their path into a STEM career.

**Parts and Crafts** brought bins filled with hot glue guns, soldering irons, LED lights, batteries, and more. Students were given loose parameters and encouraged to build, create and ideate.

Thanks to our partnership with the city-wide **BoSTEM** initiative, students visited **Moderna** to take part in a lab focused on Ebola outbreaks.

**MIT Museum** also guided students through the museum's "Beautiful Brain" exhibit. Let us know if your company wants to host our kids!



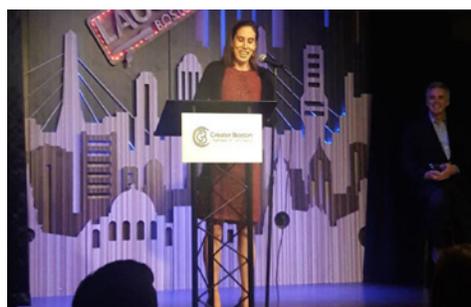
### Organization News

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HONORED WITH TEN OUTSTANDING YOUNG LEADERS AWARD

**"My vision for Boston is to build an exemplary teaching force." - Elissa Spelman**

This past fall, the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce and City Awake honored ten of the region's young leaders from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors who have demonstrated a commitment to improving the quality of life in Greater Boston. Breakthrough Greater Boston's Executive Director, Elissa Spelman was one of those honored.

For nearly a decade, Breakthrough has thrived under Elissa's leadership. During this time the organization has seen significant growth, expanding from a one-city organization to three cities. "I believe the future success of our city is dependent upon how we value, nurture, and educate our children," said Elissa in her remarks during the award ceremony. Elissa brings deep experience in the field of education, beginning her career as a third grade teacher in Dorchester and, prior to joining Breakthrough, supporting dozens of programs serving low-income youth while leading the Wellington Management Foundation.



### Alumni News

#### ALUMNI REUNITE FOR A NIGHT OUT

Breakthrough hosted a reunion for students coming home from college over winter break. Alumni bowled, enjoyed pizza, and caught up with their Breakthrough cohort.

"Starting college can be a difficult adjustment time, with many new social, academic and financial pressures" said Senior Director of High School Programs Ameer Naik. "We're hopeful that these reunion events can help students feel connected to their Breakthrough cohort and remind them of their strong support network before they dive into the next semester."

For those who couldn't make it to the winter reunion, we mailed care packages with tasty treats and college survival essentials to brighten students' days during the dark and cold of winter. Through activities like these, we hope to help students with the goal of adjusting to college and eventually reaching graduation.



#### A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR LEAD PARTNER



ALEXANDRIA

